

HRANT DINK FOUNDATION TÜRKİYE -ARMENIA LONG-TERM FELLOWSHIP SCHEME REGULATION

What is the Türkiye -Armenia Long-Term Fellowship Scheme?

1. Hrant Dink Foundation (HDF) established the Türkiye-Armenia Fellowship Scheme initially in 2014 with a view to promote cross-border affiliation and cooperation of professionals to carry out their fellowship activities at host organisations from the two neighbouring countries. The Türkiye-Armenia Fellowship Scheme has completed four cycles (2014-2018), supporting a total of 44 fellows from Armenia and Türkiye across Istanbul, Yerevan, and Gyumri.

During its first cycle (2014-2015), the Türkiye-Armenia Fellowship Scheme supported 12 professionals from Armenia and 6 from Türkiye. During its second and third cycles (2016-2017), it supported 10 professionals from Armenia and 5 from Türkiye to carry out their fellowship activities at host organisations in the neighbouring country. The first three cycles were implemented with the financial support of the European Union within the framework of the Support to the Armenia-Türkiye Normalisation Process programme.

During its fourth cycle (2017-2018), implemented with the financial support of the UK Government's Conflict, Stability and Security Fund, HDF supported 8 professionals from Armenia and 5 from Türkiye.

2. In 2026-2027, HDF will continue the Türkiye-Armenia Long-Term Fellowship Scheme which aims to enable cross-border learning opportunities in areas where exchange of expertise and lasting cooperation is much needed. For the current fellowship cycle, HDF has identified the following priority areas for professional exchange: **environment and climate change, cultural heritage and tourism development**. Applicants working in these areas will be given priority. However, other areas of work may also be considered, particularly where applications in the priority areas are insufficient in number or quality. Such fields may include, but are not limited to academia, civil society, media, culture and arts, translation and interpreting, language-learning, law, healthcare, policy development, architecture and design, technology, economics.

3. In 2026-2027, the Long-Term Fellowship Scheme is conducted within the framework of the programme "Support to Armenia-Türkiye Normalization: Enhancing Cross-border Linkages" funded by the European Union. It will offer **3 professionals** from Armenia and Türkiye the opportunity to live and follow a specific programme at a specific host organisation in the neighbouring country for **3 to 6 months**.

Who can benefit from the Fellowship Scheme?

4. Any individual holding citizenship of Armenia or Türkiye, legally residing in Armenia or Türkiye will be eligible to benefit from the Fellowship Scheme as a 'Fellow'.

The Fellowship Scheme will only accept applications from individuals above the age of 18. The Fellowship Scheme primarily targets academics, researchers, civil society representatives, development workers, artists, lawyers and legal experts, policy experts, scientists, amongst others.

5. Any academic institution, media outlet, research centre, think tank, civil society organisation, art centre/museum, law office, public and private organisation registered/based in Armenia or Türkiye as well as the Armenia and Türkiye offices of international organisations will be eligible to benefit from the Fellowship Scheme as a 'Host Organisation'.

What is the Scope of the Fellowship Scheme?

6. The Fellowship Scheme will support actions in the areas where exchange of expertise and lasting cooperation is much needed. **Environment and climate change, cultural heritage, and tourism development** are the priority areas for the fifth cycle of the Long-Term Fellowship Scheme. Applications in other fields may also be considered, subject to the availability of fellowship placements and emerging programme needs. In essence, the Fellowship Scheme seeks to establish and sustain professional ties, to produce tools, mechanisms and platforms that will serve for long-term cooperation between the organizations and peoples of Armenia and Türkiye.

7. Each host organisation will offer a fellowship programme for the Fellow. The final scope and activities of the fellowship programme will be determined in consultation with the selected Fellow, taking into account the expectations of both the Host Organisation and the Fellow.

Which Costs are covered by the Fellowship Scheme?

9. The Fellowship Scheme covers the costs of round-trip international travel between Armenia and Türkiye, visa and residence permit fees, health insurance, and a monthly allowance of EUR 2,000 for each selected Fellow. The amount of the monthly allowance has been determined by HDF in accordance with the Fellowship Scheme budget approved by the European Union.

10. Visa and residence permit fees and health insurance costs will be paid directly by HDF to the relevant service providers. The monthly allowance of EUR 2,000 will be paid directly to the Fellow to cover accommodation, local transportation, and subsistence expenses during the

fellowship. Fellows are responsible for arranging their own accommodation, although the HDF project team will provide assistance upon request.

11. HDF will arrange and pay for the Fellow's international travel between Armenia and Türkiye and the location of the Host Organisation. Travel costs will be paid directly by HDF to the airline or other travel service provider, and the travel tickets will be provided to the Fellow.

12. The Fellowship Scheme will not cover any other fellowship costs including third party liability.

Identification of Host Organisations

13. Any organisation from Armenia and Türkiye (academic institutions, research centres, think tanks, civil society organisations, art centres/museums, law offices, public and private organisations, etc.) registered/based in Armenia or Türkiye interested in and committed to host a fellow from the neighbouring country can propose a specific fellowship programme/activity by applying to the open call for Host Organisations. Based on the identified priority fields in 2026-2027, HDF will also identify and approach relevant organisations from Armenia and Türkiye to host fellows from the neighbouring country.

Host Organisations can be based in any city or province of Armenia and Türkiye.

14. Host Organisations will be required to provide the following facilities:

- Office space for the Fellow
- Resources, communication means and materials sufficient to carry out the proposed programme
- Support structures to the Fellow: the Host Organisation will assign a specific staff member, who will support and provide guidance for the activities of the Fellow throughout the specific fellowship.

15. HDF will compile and announce the list and programme of all interested Host Organisations that offer hosting for fellow candidates on its website (www.hrantdink.org).

Application Process for Fellows

16. HDF will make a call to invite professionals from both countries to apply for a fellowship opportunity in the neighbouring country. The call will include information on each fellowship opportunity including the fellowship description, fellowship duration and expected profile of fellows.

17. Any individual who is interested to become a Fellow should:

- Complete the Fellowship Application Form
- Submit the Fellowship Proposal Form
- Submit professional CV (maximum 2 pages)
- Any additional documents that may be requested by HDF or the Selection Committee/Host Organisation.

Applicants are required to have a good command of English, both written and spoken, to successfully engage in the fellowship programme.

18. In their application, candidates should indicate up to 2 Host Organisations in the neighbouring country based on their preference. The candidates should make this ranking in line with their own priorities and they should explain in the application form the reasons for each preference.

19. In case there are interested candidates who are willing to pursue a specific fellowship, yet cannot find a relevant Host Organisation among the listed ones, they can submit applications by proposing a specific fellowship project idea without indicating any listed Host Organisation. In this case, the applicants will be requested to indicate their own suggested organisation or network of collaboration in the neighbouring country, and to submit confirmation letters from them.

Selection Process

20. HDF project team will compile all incoming applications and will do a technical assessment to check if the application forms are complete. When necessary, the project team will also contact the applicants for additional documents (i.e: reference).

21. Following the technical assessment, the application forms and CVs will be forwarded to the Selection Committee for evaluation. The Selection Committee will shortlist the candidates based on the following selection criteria:

- Relevance of the background and experience of the candidate,
- Compliance with the expectations and the profiles announced in the relevant fellowship opportunity,
- Feasibility of tangible outcomes as a result of the fellowship,
- Contribution to the overall objective of the Türkiye-Armenia Fellowship Scheme,
- Contribution to the Armenia-Türkiye normalisation process.

The shortlist will identify one preferred candidate and one alternate candidate, where applicable, for each fellowship opportunity, for the consideration of the Host Organisation.

22. Once the Selection Committee completes their assessment, the short list will be provided to the relevant Host Organisations. An on-line interview will be organized by the HDF project team with the candidate and the Host Organisation for their final selection. HDF will

later share the interview notes with the Selection Committee when necessary. The Türkiye-Armenia Fellowship Scheme will be able to support a maximum one fellow per each Host Organisation.

23. An effort will be made to ensure the diversity of Fellows in terms of gender, age, experience and field of expertise.

24. All applicants will be notified about the selection results by HDF via e-mail within 2 months after the deadline.

25. Once Fellows for specific Host Organisations are identified, the selection results will be published on the website of the Hrant Dink Foundation (www.hrantdink.org) and its social media accounts.

Roles and Responsibilities of Fellows, Host Organisations and HDF

26. Fellowships will start only after the signing of a trilateral Fellowship Agreement by all parties, the selected Fellow, Host Organisation and HDF.

27. The selected fellows will be required to:

- Confirm their availability to participate in the Fellowship Scheme with HDF,
- Sign and return the Fellowship Agreement,
- Provide a copy of their passport and a brief biography,
- Participate in a pre-departure meeting in their home country and an on-arrival meeting in the host country,
- Participate in relevant public events organised by HDF, the Host Organisations, or other Fellows,
- Produce tangible outputs, such as lectures, presentations, analytical papers, articles, or other agreed activities, in consultation with the Host Organisation and in line with the fellowship objectives,
- Submit an Activity Report by the end of the fellowship,
- Deliver a public talk and/or participate in a video interview to present the outcomes of the fellowship, if requested by HDF.

28. HDF will arrange insurance, assist in visa/residence permit applications and may help with finding suitable accommodation for the Fellows.

29. Host Organisations will offer office space, resources, communication means and materials sufficient to carry out the proposed programme and also assign a specific staff member as stated in the Article 14.

30. For further questions and assistance, please contact the HDF project team at fellowship@hrantdink.org.

Fellowship Scheme Timeline

31. HDF will launch the public call for applications for the Fellowship Scheme at the beginning of **August 2026**. The selected Fellows will be notified and the results will be announced within two months after the deadline.

32. The exact dates and duration of each Fellowship will be determined jointly by the selected Fellow and Host Organisation, subject to HDF's approval, in accordance with the available budget allocated by HDF. However, the duration of fellowships cannot be less than 3 months and longer than 6 months. The final date for all activities within the scope of the Fellowship Scheme is **31 July 2027**.

Contact Details:

For detailed information and questions, please contact fellowship@hrantdink.org.