



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

VACANCY NOTICE

National Expert (AVRR) 2016/HRU/002

UNHCR Greece invites applications from qualified candidates for the following positions:

Position title	National Expert / Implementation of Assisted Voluntary Return including Reintegration measures (AVRR)
Category and Level	UNOPS, LICA-5
Duty Station	Athens
Duration	Until 31 December 2016 with a possibility for extension
Effective date	Immediately upon recruitment
Closing Date	29 September 2016

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

Greece continues to be a main entry point to the European Union for migrants and refugees who enter the country through its land and sea borders. Although, the vast majority of arrivals are in need of international protection, there are still persons who either do not apply for international protection or do not meet the refugee profile and are rejected through the related national procedure. Given the limitations of the migration law and policy, in Greece, many of those arriving in mixed migratory movements, remain without legal residence rights and they usually live under difficult conditions of often homelessness and destitution. Some persons, including undocumented migrants and failed asylum seekers, but also persons with international protection needs, express the will to return to their home countries. This decision may be prompted by many factors, including the absence of a legal status, social marginalisation, limited integration prospects, as well as an inability to move 'onward' (into Europe) through regular or irregular means. In this complex environment, it is important for persons with international protection needs, to be given all the necessary information as regards their rights and obligations in the country, and under the national asylum system, in particular before taking the decision to return.

The IOM Mission in Greece is undertaking, through funds from the Asylum, Migration and Intergration Fund and National Funds Programmes on "Implementation of Assisted Voluntary Return including Reintegration measures". UNHCR participates in these Programmes as partner agency, with a specific and limited role, that pertains to the provision, to prospective applicants, of information on their rights and responsibilities under Greek law, for the purpose of enhancing their ability to make an informed decision on return. UNHCR supports this process in accordance with its Mandate to protect refugees, as well as its general position on the return of persons found not to be in need of international protection.

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

The incumbent is expected to fulfill the aims and targets of the aforementioned IOM Programme in which UNHCR participates as a partner agency.

The overall objective of the IOM Programme is to provide support in specific innovative international and national means of return management. Specifically the Project aims to secure smooth and decent return and re-integration of migrants in their countries of origin, when they do not wish to stay or cannot stay in the countries of reception.

The IOM Mission in Greece will act as the coordinator and main responsible organization for the above mentioned scheme. UNHCR will cooperate with the IOM for the implementation of sub-actions limited to the briefing and advising of potential beneficiaries on their rights and obligations under Greek law, with the aim of enhancing their ability to take an informed decision on return, thus strengthening the voluntary character of the return process.

In the framework of the said Project, the UNHCR Office's involvement is to render necessary information and clarifications to persons applying for voluntary return, as regards their potential international protection needs, if existing. UNHCR will work towards ensuring that persons applying for getting assistance to return to their countries of origin, within the



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framework of the said Project, shall be able, if they wish, to discuss protection needs, and be fully informed of the framework of international protection and the asylum system in Greece, including possibilities for family reunification within Europe as per respective European law, in order to reach an informed decision.

The incumbent shall be expected, under the guidance of the Protection Officer and the Protection Associate of the UNHCR Office in Greece, to implement all necessary actions at the local level in order to meet the above objectives.

The incumbent will represent UNHCR at the duty station in which s/he is assigned, for the purposes of the said Project. S/he will abstain from any involvement in any other activities within the Project which concern the return process in which UNHCR has no further engagement. As a lawyer, s/he will abstain from taking over/representing individual cases of migrants, asylum seekers or refugees in parallel to his/her duties as incumbent under this Project.

The incumbent shall be based in the premises of the IOM Office in Greece. The incumbent shall be occupied on a full-time basis for 5 days per week, 8 hours per day, following also coordination between the UNHCR Office and IOM.

Accountability

- Migrants are provided with all the necessary information as regards their rights and obligations in the country of reception
- Decent and smooth return and re-integration of migrants in their countries of origin, assuring the voluntary character of this return.

Responsibility

- Review files of beneficiaries to the Project, freely approaching IOM premises to register in the AVRRE Programme, with the purpose of assessing, to the extent possible, whether these persons have international protection needs and if so, whether they have had the chance to enjoy all consequent rights as asylum seekers in Greece.
- Provide direct information and advice to beneficiaries freely approaching IOM, on their potential protection needs and their possibilities to benefit from the national asylum system, where needed and upon relevant request by the beneficiary, or in cases where it is so deemed by the said expert judging from the individual file, and with the consent of the beneficiary.
- Cooperate with the IOM Mission in specific aspects of the implementation of the Project, such as, for example, in drawing up model questionnaires to be used by IOM for the 'interviews' or 'counseling sessions'.
- Provide the IOM Mission with available UNHCR material as concerns the situation in countries of origin, where the general human rights conditions in the said countries are demonstrated.
- Inform the UNHCR office with possible inputs and observations stemming from the direct interface and discussion with beneficiaries, who may be persons of concern to UNHCR, in particular as regards their legal and social situation in Greece, in order for the UNHCR Office to be kept abreast of developments and of the actual situation on the ground, as this is important for its overall protection strategy and advocacy operation and activities in Greece.
- Draft and maintain a "Record" on the basis of review of each individual file, and submit a written report to UNHCR, in English, on the implementation of the Project (UNHCR's component) in the middle and at the end of the reporting period. During the implementation period there will be ongoing contact with and oral reporting to the UNHCR Office in Athens.
- Provide UNHCR with disaggregated data and qualitative information on applicants/beneficiaries for returns under the project, that have been obtained in the context of this undertaking.
- Submit to UNHCR, for approval, review and relevant submission to IOM, quarterly reports on implemented actions and relevant observations relating to UNHCR's component as per UNHCR and IOM agreement.



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ESSENTIAL MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Education: University Degree in Law, Human Rights, Political science or International Relations or related discipline
- Proven work experience in the field of refugee protection. Knowledge on relevant policy issues and familiarity with the Greek asylum system (law and practice) are a prerequisite, as is knowledge on the situation of countries of origin, from a human rights observance perspective
- Excellent knowledge in English and Greek, written/ report and drafting skills
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work in a team and in a multi-cultural environment

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS & COMPETENCIES

- Good understanding of the political environment informing returns and familiarity with UNHCR's practices, principles and culture

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

If you wish to be considered for this vacancy, please submit your **Personal History Form (P11)** (which can be downloaded from www.unhcr.org/recruit/p11new.doc) and **Motivation Letter** by e-mail with the vacancy title **National Expert (AVRR) 2016/HRU/002** in the subject line to: greatvac@unhcr.org no later than 29 September 2016. Only applications submitted by e-mail with a **signed P.11 form** will be considered. **Emails without vacancy number National Expert (AVRR) 2016/HRU/002 in the subject line will not be considered.**

Shortlisted candidates might be required to sit for a written test and will have to undergo an oral interview. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified. No late applications will be accepted.

UNHCR is an equal opportunity employer and does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing, training or any other fees).

Deadline for submission of application: 29 September 2016.