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Nathan Sampimon
Inspire9
By email: nathan@inspire9.com

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Dear Nathan

The Child in International Refugee Law ("CIRL") Project

As discussed in previous telephone conversations, the Princess Diana Fund has expressed an interest in funding the development of a website which would archive my doctoral research and make it publically available for a wider audience. The resulting website would, it is envisaged, be the most comprehensive source of case law, and legal instruments, concerning child refugees available globally.

In this brief note I have set out an overview of the proposed website (referred to as "**CIRL website**"), including a description of its to core components (a case law database, and a categorised list of legal instruments relevant to child refugees). I have then set out in more detail my precise requirements from Inspire9.

If you could provide a quote on the basis of this information, that would be wonderful. This quotation will be used as part of the funding application to the Princess Diana Fund. Two additional points regarding the quotation. First, my partner Derek has been working on aspects of the case law database over the past few weeks, and is keen to play a key role in the programming for the website, and particularly the case law database component (a nice break from the tedium of law). For the purposes of the initial quote can you please assume that Inspire9 will do all of the programming work. We can then discuss in more detail which aspects Derek will work on, and amend the quote accordingly. Second, although we are applying for funding for the CIRL website, the funding is not yet guaranteed, and it is likely that it will not be an exorbitant amount of money. If you can keep in mind the charitable nature of the CIRL website in providing your quote, I would be incredibly grateful. Inspire9 would, of course, be credited on the website.

This is a very exciting project, and I very much hope that I can collaborate with you on it.

Yours sincerely

Jason Pobjoy

Enc.

Overview of CIRL website

The CIRL website will have two components. The first component will be a caselaw database of decisions concerning refugee children. The second component will be a categorised list of legal instruments relevant to refugee children. I address each in turn.

Case Law Database

- The case law database will be modelled loosely on the refugee case law site (“RCS”) (<http://www.refugeecaselaw.org>). This site is regarded as the leading compilation of case law on the refugee definition. However it applies to refugees generally, whereas the CIRL website will apply to children specifically. It is worth having a look at this website, and in particular the “guided search” function, to get a sense of the database that is proposed for the CIRL website. I am heavily involved in the RCS, so am in a position to show you the back-end of the website (ie. how cases are uploaded).
- As part of my doctoral research I have collated approximately 1,500 decisions from around the world concerning child refugees. These decisions are currently uploaded in a Mendeley database as pdf files. For every decision I have inputted a case name, date, jurisdiction, court, legal issue, subject matter, country of origin, and abstract (“**CIRL database fields**”). Mendeley allows cases in its database to be exported as an XML file. I then intend to import this XML file into a custom built database hosted on the CIRL website.
- The CIRL website will contain a public interface that allows all fields of the database to be searched (including text within any pdf files). There will also be an administrative interface that allows me (or a subset of users) to add, edit and delete cases contained in the database.

Legal instruments

- The second component of the CIRL website will be a list, with accompanying pdf files, of legal instruments relevant to refugee children. There are approximately 150 documents, which I currently have stored as pdf files on my hard drive.
- Further thought is required on how to present this material in an original way. On the one hand, it will be the first time all of the material is available on a single site. But more than that I would like the user interface to reflect the core argument of my doctorate, which has inspired this website. At present there are two areas of law relevant to refugee children: international law on the rights of the child, and international refugee law. My argument is that practitioners, decision-makers and advocates need to recognise the complementary nature of these two regimes: that a child refugee is both a child, and a refugee, and is entitled to the protection afforded by both international legal regimes. To the extent that it is possible, it would be wonderful to represent this visually. For example, the legal instruments could be separated into three categories: (a) international law on the rights of the child; (b) international refugee law; and (c) international law on refugee children. Visually, this could be presented as some form of abstract venn diagram (with (c) represented as the overlapping circles).

Involvement of Inspire9

- Domain name registration.
- Web site hosting.
- Web site design (including graphic design (e.g. logo), procuring of images, CSS design).
- Programming.