

Bayreuth, 13.02.2026

Rwanda Justice Sector Internship Program

In partnership with the University of Bayreuth through the Chair of African Legal Studies, the Institute of Legal Practice and Development (ILPD) has conceived the Internship Program to be offered in Rwanda. This program comes as a response to the need of engaging students with the judicial and legal processes of a high-level national institutions in Rwanda with an international legal context. The ILPD is the only institution that is mandated to offer a professional postgraduate program in law in Rwanda. It will coordinate the program through placing students to their target working institutions including the Judiciary of Rwanda (Supreme Court) and monitor their supervision.

The main objective is to provide two to three students per annum with a unique, hands-on opportunity to engage with the judicial processes of a high-level national institution with an international legal context.

During the six week program, the students are given the opportunity to develop valuable legal skills such as case research, case analysis, and understanding the role of courts in interpreting and applying national and international law.

Moreover, the program fosters closer ties between the university and global legal institutions, facilitating knowledge exchange and collaboration and serving as a model for future academic and professional partnerships between universities and international legal bodies.

In 2026, the program is starting in the last week of August or first week of September.



Prof. Dr. Thoko Kaime

Chair of African Legal Studies, B IX, Room No. 42, Universitätsstr. 30, 95447 Bayreuth,
0921 55-4336, Thoko.Kaime@uni-bayreuth.de
www.africanlegalstudies.uni-bayreuth.de

1. Selection Criteria

Internships are awarded according to the following criteria:

- Successful completion of the “Zwischenprüfungen”
- Academic excellence
- Relevant experience: Previous experience in legal research, writing, and analysis can be beneficial. This could be evidenced through coursework, previous internships, moot court competitions or participation in other legal projects or activities.
- Language skills: Proficiency in English, the primary working language of the Supreme Court, is essential. Additional skills in French or Kinyarwanda are beneficial.

Preference could be given to students who have taken courses related to Module Area B or D of the ILS program that align with the work done at the Supreme Court.

There is no to minimal prior knowledge required to participate in the program.

2. Mode of Application

The applicants must submit the following documents by **email** to africanlegalstudies@uni-bayreuth.de. The attachments must be combined and sent in a single pdf document.

- A signed curriculum vitae
- A one-page letter of motivation
- A transcript of records
- Proof of language proficiency

3. Deadline for Application

The application deadline is Sunday, March 15th, 2026.

Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.



Prof. Dr. Thoko Kaime

Chair of African Legal Studies, B IX, Room No. 42, Universitätsstr. 30, 95447 Bayreuth,
0921 55-4336, Thoko.Kaime@uni-bayreuth.de
www.africanlegalstudies@uni-bayreuth.de

4. Selection Procedure

Online interviews will be part of the selection process to assess the applicant's interpersonal skills, motivation, and ability to articulate their interests in the program.

5. Content of the program

The interns will work primarily within the Judiciary of Rwanda and the ILPD will be in charge of academic supervision.

The intern tasks will be specified in the daily activity plans of the host institutions.

Expected working hours are approximately from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m./6 p.m. The interns will work from a dedicated office and will be supervised by a permanent contact person. Moreover, the presence of other interns fosters a collaborate environment.

Each intern will be assigned a mentor within the Judiciary who will provide oversight and guidance throughout the program.

The dress code is generally conservative. For example, expect to wear ties, dress shoes and suits.

For a more detailed overview of what to expect, see the experience report by Niko Thomitzek and Karl Wachtel.

6. Funding

The applicant must ensure that sufficient financial resources are available. However, the Chair and the International Office can provide assistance.

There are many scholarships out there that offer support for an internship abroad. Applications for DAAD scholarships, such as the PROMOS partial scholarship, can be submitted until June 1, 2025. In addition to studying at the home university, the organizations for the promotion of gifted students ("Begabtenförderungswerke") usually also support stays abroad.

For an overview over possible funding, take a look at the website of the [International Office](#).



Prof. Dr. Thoko Kaime

Chair of African Legal Studies, B IX, Room No. 42, Universitätsstr. 30, 95447 Bayreuth,
0921 55-4336, Thoko.Kaime@uni-bayreuth.de
www.africanlegalstudies@uni-bayreuth.de