

2024-2025 Mo Ibrahim Foundation Academy Fellowship recruitment guideline topics



Digital Society Initiative

- AI is rapidly developing as a technology shaping the world, but the vast majority of its development takes place in industry and not in the public sector or between nations. How might a public option for AI be conceived of, funded or coordinated, either at a national level or internationally; in a specific sector or as general purpose public compute?

Global Health Programme

- Considerations for regional strategic stockpiling of medical countermeasures for health emergencies: strengthening supply chain resilience and self-sufficiency.
- Governance of pathogen research
- Examination of the effectiveness of compulsory license flexibility in the Trips Agreement – is it fit for purpose?
- How effective are laboratory systems in Africa? What are the gaps, redundancies and vulnerabilities and how can a regional approach help?
- Were lockdowns really necessary and are they a good idea for next time?

International Security Programme

- How can the parallels between space and cyberspace on responsible state behaviour help address shared challenges in both domains and ensure their secure and peaceful utilization?
- In light of the evolving geopolitical challenges and emerging security threats, in what ways should NATO adapt to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness in maintaining regional and global security in the future?
- How can international legal frameworks and collaborative efforts be strengthened to ensure greater accountability for cybercriminal activities targeting Critical National Infrastructure, and what role do emerging technologies play in enhancing attribution and prosecution?
- How can European states adjust their deterrence messaging for future threats without falling victim to a security dilemma?

Environment and Society Centre

- How have current geopolitical shifts affected global and national resource dynamics regarding energy, food and critical materials? How can international governance frameworks reduce these risks and vulnerabilities?
- In a time of increasing political tension and polarisation, what is the role of international collaboration, and how can international governance be reinvigorated to continue to respond to climate-related challenges?

Middle East and North Africa Programme

- Palestine – domestic and foreign policy
- Climate change in MENA – implications, policy, scope for regional cooperation
- Political economy and accountability, preferably in Libya and/or Maghreb
- Artificial intelligence in MENA – governance and accountability, regional leadership
- China-MENA – nature of the relationship, implications for regional security and geopolitical competition