

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### **EHRN SENIOR ADVOCACY OFFICER**

EHRN is now looking for an experienced harm reduction advocate for the position of Senior Advocacy Officer to be based in the EHRN Secretariat, in Vilnius, Lithuania. Advocacy is central to the work of the network and the EHRN Senior Advocacy Officer will be responsible for leading EHRN's planned as well as emergency response advocacy initiatives supervising several secretariat staff members and as well as maintaining continuous interaction and networking with harm reduction organizations in the CEECA region and with international agencies. Familiarity with relevant regional and international structures and key players as well as excellent communication and management skills will be welcome characteristics of applicants. For a detailed job description, see below.

Best regards,

Asta Minkeviciene

Executive Director

Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN)

Email: [asta@harm-reduction.org](mailto:asta@harm-reduction.org)

[www.harm-reduction.org](http://www.harm-reduction.org)

NGO in Special Status with Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC)

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### **POSITION AVAILABLE: SENIOR ADVOCACY OFFICER EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION NETWORK**

The Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN) is a regional network with a mission to promote humane, evidence-based harm reduction approaches to drug use, with the aim of improving health and protecting human rights at the individual, community, and societal level. Specifically, during 2010-2014, EHRN seeks to help implement non-discriminating policies for drug users and other vulnerable people in the EHRN territory, and to improve and expand the use of evidence-based interventions and services that target them. The Network's geographical focus includes Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (CEECA), which consists of 6 sub-regions: Balkans, the Baltics, Central Europe, European Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Caucasus and Central Asia. For more information on EHRN and its work, please see [www.harm-reduction.org](http://www.harm-reduction.org)

### **OVERALL OBJECTIVE:**

**The EHRN Senior Advocacy Officer will ensure that EHRN continues to be a driving force in advocacy initiatives in the Central and Eastern European and Central Asian region and globally.**

## **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Senior Advocacy Officer will develop and ensure the implementation of EHRN advocacy strategy and also initiate, plan and coordinate “emergency response” to emerging situations” as well as fundraise for the EHRN advocacy activities. The Senior Advocacy Officer will initiate the provision of technical assistance to national partners; make communications like press releases and letters to policy institutions, organize events and make presentations/interventions at various national, international and global forums. The Senior Advocacy Officer works closely with Program Director and supervises information dissemination and networking, as well as works with EHRN members and partner organizations in CEECA region aiming to increase community engagement in the formation and implementation of humane, evidence-based harm reduction approaches to drug use policies and practices.

### **Policy and Advocacy**

- Develops EHRN advocacy strategy and plan in alignment with overall EHRN strategic priorities;
- Identifies strategic advocacy opportunities to mobilize community-based monitoring and advocacy efforts in support of national and global policy reform related to the health needs of people who use drugs;
- Provides technical assistance, and/or identifies appropriate technical assistance resources to support effective community organizing and monitoring work, campaign development, coalition building, and engagement of drug users in advocacy work;
- Searches for funds to finance advocacy activities of the Institution and together with managers’ team prepares project applications;
- Networks with local, state and international agencies/donors for future program development;
- Documents and publicizes best practices from the region in community-based monitoring and advocacy which involves drug users, for EHRN use in regional and international forums and publications;
- Supervises the EHRN Information Manager;
- Supervises external freelancers as needed for advocacy work;
- Represents organization at conferences, meetings and other events;

### **General EHRN development**

- Supervises and works as a team with other EHRN staff to strengthen and implement EHRN’s strategy and work plans;
- Contributes to the general development and administration of EHRN;
- Participates in meetings and workshops.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Background/experience preferably in law, public relations or public health or NGO;
- Minimum of three years relevant work experience in regional advocacy on issues related to health and rights of people who use drugs;
- Direct experience in working with community-based groups on the development and implementation of advocacy strategies and campaigns with demonstrable policy impact;

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- Proven ability to inspire local and international actors to strengthen their service delivery efforts through monitoring and advocacy for policy change, and to equip them with the appropriate tools and knowledge to do so;
- High familiarity with international funding mechanisms and advocacy relevant to treatment for vulnerable groups preferred;
- Commitment to harm reduction principles and knowledge of specific treatment issues of relevance to people who use drugs;
- Ability to listen and communicate effectively with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds;
- Strategic thinking and ability to influence and lobby for the cause of NGO community and advocate social transformation;
- Management experience, preferably including supervision of staff in multiple locations;
- Excellent oral and written English and Russian skills;
- Excellent public speaking skills
- Willingness to travel internationally on a frequent basis.

**START DATE:** September, 2010

**COMPENSATION:** Commensurate with experience

**To Apply**

Please email resume and cover letter with salary requirements before **5 July, 2010**,  
to: [asta@harm-reduction.org](mailto:asta@harm-reduction.org) Include job title in subject line: *Senior Advocacy Officer*.  
OR

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