



## Role: European Advocacy Officer

**Location: We will strongly prefer candidates who can be based in Belgium**

**Salary: €24,000 net/after tax, per year**

**Contract: 12-month initial contract on a consultancy basis, with 6 months' probation period**

**Reports to: Director of Advocacy (based in Brussels)**

Humanists International's [advocacy programme](#) promotes [human rights priorities](#) based on humanist values at the global level and represents a core role and function of organization. We do this by: advocating directly at the United Nations and its agencies (in Geneva, New York and Paris); and supporting and training our members to engage with, and advocate at, relevant regional human rights bodies, as well as at the UN.

This work relies on having an advocacy team that can communicate and lobby - across a range of institutions and cultural settings - in a clear, focused, and convincing manner. It also relies on high-quality and professional research as a basis for its submissions, interventions and advocacy in general.

Humanists International is looking to expand its advocacy team with the addition of a European Advocacy Officer who can: (1) advocate our priority issues at European Institutions (primarily the European Parliament and European Commission); and (2) work with the European member organizations of Humanists International to help inform our advocacy goals and better connect those members to share good practice and work on common campaigns.

**The successful applicant will work under the management of Humanists International's Director of Advocacy and will:**

*(1) Advocate at EU Institutions, by:*

- Representing and speaking on behalf of Humanists International at meetings of different sizes at the European Parliament and European Commission;
- Drafting submissions to EU institutions on key issues;
- Analyzing and summarizing complex legal / policy documents, such as EU legislation;
- Lobbying around European Parliament resolutions;
- Working with other civil society actors to lobby on common causes and mobilize on issues of concern;
- Undertaking research tasks on relevant topics.

(2) Liaise with, and connect, Humanists International European members and associates, by:

- Providing advocacy updates and briefings for members and associates;
- Developing and implementing trainings sessions for members and associates;
- Liaising with members and associates to use their knowledge and experience to feed into research and output;
- Facilitating regular meetings with and between members and associates;
- Undertaking any relevant administrative tasks.

**Person specification:**

*Essential*

- Excellent understanding of, interest in, and demonstrable commitment to human rights and equality issues - particularly in the areas of freedom of religion or belief, gender equality and non-discrimination, reproductive and sexual rights, populism, democracy, and secularism.
- Strong knowledge and background in European advocacy, European human rights law, international relations, or at European Institutions.
- Familiarity (academic and/or practical) with the EU political Institutions and landscape.
- Good research, analytical and writing skills, and an excellent command of English.
- Well-organized, efficient and able to work independently.
- A clear and convincing communicator.

*Desired:*

- Excellent understanding of, and sympathy with, the philosophy and policies of Humanists International.
- Experience in coordinating groups or organizations to work together on joint actions and initiatives.
- A good knowledge of other international NGOs and their role and scope.
- Good knowledge of French.

**[Completed application forms](mailto:office@humanists.international) should be submitted to [office@humanists.international](mailto:office@humanists.international) by 09h00 (Brussels time) on **Monday 31st October**. Interviews are currently scheduled to take place online on the 9th and 10th November.**



## Background: The organization and its advocacy work

### Who we are

Humanists International is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) and the [global representative body](#) of the humanist movement, uniting a diverse community of non-religious organizations and individuals. [Inspired by humanist values](#), we are optimistic for a world where everyone can have a dignified and fulfilling life. We build, support and represent the global humanist movement and work to champion human rights and secularism.

We campaign on humanist issues. We defend humanists at risk of persecution and violence. We lobby for humanist values at international institutions, including the United Nations. And we work to build the humanist movement around the world.

Our Members and Associates include humanist, rationalist, secular, ethical culture, atheist and freethought organizations from all over the world. Our community also includes many individual supporters who share our vision and values.

### Our advocacy work

Representing the humanist movement, advocating on its behalf, and promoting human rights priorities based on humanist values at international institutions is a core role and function of Humanists International. [We do this](#) by: advocating directly at international institutions; and by supporting and training our members to engage with, and advocate at, relevant regional human rights bodies.

Our advocacy work focuses on promoting [human rights priorities](#) based on humanist values and [highlighting issues](#) which unite humanists, or on which humanists have a specific and unique input. Currently this means we mainly focus on freedom of religion or belief, gender equality, the rights of women and sexual and reproductive health and rights, freedom of expression and association, artistic and cultural rights, and countering the regressive impact of religious fundamentalism and conservatism on human rights standards.

Humanists International's Director of Advocacy manages the advocacy work of the organization and is based in the office of member organization, Demens.nu, in Brussels.