

All information contained herein is strictly confidential and to be utilized exclusively by ICORN Secretariat staff/researchers and PEN International staff/researchers for the purpose of evaluating the applicant's suitability for placement with an ICORN City of Refuge. No information contained in this document may be released to the media or made public by any method without permission from the applicant. By submitting this application, you agree to provide your consent to the processing and storage of your personal data by ICORN. You have the right to withdraw consent at any time.



WRITER / ARTIST

APPLICATION FORM

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Please read this information carefully before you apply

Who can apply?

Any writer or artist who is threatened or persecuted for expressing their opinions or ideas, through their professional work or/and art, is invited to apply for an ICORN residency. ICORN uses the terms writer/artist broadly, including: **Creative writers** (novels, poems, epics, short stories, screenplays, lyrics, television scripts, films, theatre plays and cartoons), **Non-fiction writers** (academic writing, essays, textbooks, journalism, prose, technical writing and blogging), **Editors, Publishers, Translators, Artists** (photography, cartoons, painting, performance, new media art etc.) **and Musicians** (composers and musicians of all genres).

Literary publication/artistic production

To apply for an ICORN residency, the candidate must be able to document a certain amount of literary or artistic production. This typically means having published books, articles, cartoons, albums, or the equivalent, deemed worthy of printing/producing/exhibiting by others: i.e. not self-publication only.

Persecution

The candidate needs to document that they are either:

- **At risk as a direct consequence of their writing/artistic production** – whether in danger of being killed, abducted, physically attacked or “disappeared”.
- **Sentenced to (or at risk of being sentenced to) a prison term** by the authorities in their country, as a direct consequence of their writing or artistic production.
- **Unable to express themselves** freely through their writing/artistic production for fear of persecution due to actual or probable actions of the government or non-government entities of the country where they reside.

Have the candidate applied for asylum in a safe country?

Please note that ICORN cannot interfere in asylum cases and will not assess the application before an asylum claim has been settled. If the candidate is granted asylum in a safe country, they fall outside the ICORN mandate. If the asylum claim has been rejected, please notify ICORN as soon as possible.

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Applying to ICORN is **free**, you should never be asked to pay for submitting an application. Similarly, ICORN does not have any consultants or other that are employed to either help write an application or advise on the application process.

If you are asked to pay for submitting an application or are approached by people claiming to work for ICORN, please contact application@icorn.org, and one of the ICORN staff will get back to you. See <https://icorn.org/contact-icorn> for a list of staff working for ICORN.

Please fill in all the information required in the application form and be as detailed as possible. **Only complete applications will be assessed.**

Please send the completed application form to application@icorn.org

If the situation calls for this the application form can be filled in by others than the applicant him/herself. If this is the case here, please let us know who has filled in and/or translated the application:

Name:

Contact info:

Relation to the applicant:

Why did you fill in the form:

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1. PERSONAL DETAILS OF APPLICANT

First Name/Given Name(s):

Surname/Family Name:

Nickname/Pen Name (*nom de plume*):

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy):

Gender:

Place of Birth:

Nationality:

Current place of residency, including country:

Telephone number, including country code:

E-mail:

Do you have any special security considerations, if yes please explain and describe which way ICORN can reach you securely:

Website:

Social media ID (Twitter, Facebook and other):

Language knowledge:

List all languages you speak. Rate both spoken and reading/writing skills.

Languages	Level of proficiency							
	Spoken				Reading/writing			
	Basic	Good	Fluent	Native	Basic	Good	Fluent	Native

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EMERGENCY CONTACT

In case of an emergency or if we cannot reach you, who can we contact to relay information to you?

Name:

Your relationship to this person:

E-mail address and telephone number:

2. PROFESSIONAL DETAILS

Type of writer/artist:

Is this your fulltime/main profession?

How long have you been active writer/artist (since year):

Publications and/or other productions:

1. Please provide a complete **CV/** professional résumé that includes education. Start with your most recent employment/work.
2. Please attach a separate sheet marked **BIBLIOGRAPHY/ DISCOGRAPHY/ PORTFOLIO ETC.** Include the titles, dates, and publisher information for published works.
3. Please provide minimum two **WRITING SAMPLES / SAMPLES OF YOUR WORK.** This could also be links, pictures etc. If in a non-European language, please make sure to include a short resume or explanation.
4. Please provide a list of **AWARDS and/or PRIZES** (related to your work or human rights activities). Please include dates and name of the organization awarding the prize.

Name of current or most recent employer (if employed):

Your position with this employer:

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May ICORN contact this employer for references?

If no, please explain why:

Employer's address:

Telephone include country code:

Email:

Dates employed (to – from):

Reasons for leaving (if no longer employed):

Employment skills unrelated to literary, journalist or artistic work (for example: teaching, translation, other professional skills):

What is your highest level of completed education?

If possible, would you be interested in continuing your studies?

PROFESSIONAL DETAILS – CIVIL AND POLITICAL

Are you a member or employee of a political or other organisation. Please provide the name of the organisations and brief details of activities and dates of membership.

If necessary, please attach another sheet marked CIVIL AND POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS.

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3. PERSECUTION - DETAILS OF ATTACK, THREAT, CENSORSHIP, ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT

Please give a detailed, narrative and chronological account of the censorship/threats/persecution you are facing. This should include the reason why you are applying for a residency with ICORN as well as the following information on each incident:

ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT

1. Date of arrest
2. Place of arrest
3. The length of time you were detained
4. The place of detention
5. Forces who arrested/detained you, or the forces you believe were responsible—and why you believe they were responsible
6. The authority that issued the arrest warrant or made the decision
7. Which laws/article/charges or legislation were applied in your case—what was the official reason for your arrest?
8. Details you may want to include about the circumstances of your arrest or your treatment during the arrest or detainment. Were you subjected to torture or ill-treatment?
9. Do you have a lawyer we can contact for more information? If yes, please provide name and contact information (e-mail and phone).
10. Please attach any documents or links you have, or that has been published, that verifies the detention/arrest.
11. Please attach photos and/or medical reports on physical and/or psychological injury as a result of the arrest/imprisonment is available.

ATTACK, THREATS AND CENSORSHIP

1. The date of the attack/threat
2. The nature of the attack/threat
3. Identity of persons carrying out attack/threat
4. Describe the attack/threats
5. Describe what you believe is the motivation of your attackers and why you believe this
6. Describe what you did after the attack or threat (for example, did you go to the police, appeal through the legal system for police protection or investigation, or appeal to humanitarian organizations for help?). Please explain what happened as a result of your actions (for example, what, if anything, did the police do to help?).
7. Please attach documents, links, screen shots, photos or other material you have got that can verify the threats or attacks.

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Do you believe that there are any ADDITIONAL REASONS that you have received threats or ill-treatment other than your writing/work as an artist, if yes, please explain (additional reasons may include: persecution due to gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation (also perceived), social group, ethnicity, political opinion, membership in organisation, etc).

4. CURRENT SITUATION:

Please describe your situation today.

1. Social and economic situation: Please include information about your living conditions, your financial situation/ source of income, relevant information about your relation to family, colleagues and social network. Do you receive support or protection from your next of kin? Does any members of your family face threats, detention or other difficulties because of your activities?
2. Security situation: Are you safe where you are now? If not, why not? What steps have you taken to increase your safety? Have you moved?
3. Protection: What organizations have you contacted for support (advice, refuge or financial)? Please include name of contact person and his/her contact information. ICORN may work efficiently to help you if we can cooperate with others.
4. Have any travel and/or residency restrictions been applied to you?
5. Residence status (in your country of origin and in the country of your current residence)
6. If you have fled to another country: have you registered with UNHCR or asked for asylum? If yes, please attach scanned copies of the most recent registration card/document.

Passport Type and Number:

Is your passport still valid?

If passport is not valid, can it be renewed?

If passport is not valid, do you hold a valid photo ID?

Please provide a scanned copy of passport/photo ID

Please be aware that the majority of the ICORN cities can only consider candidates that holds a valid passport.

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5. REFERENCES

Please provide two, 2, references. The reference forms are can be downloaded from the ICORN website. Your application is not complete without the references. ICORN must be able to contact them securely by email if needed.

Fellow ICORN applicants or family members cannot serve as references. The references should be someone whom you know personally, former colleagues and/or publishers are often good references or a person with specialist knowledge of your situation.

6. PLANS FOR RESIDENCY IF ACCEPTED

Inviting ICORN cities are interested in learning about your plans for the residency. **Please describe your expectations and provide a project plan for your stay (what kind of projects would you work on? How much interaction would you want or expect from the host community? Are there specific needs (practical or others) related to your artistic/profession work that the inviting city should know about? If you have an academic background, please describe your experience and credentials and indicate your interest in teaching).**

Would you feel comfortable being a public resident?

Most ICORN residencies are two, 2, years. **What are your plans for the future? Will you be able to return to your home country or elsewhere when the residency is over? Please explain.**

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7. FAMILY

Marital status (married/single/other):

Total number of children:

Number of dependent children:

If you would like your spouse/partner/children to accompany you please provide the following information:

SPOUSE/PARTNER

Name:

Date of birth:

Gender:

Profession:

Please provide CV

Is you spouse/partner persecuted because of his/her work? If yes please explain how and by whom.

Nationality:

Languages spoken:

Current residence and residency status:

Please provide copy of passport or valid photo ID.

CHILDREN

Please provide the following information for each dependant children you would like to accompany you. Due to immigration regulations children over the age of 18 years can seldom be included in the residency invitation.

Name:

Date of birth:

Gender:

Nationality:

Languages spoken:

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Highest completed level of education:

Current residence and residency status:

Please provide copy of passport or valid photo ID.

The number of residencies open to families are limited, would you be willing to take up a residency alone?

8. MEDICAL / HEALTH SITUATION

The ICORN host communities prepare to make the best possible arrangements for your stay. To do so, they need to know about any health or medical conditions they may assist you with. Health care systems vary from country to country, and not all medication or treatment is available on equal basis everywhere.

Please let us know if you:

- Suffer from any acute or chronic medical or health conditions that needs medication or other treatment or attention.
- If you have been exposed to torture, ill treatment or psychological degrading deeds.
- Use any medication, either on a regular basis or with regular intervals.
- If any of your accompanying family members have any medical or health needs.

9. HISTORY OF RESIDENCY

If you are living outside your country of origin, please give the date of arrival in current country of residence, what type of visa/residency permit you hold (if any) and the date when your permit to stay in the country expires:

Please list all the countries in which you have spent substantial time since you left your country of origin. Please include the dates of your arrival and departure, your residential status while there, and your reasons for leaving:

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HOW DID YOU HEAR OF ICORN?

- Internet search
- Media/social media articles or links
- Through other organisation, please provide name of organisation and your contact person:

- Through former colleague, friend or other acquaintance that also has applied to ICORN:

- Other, please explain:

ICORN collaborates with other trusted organizations and partners also outside the ICORN network. If we so see fit, do you agree to ICORN sharing the information you've provided with them in order to search for the support/help needed?

If yes, please sign here: _____

If any of the information provided here by the applicant or on behalf of the applicant changes in any way during the processing and waiting period, he/she is required to notify the ICORN Secretariat. Withholding vital information, or giving false or inaccurate information, may result in the applicant losing his or her status as an ICORN candidate or as an ICORN Writer/Artist.

**I confirm that the information provided in this application is correct, true and complete.
I also confirm that I understand that, should I be approved for candidacy as a Writer/Artist in an ICORN city, I am not guaranteed a residency.**

Applicant's signature: _____

Date and place: _____