



Arts and  
Humanities  
Research Council



Department for  
Digital, Culture,  
Media & Sport



### **AHRC-DCMS Policy Fellowships 2021: Opportunity Description**

Fellowship Title: International Cultural Heritage Protection and Soft Power Policy

Policy area: International Cultural Heritage Protection/Diplomacy

Relevant academic disciplines: Anthropology, International Development, International Affairs, Human Rights, Cultural Heritage, Law, Heritage

#### **Practical details**

Please note that this fellowship will be jointly hosted by DCMS and British Council.

Start of 3-month inception phase: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022

Length of core placement – DCMS (3.5 months)

Length of core placement – British Council (3.5 months)

FTE for core placement (range): 0.5 – 1

Location requirements: Remote, but with travel to Manchester (British Council) / London (DCMS) as required - once a week during the core placement.

#### **Detailed description**

DCMS is the lead Government Department for cultural heritage protection with oversight for policy and programme development within an international development context. This includes oversight of the £42 million ODA Cultural Protection Fund (CPF) which is a world-renowned partnership between DCMS and the British Council that delivers grant funding to local organisations working on cultural heritage protection with over 90 cultural heritage projects delivered in the MENA region. In the face of the global climate crisis, the UK's cultural heritage focus has also expanded to protect heritage at risk from climate change and natural disasters and explore the role of cultural heritage in the nexus between climate and conflict in our international programmes. In 2020 we launched two complementary climate focused programmes, including a joint programme with AHRC on Impacts on Cultural Heritage resulting from Natural Disasters and Climate Change, see more here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dcmss-international-cultural-heritage-protection-programme#links-and-guidance>.

The AHRC has also supported a complementary programme of activities on cultural heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on which the Fellowship will be expected to build; see the Heritage for Global Challenges report here:

<https://changingthestory.leeds.ac.uk/2021/02/09/praxis-publication-launch-heritage-for-global-challenges-feb-2021> or see more on the wider programme here:

<https://changingthestory.leeds.ac.uk/praxis/praxis-opportunities/nexus-events/heritage>

This is an exciting opportunity to work on the complex, fast-paced and challenging international cultural protection portfolio, with colleagues from across HMG, and a wide range of our key stakeholders, international and domestic.

The research will focus on:

- Using existing programmes from the Cultural Protection Fund (CPF), and DCMS's wider work programmes to map, identify, evidence and synthesise areas of intersection between priority agendas (climate, conflict, stabilisation, law enforcement, SDGs)
- Evaluate and evidence the role of cultural heritage protection within international frameworks, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), international human rights, humanitarian and conflict and present systematic evidence as to "what works", strengthening and adding value to recent relevant research and analysis supported by DCMS, British Council, AHRC, UNESCO and other organisations
- Evaluate and evidence the role of Cultural heritage protection as a soft power asset for the UK's international engagement and for wider diplomatic and HMG purposes.

Outputs

- The development of an evidence bank that highlight the value of cultural activities accrue in terms of relations and soft power drawing upon DCMS programmes as a core source of evidence.
- Policy briefs and presentations- verbal and written - for use in other Policy teams and Departments (i.e., the FCDO, Home Office)
- Policy/ Research teach-ins, cross-Whitehall Lunch and Learns, blogs and creative media.
- Contributing towards the scoping and development of the future 'what works' agenda as required.
- Other publications and outputs that contribute to building the evidence base for policy

#### Person specification

Applications will be assessed against the following opportunity-specific requirements in addition to the generic eligibility and call criteria.

Essential skills/expertise:

- **In-depth knowledge and experience of the international cultural protection agenda, within development, human rights and humanitarian law contexts;**
- **Political acumen:** leading and delivering policy objectives within complex and sensitive political agenda
- Experience working with colleagues from different specialisms, professions, or government departments

Desirable skills/expertise:

- Evidence of **continuous professional development training** in directly relevant subject areas
- **Knowledge of, and field experience** in, fragile/conflict affected States and development settings
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to translate complex information into meaningful narrative that is accessible to a non-academic audience.