

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Lawrence Cenk Laws. I recently obtained my L.L.M abroad in Public International Law and have been admitted to the Virginia Bar Association. I am now seeking employment and/or fellowship opportunities either domestically or abroad. I have an extensive background in international political and legal knowledge and would like to continue to build on my expertise. As an employee, I will greatly benefit your organization, with the wealth of experience and self-discipline I have developed over the past few years working in my previous positions.

I graduated from Georgetown University with a B.S. in International Politics with a focus on Foreign Policy and Policy Processes. Although living in the United States for most of my life, through my mother's background and family I have always taken a pointed interest in Turkish Culture, Politics, and Law and made sure to take courses related to those fields during my undergraduate life. I continued my education by completing law school at The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law. While obtaining my Juris Doctor, I also was a certificate recipient in my law school's Comparative and International Law Institute.

On an academic level, I have been the Vice President of the Central Asian Society at Georgetown University, which hosted many guest speakers and cultural events. I was also the VP of Finance for the school's multi- and bi- racial society (GUMBO). I have also participated in the State Department's Critical Language Scholarship Program in Izmir, Turkey right after my university graduation to improve my Turkish language skills. While in law school I have held leadership positions in the International Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, and the South Asian Law Students Association. I also represented my law school at the Jessup Cup International Moot Court Competition in 2015. I had more recently been engaged in international human rights legal work through the Poverty and Race Research Action Council.

While studying in Istanbul, I also worked at Akol Ozok Namli (Akol) primarily as their Legal Proofreader and HR Manager. In my capacity as Legal Proofreader, I was in charge of reviewing virtually all of the client communications that were sent from the office in regards to their English-speaking international clients. This included reviewing legal memos to due diligence reports. I was also in charge of tracking the billing system in our firm along with invoicing clients on a monthly basis. My prior position was at a real estate law firm in Virginia where I handled many obligations as a paralegal and law clerk for the past 9 years. I assisted multiple lawyers at that firm in filings, drafting motions, and researching cases.

I am currently assisting at Koç University's Center for Global Public Law where I report on current cases that have been decided on by a number of leading international legal regulatory bodies and committees such as CERD, CAT, CEDAW, and the UNHRC. Last summer I was also selected to participate in a summer research program centered on Syrian refugee and asylum work in Turkey thereby incorporating international humanitarian law into my fields of expertise as well. Most recently I have been actively engaged in the political arena on the state and federal level. Earlier this year I was canvassing in a primary race for my state senate district and I am currently interning on the Hill for my Congressman, Representative Don Beyer (VA-8th). Even though I have completed my academics I am still active in certain related groups such as the CUA Law Alumni Council, the American Society of International Law (ASIL), and the European Society of International Law (ESIL).

Along with my native English I have near native proficiency in Turkish reading, writing, and speaking through my mother's side along with my 3 years of residency in Istanbul. My

LLM thesis was focused primarily in the International Human Rights Law field with a particular focus on minority rights. I hope to continue building my political and legal expertise. As you can see, my experience with Turkish, regional and international politics, law, and culture has been alive and well for many years. I look forward to an interview with your institution to demonstrate my communications skills and my desire to work with the members of your organization and the people you serve.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lawrence Cenk Laws