**How to apply:**

The entire application process consists of two parts: **1. online survey** and **2. application form in Word format**. Both parts and all sections of the application form need to be completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.

**First part:Online survey** (<http://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/891483?lang=en>) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity.

**Second part:Application form in Word** can be downloaded from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/HRC32.aspx> by clicking on the mandate. It should be fully 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. The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public website.

Once fully completed (including Section VII), the application form in Word should be submitted to hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org (by email). A maximum of up to three reference letters (optional) can be attached in Word or pdf format to the email prior to the expiration of the deadline. No additional documents, such as CVs, resumes, or supplementary reference letters beyond the first three received will be accepted.

**Please note that for Working Group appointments, only citizens of States belonging to the specific regional group are eligible. Please refer to the list of United Nations regional groups of Member States at** [**http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml**](http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml)

* **Application deadline: 14 april 2016 (12 noon GMT)**
* **No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.**
* **Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.**

General description of the selection process is available at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx>

In case of technical difficulties, or if encountering problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email at hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.orgor fax at + 41 22 917 9008.

**You will receive an acknowledgment email when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by email.**

**Thank you for your interest in the work of the Human Rights Council.**

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family name:**OJEA QUINTANA | **6. Year of birth:** 1969 |
| **2. First name:**TOMAS | **7. Place of birth:** BUENOS AIRES |
| **3. Maiden name (if any):**      | **8. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** ARGENTINA |
| **4. Middle name:**      | **9. Any other nationality:**       |
| **5. Sex:** **[x] Male** **[ ]  Female** |  |

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

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

1. **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 six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

I speak Spanish (native language), and English fluently. I studied Law at the University of Buenos Aires, and a Masters in International Human Rights Law (LLM) at the Washington College of Law (American University, USA), where I won the "Outstanding and Writing Award".

I work as an attorney, holding representation of human rights victims at trial, which requires legal knowledge, but also good communications skills.

I was in charge of the UN Myanmar mandate for six years, and wrote reports to be presented to the UN Human Rights Council and the General Assembly. Also issued press statements, and held large press conferences. I also developed useful diplomatic skills, necessary to be accepted on official missions to concerned countries.

I believe all these qualifications are essential to carry on any Human Rights Council mandate, in particular country mandates such as the DPRK.

1. **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 acquired.)**

**Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience.)**

After Law School in Argentina, in 1995, I won fellowship at the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (OAS) to work for one year handling human rights cases. Immediately after, I studied international human rights law (LLM) at American University USA. In 1997 I worked at the Center for Human Rights of American University, and as a human rights consultant for the Interamerican Development Bank. In 1999 I worked for OHCHR as international consultant for a human rights programme in Bolivia. In 2000, I was special adviser to the Argentine Secretariat of Human Rights. In 2004-2010 I worked as an attorney for the NGO "Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo", as consultant on sexual and reproductive rights, and up to now as adviser for the Human Rights Committee in Congress. I also work as an attorney at law. In 2008 I was appointed Special Rapporteur for the situation of human rights in Myanmar. I also taught human rights law at University of Buenos Aires and University for Peace in Costa Rica. I have more than thirty years of experience in human rights.

1. **ESTABLISHEDCOMPETENCE** (200 words)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

At the national level, I worked first for a Provincial and then the National Human Rights Institution and for recognized argentine human rights NGOs such as "Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo" and "Movimiento Ecuménico por los Derechos Humanos" (MEDH).

At the regional scale, I worked at the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights (OAS), and as human rights consultant for the Interamerican Development Bank.

At the global level, I worked as international human righs consultant for OHCHR (Bolivia), and as Special Rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Council.

The experience gained throughout the years at this three levels, built a solid competence on human rights, including legal knowledge specially needed for the DPRK mandate, where specific legal provisions are being debate under the framework of the Commission of Inquiry established by the Human Rights Council in March 2013.

1. **PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**Please listsignificant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that you have written or public statements, or pronouncements that you have made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate.**

* 1. **Enter three publications in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:**

**1. Title of publication:**

**Journal/Publisher:**

**Date of publication:**

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Title of publication:**

**Journal/Publisher:**

**Date of publication:**

**Web link, if available:**

**3. Title of publication:**

**Journal/Publisher:**

**Date of publication:**

**Web link, if available:**

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):

* 1. **Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:**

**1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Web link, if available:**

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Web link, if available:**

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words):

1. **flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time**(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 to the work of a mandate.)**

My performance during six years holding the Human Rights Council Mandate on Myanmar, showed my complete flexibility, readiness and availability of time. I travelled to Geneva and New York once a year to report to UN bodies, and visited Myanmar nine times, including a trip to Malaysia, Indonesia, and Japan, flying on long journeys from South America (where I´m based) to South East Asia.

Eventhough HRC mandates are meant to demand approximately three months per year, or part-time dedication, my experience as Special Rapprteur indicates that it requires a lot more, and I´m happy and able to do so again. Being an associated of a private law firm, and doing consultancy, give me this kind of availability.

**III. Motivation Letter**(600 word limit)

Why running for another very complicated and challenging Human Rights Council Mandate? Because I learnt that Special Procedures mechanisms can make a difference, can bring change, and represent hope for those oppressed and with their human dignity trampled.

Throughout the years, and most recently with the COI, the UN have reported that in Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) hundreds of thousands live under the worst human rights abuses, in an unthinkable disregard of the entire Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Simultaneously, the Government of DPRK has increased its belligerency, violating the UN Charter, and most seriously, engaging in military nuclear affairs, raising serious concerns and jeopardizing regional stability.

These few lines about what is happening in DPRK already demonstrates how difficult and challenging this human rights mandate is, where the founding principles of UN Charter, peace and respect of human rights, are compromised, and demand a comprehensive approach.

But the UN Human Rights Council has been strong in seeking human rights improvements, by keeping alive the DPRK mandate, and recently establishing the Commission of Inquiry.

In my view, based on the six years experience with the Myanmar mandate, the Special Procedures gives to the United Nations and the international community, a unique mechanism for the promotion and protection of human rights. Special Rapporteurs are meant to be independent and impartial, and they discharge their duty with transparency, objectivity and professionalism. They are not bound by specific human rights treaties; they carry regular field missions and have direct contact not only with victims and civil society, but also with concerned authorities. And they report then to UN principal bodies. All in all, they are in a unique space between the diplomatic world and the civil society organizations.

Thus, they are able to detect and use even the smallest window and opportunity available for dialogue and cooperation, the other key principle of the UN Charter. This is, perhaps, one of the best virtues of these mechanisms, that becomes specially relevant in the case of DPRK. In short, Special Procedures are considered by many to be, in the words of Kofi Annan, “the crown jewel of the system”.

I´m confident on such a role, and ready to face this kind of challenge again. Coming from other region (South America), far from being an obstacle, it can be a beneficial feature, as with Myanmar, where prejudices or pre-conceptions were absent.

I don´t hold any accumulative position. My mandate as Special Rapporteur on Myanmar expired two years ago, a reasonable time to access to a new mandate without compromising responsibilities and perception. I am well aware that a six years tenure (subject to renovation of course) is a long period, which requires short and large term strategies, but also ability to improvise and react to juncture changes. It also needs a strong personnel and professional commitment, and demands vast amounts of energy.

But after all, the opportunity to contribute to the improvement of the human rights of the people from Democratic People`s Republic of Korea, it is worthwhile. I have had that privilege in Myanmar, where I witnessed a transition from a military regime to a civilian government. The motivation to apply to the DPRK mandate, ultimately, comes from this aspiration.

**IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:** **SPANISH**

**2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:**

**Arabic:**Yes or no:**no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily orNot easily:
**Write:** Easily or Not easily:**Speak:** Easily or Not easily:

**Chinese:** Yes or no:**no**If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily:**Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**English:**Yes or no:**yes**If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **EASILY
Write:** Easily or not easily:**EASILY
Speak:** Easily or not easily:**EASILY**

**French:**Yes or no:**no**If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily:**Speak:** Easily or not easily:

 **Russian:**Yes or no:**no**If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily:**Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**Spanish:**Yes or no:**yes**If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **EASILY
Write:** Easily or not easily:**EASILY
Speak:** Easily or not easily:**EASILY**

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree and name of academic institution:** | **Years of attendance**(provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003): | **Place and country:** |
| LAW - UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES | 1988-1993 | ARGENTINA |
| MASTER IN LAW - AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  | 1996-1997 | USA |
|       |       |       |
|       |       |       |

**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 work**(provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005): | **Place and country:** |
| House of Representatives - Human Rights Committe - Special Adviser | 2003 - 2016 | Argentina |
| Human Rights and Criminal Law Firm - Attorney at law | 1994-2016 | Argentina |
| UN Human Rights Council - Special Rapporteur for the Situation on Human Rights in Myanmar | 2008 - 2014 | Geneva |
| Ministry of Health - Sexual and Reproductive Rights - Legal consultantNGO Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo - AttorneySave the Children - ConsultantUN High Commissioner for Human Rights - International ConsultantNational Secretariat of Human Rights  | 2010 - 20152004 - 20102004 - 20051999 - 20002000 | ArgentinaArgentinaArgentinaBoliviaArgentina |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on his/her behalf.***

**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

**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.**

NOT APPLICABLE

\*\*\*\*