

El Hassan Fellowship Programme

About the Programme

Each year, the West Asia-North Africa Forum (WANA) invites 7-9 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 from 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 annual theme of the WANA Forum. They will have the opportunity to present such research at national or regional fora, as well as develop and manage

knowledge networks. They will also gain unique skills and experience by contributing substantively to the broader work undertaken at the Majlis, including policy analysis, drafting articles and speeches, meeting participation and engaging in regional political and development discourse.



HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal talks with a participant at the 2014 WANA Forum in Amman, Jordan.

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 UN 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 and diplomacy potential.

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

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 winter intake is **1 October 2014** and the application deadline for participation in the summer intake is **1 April 2015**. To apply, interested applicants must submit a completed application form, letter of motivation (1 page maximum), CV, academic

transcript and writing sample to secretariat@wanaforum.org. Only applications for the winter intake are currently being accepted.

Full application instructions are included on the application form.

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.

About WANA Forum

The West Asia – North Africa Forum is a regional think tank that facilitates dialogue and builds networks, with a view to forging practical and evidence-based solutions for key development challenges in economic, environmental and social spheres. WANA operates through four pillars: A multi-stakeholder dialogue platform; targeted research towards the development of a regional knowledge base; problem mapping and response strategising, and the development of inter-regional knowledge networks. Through these processes, WANA plays a unique and strategic role by stimulating inter-disciplinary dialogue and promoting 'home-grown' solutions to regional challenges. Rather than a single event, WANA is a process that provides opportunities for partnership,

advocacy, capacity building and policy development. The broader goal is to identify and assist in the implementation of an incremental approach towards building a human dignity-focused regional architecture based on cooperative governance, social responsibility and a supranational policy infrastructure that can meet the needs of today and the aspirations of future generations.

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 Forum, 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, His Royal Highness was the Chairman of the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB).

HRH is the author of nine books.