



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI



Call for Applications:

Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women

Introduction

The African Leadership Centre (ALC) was established in Kenya in June 2010 as a joint initiative of King's College London and the University of Nairobi. The ALC is pleased to announce a call for applications for the Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women for 2018/2019. This Fellowship is an intellectual and financial award to those who are able to portray convincing demonstrable or potential capacity to bring about intellectual, policy or other change in their field. The Fellowship is a postgraduate non-degree programme and does not lead to an academic qualification.

Since October 2011 the ALC, King's College London and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi, have delivered the Peace and Security Fellowships for African Women in partnership.

The ALC aims to build a new community of leaders generating cutting edge knowledge on peace, security and development. To this end, the ALC undertakes to do the following:

- Create an enabling environment for ideas that are grounded in African realities;
- Provide space for interaction with role models;
- Build capacity for independent thinking;
- Expand the knowledge base to develop transformational ideas that can be nurtured to create visions of change;
- Create opportunities to transfer knowledge to achieve multiplier effects for communities;
- Connect with processes nationally, regionally and globally, especially in the field of peace and security; and
- Build lasting partnerships that will maintain an African-led vision of change.

The Fellowships bring together African women in the early stages of their careers to undertake a carefully designed training programme in conflict, security and development. This training is followed by an attachment to an African Regional Organisation or a Centre of Excellence to acquire practical

experience in the field of peace and security. It is intended that this project will train African women to develop a better understanding of African peace and security issues, in order to increase their participation in conflict management processes and other areas of security concerns for Africans.

Purpose

The Peace and Security Fellowship Programme for African Women is designed to expose professional African women at early stages of their careers to the complexities of conflict, security and development. The exposure is to equip them for careers in this field by developing their expertise to generate African-led ideas and processes of change for addressing challenges on the African continent. The Fellowships aim especially to ground this expertise on peace and security in integrity and the pursuit of excellence.

The Fellowship is conceived against a number of background factors:

- First is the comparatively low number of African women exposed to rigorous academic writing and policy analysis in the field of peace and security especially when compared with those involved in human rights and development issues.
- Second is the need to assist African women to meet the demands of the Beijing process and the subsequent UN Security Council Resolution 1325 that calls for the inclusion of women at all decision-making levels in “all national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts”.

This Fellowship is aimed at challenging the existing tendency that seems to reinforce the male dominant discourse on conflict and security related matters. The Fellowship is designed to develop the network of African women scholars working in the field whilst linking them with the peace and security mechanisms of relevant institutions.

Eligibility

- Candidates must be female citizens of African countries.
- Successful candidates must hold valid travel documents prior to acceptance.
- Candidates must have knowledge of, or experience of women’s rights, gender and development issues.
- Candidates must be able to demonstrate a commitment to contribute to work on peace and security in Africa.
- Candidates must be able to demonstrate capacity to undertake research on issues relating to peace and security in Africa.
- Candidates must demonstrate commitment to the core values of the programme: Independent thinking; Integrity; Pursuit of Excellence; and Respect for all forms of Diversity
- Candidates must have a relevant institutional base and be endorsed by an organisation with which they have been involved for at least two years. Exceptional candidates without such organisational ties may be given special consideration.

Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women

- Candidates must have a demonstrable plan for how to utilise knowledge gained in the Fellowship upon return to their countries and/ or organisations.
- Candidates must hold a **Master's or Bachelor's** degree with an equivalent level of professional experience.
- Candidates must be fluent in spoken and written English.

Programme Delivery

This is a **one-year** Fellowship, divided into two **six-month** phases.

Phase 1: The first phase will be delivered at the ALC, Nairobi and King's College London. During the training, the Fellows will be encouraged to engage critically with the discourse on conflict, security and development in Africa. They will also visit and study institutions working in the field of peace and security in Africa and Europe. This phase will include a simulation seminar series during which mock conflict management situations will be practiced.

Phase 2: In the second phase, Fellows will be attached to an African regional organisation or Centre of Excellence to undertake practical work in the field of peace and security including peace and conflict management processes.

Mentoring: During both phases, Fellows will have access to the programme's network of mentors, in the form of regular group mentoring and training on key thematic issues. One-on-one mentoring sessions will also be encouraged, to help guide students through the programme.

Research Project: In the 12 months of the training, Fellows will be expected to conduct a research project on a key aspect of peace, security and development, that is in line with select aspects of the ALC Research Agenda on "Future Peace and the Role of the State in Africa". They will produce a research report (8000 to 10000 words) and a policy brief from their research. These policy briefs will be published and disseminated amongst different organisations in peace and security, in the region.

Terms of the Fellowship

Successful Fellows will have the status of full-time students on the post-graduate non-degree programme at ALC/King's College London.

1. **Standard Visitor visa:** The offer of the Fellowship is subject to successful candidates obtaining visas to cover the six-month period that is the duration of the first phase of the Fellowship in the UK and Kenya. Failure to obtain a visa to enter the UK and Kenya automatically invalidates the offer of Fellowship with no consequences to the Fellowship Programme. The immigration rules for the UK can be accessed on the Gov.UK web page: <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/overview>. Please contact the Kenyan Embassy/High Commission in your home country for the relevant procedures to obtain a Kenyan student visa for the entire Fellowship period of one year.

Please, note that any deviation from the Fellowship, except as may be authorised by the African Leadership Centre, shall affect the Fellow's immigration status in the UK/Kenya. Please

Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women

consult the British Embassy/High Commission and Kenyan Embassy/High Commission in your home country for more information.

2. **Expectant/Nursing mothers:** Given the intense nature of the programme including its short phases in different locations as well as necessary extensive travel, successful applicants that are expectant or nursing mothers while encouraged to apply, will be advised to defer their admission to the programme
3. **Medical Exam:** Successful applicants will be required to undergo medical examinations at recommended venues prior to taking up their positions, to aid visa applications and to confirm your fitness for undertaking the programme.
4. **Programme completion/Return to base:** The programme will last a total of 12 months, and Fellows will be expected to make full-time commitment to the programme for its duration. It is a condition of the programme that successful candidates should return to their base or home countries at the end of the programme.

Termination

The African Leadership Centre jointly with King's College London has the right to terminate the conferral of a Fellowship, in the event of a breach in the Terms and Conditions of the programme.

Funding

This is a fully funded* opportunity, not including any visa application and processing costs. Funds will be made available to the Fellows to cover tuition, subsistence in the UK and Africa, and travel expenses related to the programme in both phases.¹ While funding will be made available to pay for accommodation, successful applicants are expected to find their own accommodation both in the UK and Africa. Fellows are strongly advised to make all necessary accommodation arrangements prior to taking up their positions on the Fellowship Programme.

Apply

Applications will be accepted [Online](#) at the following link where you need to create an account to apply: [Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women. The deadline for applications is 23:59 hrs, Sunday 8th April 2018.](#)

The following documents are required, before your application will be considered complete:

- A letter of application detailing your relevant experience and qualifications.

¹ **Please note that the funds are intended for individual Fellows only.** It does not cover dependents and it is not intended to support family members. Successful candidates will need to make alternative arrangements to cover the costs and other livelihood needs of dependents before arrival in Kenya/UK or attachment location. For both countries, prospective applicants must satisfy the Immigration Authorities that they have sufficient funds to support themselves and their dependents before arrival (taking into account the stipend to be provided by the Mentoring Programme). Similar immigration requirements apply in Kenya and other African countries where fellows may be attached.

Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women

- A supporting statement no longer than 1,000 words, detailing why you think that this programme is important and future plans for engagement with peace and security issues.
- 2 letters of recommendation (To be received directly from the Referees by the deadline of **23:59 hrs, Sunday 8th April 2018.**)
- Recent curriculum vitae.
- Two writing samples (maximum 2000 words each - example can include original research paper, extracts from dissertation, essay paper, policy paper relevant to peace and security).

All supporting documents should be submitted via the online portal. Please note that no email applications will be accepted. If you are experiencing problems with the online application portal, please contact us at admissions@africanleadershipcentre.org . We encourage all applicants to submit their applications early to avoid delays and failure to submit because of technical challenges.

*** Fellowship opportunities are subject to continued funding support.**