



## Call for Applications

### Fellowships for African Women in Peace, Security and Development (Non-degree Awarding)

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#### About the Fellowship

The Peace, Security and development Fellowships for African Women bring together African women at the early stages of their career to undertake a carefully designed training programme in Leadership, Development and Security at the African Leadership Centre (ALC), Nairobi, Kenya and King's College London. The Fellowship programme is designed to expose young professional African women to the complexities of conflict, security and development and equip them for careers in this field. The fellowship constitutes an intellectual and financial award available to young African Women in the early stages of their careers seeking to deepen their knowledge and experience in the fields of Leadership, Peace, Security and Development. The Fellowship is a postgraduate non-degree programme and does not lead to an academic qualification. The fellowship is a residential programme based in Nairobi, Kenya (with occasional visit to King's College London) and targets African women with the potential to bring about intellectual, policy or other change in the field of Peace, Security and Development.

Through this fellowship, the African Leadership Centre (ALC) aims to increase the number of African women exposed to rigorous academic research, writing and policy analysis in the field of peace and security. It is in alignment and solidarity with various regional and international frameworks on Youth and Women Participation in Peace and Political Processes, Gender Equality and Women Peace and Security. These include **UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1325 and 2250, Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 16, and African Union Agenda 2063- Aspiration 4, 6 and 7.**

Fellows will have the opportunity to participate in academic modules from King's College London and the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at University of Nairobi. This is coupled with an overarching mentoring programme and followed by a six-month placement at an African Regional Organisation or Centre of Excellence. This will enable them to acquire practical experience in the field of peace, security and development while also providing them increased opportunity to participate in conflict management processes and other areas of security concerns for Africans.

#### Eligibility

- Candidates must be female citizens of African countries.
- Successful candidates must hold valid travel documents prior to acceptance.
- Candidates must hold a **master's or bachelor's** degree and added experiences in peace,

security and development field is valued.

- Candidates must have knowledge of, or experience with women's rights, gender and development issues.
- Candidates must be able to demonstrate a commitment to contribute to work on peace, security and development in Africa.
- Candidates must be able to demonstrate capacity to undertake research on issues relating to peace, security and development in Africa.
- Candidates must demonstrate commitment to the core values of the programme: ***Promoting African led ideas and processes of Change; Independent thinking; Integrity; Pursuit of Excellence; Recognition of Youth Agency and Respect for diversity in all its forms.***
- 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 be fluent in spoken and written English as all aspects of the programme are delivered in English.

**NOTE:**

Applicants to this programme may also be considered for the **Early Career Peace, Security and Development Fellowship (non-degree awarding)**. The Early Career Fellowship only differs from the Fellowship for African Women in **Phase 2** of the programme. In Phase 2, Early Career fellows do not go on attachment. Instead, they dedicate time to developing their research idea for publication as a journal article or a policy brief. This will mean travel to the organization's home regional office or include field work and regular supervision by a mentor they will be attached to.

### **Programme Delivery**

This is a **one-year** fellowship, divided into two **six-month** phases. Please note that successful candidates are required to make a full-time commitment to the programme. The programme is fully residential.

**Phase 1:** The first phase will be delivered at the ALC, Nairobi and King's College London. During the training, fellows will be encouraged to engage critically with leadership studies and 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 practised.

**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.

**Research Project:** During phase 2, fellows will also 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 "[Peace, Society and the State in Africa](#)". They will produce a research report (8,000 to 10,000 words) and a policy brief from their research. These policy briefs will be published and disseminated in various peace and security publications and platforms in the region.

**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.

### 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 and hold affiliate status at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

1. **Standard Visitor visa:** The offer of the Fellowship is subject to successful candidates obtaining visas to cover the six-month period which 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 the 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 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. Fitness to undertake the programme will require confirmation from a medical practitioner.
4. **Programme completion/Return to base:** The programme will last a total of 12 months, and fellows will be expected to make full-time commitments 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<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> While the ALC has guest rooms that fellows can rent whilst in Nairobi, successful applicants are expected to find their own accommodation at attachment institutions. Fellows are strongly advised to make all necessary accommodation arrangements prior to taking up their positions on the Fellowship Programme.

## How to Apply

Applications will be accepted ONLINE at the following link where you need to create an account to apply: <http://applications.africanleadershipcentre.org/> **The deadline for applications is 23:59 hrs EAT, 15 April 2024.** Shortlisted candidates will be expected to attend face-to-face interviews at the ALC continental headquarters, in Nairobi, Kenya in mid-June.

**Before you begin your application, please take time to carefully go through the online application guidance [available here](#).**

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

- Fully completed application questionnaire.
- A supporting statement of between **500 and 750 words** - outline why you want to be part of this programme, what your unique contribution would be and what change you see yourself contributing to in your community/ area of work after the programme.
- 2 letters of recommendation (To be received directly from the Referees by the **deadline of 23:59 hrs EAT, 15 April 2024**).
- Recent curriculum vitae of **2 pages** maximum.
- One writing sample (maximum **1000 words** each - example can include an original research paper, extracts from a dissertation, an essay paper, or policy paper relevant to peace and security).
- One research proposal of no more than 1000 words – The conflict between Hamas and Israel has been raging for a while. Daily global media outlets report on the impact of this conflict on peace, security and development across the world; Africa is not exempt. As a prospective ALC Peace, Security and Development Fellow, you are tasked with developing a research project on the impact of the war between Hamas and Israel on the African continent. Write a research proposal outlining how you would go about this research paying particular attention to one of the following: (i) the impact on contested gender relations in the continent; (ii) the impact on relations between citizens and the state and, in particular, young people; (iii) some of the

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<sup>1</sup> **This Fellowship is subject to availability of funding support.**

<sup>2</sup> **Please note that the funds are intended for individual fellows only. Funds do 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.

international or continental normative frameworks that you might rely on for your analysis; or

- (iv) the types of leadership issues that African policymakers and practitioners would contend with as they seek to navigate the impacts of the war in Europe (1000 words max).

All supporting documents should be submitted via the online portal [here](#). 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](mailto:admissions@africanleadershipcentre.org). **We encourage all applicants to submit their applications early to avoid delays and failure to submit because of technical challenges.**