

IRIS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Institute of Regional and International Studies (IRIS) at the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani (AUIS) invites applications for its fellowship program. This program aims at providing an opportunity for scholars, analysts, or practitioners to conduct on the ground research in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region in the fields of governance/ policy reform; state-building; economic policy and reform; extremism/ countering violent extremism; post-conflict stabilization, reconstruction and/or reconciliation, security; regional (Middle East) geopolitics; or U.S. foreign policy/ U.S.-Middle East relations.

IRIS provides a unique environment for fieldwork in Iraq and its Kurdistan Region, as well as in neighboring states. It is housed at AUIS and located at the heart of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, offering safety and stability, as well as access to many parts of the country. Furthermore, fellows will benefit from IRIS's reputation and local network. Applicants should hold or be working toward a Master's degree or Ph.D. and have demonstrated interest and experience in the form of publications and participation in conferences in a relevant field. It is preferred that applicants have prior fieldwork experience in Iraq, the Kurdistan Region, and/or the Middle East.

TIMELINE

- September to December
- January to May
- May to August
- September to August

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Governance and reform; state-building; economic policy and reform; extremism/ countering violent extremism; post-conflict stabilization, reconstruction and/or reconciliation; security; regional (Middle East) geopolitics; U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East/ U.S.-Middle East relations.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Fellows will be expected to publish **monthly policy briefs, reports, or academic papers** based on academic research. Pieces will be published through IRIS, or through a prominent outside publication, using IRIS (and possibly other) affiliations. Fellows will be expected to **contribute to IRIS research and policy initiatives**. Fellows will also **deliver lectures, participate (or organize) roundtables** around their topic. The quantity will vary depending on length of stay.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should send a CV, writing sample (in the form of a 2 to 5 page published policy brief, report, journalistic article or an academic paper on a related topic), and a research abstract/project description that includes potential topic(s), a research plan (including interview mapping, if applicable), and a provisional timeline for the implementation of the research/fieldwork.

Applications should be addressed to Christine van den Toorn (Director, Institute for Regional and International Studies) and sent to iris@auis.edu.krd.

Fellows will be chosen through a competitive application process.

SUPPORT

IRIS will provide accommodation, and possibly other support based on candidate's qualifications and length of stay.

IRIS will also provide work space, assistance in recruiting student or alumni research assistants and translators, as well as logistical support for transportation and other local services.

CONTACT US

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