

El Hassan Fellowship Programme

About the Programme

Each year, the West Asia-North Africa (WANA) Institute invites outstanding graduates from highly distinguished Masters Programmes in key thematic areas to join in the work of the Majlis El Hassan, located in Amman, Jordan. Fellows serve 12-month terms and work under the supervision of the Executive Director of the WANA, and under the ultimate guidance of His Royal Highness (HRH) Prince El Hassan Bin Talal.

Purpose of the El Hassan Fellowship Programme

The Fellowship Programme offers accomplished graduates the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in a unique working environment in preparation for careers in Middle Eastern affairs, research, politics and international development. It also provides an opportunity for young scholars to participate in original research on emerging ideas, liaise with distinguished academics and field experts, and develop networks of communication.

Thematic areas

Fellows are required to have a Masters Degree in one (or more) of the following areas:

- International law/justice
- Middle East studies

- Political science
- International development studies
- Environmental science/environmental politics
- Interfaith studies/theology
- Refugee studies
- Conflict studies

Task assignment

Fellows are expected to develop a substantive research paper of publishable quality, on a subject that connects their area of thematic specialty to the work of the WANA Institute. The WANA Institute focuses on issues related to social justice, green economy and human security in the region. Fellows will have the opportunity to present such research at national or regional conferences, as well as to develop and manage knowledge networks. They will also gain unique skills and experience by contributing substantively to the broader work undertaken at the Majlis el Hassan, including policy analysis, drafting articles and speeches, meeting participation and engaging in regional political and development discourse.

Responsibilities

Successful Fellows play an essential role in the WANA Forum team. Key responsibilities include:

- Undertaking research (primary and secondary) in key thematic areas;
- Writing, editing, and researching articles, and preparing briefings and speeches on various topics including: water scarcity, regional development and cooperation, refugees and human dignity and security;
- Copy-editing and compiling papers and conference reports on behalf of the WANA Forum;
- Assisting with the planning, execution and follow-up of the WANA Forum's annual policy conference; and
- Providing miscellaneous research and administrative support to both the WANA Forum and the Private Office as requested.

Inclusions

In return for participating in the 12-month Fellowship Programme, all Fellows will receive:

- Return economy airfares to Amman, Jordan from the Fellow's country of origin;
- Accommodation;
- Health insurance;
- Arabic language tuition; and
- A monthly stipend.

Selection criteria

The selection process is highly competitive; only graduates with outstanding academic records and letters of recommendation are eligible to apply. Principal selection criteria include:

- Undergraduate degree (in any area) and Masters Degree (in a key thematic area);
- Fluent written and spoken English (additional languages, particularly Arabic and French, are highly desirable);

- Outstanding academic record;
- Multi-cultural sensitivity and ability to work effectively in teams made up of persons from different cultural and religious backgrounds;
- Demonstrated research and writing skills;
- Excellent oral presentation skills;
- Ability to work under pressure and to meet deadlines;
- Leadership potential.

Successful candidates are also expected to be highly motivated, pay attention to detail and work to the highest quality standards.



HRH Prince Hassan speaks with a participant of the 2014 WANA Institute conference on legal empowerment

Application and deadlines

Fellows enter the Programme in both January (winter intake) and July (summer intake) in order to minimise the disruption of staffing transitions. The application deadline for participation in the next summer intake is 1 May 2015. To apply, interested applicants must submit a completed application form, letter of motivation (1 page maximum), CV, academic transcript and writing sample to info@wanainstitute.org.

About WANA Institute

The WANA Institute is the only region-focused, interdisciplinary policy think tank working towards more informed development strategies in the West Asia – North Africa region. The Institute conducts qualitative and quantitative research, hosts conferences and events that provide a space for non-politicised discussion on key development challenges, and undertakes capacity building initiatives for civil society groups. All of the Institute's work is focused on the areas of social justice, green economy and human security. The Institute believes that development challenges require regional, cooperative approaches from an interdisciplinary perspective. Additionally, it believes civil society must be strengthened to become a vital stakeholder in the region and that we need far greater insight into the impact of development initiatives to ascertain levels of success. The WANA Institute is chaired by His Royal Highness, Prince El Hassan bin Talal and operates from the Majlis El Hassan in Amman, Jordan.

About HRH Prince El Hassan Bin Talal

A pluralist, believing in consensus and respect for the other, HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal believes in societies in which all peoples can live, work and function

in freedom and with dignity. This goal has been the driving force behind his interest and involvement in humanitarian and interfaith issues, with particular stress on the human dimension of conflicts.

HRH has initiated, founded and is actively involved in a number of Jordanian and international institutes and committees. He co-chaired the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICHI) 1983, and is currently Chairman of the Higher Council for Science and Technology, the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies, the Royal Scientific Society, the West Asia-North Africa Institute, and President and Patron of the Arab Thought Forum.

HRH is a Trustee of the UK-based Coexistence Trust and is President of the Foundation for Inter-religious and Intercultural Research and Dialogue and President Emeritus of the World Conference of Religions for Peace. HRH is a Board Member of the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI), served as a Commissioner on Legal Empowerment for the Poor and is a Patron of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. From 2013 to 2014, HRH was the Chairman of the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB). HRH is the author of nine books.