



## European Lawyers in Lesvos: Call for Volunteers

The European Lawyers in Lesvos gGmbH i.G. is a non-profit organisation that provides pro bono legal assistance. It was founded by the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) and the German Bar Association (DAV). These organisations represent the bars and law societies of 32 member countries and 13 further associate and observer countries across Europe, and through them more than 1 million European lawyers.

The main aim of the organisation is to send volunteer European asylum lawyers to Lesvos to provide independent, pro bono legal assistance to individuals seeking international protection.

Through our activities, we aim to ensure that every person on Lesvos who is seeking international protection is able to receive legal assistance, at no cost, from an independent, volunteer European lawyer specialised in asylum law.

Our organisation is one of only a very small number of legal assistance projects with permission to work in Moria Reception and Identification Center on Lesvos. We are the only legal assistance project that focuses on the provision of legal assistance at the crucial first instance stage of the asylum process.

We have up to 6 volunteer asylum lawyers on Lesvos at any given time, and each volunteer lawyer stays for a minimum of 3 weeks. We have so far welcomed 103 volunteers from 16 different European countries and have provided legal assistance to over 2,390 cases (over 3,600 individuals in total) on Lesvos.

We believe that access to independent pro bono legal assistance is a fundamental right and that the provision of independent pro bono legal assistance is absolutely vital to ensuring that due process is followed and the rule of law is upheld, particularly as many individuals have a very limited understanding of the asylum process, the criteria that are applied and their rights.

The organisation covers the cost of each volunteer's travel to Lesvos (up to a maximum of €500) and provides accommodation and a daily allowance of €20 per day to cover expenses.

**We are currently welcoming applications from potential volunteers for the period 1 January – 31 March 2018 (although please do not hesitate to get in contact if you would like to apply for a period outside these dates). For more information about our work, please visit [www.elil.eu](http://www.elil.eu). For information on how to apply, please visit [www.elil.eu/how-to-become-a-volunteer-lawyer/](http://www.elil.eu/how-to-become-a-volunteer-lawyer/)**