

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow: Amnesties, Conflict and Peace
School/Department:	School of Law
Reference:	23/110746
Closing Date:	Monday 17 April 2023
Salary:	£35,333 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Friday 5 May 2023
Duration:	Available until 31 March 2024

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the research project working to update the qualitative Amnesties, Conflict and Peace Agreement database (<https://www.peaceagreements.org/amnesties/>), to translate that qualitative data into a new quantitative dataset, to conduct quantitative analysis relating to the use of amnesties during and after conflict, and to disseminate the research findings. This work is being carried out at Queen's University Belfast School of Law part of the Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform ('PeaceRep') project led by the Edinburgh Law School of the University of Edinburgh <https://peacerep.org/> and funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake research on and provide a synopsis of the indicators that are used to measure the impact of transitional justice mechanisms on reducing violence and achieving sustainable peace.
2. Use databases and online repositories of news media, the United Nations and human rights non-governmental organisations to identify examples of amnesty laws enacted in response to conflict since 2016.
3. Use academic literature, primary legal sources, and other secondary sources to develop descriptive profiles of individual conflict-related amnesties for inclusion in the Amnesties, Conflict and Peace Agreement database in accordance with the codebook for this database (https://www.peaceagreements.org/amnesties/ACPA_Codebook.pdf).
4. Work with Prof Louise Mallinder to translate the qualitative data into a new quantitative dataset.
5. Design and undertake quantitative analysis using the new dataset relating to the timing, design and impact of amnesties.
6. Produce a codebook for the quantitative dataset for online publication.
7. Liaise with PeaceRep colleagues at the University of Edinburgh regarding the open-access publication of the qualitative database and quantitative dataset and dissemination of project outputs.
8. Contribute to the quarterly reporting on project progress.
9. Disseminate and publicise research findings to external audiences.
10. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that tasks are completed on time and within budget.
11. Prepare, in consultation with Prof Mallinder, material for publication online or in academic journals or presentation at academic conferences.
12. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD.
2. At least 3 years' relevant research experience to include knowledge of creating quantitative datasets and conducting quantitative data analysis.
3. Demonstrable research ability as evidenced by, for example, publications, national/international conference papers, research awards, future scholarly output (working papers, research proposals, ability to outline a research project).
4. An understanding of the operational requirements for a successful research project.
5. Demonstrated organisational ability.

6. Excellent skills in the use of Microsoft Excel or similar spreadsheet management tools, and experience of use and understanding of statistical tools such as SPSS, Stata, R, or Python.
7. Excellent communication skills (oral, written, presentation).
8. Ability to communicate complex information clearly and succinctly.
9. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
10. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
11. Ability to assess and organise resources.
12. Ability to work well as part of a team.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. PhD research related to international law, peace and conflict studies, or transitional justice.
2. Experience of qualitative data analysis.
3. Experience with Microsoft Access or other database software.
4. Experience with online research dissemination.