

ANNEX

GUIDELINES 2026 UNITED NATIONS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

I. OBJECTIVES

1. The primary objective of the Disarmament Fellowship Programme is to enhance disarmament expertise across Member States, particularly in the developing countries. Through these Fellowships, participants gain additional knowledge and professional competence, enabling them to better fulfil their responsibilities in the field of disarmament and international security upon returning to their respective government positions. The Programme aims to expand disarmament knowledge and expertise, foster a network of diplomats who share understanding of disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control, and ultimately contribute to global peace and security. Participants have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the inner workings of multilateral international organizations and their disarmament *fora*, while also deepening their technical understanding of key disarmament topics.

II. NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS

2. Up to 25 Fellowships will be awarded in 2026.

III. QUALIFICATIONS

3. The United Nations Fellowship Programme is intended for diplomats, public servants working on, or about to commence work the governmental structures in the areas of disarmament and international security and related matters.

4. Candidates must have an advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent). A first level university degree with a relevant combination of academic qualifications and/or professional experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

5. The nomination of women is encouraged with a view to achieving the full, equal, and meaningful participation of both women and men, in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly¹.

6. The Programme is in English, and all candidates must have a good working knowledge of the language.

IV. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES

7. Fellowships shall be awarded to candidates nominated by their Governments. In considering applications, particular attention is paid to the candidates' background, current position in the service of the Government, and the practical use they expect to make of the knowledge and experience gained on return to their Government positions.

¹ [A/RES/77/55](#)

8. Other factors also taken into account for the selection of candidates are:

- (a) the greater needs of developing countries;
- (b) the equitable geographic distribution and achieving the full, equal, and meaningful participation of both women and men;
- (c) the desirability of giving preference to candidates from countries whose nationals have not previously been awarded disarmament Fellowships;
- (d) the expectation that candidates will continue to work in disarmament, no proliferation, arms control, and international security for a minimum of two years following completion of the Fellowship.

V. AGE OF CANDIDATES

9. It is recommended that candidates nominated by Governments be between 25 and 40 years of age.

VI. PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

10. The nomination consists of the following:

- (i) [Online application](#)
- (ii) [Nomination Form](#);
- (iii) [Medical form](#)
- (iv) Copy of the first page of the candidate's national passport;
- (v) Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of the Member State submitting the nomination.

11. Each Government may submit only **one only nomination** and should address it, through its Permanent Mission to the United Nations at Headquarters or in Geneva, to the address below:

Coordinator,
United Nations Disarmament Fellowship Programme
Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch
United Nations Office at Geneva, Palais des Nations
Room S-188
1211 Geneva 10 – Switzerland
Email: undisarmamentfellowshipprogramme@un.org

VII. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

12. Nominations must be received not later than **16 January 2026**. Nominations received after this date will not be considered.

VIII. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

13. The 2026 United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament will be carried out over a period of 8 months from February to October 2026. The programme will include a combination of initial on-line learning, study and networking visits to relevant international organizations and to specific countries upon invitation.

IX. ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME

14. The 2026 edition of the Programme will comprise the following 3 components, all of which are mandatory:

(i) Introductory self-paced E-learning courses February/March

- E-learning courses will be mandatory in nature and include a minimum of 8 courses.

(ii) Study visits travel segments may be broken down into up to 3 segments: (March/April, June, and October. Dates and number of travel segments to be confirmed). Study visits will include United Nations Offices in Geneva, Vienna, and New York. The Programme will also include, upon invitation, study visits to other dedicated disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control international, regional, and national organizations as well as State institutions and sites across the world.

- The study visits will require full time participation and release from other functions. Fellows are required to devote their complete attention to the Programme and cannot either work for their governments or attend meetings on their behalf during the travel period. Absences that are not appropriately justified will result in a deduction in the amount of daily allowance due to the Fellow.
- The Fellows are also required to participate in several practical exercises, including round tables, simulation sessions and others.

(iii) Study and research (between the study visits – part time activity)

- Fellows are required to conduct research on a topic chosen among a list offered by UNODA and will be assigned a mentor to accompany them in the process.

15. At the end of the Programme, participants who have fulfilled all obligations will be awarded certificates of attendance.

X. TRAVEL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

16. The United Nations will provide airline tickets to the Fellows for travel connected with the United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament. Under existing regulations, payment by the United Nations of travel expenses will be limited to round-trip airfare in economy class via the most direct route from the place of residence to the locations where the Programme takes place.

17. Fellows will be responsible for obtaining all the necessary visas in connection with their participation in the Programme prior to the commencement of the Programme.

Fellows will be responsible for arranging their accommodation and transfer from and to the airports, except when these are provided by the inviting country.

18. Fellows are entitled to receive a daily allowance during the Programme at the rates established by the United Nations and designed to cover the cost of food and lodging. However, the Governments are expected to continue payment of a Fellow's salary and/or allowances at home during the duration of the Programme. The allowance is not intended to cover the Fellow's continuing expenses at home, nor those of his/her dependants. The allowance is not a salary or an honorarium.

19. The daily allowance is reduced when accommodation and/or meals are provided by organizers. The daily allowance is also appropriately reduced while the Programme is taking place in a Fellow's current city of residence. Should a government find that the daily allowance is insufficient to cover the food and lodging expenses of its selected candidate, it is within the government's prerogative to provide additional funding to its candidate.
