



THE WATSON SCHOOL
of International
and Public Affairs
BROWN UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN STUDIES

Human Rights Watch - Advocacy Department Hybrid in Washington, DC or New York, NY Summer 2026

Internship Description

The Washington team within the Advocacy (ADV) Department of Human Rights Watch (HRW) is seeking a Brown University undergraduate student intern for summer 2026 to be based remotely out of one of HRW's offices, New York or Washington, D.C. Ideally, the candidate will be available beginning in mid-to-late May 2026 through August 2026 (dates and hours are flexible). The internship will support the Washington D.C. team's advocacy on human rights and US foreign policy.

Human Rights Watch internships often offer direct exposure to the workings of an international human rights organization, close supervision by HRW staff, and interaction with other US and international organizations. The selected student will also have opportunities to attend professional development workshops, and/or special events related to human rights, as well as network with other HRW interns and staff. As an HRW intern, the selected student will be able to build upon skills acquired through their studies and apply them in a professional setting.

Responsibilities:

The internship will focus on providing general support to the Washington D.C. advocacy team, which works on a range of country contexts and issue areas. Responsibilities might include conducting desk research, monitoring the media, tracking ongoing policy developments, and drafting documents. Other tasks and projects may arise, depending on the evolving needs of the team. The intern will work closely with all members of the Washington D.C. team, including the Washington D.C. director, and will interface with many other parts of the organization.

Qualifications:

Applicants must be an enrolled Brown undergraduate for the duration of the internship term. Applicants should be well-organized, self-motivated, reliable, with strong verbal and written communication skills. Applicants should have strong interest in human rights and US policy.

Relevant coursework and previous experience in advocacy and human rights is desirable. Applicants should be comfortable working in a fast-paced, dynamic work environment, sometimes with minimal supervision. Familiarity with the workings of the US government and

Congress is strongly preferred. Computer skills (i.e., Microsoft Office and internet applications) are required.

Applicants who are offered an internship must possess valid work authorization in the United States for the duration of the internship.

Applications open to all first, second and third year undergraduate students.

Human Rights Watch is strong because it is diverse. We actively seek a diverse applicant pool and encourage candidates of all backgrounds based anywhere to apply. Human Rights Watch does not discriminate on the basis of disability, age, gender identity and expression, national origin, race and ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or criminal record. We welcome all kinds of diversity. Our employees include people who are parents and nonparents, the self-taught and university educated, and from a wide span of socio-economic backgrounds and perspectives on the world. Human Rights Watch is an equal opportunity employer.