Call for Applications

Associate Fellowships in Global Leadership and Peacebuilding for the Global South

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About the ALC

Established in 2010, the African Leadership Centre (ALC) seeks to build an inter-generational community of transformative leaders producing cutting-edge knowledge that serves as a catalyst for a new peace, security and development agenda in Africa. To this effect, the Centre produces and deploys multi-dimensional forms of knowledge, builds an inter-generational community of value driven leaders, facilitates a catalytical 'public square' to set a new agenda for Africa, and enhances the ALC Hub to produce and manage knowledges. The Centre pursues its vision of building an inter-generational community of value driven transformative leaders from its bases in Nairobi, Kenya and King's College, London.

Core Values: The ALC's programmes are guided by a commitment to promoting African-led ideas and processes of change, pursuing excellence, encouraging independent thinking, respecting diversity in all its forms—including gender, religion, class, and beliefs—recognizing youth agency, and upholding integrity.

About the Award

This associate fellowship bursary is available to students from the Global South[1] applying for the MSc Global Leadership and Peacebuilding at King's College London, for the 2026/27 academic year (beginning in September 2026). It is available to students studying full time only. The bursary is for students from the Global South who are pursuing careers in leadership, security, and development.

[1] The list of Global South countries is available here.

- Successful applicants will receive a bursary that covers 25 per cent of the MSc Global Leadership and Peacebuilding tuition fees at King's College London for the 2026/27 academic year in addition to five thousand pounds (£5,000) as a contribution to their living expenses in London.
- This fellowship combines rigorous academic research, impactful writing, and policy analysis on leadership, security, and development issues. It uses modalities of learning that integrate a master's programme on Global Leadership and Peacebuilding at King's College London with a uniquely tailored mentoring programme—comprising numerous group-mentoring sessions, simulation practices, one-on-one and peer-to-peer mentoring sessions, institutional visits, and attachment.
- After the MSc programme, Associate Fellows will also have an option to undertake a short internship at an international institution or regional centre of excellence.
- Upon completion, associate fellows emerge with academic knowledge, research skills, mentorship training, and practical experience, connected to a network of distinguished experts in peace, security, and development to propel their careers forward.

Eligibility

- Candidates must be able to demonstrate the following values throughout the period of the programme**: promoting southern 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 citizenship in any country of the Global South.
- Candidates need to demonstrate an interest in pursuing careers in the field of peace, security and development.
- A final confirmation of offer of a place on the programme depends on securing unconditional acceptance into the MSc in global Leadership and Peacebuilding at King`s College London by the University`s deadline. Please note that for most students from the Global South **passing an English Language Proficiency Test is mandatory to gain unconditional acceptance to the MSc Programme at King's College London.**

  Details of the Global Leadership and Peacebuilding programme can be found here.
- A final confirmation of offer of a place on this programme depends on successful candidates obtaining a student visa.

How to Apply for the Associate Fellowships Programme and MSc Programme:

Applicants interested in this associate fellowship **should apply for both** the associate fellowship programme and the MSc Programme as per the guidelines below.

1. Associate Fellowship Application:
    - Submit your application online here
    - Deadline: 24 May 2026.
    - Steps:
        - Register on the ALC application portal here.
        - Log in and follow the instructions to complete and submit your application.
        - The system will guide you throughout the process.
2. MSc in Global Leadership and Peacebuilding Application:
    - Apply through the King's application portal here.
    - When selecting your programme, choose **Peace & Security Fellowship** (not MSc in Global Leadership and Peacebuilding).
    - Deadline 24 May 2026
    - Steps:
        - Register on the King's application portal here.
        - Log in and complete all required steps to submit your application.

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

- A supporting statement of 500 to 750 words—outlining why you want to join this programme, what unique contribution you would bring, and what change you envision contributing to in your community or area of work after the programme.
- Two letters of recommendation (to be received directly from your referees by the deadline of **24 May 2026**, 23:59 hrs EAT).
- A recent curriculum vitae, maximum 2 pages.

Submission Guidelines

Submit these documents when prompted during the application process using the links provided above. If you encounter issues with the online application portal, contact us at admissions@africanleadershipcentre.org. We urge all applicants to submit early to avoid delays or technical difficulties that could prevent submission.