

## Second Part: Word APPLICATION FORM FOR SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS

### Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967

How to start the application process:

- The application process has been split into 2 parts, the first part is a Web-based survey and the second part is an application form in word which can be downloaded, completed and returned by email. Both parts and all sections of the application form should be filled in for the application to be processed.

The **first part**, i.e. the [Web-based survey](#) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate/s applying for and nominating entity. **The web-based survey should only be completed once**, i.e. multiple selection allowed to indicate if the candidate is applying for more than one mandates.

This is the **second part**, i.e. of the application form in Word which can be downloaded, completed and saved in word format and then submitted as an attachment by email. Information provided in this form, includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words, will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will be made available to concerned parties, including through the OHCHR Internet.

Once completed the application form in Word should be submitted by email to [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)

If the candidate is applying for more than one mandates, an application form needs to be completed and sent for each mandate.

- A maximum of 3 reference letters can be attached, in pdf format, to the application sent by email. No additional document is required.
- **Application Deadline: 14 November 2013 (midnight, GMT).**
- Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.

If encountering technical difficulties, you may contact us by email: [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org) or fax: + 41 22 917 9011

**An acknowledgment will be sent when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the information through the web-based survey and the application form through email.**

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**I. PERSONAL DATA**

Family Name: Cerna	Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female
First Name: Christina	Date of birth (d-MMM-yy): 9-Oct-46
Maiden name (if any): n/a	Place of birth: Munich, Germany
Middle name: Monica	Nationality(please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates): US
	Any other nationality: Nicaragua

**II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE/QUALIFICATION/KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate's competence/qualifications/knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

<p>QUALIFICATIONS (200 words) Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)</p>	<p>J.D., Washington College of Law, American University (1973) and LL.M. Columbia U. School of Law (1974). I am admitted to the DC Bar and also the US Supreme Court Bar. I was employed for 33 years with the Organization of American States at headquarters in Washington, D.C. I retired in Dec. 2011 as Principal Specialist in Human Rights at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in charge of the Commission's jurisprudence.</p>
<p>RELEVANT EXPERTISE (200 words) Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired). Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations' work in the area of human rights. (Please state how this was</p>	<p>Inter-American system- as a staff member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; UN system- I was seconded by the OAS to the UN for two years to work on the Second UN World conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993. European system- I have spent two periods of 6 weeks each in an exchange program with lawyers of the European Commission on Human Rights and then 3 months (Nov. 2000- Feb 2001) on a Fulbright grant doing my own research on the merger of the European Commission and Court; ASEAN system- Since 2007 I have been a consultant on the creation of AICHR and the elaboration and</p>

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<p>acquired). Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience.</p>	<p>adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.</p>
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<p><b>ESTABLISHED COMPETENCE</b> (200 words) Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired).</p>	<p>I have written and published widely on international human rights law, inter alia, in the British Yearbook of International Law, the Annuaire Francais de Droit International and many other legal journals and books since the early 1980s. I currently serve as Chair of the International Human Rights Law Committee of the International Law Association; on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law; on the Board of International Legal Materials; on the Program Committee of the joint ASIL-ILA meeting to be held in April 2014 and I teach an advanced seminar in International Human Rights Law to graduate law students at Georgetown U. Law Centre.</p>
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<p><b>FLEXIBILITY/READINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF TIME</b> (200 words) to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. (Indicate whether candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approx. three months per year</p>	<p>Since I am retired I am now able to dedicate approximately three months per year to the work of a UN mandate.</p>
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**III. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

Please indicate all language skills

<u>Languages</u>	<u>Read</u>		<u>Write</u>		<u>Speak</u>	
	<u>Easily</u>	<u>Not Easily</u>	<u>Easily</u>	<u>Not Easily</u>	<u>Easily</u>	<u>Not Easily</u>
<u>Arabic</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Chinese</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>English</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>French</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Russian</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Spanish</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Mother tongue:</u> German	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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#### IV. Motivation Letter (600 word limit)

I retired in December 2011 as Principal Specialist in Human Rights after having served for 33 years with the Organization of American States, primarily with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in Washington, DC. Since my retirement I have been engaged in working primarily on three topics: 1) the implementation by domestic courts of international judgments dealing with human rights (with the International Law Association); 2) military jurisdiction and human rights (with the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War) and 3) AICHR- the creation of an ASEAN human rights mechanism (with the United Nations and local NGOs). I teach a seminar in International Human Rights Law to graduate law students at Georgetown U. Law Centre. Since I am retired, I now have the time to devote the approximately three months that are required should I be appointed a mandate holder.

I was born in Germany, a product of World War II, of a Nicaraguan (US serviceman) father, hence my US and Nicaraguan nationality and Yugoslav (today Slovene) mother. I speak English, Spanish, German and French. I grew up in Washington Heights in New York City. Washington Heights in the 1950s and 60s was a very different neighborhood from today. Today it is populated primarily with immigrants from the Dominican Republic. In my time it was populated primarily with Jewish immigrants, many from post war Europe. At the time, I was raised Catholic in this Jewish neighborhood.

My degrees are in law and I have experience not only with the OAS but also with the European, the UN and the Asian systems. Consequently I am familiar with the norms and procedures of these systems. I have also studied the African human rights system.

During my approximately three decades with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights I organized many on-site visits, drafted reports on the situation of a number of countries in the OAS region and also drafted reports on thematic issues of interest to the Commission. Aside from these reports, I also handled caseloads of petitions and cases from countries in the hemisphere and drafted admissibility, inadmissibility, friendly settlement and merits reports. In addition, I have participated in the litigation of cases before the Inter-American Court and have written extensively on the jurisprudence of the inter-American system.

I have always been interested in Israel and the Occupied Territories and visited for the first time in 1970 with students from my law school. I have returned twice since then. I learned a lesson about life from the experience of Cambodia. To my surprise the Cambodian people who had suffered a genocidal experience under Pol Pot were more interested in getting rid of their Vietnamese occupiers than trying the members of the Khmer Rouge. Similarly the experience of the United States when it pulled out of Iraq and now Afghanistan shows that the populations of these countries do not wish a residual presence to remain once the military troops are pulled out. Occupation brings with it humiliation and anger and can only be relieved when the occupier

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departs.

The situation Middle East continues to present one of the great crisis scenarios facing the United Nations. If I am selected to carry out this mandate I see my task as one of working towards the ending of the occupation.

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**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate's academic qualifications: (university  
level and higher)**

<b>Name of degree and name of academic institution</b>	<b>Years of Attendance</b>	<b>Place and Country</b>
B.A., New York University	4	NYC/ USA
M.A., U. of Munich	3	Munich, Germany
J.D., Washington College of Law, American U	3	Washington, D.C./ USA
LL.M., Columbia U. School of Law	1	NYC/ USAO

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**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held,  
beginning with the most recent one:**

Name of Employer Functional Title Main functions of position	Years of Attendance/ Work	Place and Country
Organization of American States, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Principal Specialist in Human Rights, Preparation of Reports, litigation before the Inter-American Court, management of country files, supervision of junior lawyers, in charge of the jurisprudence.	Jan. 1979-Dec. 2011	Washington, D.C. USA

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**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS (of  
Council Resolution 5/1)**

1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause him/her to limit the extent of their inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.

No

2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate's ability to act independently in discharging his/her mandate? If yes, please explain:

No

3. Is there any reason, currently or in that past, that could call into question the candidate's moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which she/he discharges his mandate? If yes, please explain:

No

4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the Annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1?

*Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.*

*Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate-holders will act in their personal capacity*

Yes

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5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, he/she will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the Annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.

The candidate would cease engagement with the conflicting position.

You will receive an acknowledgment when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the information through the Web-based application and the Word application form by email.

Thank you for your interest.