

**Vacancy Title:** International Working Group (IWG) Member

**Type of Vacancy:** Voluntary

**Hours:** Flexible, upon needs

**Location:** Flexible.

**Starting date:** Mid-January 2011

**Reports to:** Network Development Coordinator

**About Youth RISE:**

Youth RISE is a **youth-driven network** of young people **around the globe**. We fight for young people affected by drug policy, those who use drugs and those who seek to empower them. We're here to get the **young voice heard in drug policy decisions** and to **promote policies that reduce the harms** associated with drug use.

The Youth RISE structure is one that is inter-connected and dependent on all parts. From staff, to International Working Group members (international volunteers) on the ground, to partnering organizations, we share resources and success stories and work together to promote systemic change. But our connection does not end with our work; it needs *young people* and depends on **young people** adding their voice to reduce the harmful affects of drugs.

Release, based in the United Kingdom, is Youth RISE's fiscal agent, and provides Youth RISE with financial and organizational support.

*All members are required to travel to Lebanon in April for the International Harm Reduction Conference and the meetings prior and after the conference (a total of 10 days in the beginning of April 2010).*

Youth RISE 2010

**Job purpose summary:**

The International Working Group (IWG) will provide experience, guidance, and support to Youth RISE to achieve its goal. Additionally, IWG members will help develop the infrastructure needed for the sustainability of the Youth RISE network.

The IWG members will be responsible for the following activities:

- be proactive in implementing Youth RISE's strategic focus, activities and projects, effectively engaging network members in their region to strengthen regional work and develop local and regional partnerships
- recruit young people in the region who can help developing fact sheet and/or projects and hence increase Youth RISE's membership
- act as 'key informants' in their region, collecting research and information on the harm reduction needs of young people
- engage young people in their region in research, training or advocacy projects and will support the participation of young people who do not have access to Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
- contribute to the development of the main advocacy messages for the network internationally, and lead the development of advocacy messages in their region
- participate in the development and maintenance of the Youth RISE website and online communication tools, and an e-consultation that will further develop Youth RISE's advocacy and training goals
- develop regional projects, advocacy campaigns and activities that are parallel with Youth RISE main messages and plan for the year
- participate in decision-making concerning work plans and urgent practical matters, in coordination with other decision-making bodies in the network.

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**Required Skills:**

Fluency in English;

Frequent Internet access (at least 2x per week); i.e. availability to work with the rest of the team

***Experience in the drug policy, harm reduction field and/or in drug use;***

Ability to attend monthly teleconference calls;

Commitment to a rights-based approach (including evidence-based information and services, harm reduction, etc);

Skills and/or organisational capacity that is relevant to regional and/or international organising, harm reduction and working with young people;

Ability to contribute your time on a voluntary basis (an honorarium will be provided at the end of the year depending on the input in the network);

Ability to travel to conferences and meetings;

Good people skills, ability to talk with people and coordinate with people from different backgrounds;

Must be able to commit to an entire year, beginning January 2011;

A good sense of humour under pressure;

Interested, motivated, flexible and reliable!

If you do not meet the criteria listed above, but would like to be involved in the network, please become a member! Membership is free and you will be able to access email updates, information, resources and training opportunities. Please sign up at [www.youthrise.org](http://www.youthrise.org)

If you are interested in participating in the International Working Group, please fill out the brief application below and submit your CV/resume and/or short biography to [info@youthrise.org](mailto:info@youthrise.org) by December 27th, 2010 at 17h00 GMT.

If you have questions please contact us prior to the deadline.

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**Application Form:**

**Name:**

**Country of birth:**

**Country of residence:**

**Age:**

**Organisation / Network:**

**Languages:**

Please answer the following questions:

1. What kind of experience do you have that is related to youth and drug-related and/or harm reduction issues?
2. Why do you want to participate in the International Working Group and how will the IWG benefit from your participation?
3. Can you please define 'harm reduction' and 'drug policies' in your own words?
4. Why should young people get involved in harm reduction and drug policies?
5. What are the main challenges facing young people in the drug field today?
6. What are the main issues for young drug users, and challenges as they relate to young people and drug policy in your region?
7. Are you affiliated with any local or regional youth/ sexual health/ drug related/ harm reduction networks, and if so, which ones?
8. Feel free to share any other info that might help inform the selection process.

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