



# **ODA Global Innovation Fellowships: International Crisis Group**

**ODA Global Innovation Fellowships:  
International Crisis Group 2025**

**Scheme Notes for Applicants**

**PLEASE READ THESE SCHEME NOTES  
CAREFULLY**

**ANY APPLICATION INCORRECTLY SUBMITTED  
WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARD**

**Applications should be submitted well in advance of  
the deadline; we recommend at least five days prior  
to allow for institutional approval.**

## Programme Aims

1. The objective of the ODA (Official Development Assistance) Global Innovation Fellowships is to provide opportunities to UK-based early- and mid-career researchers from across the humanities and social sciences to develop their skills, networks and careers in the creative and cultural, public, private and policy sectors to address challenges that require innovative approaches and solutions. Through the ODA Global Innovation Fellowships, researchers in the SHAPE community will be supported to create new and deeper links beyond academia, so enabling knowledge mobilisation and translation, as well as individual skills development.
2. This is part of a series of calls for this ODA strand of the programme, offering opportunities for ODA Global Innovation Fellowship award holders to work with the International Crisis Group. In this call there is no requirement, expectation or funding for the award holder to relocate internationally to be based at an International Crisis Group office. Instead, in line with all International Crisis Group staff, the award holder will work remotely. There may be opportunities to engage with International Crisis Group offices internationally.  
**Applications that are not considered ODA-eligible will not be taken forward through the assessment process.**
3. This programme is part of the £337m International Science Partnerships Fund, which is designed to enable potential and foster prosperity. It puts research and innovation at the heart of the UK's international relationships, supporting UK researchers and innovators to work with peers around the world on the major themes of our time. It is managed by the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology and delivered by a consortium of the UK's leading research and innovation bodies. **In the context of this call, funding from the International Science Partnerships Fund is funded by ODA therefore applications for this funding must be ODA-eligible.**
4. The International Crisis Group is an independent organisation working to prevent wars and shape policies that will build a more peaceful world. It sounds the alarm to prevent deadly conflict, building support for the good governance and inclusive politics that enable societies to flourish. It engages directly with a range of conflict actors to seek and share information, and to encourage intelligent action for peace. Its methodology is based on in-depth research in which it talks to all parties in conflicts and crises. It forges innovative but realistic recommendations for those in a position to make a difference: from the conflict parties themselves to civic leaders and policymakers in influential regional centres and global capitals. It then advocates for these recommendations both privately – directly with those we aim to inform – and publicly through the media and other venues.
5. The aim is to have a mutually beneficial partnership between the fellowship award holder and the International Crisis Group, with each able to take advantage of fresh perspectives and expand their networks and reach. It will enable the award holder to strengthen and create new links across policy and academia, enabling knowledge mobilisation and translation, and the opportunity to develop new approaches and solutions to policy challenges through providing a different perspective.
6. Applications must have a contextual focus on Africa in countries where the International Crisis Group has ongoing work and are eligible foci for this call. These are Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea,

Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda.

7. The Academy is offering **up to four 1-year fellowships to work with the International Crisis Group. These are offered as awards for up to £120,000 for 12 months in duration (with Full Economic Costing at 80%).**
8. **Applications must be submitted by 19 February 2025, 17.00 (UK time). Interviews for shortlisted applicants are expected to take place in the week commencing 17 March 2025.**

### **Activities and Outputs**

9. Successful candidates will be selected on the basis of the quality and interest of the activity or range of activities and outputs proposed in the application. Award-holders will be expected to play a role in promoting the approaches and methods that are the focus of their award, and consider the potential for engagement between academic and non-academic environments. Eligible activities and outputs can involve, but are not limited to:
  - Evidence notes – reports, notes and responses to key challenges/approaches for developing connections with policy leaders or innovators;
  - Data analysis – identifying and analysing datasets that may be relevant to enhancing understanding and framing new solutions;
  - Case studies – exploring practical or policy-orientated solutions, engagement between academic and non-academic environments and the wider benefits to individuals/communities/regions;
  - Briefings/blogs/podcasts/videos and other outputs to reach a variety of audiences and environments, including policymakers (where relevant);
  - Conferences/workshops/webinars/toolkits and other training opportunities which enable knowledge exchange.
10. Successful candidates will be selected on the basis of the quality and interest of the activity or range of activities and outputs proposed in the application, including engagement with and through their partner organisation with local and/or national community, societal, cultural, creative, business and/or policy stakeholders to design, develop and embed the research findings. Award-holders and their partner organisations will be expected to consider the potential for engagement, knowledge exchange, and capacity strengthening between academic and non-academic environments.
11. Applications must have a contextual focus on Africa in countries where the International Crisis Group has ongoing work and are eligible foci for this call. These are the Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. Applicants are expected to incorporate potential visits and workshops in-country into their proposal in places where International Crisis Group work is ongoing. It should be stressed that by incorporating potential visits and workshops in-country into a proposal, there is no guarantee that those will be possible and all visits during the course of the award will be at the discretion of the International Crisis Group to determine and approve.

## Person specification & Applicant Eligibility

12. The British Academy is inviting applications from early-career and mid-career researchers who are working on the themes outlined below who could contribute fresh perspectives to the specified challenges. Please note that applications from independent researchers cannot be accepted in this round of the scheme.
13. Applicants might have expertise from a range of disciplinary, conceptual and methodological perspectives, including analytical, policy and practical perspectives.
14. Eligible applicants must be ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom with a current long-term appointment that will continue for at least as long as the period of the award. You must be an early-career or mid-career researcher based at an institution in the UK (e.g., a Higher Education Institution [HEI] or Independent Research Organisation [IRO]), from disciplines within the Humanities and Social Sciences that is listed as an approving-organisation in the British Academy's grant management system, Flexi-Grant. This institution will be issued the Terms and Conditions of the award, if successful.
15. This is an opportunity for award holders to form new collaborations and draw on the insights this brings to inform, influence and develop their future development. We seek open-mindedness, a willingness to explore new perspectives and to experiment with innovative approaches. You will have an appetite for working across academia, policy and practice, and will demonstrate a commitment to being genuinely challenge driven and dedicated to integrating the perspectives, needs and priorities of International Crisis Group.
16. All applicants should strongly consider the potential for engagement between academic and non-academic environments and the value this would bring to their career and the value they can bring to the work and purpose of International Crisis Group.
17. Applicants must also meet the requirements set out below in the 'Working at and with the International Crisis Group' section.
18. Applicants may not hold more than one British Academy award of a comparable nature at any one time.
19. Postgraduate students are **not** eligible to apply for grant support from the Academy, and Applicants are asked to confirm in the personal details section(s) that they are not currently working towards a PhD, nor awaiting the outcome of a viva voce examination, nor awaiting the acceptance of any corrections required by the examiners.

## Scope of the Fellowships

20. Applications are invited in any of the following areas:
21. **Reimagining regional peace diplomacy:** The African Union's peace and security architecture envisions regional blocs playing a key role in the prevention, management and resolution of conflict. In recent years, these organisations, known as Regional Economic Communities (RECs), have struggled to discharge this mandate. A Fellowship in this area could assess how multilateral organisations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Horn of Africa's Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) can adapt to tackle a

complex conflict environment in which peace diplomacy faces onerous challenges. In general, the African Union and its regional blocs find themselves needing to engage in more assertive diplomacy at a time when they are riven by internal divisions and struggling to muster cohesive leadership. This fellowship could also assess the state of peacekeeping on the continent at a time when several missions have been closed or might soon be.

22. **The role of middle powers on the continent:** Actors including the Gulf monarchies, Turkey and Iran have become increasingly influential actors in Africa. In some settings, they have taken the role of mediators and in some cases, they reportedly back parties involved in conflict. These developments have occurred at a time when traditional partners who in the past took the lead in mediating crises on the continent such as the United States and the United Nations are in retreat. A Fellowship on this subject could examine the motivations of actors commonly known as middle powers including their ambition to play the role of mediators or to give allies the upper hand in contested terrain. The Fellowship could also explore the question of African governments' agency in engaging with these partners. This Fellowship can be based in Dakar if preferred.
23. **Tackling protracted conflict:** A feature of some conflicts is that they are drawn out and endure for years, in some cases decades. These include instability in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia's long-running Al-Shabaab insurgency, turmoil in the Central African Republic, the open-ended transition in South Sudan and elsewhere. A Fellowship on this subject could explore with Crisis Group analysts creative options to try and mitigate the suffering of civilians and explore pathways toward a resolution of these sticky conflicts. Research on motivations and incentives of key actors in situations where players appear comfortable with the status quo would be of particular interest.
24. **Economic challenges, youth discontent and state responses:** Africa's recovery from slowdowns triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine has been more sluggish than elsewhere. Youth discontent has manifested in protests in countries including Kenya, South Africa and elsewhere. In some major countries such as Ethiopia high levels of inflation are fuelling a rise in criminality, compounding existing security challenges. Those internal problems, moreover, mean that countries like Ethiopia lack the bandwidth to contribute to stability in regions where they once served as the pivot of peacebuilding initiatives. A Fellowship in this area could explore options to improve the macro-economic context, including an assessment of long-standing calls for a review of the global financial architecture to tackle challenges such as high debt servicing costs. The question of the use of sanctions and economic embargoes could also be a subject of inquiry.
25. With respect to any of the areas above for the scope of a fellowship, **applications must have a contextual focus on Africa in countries where the International Crisis Group has ongoing work and are eligible foci for this call. These are the Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. Applicants are expected to incorporate potential visits and workshops in-country into their proposal in places where International Crisis Group work is ongoing. It should be stressed that by incorporating potential visits and workshops in-country into a proposal, there is no guarantee that those will be possible and all visits during the course of the award will be at the discretion of the International Crisis Group to determine and approve.**

26. There are not any preconceived ideas about the disciplinary background of the award holder, as long as the discipline is within the humanities and social sciences, but the applicant will need to demonstrate a solid understanding of the relevant issues, including the applicable policy, community, civic and/or business landscape and the systemic challenges that it faces.
27. Successful applicants will be expected to be embedded in and produce relevant analysis and research for the International Crisis Group, and as such will be expected to demonstrate the necessary language skills to work in country. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to engage with wider British Academy work as appropriate.

### **Working at and with the International Crisis Group**

28. These Fellowships will be fully integrated into the International Crisis Group structure and are placed within a centre and/or research area focussed team at the International Crisis Group: the award holder will have a line manager and additional support and mentoring will be provided.
29. In line with all International Crisis Group staff, **the award holder will work remotely. There may be opportunities to engage with International Crisis Group offices internationally.** This could involve potential visits as detailed above.
30. Work-planning is a mixture of demand and self-tasking. An indicative list of tasks could include: undertaking qualitative and/or quantitative research, contributing to existing projects, scoping and/or conceptualising future research interventions, designing and undertaking surveys, writing papers and shorter notes, oral briefings for officials and policymakers, meeting external stakeholders and partners, as well as speaking at events. It is important that the work plan benefits both the award holder and the partner organisation and there is clear added value demonstrated of the award holder and the partner organisation working together in the proposal outlined. The award holder will agree the outline of a work programme with their International Crisis Group line manager and team.
31. It is expected that each award holder will develop a range of outputs, however, **it is a requirement that each award holder must complete by the end of their award at least one substantial policy paper in their area of interest of around 2,500-4,000 words accompanied by a policy brief of no more than 1,000 words.**
32. The ability to communicate clearly and succinctly, highlighting policy relevance to non-experts is of importance to all International Crisis Group work. So too is the ability to work collaboratively with others and to do so at pace, sometimes delivering to tight deadlines.
33. The award holder will need to agree to respect International Crisis Group values and standards of behaviour and conflict of interest policies and sign an agreement to that effect. Failure to do so may result in the termination of the Fellowship award.

### **Equitable Partnerships**

34. It is expected that this application and the research it would undertake will be underpinned by partnerships between researchers, institutions and with wider stakeholders. Equity is key to ensuring that these partnerships are effective.

35. Applicants are required to justify the equity within their proposed partnerships. Any applications that are deemed to not support equitable partnerships will not be funded.
36. Applicants will be required to detail how their project will ensure equitable partnerships, including how it will take note that partnerships should: be transparent and based on mutual respect; should aim to have clearly articulated equitable distribution of resources, responsibilities, efforts and benefits; should recognise different inputs, different interests and different desired outcomes; and should ensure the ethical sharing and use of data which is responsive to the identified needs of society.

### **ODA Eligibility Criteria**

37. This Programme is supported under the International Science Partnerships Fund and this call will fund only ODA-eligible projects.
38. Only research that has a primary objective which is directly and primarily relevant to the problems of developing countries may be counted as ODA. Applicants are required to demonstrate that the proposal is ODA eligible. ODA eligibility is an essential criterion – projects will only be deemed eligible for funding if they can demonstrate that they satisfy ODA eligibility criteria.
39. You should refer to this [additional ODA guidance document](#) for applicants when developing your proposal.

### **Duration and Start of a Global Innovation Fellowship**

40. ODA Global Innovation Fellowships are expected to commence by September 2025.
41. This call is expected to be able to support at least 1 award.
42. Awards are expected to run for 1 year.

### **Applicant & Award Flexibility**

43. The British Academy has set aside specific funding to support any additional needs that applicants and award holders may have. This funding is available both to applicants, to assist in making an application to British Academy schemes, and award holders. Funding is managed outside of the ODA Global Innovation Fellowships application process. Further information can be found here: <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/additional-needs/>
44. The Global Innovation Fellowships are intended to be flexible awards. The following guidelines will normally apply. However, in exceptional circumstances, additional flexibility may be available. Please contact [international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk](mailto:international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk) for further information.
  - a. **Career background and history** – The Academy is aware that individuals will have had different opportunities to balance their research with other commitments during their career or may come from diverse or non-traditional career backgrounds. For example, having taken extended leave including parental or medical leave, or having returned to research following time in other roles or having had periods of significant

teaching or administrative workload that may have impacted on the applicant's research. There is a question in the application form (the personal statement) that will enable applicants to provide further information so that the Academy can take this into account when assessing applicants' track record.

- b. **Reasonable adjustments** – Applications from researchers with disabilities are welcome and encouraged. The Academy will provide adjustments to ensure they can participate fully in the selection process. If an adjustment is required when accessing the application form or for any other part of the application process then please contact [international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk](mailto:international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk). In addition, costs that are required for the researcher to undertake their award will be considered eligible regardless to what is set out in paragraph 40 below. The Academy welcomes any questions applicants may have on this matter. The costs of reasonable adjustments required to support researchers with disabilities will also be an eligible cost throughout the duration of the award.
- c. **Childcare arrangements** - Provision for the cost of childcare support will be considered as part of the allowable research expenses during the award for the award holder funded through the grant when undertaking activity related to the grant, such as travel to conferences. This includes instances where the award holder wishes to support their child(ren) themselves, such as travelling with them whilst undertaking their research.
- d. **Relocation and visa arrangements** - The Academy will cover relocation costs for the award-holder during the award, as well as their dependents. The cost of a visa and any associated costs for the applicant and their dependants are eligible under this programme.
- e. **Portability of awards** – If the award holder moves UK host organisation before the start or during the award, the award will be moved to the new UK host organisation provided that the new host is an eligible UK-based host organisation.

### Value of funding and support provided

45. The award will have a maximum award value of £120,000 on an 80% Full Economic Costing (FEC) basis.

46. 80% FEC is understood in the following manner:

Cost Category	FEC contribution
Directly incurred staff costs including PI and team salary and oncosts.	80%
Other Directly Incurred including travel, accommodation, top-up contribution, visas and consumables	100%
Directly Allocated (including estates costs) and Indirect Costs	80%

47. The grant awarded is expected to be used solely for the purposes specified in the application and agreed in the award-letter.

48. The award is intended to be made on a full-time basis.



49. The Academy recognises that the upper limit on the contribution that the Academy's funding can make to this award – £120,000 – might not be sufficient to cover all of the costs up to 80% of the Full Economic Cost value required. In those cases, an employing institution will be expected to make additional contributions to the overhead costs involved.
50. Note this is a fellowship award and not a project grant, therefore it is anticipated that most of the funding sought will be to support the costs associated with the Lead Applicants time (though the Directly Incurred salary contribution). It is expected that not more than £12,500 at 100% FEC (£10,000 at 80% British Academy's contribution) will be used for travel and research costs.

### **Eligible costs**

51. Funding will be provided on the Full Economic Costing (FEC) basis primarily to cover the salary of the Applicant. In this call there is no requirement, expectation or funding for the award holder to relocate internationally to be based at an International Crisis Group office. Instead, in line with all International Crisis Group staff, the award holder will work remotely.
52. The Academy will provide 80% of the FEC of the Fellowship. The Academy requests that the 80% FEC cost figure is entered into the application form (not the 100% FEC figure). The maximum value of the award made by the Academy is £120,000. This includes all direct and indirect costs incurred by the employing institution, including space, central support services, and other necessary costs incurred by the employing institution on behalf of the Fellow.
53. Eligible costs will be funded under the following headings:
  - **Directly incurred salary costs.** The award can be used to support the employing institution's salary costs of the Applicant for the duration of the award
  - **Estates and indirect costs.** The award can include the employing institution's estate and indirect costs incurred as a result of direct staff costs.
  - **Travel and research costs.** The Academy will pay for travel for an induction training in Brussels which will be held when a minimum number of 8 new joiners to Crisis Group is reached. In addition, applicants are welcome to set out costs for potential visits and in-country workshops where the International Crisis Group operates.

### **Non-eligible Costs**

54. The following items are **not eligible** for funding (applicants registered with special needs may consult the Academy about possible exceptions prior to application):
  - **Directly allocated salary costs.** No directly allocated costs can be attributed to this award.
  - purchasing of assets;
  - equipment costs;
  - computer hardware including laptops, electronic notebooks, digital cameras, etc;

- books and other permanent resources (the Crisis Group will provide award holders with a laptop for the purpose of their award);
- the preparation of camera-ready copy, copy-editing, proof-reading, indexing, nor any other editorial task;
- subventions for direct production costs (printing, binding, distribution, marketing etc);
- costs of publication in electronic media;
- carbon offsetting;
- open access fees.

## Gender Equality

55. Research and innovation (R&I) activities funded by the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), provided through Partner Organisations, comply with the requirements of the [DSIT R&I Gender Equality Policy](#), which states that activities must tackle instances of underrepresentation, differential needs and systemic disadvantage to improve the relevance of R&I findings that support the inclusion, reduce the impact of bias, and ultimately, contribute to reducing inequalities among genders. This includes but is not limited to Official Development Assistance activities, in line with the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014.
56. All applicants are strongly recommended to thoroughly review the above publication before designing and drafting their application.
57. All applicants must submit as part of their application a gender equality statement, which must meet compliance standards as set out in the above publication. All applications will be reviewed at the eligibility and assessment stages to ensure they meet the necessary requirements. Not meeting the necessary requirements will mean that applications are automatically not fundable.

## Timetable

58. The deadline for applications to be submitted to this call is **Wednesday 19 February 2025 at 17.00 (UK Time)**. This includes the employing institution approver approving the completed application by the submission deadline. Any applications submitted after that deadline will be ineligible.
59. The final awards panel will meet after the call for applications are closed. When the Panel meets it will include an interview element as part of its assessment. Applicants are required to be available to attend these interviews as a mandatory part of the assessment process.

## Reporting

60. Award holders are required to complete three reports:
- An interim report at the midpoint of the Fellowship reporting on progress and lessons learnt to date.
  - A final report from award holders within three months of the award's end, detailing the progress of the activities in which they participated.
  - A post-award report three years after the award's end showing the impact of the award on their subsequent career.

## Head of Department Supporting Statement

61. Applicants are required to obtain a statement of support from their Head of Department as part of this application.
62. The Head of Department should be the person who heads the Department, Faculty, Institute or other unit of an Independent Research Organisation (IRO) in which you are currently working. As Head of Department, they will be expected to comment their level of support for the application and on the career development benefit to be gained by the Applicant if the award is made. They will be expected to also confirm that the Applicant will be released from duties at the employing institution for the duration of the award and be able to return to the employing institution once the award ends.
63. **Please note that the Head of Department statement must be received before you can formally submit the application for approval, and you are strongly advised to ensure that your Head of Department submits the statement well in advance of the formal applicant deadline for this round of competition as noted above.**
64. If the Applicant is also Head of Department, the statement must be provided by another suitable individual, e.g., Deputy Head or Head of School.
65. Heads of Department must be invited to contribute to your application via the Flexi-Grant system. Please see further guidance below:
  - They can be invited through the ‘Contributors’ tab displayed on the application form summary page. Once they have been invited, they will receive an email notification with instructions on how to contribute.
  - You can monitor the progress of your participants’ activity through this section of the application form, and issue reminders as required. Once the recipient has accepted your invitation, their status will be displayed as ‘active’. Upon completion of their section of the application form, their status will be displayed as ‘complete’.
  - Once participants have completed all their sections of the application form, please remind them to select ‘Save & Submit’ on the application form page or select ‘Submit your contribution’ on the summary page.
  - You will not be able to submit your application form until the status of all participants shows as ‘complete’ in the ‘Contributors’ tab.
66. **Please also note that an application cannot be submitted until all required contributors have submitted their contribution first. We recommend that supporting participants fulfil their requirements at least 5 working days before the submission deadline to ensure there is sufficient time for organisational approval.**
67. **The employing institution approver must approve the completed application by the submission deadline.**

## Selection Criteria

68. All eligible proposals submitted in response to this call will be assessed by relevant peer reviewers and then considered by a final selection panel, which will conduct **interviews** with a shortlist of applicants.

69. Applications will be required to demonstrate the following:

- Evidence that the project is ODA-eligible. Only projects that demonstrate that they satisfy ODA eligibility criteria will be eligible for funding;
- Whether the gender equality statement meets or exceeds the minimum standard as set out in the Gender Equality in Research and Innovation policy;
- Value for money.

70. Applications will then also be assessed against the following criteria:

- The research expertise of the applicant and alignment with the chosen theme above, their experience and/or interest in knowledge exchange and their track record working in the chosen country and/or ODA work;
- The experience and interest of the applicant in engaging closely with policy counterparts;
- The anticipated benefit and impact on the policymaking process in the chosen area of interest and the applicant's future policy engagement ambitions;
- The ability of the applicant to engage orally in their chosen research area of expertise, and particularly to be able to provide policy relevant, clear and succinct oral briefings (will be assessed at interview if applicants are invited to interview).

71. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the application by February 2025.

72. The approving organisation will be asked to give its consent before the award is confirmed.

### **Application and Assessment Procedure**

73. All applicants must register in the British Academy's online Flexi-Grant system to enable the processing and assessment of their application. All applications must be submitted in English.

74. All applications will be subject to an eligibility check undertaken by appropriate British Academy staff before being put forward for assessment, and **applications that are not completed correctly and on time will not be considered.**

75. The deadline for submissions and UK institutional approval is **19 February at 17.00 (UK time). Applicants will not be allowed to make any changes to their applications or submit any additional information after the 19 February deadline.**

### **Code of Practice**

76. The Academy has a Code of Practice for assessing research applications, setting out the principles of equity, integrity and confidentiality governing the treatment of all applications for research support. The Code of Practice also covers Data Protection, the Academy's ethics policy and the appeals procedure. The Code of Practice may be viewed on the Academy's website at <https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/code-practice>.

77. Feedback is not a feature of the Global Innovation Fellowships scheme and the Academy is, regrettably, unable to enter correspondence regarding the decisions of the awarding

Committee, which are governed by the Code of Practice. Please note that by applying in this scheme, applicants undertake to accept the terms under which applications are assessed.

## Contact Details and Further Information

78. Please contact [international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk](mailto:international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk) for further information.

## Application information

Applications can only be submitted online using the British Academy Flexi-Grant® Grant Management System (GMS) via (<https://britishacademy.flexigrant.com/>). If you have not previously used the British Academy's Flexi-Grant® GMS and were not registered in the previous e-GAP system, please follow the registration process from the Flexi-Grant® homepage. **Applications cannot be submitted on paper or in any other format.**

Before completing the online form, all applicants should check that they comply with the eligibility requirements and ensure all necessary information is presented in the application. These requirements are strictly adhered to, and applications without all the necessary information, or evidence to show the assessment criteria are met, will be rejected. Registered approving organisations will be available in the search bar. If your organisation is not listed and is not affiliated with any organisations already in the system, then please contact us at [international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk](mailto:international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk) to request the addition of the organisation.

The deadline for submissions and UK host organisation approval is **19 February 2025 (17.00 UK time)**. Applicants will not be allowed to make any changes to their applications or submit any additional information after the **19 February** deadline. **When completing your application on the British Academy Flexi-Grant® GMS, it is recommended that you take particular note of the following points:**

- **Personal details:** When registered in the British Academy Flexi-Grant® GMS, a user has the option to add or update personal information such as contact details, log-in details (including email address and password), interests, research and employment details, at any time. This represents a personal record of your account in the system and will help to populate the contact details in any application form you complete. It is useful if this information is kept up to date, but it is not essential to the progress of an application.

- **Automatic log-out:** You are strongly advised to save your work regularly to prevent accidental loss of information. In particular, you should be aware that if the system does not detect any activity for 1 hour it will log out and save the application at that time. Please note that moving between pages within an application form will save the page that you are exiting but completing a field on a page is not considered an activity. It is recommended that you write the text for longer sections/fields in a word processor such as Word and then copy and paste into the relevant text box to avoid being timed out in this way.
- **Multiple sessions:** You should not have multiple browser windows/tabs of your application open at the same time as this may cause information to be lost. Only one user should edit an application at a time, otherwise changes might be lost.
- **Word limits:** When completing boxes that have a restricted length (note that it refers to words) you should note that if you exceed the specified amount you will not be able to save when you press the save button. You should type the text for the longer-length boxes in a word processor. You will then be able to check the word count and paste it into the British Academy Flexi-Grant® system. You will then still have a copy of the text to return to in the word processor. The word limit applies to text boxes.
- **Plain text:** If entering plain text, please avoid using symbols as some may not be accepted by the British Academy Flexi-Grant® system. You should generate and view a PDF of your application to check that the application appears as you want it to by clicking on 'print application'.
- **Email addresses:** The British Academy Flexi-Grant® GMS relies heavily on automatic email contact. It is essential that you ensure you enter accurate email addresses where requested as it may cause considerable delay in the submission/processing of your application if any of these are incorrect. You cannot make changes to email addresses after your application has been submitted for approval.
- **Submission of application:** You will not be able to submit your application until you have completed each section in full. You should submit your application for approval by a designated approver at your host organisation **at least 5 working days before the closing date** to allow for your host organisation's administrative procedures. Please note that the institutional approver is a person within the UK host organisation, usually within the central research support office, who has authority for approving all applications submitted to the British Academy. Please be aware that any co-applicants or other contributors will need to mark their sections as 'complete' before you will be able to submit your completed application form.

Once you have submitted your application for approval by your host UK organisation, automatic emails will be sent to your host UK organisation approver asking them to log on to the system. You will not be able to edit your application after it has been submitted to your host UK organisation for approval. The host UK organisation approver will either: approve and submit your application, 'send back' your application and contact you to request modifications (**if before the 19 February deadline**) or decline your application and contact you.

**Please be aware that it is your responsibility to ensure that you complete your application in time for your host UK organisation to process it (including requesting changes) and provide their approval by the closing date. It is recommended that you allow at least five working days for this process, but please check with your proposed host UK institution as their internal timetables may require earlier submission.**

If your host UK organisation approver requests modifications through the British Academy GMS email facility, they can unlock your application, allowing you to edit it. They

can do this by selecting 'Return to Applicant'. An automatic e-mail will be sent to you alerting you of this fact. Once you have completed and saved the requested changes, please re-submit your application for approval by your host UK organisation.

Once your host UK organisation has approved your application and submitted it to the British Academy, it will not be possible to make any changes.

- **Application sharing:** All applications must be started by the applicant who is to be the Principal Investigator (PI) on the award. You can invite other contributors to join the application (e.g. Co-Applicant, Finance Office contact etc.), but in order to do so your contributor will need to be registered in the British Academy's Flexi-Grant® system first. You will need to ensure you have their registered email address to invite them to participate in your application. You can let other British Academy Flexi-Grant® GMS users view your draft application in advance of submission by providing their email address. They will be able to log in using their existing password and see your application and, depending on permissions, amend your application.
- **Application deletion:** You can delete your application at any time although it is often a lot easier to just re-edit your existing application. We will be able to recover a deleted application for a period of seven days after deletion. After this, it will be permanently removed from the system.
- **Application returned for editing:** The organisation approver can return your application to you for further editing before the closing deadline of the call. See 'Submission of Application' above.
- **Guidance:** In the tables below you will find in the left-hand column each question as set out in the application form and in the right-hand column useful guidance on its completion.
- **Further clarification:** If any of this advice is unclear, or you need further information, please do not hesitate to seek clarification from the British Academy's International Team (contact details at the end of these notes).

**PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU CREATE A PDF OF YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION (by clicking 'Print Application'), AND CHECK IT THOROUGHLY, INCLUDING EMAIL ADDRESSES AND UPLOADED PDF FILES, BEFORE SUBMITTING IT FOR APPROVAL BY YOUR UK HOST ORGANISATION. IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO RECTIFY MISTAKES IN TIME FOR THE DEADLINE.**

**WORD LIMITS APPLY TO PLAIN TEXT ONLY. PAGE LIMITS APPLY TO PDFs ONLY.**

**ALL FIELDS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK\* ARE MANDATORY.**

**YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE MULTIPLE BROWSER WINDOWS/TABS OF YOUR APPLICATION OPEN AT THE SAME TIME AS THIS MAY CAUSE INFORMATION TO BE LOST. ONLY ONE USER SHOULD EDIT AN APPLICATION AT A TIME, OTHERWISE CHANGES MIGHT BE LOST.**

### **Completing the application form**

The application can be completed by using the navigation tabs on the application summary page, with each page categorised as follows:

Page 1: Scope of Fellowship

Page 2: Research Proposal

Page 3: Applicant Details

Page 4: Head of Department Statement

Page 5: Financial Details

Page 6: Equal Opportunities

A full list of question fields to be completed as part of the application can be found in the following table. Each box in the table represents a page of the application form: the left-hand column contains the questions within each of these pages as set out in the form; the righthand column contains useful guidance on its completion. A red asterisk (\*) indicates which questions are mandatory and therefore must be complete before the application can be submitted.

**Please read the scheme guidance notes carefully before completing the form.**

When completing the form please ensure that you include an Organisational Approver from your employing organisation as a Contributor as without them you will not be able to submit an application. If you are not certain about the Organisational Approver for your employing organisation please contact your Research Office.

## SUMMARY

<b>Summary Table</b>	When your application form is complete, all sections on this summary table will be marked as 'Complete'. The <b>'Complete' status will only appear when all the mandatory fields in that section have been completed.</b> All mandatory fields are marked with an asterisk '*'. Only once all mandatory fields are marked as 'Complete', and all Contributors are all marked as 'Complete' will a 'Submit' button appear for you to be able to submit your application.
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## PAGE 1: SCOPE OF FELLOWSHIP

<b>Scope of the Fellowships*</b>	Applications are welcome in any of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reimagining regional peace diplomacy</li><li>• The role of middle powers on the continent</li><li>• Tackling protracted conflict</li><li>• Economic challenges, youth discontent and state responses</li></ul> Applicants are invited to choose one option.
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## PAGE 2: RESEARCH PROPOSAL



<p><b>Start Date/End Date*</b></p>	<p>To select a date in the future using the calendar feature, click on the month and year in between the two arrows at the top of the box. To change the year keep clicking on the box – a second click will produce a decade. Use the arrows to move back or forward in time. To change the month, a second box will appear where you can select the month you wish and then you can type the year you require in the box provided. Click on the date and the calendar will take you to the month and year you have selected where you can select the relevant date for display.</p> <p><b>Global Innovation Fellowships are expected to commence by September 2025.</b></p>
<p><b>Expertise and Experience *</b></p>	<p>Please use this question to explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Your research expertise in one of the areas of interest (see paragraphs above under ‘scope of fellowship’)</li> <li>- Your experience/interest in knowledge exchange,</li> <li>- Your track record of working in the chosen country and/or on ODA work.</li> </ul> <p>The limit for this field is 750 words.</p>
<p><b>Policy Engagement*</b></p>	<p>Please explain your expertise, experience and interest in engaging closely with policy counterparts, and particularly the value you can bring to working with counterparts at International Crisis Group.</p> <p>The limit for this field is 1000 words.</p>
<p><b>Benefit and Impact*</b></p>	<p>Please explain what anticipated benefit and impact is envisaged that can be brought to bear on the partner organisation’s policymaking process, and the applicant’s future policy engagement ambitions.</p> <p>The limit for this field is 1000 words.</p>
<p><b>Language competency*</b></p>	<p>Successful applicants will be expected to be embedded in their partner organization. Please indicate here, if relevant, your level of language competence, or otherwise explain how the objectives of the research will be met.</p>
<p><b>ODA Justification Statement *</b></p>	<p>Please use the text box to provide an ODA justification statement. In this statement you should indicate whether the country/ies you have selected above will continue to be ODA eligible for the duration of the research. You must also set out how your proposal is directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges (Sustainable Development Goals) of these countries and must explain how you expect that the outcome of your proposed activities will promote the economic development and welfare of a country or countries as specified in this call. Please also explain what the pathways to impact are and what success for this project would look like. (750 words)</p>
<p><b>Gender Equality Statement*</b></p>	<p>Research and innovation (R&amp;I) activities funded by the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), provided through Partner Organisations, complies with the requirements of the DSIT R&amp;I Gender Equality Policy, which states that activities must tackle instances of</p>

	<p>underrepresentation, differential needs and systemic disadvantage to improve the relevance of R&amp;I findings, that support the inclusion, reduce the impact of bias and ultimately, contribute to reducing inequalities among genders. This includes but is not limited to Overseas Development Assistance activities, in line with the <a href="#">International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014</a>.</p> <p>All applicants are strongly recommended to thoroughly review the above publication and <a href="#">this additional guidance</a> before designing and drafting their application.</p>
<p><b>Trusted Research*</b></p>	<p>International research collaborations are fundamental to the equity, quality, diversity and impact of UK-based researchers and institutions. Most international collaborations will benefit all those involved and the expected usual status for this question is likely to be a null response, however, there will be cases where there are risks.</p> <p>Research funded through this programme needs to take account of security-related considerations. <a href="#">UKRI</a>, <a href="#">Universities UK</a> and the <a href="#">National Protective Security Authority</a> amongst others have published relevant guidance in this area. It is important to ensure that the research funded through this programme has undertaken relevant assurance related to reputational, data, financial, ethical and security risks.</p> <p>Please use this field to detail any research security risks that the application may encounter and how these will be mitigated. It should be noted that such risks could include the potential dual application of the research, the management of information, data and other knowledge sharing, and activities that could utilise the research to target people in other countries such as through internal surveillance and repression. A set of questions suggested by the NPSA to consider in relation to this issue is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are there any potential ethical or moral concerns for the application of the research? If so, what are they?</li><li>• Could the research be used to support activities in other countries with ethical standards different from the UK, such as internal surveillance and repression? If so, how might this be possible and how is it proposed this risk is mitigated?</li><li>• Could the research be of benefit to a hostile state military or be supplied to other state actors? If so, how might it be of such benefit and how is it proposed this risk is mitigated?</li><li>• Are there any dual-use (both military and non-military) applications to the research? If so, what are they?</li><li>• Do you need to protect sensitive data or personally identifiable information? This may include genetic or medical information, population datasets, details of individuals or commercial test data. If so, how will you do so?</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is your research likely to have a future commercial or patentable outcome which you or your organisation would want to benefit from? If so, what is this outcome?</li> <li>• Is any of the research likely to be subject to UK or other countries' export licence controls? If so, what aspects of the research will be subject to such controls?</li> </ul> <p>As highlighted by UUK in its above guidance it is important to be aware that failure to comply with export control legislation is a criminal offence and the terms 'technology' and 'information' have much broader definitions in legislation than might ordinarily or commonly be understood. To maximise compliance with export control legislation, individuals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consider potential end-use possibilities of technology: it is the duty of researchers and their institutions to monitor potential end-uses of research, throughout the research life cycle. In some cases, research will have end use applications that are unidentifiable in the early stages of development and continued monitoring is required</li> <li>• inform researchers about the implications of intangible technology transfer: researchers must be aware that controlled sensitive information transmitted electronically (e.g. via social media, fax and email, videoconferencing, sharing screens remotely) and verbally (e.g. in telephone and face-to-face discussions) may still be subject to export controls.</li> </ul> <p>There is also the <u>Research Collaboration Advice Team</u>, which is a collaboration between the UK Government and academia that can provide advice to institutions on national security risks to international research.</p> <p>Applicants should be aware that government guidance and UK legislation may change, and they will need to take account of any such changes that may affect their proposed research.</p> <p>The limit for this field is 750 words.</p>
<p><b>Deposit of Datasets*</b></p>	<p>Digital resources created as a result of research funded by the Academy should be deposited in an appropriately accessible repository. Of course, we do not expect confidential data to be made readily available.</p> <p>If applicable to your project, you will need to provide details of how and where any electronic or digital data (including datasets) developed during the project will be stored, along with details on the appropriate methods of access.</p> <p>Applicants should ensure that any necessary technical advice is obtained before commencing work that involves the creation of digital resources. Please confirm whether the primary product of the research will be a digital resource, and if so how and where it will be deposited.</p>

<p><b>Ethical Issues*</b></p>	<p>This field is mandatory and must be addressed by all applicants.</p> <p>Are there any special ethical issues arising from your proposal that are not covered by the relevant professional Code of Practice? Have you obtained, or will you obtain, ethical approval from your employing institution or other relevant authority?</p> <p>It is not expected that any special ethical issues will arise that are not already covered by relevant professional Codes of Practice. The normal expectation, therefore, will be that applicants should answer the pair of questions with the answers no and no.</p> <p>If there are any special issues arising, but they have already been cleared by approval from a relevant authority, please answer yes and yes.</p> <p>If any special issues arise and approval has not yet been obtained, please answer yes and no, and provide more explanation.</p>
<p><b>Source of Funding</b></p>	<p>Please provide details of other support given or applied for in connection with the current proposal.</p> <p>Please indicate whether any other grant applications relating to this project have been submitted, either to the British Academy or to any other funder. Applications submitted to the Academy by separate applicants will not be accepted if it is considered that both (or all, if more than two) applications relate to the same project, whose components would not be viable as independent pieces of research.</p> <p>Applicants are requested to keep the Academy informed of the outcomes of any other applications by email to <a href="mailto:international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk">international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk</a>. Failure to do so may jeopardise the application's prospects of success. In cases where simultaneous applications to the Academy and to another funding agency covering the same elements of a project are both successful, the applicant will be asked to choose which award to accept.</p> <p>Only if there is no duplication and no unnecessary inflation of a project will an applicant be permitted to retain both awards (subsequent requests to alter the plan of research simply to allow the applicant to retain both awards are unlikely to be considered favourably).</p>

**PAGE 3: APPLICANT DETAILS**

<p><b>Applicant Contact Details*</b></p>	<p>Please take care to review and complete your personal details accurately. Errors in this section can cause difficulties in the processing of your application.</p>
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	You can update your personal details by checking 'my account' and selecting the link to 'my contact details' and 'my organisation' and ensuring the relevant details are up to date.
<b>Nationality*</b>	Please state your nationality. You must select one but you may select up to three if applicable.
<b>Present Appointment, Employing Institution and Department*</b>	Please give details of your current appointment.  All applications require one Applicant. Eligible Applicants must be ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom with a current long-term appointment that will continue for at least as long as the period of the award at a UK-based institution (e.g. a Higher Education Institution [HEI] or Independent Research Organisation [IRO]). If your employing institution is not currently registered on the Academy's grant management system, Flexi-Grant, please contact us via <a href="mailto:international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk">international@thebritishacademy.ac.uk</a> to discuss possible registration. Applications are welcome from early career researchers and mid-career researchers. Please note that applications from independent researchers cannot be accepted in this round of the scheme.
<b>Employment Status*</b>	Please confirm that you will be employed for the duration of your proposed project.
<b>Permanent Position*</b>	Please indicate whether this position is permanent or not.
<b>Position Start Date*/End Date</b>	Please state the start date of your position and, if applicable, the end date.
<b>PhD Confirmation *</b>	<b>Applicants working towards a PhD or awaiting the outcome of their viva/submission of corrections are not eligible to apply.</b> Please therefore confirm that you have a PhD by answering yes. If you are an established scholar with relevant equivalent experience, but no doctorate, please select 'no' and indicate in the 'personal statement' field why you should be eligible for consideration.
<b>PhD Awarded Date</b>	Please enter the date of the viva voce examination in this field.
<b>Personal Statement</b>	Applicants are invited to include any information relating to their professional career which they may wish to be taken into account in assessing this application. For example, details of a career break, or the effect of working on a part-time contract may be relevant. This is an optional field.

<b>Key Career Appointments and Posts *</b>	Please provide a list of your key appointments and posts.
<b>Key Career Publications, Grants, and other Career Highlights *</b>	Please provide a list of key relevant publications, grants, and highlights, that you think most appropriate for an award under this scheme
<b>Previous Support Dates</b>	An application will not be eligible for consideration if there is a report outstanding on any previous research grant awarded by the Academy to the applicant or any Co-applicant. <b>Failure to follow this guidance will result in your application being withdrawn from this round of competition.</b>  Please give details of any research applications submitted to the British Academy within the last five years. In the case of a further application for continuing research which has received previous Academy support, <b>please note that a full report and statement of expenditure for the previous grant must be submitted before further funding can be considered.</b>
<b>Where did you hear of this scheme?</b>	This field is optional. It helps the British Academy to target appropriate resources towards the promotion of the scheme to know where an applicant hears about it. As appropriate please state BA website; BA literature; PhD supervisor; University Research Office; Twitter, other colleague etc.

#### **PAGE 4: HEAD OF DEPARTMENT STATEMENT**

<b>Authorised Member of Staff at UK Host Organisation *</b>	Please state your name and job title. This would normally be expected to be the Head of Department. If the Applicant is also Head of Department, the statement must be provided by another suitable individual, e.g., Deputy Head or Head of School.
<b>Confirmation of authority *</b>	Please check this box to confirm that you are in the relevant position to approve this application for submission.
	Applicants are <b>required</b> to include a supporting statement from their Head of Department on the British Academy Flexi-Grant® GMS well in advance of the deadline for the submission of your application.  Please enter all the details of your Head of Department by clicking 'Contributors' tab on the Application's 'Summary' page. Please click on the 'Invite' button, enter the Head of Department's email address and then click 'Send Invitation'.

<p><b>Head of Department Statement*</b></p>	<p>The Head of Department should be the person who heads the Department, Faculty, Institute or other unit in an Independent Research Organisation (IRO) which you are currently working. As Head of Department, they will be expected to comment their level of support for the application and on the career development benefit to be gained by the Applicant if the award is made. They will be expected to also confirm that the Applicant will be released from duties at the employing institution for the duration of the award and be able to return to the employing institution once the award ends.</p> <p>We strongly advise that you alert your Head of Department as early as possible to allow them enough time to provide their statement in the system. Note that the deadline shown to the Head of Department is the deadline for the whole application to be submitted. The application needs to be approved before the same deadline, and it cannot be submitted for approval before the HOD statement is submitted.</p> <p><b>An application cannot be considered for an award unless all contributions have been submitted on time.</b></p> <p>Please note that statements <u>must</u> be provided through the British Academy Flexi-Grant® GMS, they cannot be provided as an email attachment nor sent by post in hard copy. <u>Any statements received after the deadline, or outside of the system will not be accepted, and your application will be withdrawn from this competition.</u></p> <p>The limit for this field is 500 words.</p>
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**PAGE : FINANCIAL DETAILS**

<p><b>Financial Details/ Justification*</b></p> <p><b>If you include ineligible costs, your application will be withdrawn from this competition.</b></p>	<p>Please provide details of funding in the relevant fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Directly incurred salary costs.</b> The award can be used to support the employing institution’s salary costs of the Applicant for the duration of the award</li> <li>• <b>Estates and indirect costs.</b> The award can include the employing institution’s estate and indirect costs incurred as a result of direct staff costs.</li> <li>• <b>Travel and research costs.</b> The Academy will pay for travel for an induction in Brussels at the start of the fellowship. In addition, applicants are welcome to set out costs for potential travel and field research costs, including workshops in countries where the International Crisis Group operates.</li> </ul> <p>Funding will be provided on the Full Economic Costing (FEC) basis primarily to cover the salary of the Applicant. In this call there is no requirement, expectation or funding for the award holder to relocate internationally to be based at an International Crisis Group office.</p>
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Instead, in line with all International Crisis Group staff, the award holder will work remotely.

The Academy will provide 80% of the FEC of the Fellowship. The Academy requests that the 80% FEC cost figure is entered into the application form (not the 100% FEC figure). The maximum value of the award made by the Academy is £120,000. This includes all direct and indirect costs incurred by the employing institution, including space, central support services, and other necessary costs incurred by the employing institution on behalf of the Fellow.

Please be aware that if the Fellowship is offered, then there can be no viring of funds between each of these budget headings, and no spending can take place outside the time-frame of the Fellowship.

Applicants should prepare accurate costings for the proposed project costs and should be particularly careful not to overestimate the resources required. Applicants are advised that competition for funds can be fierce, and proposals on the margin for award may have a greater chance of success if they are modestly costed.

**Costs should be clearly itemised and justified in terms of the research programme.** If the Academy is being asked to support only a proportion of the total costs, please explain this clearly under proposed programme on the proposal tab.

Please note that grants are cash-limited, and there is no scope for supplementation of an award. Projects should be fully costed from the outset.

**Please do not use '£' signs in the amount boxes.**



**Equal  
Opportunities**

This section is optional; however, the Academy would greatly appreciate it if you can complete the details to assist us in our diversity monitoring.

The British Academy is committed to its policy of Equal Opportunity in the provision of its grants and awards. Please help us to monitor the effectiveness of this policy by providing information concerning your age, gender, ethnic origin and disabilities (if any).

**This information will be kept separately from the rest of your application and will not be seen by those involved in making decisions in the selection process.**

**THE ACADEMY WILL ONLY PROCESS COMPLETE, SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS.**