



POLICY DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM  
2012  
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

A "*Policy Development Fellowship Program*" has been launched by the Open Society Fund BiH (OSF) in 2004. The main goal of the Policy Development Fellowship Program is to improve BH policy research and dialogue and to contribute to the development of a sound policy-making culture based on informative and empirically grounded policy options.

The fellowship program provides an opportunity for selected fellows to collaborate with the Open Society Fund in conducting policy research, writing a policy study and engaging in advocacy and dissemination of policy recommendations.

**POLICY RESEARCH AREA**

In 2012, OSF BH will support research within the following policy topics:

- **Cultural practices/policies and social change in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Philosopher Theodor Adorno wrote that "culture suffers damage when it is planned and administrated, when it is left to itself, however, everything cultural threatens not only to lose its possibilities of effect, but its very existence as well." The recent crisis of major cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina is the last but not the least evidence of marginalization of arts and culture in public policies at all levels of government.

This policy topic encompass wide areas of enquiry: What standards and principles have governed public policies and practices in the field of arts and culture and what should be changed? What are the most appropriate public funding models for arts and culture? Is there any capacity to foster creative industries or cultural tourism? What role can culture play in reintegration of the country and does anybody care?

- **Gender equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina – In matter and manner**

Despite the existence of the relatively progressive legal framework in the field of promoting and protecting women's human rights that is in effect for several years now in Bosnia and Herzegovina, discrimination against women in different spheres is widespread. To mention but a few: women in BiH do not have equal opportunities to participate and are underrepresented in political decision-making within the legislative, executive and judicial authorities; women's access to the labor market is limited and consequently they



make the most of the unemployed population; the recent OSCE monitoring report on sentencing in domestic violence criminal proceedings revealed low capacity of judiciary to protect victims of violence let alone to contribute to preventing domestic violence.

What policies should be employed in order to strengthen gender equality and reduce gender based discrimination beyond the pure norm?

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Applications should consist of:

- Completed Application form
- Statement of interest in participation in the program (1 page/500 words maximum). The statement of interest should highlight the following:
  - How is the fellowship programme relevant for you?
  - Why do you want to participate in the fellowship?
  - How will you benefit from participation in the fellowship?
  - How do you intend to use the skills and capacity you develop through the program?
- Statement of interest for chosen policy area (1 page/500 words maximum) focusing on the following issues:
  - In your opinion, what are the priority problems in your chosen area?
  - Why are you interested in the chosen area?
  - How can you contribute to the solution of the priority problems through participation in the fellowship?
- Professional CV
- Employer's consent on participation in the Program.

**Eligible participants** are those who hold at least graduate university degree and particularly:

- Young scholars
- Members of policy/advocacy oriented NGOs
- Public servants

All participants should have excellent English language skills.

**The deadline for submitting applications is April 20, 2012. Applications should be submitted in English by e-mail to OSF BH at the following address: [leila@soros.org.ba](mailto:leila@soros.org.ba) , subject: PDFP 2012 Application – (add your name).**

OSF BH Executive Board will select 15-17 participants based on their professional background and statements of interest.



All applicants will be notified of their status by May 15, 2012.

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Program has a preliminary stage that aims to support participants in developing competitive research proposals.

The program will start with a **Workshop on Policy Research that will be held in Sarajevo on May 28- 31, 2012.**

**Participation at the Workshop is mandatory. Those who miss to attend the workshop for any reason will be disqualified.**

The purpose of the workshop is to build the insight into the applied, multidisciplinary and targeted nature of policy-relevant research, i.e. to highlight the goal- and action-oriented, practical nature of a policy research as distinct to purely academic work.

Upon completion of the workshop, participants are expected to submit draft Research proposals in English by June 30, 2012. Trainers will provide feedback to participants until July 16, 2012.

**Participants should submit final Research proposals for the fellowship to OSF BH by August 4, 2012, the latest.**

Final Research proposals for the fellowship should be submitted in both: one of BH languages (B,S,C) and in English.

Research proposals should be a maximum of 3000 words and contain the following elements:

- Introduction/Abstract
- Rationale for the research – the key problem being addressed
- Goal/Objectives of the Research
- Research Methods
- Expected outcomes/results of the research
- Bibliography

Research proposal is expected to be:

- ***policy relevant*** - a piece of research which is timely and will directly contribute to solving the identified problem within it's current context;
- ***situated*** - clearly presented within the framework of the literature, previous research, and past policies proposed and adopted to solve the identified problem;
- ***practical*** - presents a clearly testable research design that is outcome-oriented, i.e. it will produce results which will substantively inform the policy choices within the target context;
- ***coherent*** - all elements of the outlined research plan build on each other to present an extensively developed and detailed approach.

Up to 10 fellows will be selected by the Executive Board of OSF BH on the basis of the merit of their research, above mentioned characteristics and structure as well as mentor's assessment of the proposal.



**Applicants will be notified on final selection by September 03, 2012.**

OSF BH will award successful applicants with a grant in the amount of KM 13,000 for a period of 10 months (September 2012 to June 2013). Compensation for a research is KM 10,000 and will be disbursed in four installments. In addition, OSF BH will pay to the researcher up to KM 3,000 for research related expenses upon presentation of related documentation.

Research related expenses eligible for reimbursement are: in-country travel, accommodation, books and publications, translation/proof-reading, photocopying, phone, fax, and internet services directly related to fulfilling the requirements of the fellowship. Other expenses must be approved in advance by OSF BH in order to qualify for reimbursement.

Fellows are expected to conduct quality research according to the mutually accepted research protocol. As a final product, fellows will submit a policy study and policy brief - an informative policy document that includes the clear presentation of feasible recommendations for action.

Specifically, selected fellows shall perform the following duties:

- carry out policy research related to the approved research proposal,
- participate in Workshop on policy analysis and writing in November 2012,
- submit a draft policy study in English by January 15, 2013,
- submit the second draft of policy study in English by March 15, 2013,
- submit a draft policy brief in English by March 30, 2013
- participate in Workshop on advocacy for policy change in April 2013,
- submit final text of the policy study and policy brief in both English and b/c/s by May 15, 2013
- participate in advocacy plan preparation for the group by May 30, 2013,
- participate in mutually agreed advocacy activities.

All approved policy papers will be published on the OSF web-site.

Towards successful completion of the program, fellows will be required to:

- **fully attend and actively participate in all program sections;**
- **complete all assignments in a timely manner.**

The program will provide fellows with Mentors who are experts in policy analysis and public administration with extensive experience in policy work and policy advocacy<sup>1</sup>. Mentors will advise

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<sup>1</sup> *Leslie A. Pal* is a Professor of Public Policy and Director of the School of Public Policy and Administration at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. His teaching focuses on public policy analysis, evaluation, and public administration. He holds a Ph.D. from Queen's University, Kingston, Canada. co-author or editor of over twenty books, the most recent being Beyond Policy Analysis: Public Issue Management in Turbulent Times 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (ITP Nelson Canada, 2005) and The Government Takes Away: The Politics of Pain in the United States and Canada (co-edited with R. Kent Weaver, Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2003). He has published over fifty articles and book chapters in a wide variety of areas, including Canadian politics, public policy and administration, information technology, European integration, and international human rights. In addition to his research and writing, he has taught in the IPF program at OSI Budapest for many years, and consults widely on public sector reform initiatives in fSU countries. He has been involved in projects in Russia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Slovak Republic, Romania, and Ukraine.

**Eóin Young** is Course Director/trainer of the Policy Communication Training Programme of the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative, OSI- Budapest. He is Irish, but has lived and worked in



and supervise fellows in the course of the implementation of their research projects. More specifically Mentors will:

- provide methodological guidance to the fellows;
- review and evaluate policy papers at different stages;
- liaise with OSF BH about the progress of work and status of fellows.

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Central and Eastern Europe for over 15 years. The main focus of his work is on developing the communication and advocacy skills of policy analysts and in his role as trainer and mentor, he has been an integral part of the PDF since its inception in 2004. His educational background is multidisciplinary with degrees in Engineering and Linguistics.