

MENA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

GUIDE FOR FELLOWS



WELCOME TO SSL MENA



THE FELLOWSHIP

Welcome to SSL MENA Fellowship, an enriching journey that transcends boundaries and opens doors to collaborative learning, exploration, and academic or professional growth. This fellowship is more than a structured program; it's an opportunity to engage with diverse perspectives, delve into innovative research, and forge lasting connections with like-minded individuals. Throughout this experience, you'll not only acquire valuable skills and knowledge but also contribute to the collective wealth of insight within your chosen field. This introduction marks the commencement of a unique voyage, where your aspirations, combined with shared enthusiasm, will shape a transformative chapter in your academic or professional narrative. Embrace the fellowship with curiosity and vigor, as it unfolds new horizons and promises a remarkable journey of discovery and accomplishment.

The SSL MENA

The Social Sciences Lab MENA is an independent, non-governmental, and non-partisan research institution based in the European Union, dedicated to advancing interdisciplinary social sciences research focused on the Middle East and North Africa region. The Lab serves as a global platform connecting scholars, researchers, and institutions interested in MENA studies, fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and high-quality research grounded in diverse perspectives and strong research ethics.

At its core, the Lab prioritizes researchers by empowering scholars to initiate and lead research aligned with their own academic interests rather than imposing institutional research agendas. Through its international network, the Lab promotes interdisciplinary collaboration between senior and junior scholars, facilitating research partnerships, mentorship, and academic mobility opportunities. The Lab also acts as a funding and research support hub, assisting members in preparing competitive applications for major European funding schemes such as ERC, Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, and similar programs.

What's it like
being part of
our programs?

OUR PHILOSOPHY

THE RESEARCHER IS THE PRIORITY

Unlike other institutes that enforce their research agenda or enlist researchers for specific projects, our lab empowers research members and fellows to freely initiate research of their choice.

A SPACE FOR ALL

The Lab unites scholars passionate about MENA studies, both from within and outside the region, fostering an environment for diverse perspectives to intersect. We also embrace scholars from various ideologies and orientations while upholding research values and ethics with utmost respect.

RESEARCH & NETWORK

Additionally, we facilitate connections among scholars across diverse research domains, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration for comprehensive and precise research. This networking opportunity also unites both senior and junior scholars, harnessing the strengths of each.

FUNDING HUB

The Lab provides its members and fellows with a hub to support their research grants and assists in applying for renowned opportunities like ERC, Horizon Europe, Erasmus, and more.

SCHOLARS BENEFITS

What you will get from being part of our program?

The Lab provides its scholars with a myriad of benefits to bolster their academic journey!

EXPERIENCE

- Participate in a structured 3-month research fellowship program designed for junior and independent scholars.
- Develop a concrete research article through guided activities, mentorship, and clearly defined milestones, individually or within thematic research groups.
- Gain hands-on experience in academic research, research design, proposal development, and collaborative scholarly work in an international research environment.
- Receive an official fellowship affiliation certificate, including recognition of completed trainings and activities, and access to support and recommendation letters when needed.

NETWORKING

- Engage with a diverse cohort of junior scholars and researchers working on MENA related topics from the region and beyond.
- Interact with senior scholars, research mentors, and invited experts through training sessions, workshops, and research focused discussions.
- Become part of the Lab community, connecting fellows, alumni, and affiliated researchers.
- Build long-term academic and professional relationships across institutions, disciplines, and research networks.

SUPPORT

- Receive academic mentorship and research supervision tailored to your research stage and project needs.
- Obtain guidance on research design, publication strategies, and academic career development within an international research environment.
- Receive support in identifying research grants, fellowships, and academic positions.
- Benefit from continuous feedback, peer exchange, and structured research support throughout the fellowship period.

AFILIATION

- Obtain an official fellowship affiliation with a European based research institute for the duration of the fellowship, extendable as part of Lab community access.
- Use the Lab affiliation to support applications for research funding, grants, academic opportunities, and collaborative research initiatives.
- Publish, present at conferences, or contribute to collaborative research outputs under an institutional research framework.
- Gain access to selected Lab resources, research networks, and the broader academic ecosystem during and after the fellowship period.

FELLOWSHIP MILESTONES

For more details about the Fellowship program, see the next pages.

1 APR



Start of the Fellowship

31 MAY



End of Training and Workshops and focus on article

30 JUN



End of Fellowship

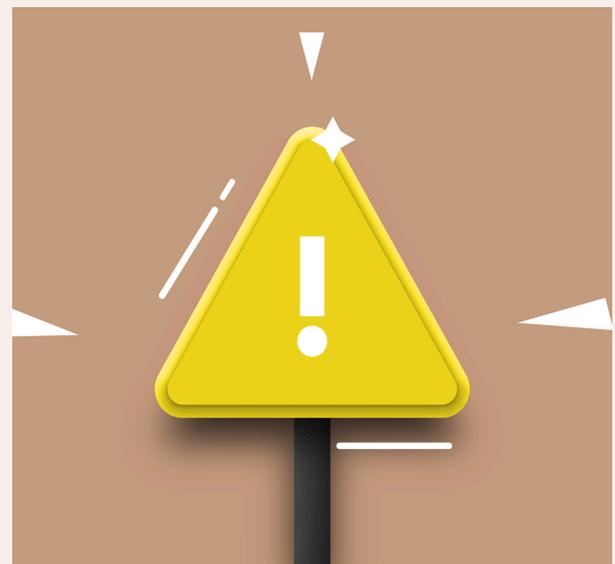
30 JUL



Publication of articles

IT'S STARTING... HAVE A GRAND ASPIRATION!

Embarking on a research fellowship is an incredible opportunity to delve into uncharted territories of knowledge and discovery. Completing this fellowship not only bolsters your academic or professional profile but also signifies a significant milestone in your journey of growth and expertise. Each step forward in your research brings you closer to contributing valuable insights to your field. Embrace the chance to make a tangible impact, harnessing newfound skills and knowledge that will propel both your career and the greater scholarly community forward. Stay inspired and focused, knowing that your dedication and perseverance in completing this fellowship will pave the way for future accomplishments and scholarly contributions.



FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

*While the program is ongoing, there might be changes. However, we'll keep you informed about any potential modifications through meetings and email correspondence.

The fellowship activities will take place remotely, without a fixed daily schedule for meetings and events. Most of the training sessions and workshops will be scheduled on weekends to ensure the participation of all fellows. Despite this flexibility, each task will have a specified deadline. We've carefully calculated the time required for each activity to ensure that the fellowship accommodates your busy schedule.

ACTIVITIES	VALUE	TYPE
Tasks to do	3	Individual & Collective
Training	2	Group
Workshops	2	Group
Article	1	Individual



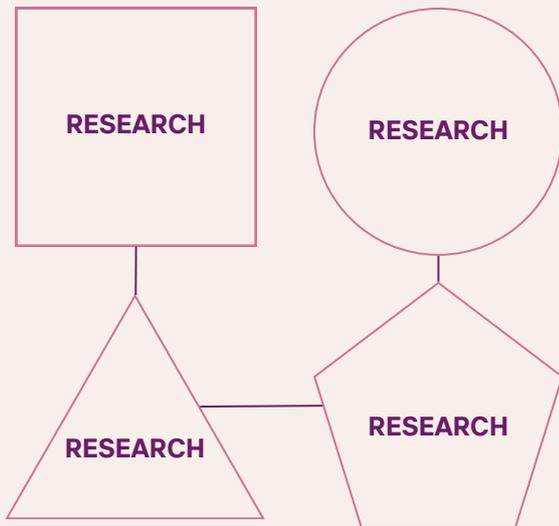
POST FELLOWSHIP

Your adventure with us isn't over yet!



BOOST YOUR CAREER WITH US

The Lab is always ready to accommodate your research ideas. Whether you have a project and need support, we are here for you. We are delighted to host your initiative and assist you in its implementation, including finding suitable funding.



CONDUCT RESEARCH IN YOUR UNIQUE STYLE

The Lab embraces all perspectives and viewpoints; you have the freedom to conduct your research as you see fit. Our role is to facilitate your investigation and assist you in advancing it to the next stages.

RESEARCH	NETWORK	FUNDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Guidance Peer review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect with a large community of scholars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities database Proposals revisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to data Field research support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborative Research Share opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications support Hosting projects

WE FILL IN THE GAPS FOR YOU

Our primary goal is to prioritize the researcher, and to achieve that, we assist our members and fellows in addressing their weaknesses and fulfilling their needs.



Social Sciences Lab - MENA
مختبر العلوم الاجتماعية - مينا

Social Sciences Lab - MENA

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