

Research Assistants – The Future of Free Speech Project

The Future of Free Speech Project is looking to hire 3-4 enthusiastic graduate and/or law students to join as research assistants to contribute to research and analysis on burning issues of global freedom of expression.

About The Future of Free Speech Project

On April 1, 2023, Justitia’s The Future of Free Speech Project opened a U.S.-based office at Vanderbilt University. The office at Vanderbilt will be led by Justitia CEO [Jacob Mchangama](#) and aims to foster a thriving global culture of free speech, particularly where free speech is under threat in authoritarian states and democracies, online and offline.

The announcement coincided with two recent articles in the New York Times. [The first](#) – on the U.S. Supreme Court decision of *New York Times v. Sullivan* - was published Friday, April 12, 2023, by FFS Non-Resident Senior Fellow [Jeff Kosseff](#), and [the second](#) – in which Jacob was interviewed about the mission of FFS - was published on April 16, 2023, by [David French](#), a New York Times Opinion columnist.

The project has [published cutting-edge research and provided influential commentary](#) on the state of global freedom of expression that has been featured in over 900 media outlets in more than 60 countries.

Through rigorous empirical research and cutting-edge advocacy, we focus on how freedom of expression can be strengthened to empower democracy, tolerance, and the rule of law, and how the harms of free expression can be mitigated through non-restrictive measures.

Job Description

The FFS is looking to hire 3-4 enthusiastic graduate and/or law students of diverse academic backgrounds to contribute to research and analysis on issues relating to global freedom of expression. The ideal candidate will be energetic, collaborative, proactive, and able to work independently with appropriate supervision and guidance. Working hours [15-20 per week]. Our organization allows for flexible, hybrid, and remote (including outside the U.S.) work models.

Tasks will include, one or more of the following:

- Contributing to The Future of Free Speech’s work on mapping and analyzing speech-restrictive laws around the globe, including the United States.
- Contributing to the Future of Free Speech’s work by developing toolkits to counter harmful speech.
- Research and analysis of social media platform’s content policy and enforcement
- Research and analysis of regulatory developments affecting freedom of expression – online and offline - around the globe,

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- Research and analyses on how technological developments (AI, AR, VR etc.) may be used to strengthen or weaken freedom of expression;
 - Contribute to the drafting of reports and articles;
 - Contribute to research for the Future of Free Speech’s weekly podcast
 - Working on new projects as the FFS mission evolves and expands

The FFS encourages an inter-disciplinary approach to analyzing the challenges facing the global protection of freedom of expression. Accordingly, FFS welcomes applications from law students and graduate students from any field of study provided they have a strong interest in freedom of expression and can demonstrate how their interests and skillsets can contribute to the FFS mission. Interested graduate and law students can send a cover letter and CV to Wendy Burch at wendy@futurefreespeech.com.