



Call for Applications

Fellowships for African Women in Leadership and Peacebuilding (Degree- Awarding)

Including

MSc Global Leadership and Peacebuilding

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught/courses/global-leadership-and-peacebuilding-msc>

About the ALC

Established over 10 years ago, the ALC has played a critical role in shaping the next generation of African leaders, nurturing talent and African ideas and knowledge to advance the transformation of African societies. Located in both Nairobi, Kenya and King's College London, UK, the ALC strive to inform and influence academic, research and policy discourses on leadership, peace, security & development on the African continent and globally. The Centre envisioned a next generation of Africans that will shape thinking and policy decision-making on peace and security in Africa; African home-grown ideas and knowledge base on peace and security; an engaging constituency of academic and policy institutions collaborating on peace and security in Africa. The ALC Fellowship programmes seek to support the impact the Centre seeks to make by producing high performing graduates with identifiable leadership characteristics and skills, who, produce cutting-edge research on peace, security and development and participate in institutional, national and regional networks to train and mentor the next generation of African academics. The Centre seeks to build this next generation of leaders through training students in a structured graduate or non-degree training programme on peace, security and development, mentoring them in specific leadership, transformational skills and engaging them in practical analysis of various institutional approaches to security and development. Activities undertaken as part of the fellowship programmes include graduate degree programmes, targeted and formalized mentoring programme for fellows provided through a network of predominantly African academics and experts; post-training attachments and internships; institutional visits during training; small grants for post-training research projects and creation of a web-based network and Alumni Forum to nurture interest in research and further study opportunities such as doctoral degrees. Students who pass through the ALC programmes are envisioned to be able to generate cutting-edge research transferrable to processes of engendering peace in society; and participate in institutional, national and regional networks to train and mentor the next generation of African academics and decision-makers.

Core Values: All activities related to the ALC programmes are guided by certain core values including promoting African-led ideas and processes of change; pursuit of excellence; encouraging independent thinking; respect for diversity in all its forms – not least gender, religion, class and beliefs; recognition of youth agency; and integrity.

About this Fellowship

This award is available to young **African women**, particularly from conflict-affected contexts, interested in pursuing research, policy and practice careers in the field/s of peace, security and development. The fellowship programme is designed to expose African women to security and peacebuilding approaches using leadership studies to analyse these and, develop their expertise to generate African-led ideas and processes of change. The Fellowship aims to ground this expertise on peace and security in integrity and the pursuit of excellence.

The Fellowship is aligned with various regional and global peace and development frameworks including:

- UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1325 and 2250 which call for the increased involvement of women and youth in peace processes.
- Sustainable Development Goals 5- *Gender Equality* and 16- *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions*
- African Union Agenda 2063- Aspiration 4- *A peaceful and secure Africa*, Aspiration 6- *An Africa, whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children* and Aspiration 7- *Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner.*

The fellowship programme is well-rounded and aimed at building the expertise and capacity of African women, placing them in a position to challenge mainstream and patriarchal discourse on conflict and security related matters. Upon completion of the programme, fellows are equipped with academic knowledge, research skills, mentorship training, practical experience and are linked with a network of renowned African experts in the peace, security & development field, to further launch their careers.

Eligibility

- Candidates must be female citizens of African countries. Candidates from conflict-affected contexts are encouraged to apply.
- Successful candidates must hold valid travel documents prior to acceptance.
- Candidates must hold a **master's or bachelor's** degree and additional professional experience will be valued.
- 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, security and development in Africa and show how a post graduate degree would enable them to do this.
- 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 through 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. An English Language Proficiency test will be required to gain unconditional acceptance on to the MSc.

Programme Delivery

The Programme is delivered into two phases:

Phase 1: The first phase consists of a 12-month training programme based at King's College London. This phase will comprise of regular group mentoring sessions with renowned academics, policy analysts and practitioners. It will also include a taught Master's programme in [Global Leadership and Peacebuilding](#), which will be taught at King's College London. For a large part of this phase, fellows will be based at King's College London. In addition, Fellows will spend brief periods at the African Leadership Centre (ALC) in Nairobi and Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Nairobi, where they will be required to undertake research and deliver research papers on peace, security and development in Africa.

Institutional Visits: During the 12-month period at King's College in London, fellows will undertake visits to academic, policy and research institutions working on issues of peace, security and development.

Phase 2: For the second phase, fellows will be attached to select partner universities or Centres of Excellence in Africa, for a period of 6 months. During this time, Fellows will work as faculty members and contribute to academic and policy research among other activities. This phase is designed to encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas on the issues that were studied during the first phase of the programme.

Research Project: During phase 2, fellows will also be expected to conduct a research project on a key aspect of peace, security and development, and to produce a research report and a policy brief from their research. These outputs will be published and disseminated through relevant academic and policy platforms and publications. This phase of research and writing will last for 6 months.

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, so as to help guide students through the programme.

Terms of the Fellowship

- 1. Application to King's College London:** in addition to applying for this fellowship through the link provided in the 'How to Apply' section below, applicants are also required to secure unconditional acceptance for the **full-time MSc programme in Global Leadership and Peacebuilding**. To apply for this MSc programme applicants are required to apply to the **Peace & Security Fellowship Programme** through the King's application portal [here](#) by **April 30, 2024**. Please be informed that for most applicants from African countries an English Language Proficiency Test will be required to gain unconditional acceptance to the MSc programme. Details of the MSc Global Leadership and Peacebuilding can be found at this link: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught/courses/global-leadership-and->

[peacebuilding-msc](#)

2. **Student Visas:** All foreign students at King's College London will be subject to the immigration rules of the UK, which can be found on the King's College London web page for obtaining student visas: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/international/student-support.aspx>. The offer of a place on the programme will be subject to successful candidates obtaining a student visa. Obtaining a student visa will necessitate an **UNCONDITIONAL** offer for the MSc Global Leadership and Peacebuilding. Failure to obtain a visa to enter the UK automatically invalidates the offer of a place on the programme with no consequences to King's College London. Responsibility for processing and financing all visa applications rests solely with successful candidates. The implementing organizations will provide necessary documentation as needed.
3. **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.
4. **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.
5. **Programme completion/Return to base:** The programme will last a total of 18 months. During Phases 1 and 2, fellows will be expected to make full-time commitment to the programme. It is a condition that successful candidates shall return to their base or home countries at the end of the programme.

Funding

This is a fully funded opportunity, not including any visa application and processing costs. Funds will be made available to cover tuition, subsistence in the UK, Kenya and Country of attachment, accommodation, research-related costs, and all travel expenses related to the programme.¹ However, successful applicants are expected to find their own accommodation both in the UK and in the location of their attachment institution. In the UK, successful candidates will be able to apply for University of London accommodation, and they can also make their own accommodation arrangements. Candidates are strongly advised to make all necessary accommodation arrangements well in advance of taking up their positions at King's College London. Information on KCL student accommodation can be found at this link: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/accommodation/index.aspx>

Termination

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

¹ **Please note that the funds are intended for individual Fellows only. Funds do not cover dependants and are not intended to support family members.** Successful candidates will need to make alternative arrangements to cover the costs and other livelihood needs of dependants before arrival in the UK and/ or Kenya or attachment location. Under the UK Immigration laws, prospective applicants must satisfy the Home Office that they have sufficient funds to support themselves and their dependents before arrival in the UK (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.

How to Apply

Applications to the fellowship programme will be accepted online at the following link: <http://applications.africanleadershipcentre.org/>. **The deadline for applications is April 30, 2024.**

In addition to this and as noted above, applicants to this fellowship programme make individual successful applications to the Peace & Security Fellowship Programme through the King's application portal [here](#) by the 30th of April 2024.

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** - outlining 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, 30th April 2024.**
- Recent curriculum vitae of **2 pages** maximum.
- One writing sample (maximum **1000 words** each - example can include original research paper, extracts from dissertation, essay paper, 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 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**).
- On the online application system, please indicate that you have completed the King's College Application.

All supporting documents should be submitted via the online portal of [King's College London](#) and [African Leadership Centre-Nairobi](#). 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.**