

## Candidate Information

**Position:** Research Fellow  
**School/Department:** School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics  
**Reference:** 25/112581  
**Closing Date:** Monday 16 June 2025  
**Salary:** £41,519 per annum  
**Anticipated Interview Date:** Wednesday 25 June 2025  
**Duration:** Available to 31 March 2028, with the possibility to extend up to 3 years.

### JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the ORA8-funded "Governing Jihad in Africa" project, directed by Prof. Eric Morier-Genoud (PI), Dr Corinna Jentzsch (co-PI), Dr Vincent Foucher (CI), and Dr Yvan Guichaoua (CI), with a team of 3 additional researchers. To carry out extensive fieldwork research and some public engagement activities, to contribute individual and co-authored publications, and meet the overall research objectives of the project.

The objective of the project is to understand how jihad in Sub-Saharan Africa governs and is governed in three different realms: ideology & norms, political economy, and violence & counter-violence. The successful applicant to this application will focus on the first element -- about ideology and norms.

You will do field research in two different terrains and your objective will be to explore the ideological make-up of the insurgencies (thinkers, training, and inspirations), analyse the existing corpus of texts (or video statements), and compare ideologies and variations across different conflicts to identify and unpack trends.

### MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake comparative research about ideology and norms in jihadi conflicts in two African contexts (preferably Mozambique, the Congo, the Lake Chad Basin and the Central Sahel, but not excluding other relevant parts of Sub-Saharan Africa) under the supervision of the Principal Investigator (PI) and/or one of the Co-Investigator (CI).
2. Build an archive of primary documents reflecting the ideology and norms of jihadi insurgents in Sub-Saharan Africa.
3. Contribute to the development of an analysis of the origin, form, role and consequences of ideology and norms in jihadi conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa.
4. Liaise with project partners in Europe and Africa to organise events in Belfast and abroad related to the project.
5. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the project team and advisory board.
6. Write and deliver presentations, in consultation with the project team, at national and international conferences.
7. Write and publish one peer-reviewed article with one of the work package lead-researcher.
8. Write and publish one book chapter in an edited collection organised out of the project.
9. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the project to ensure that it is completed on time and within budget.

### ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain (post-viva) a relevant PhD in History, Anthropology, Political Science or Sociology or another relevant discipline (with research focus on Africa as well as armed conflict and/or Islam).
2. First or upper second-class honours degree (BA and MA) in History or cognate subject.
3. Extensive doctoral-level experience of doing field work in Sub-Saharan Africa.
4. Academic publications in a relevant field (submitted, in press, in print) commensurate with career stage (at least one single-authored academic chapter or article).
5. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
6. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
7. Ability to assess and organise resources.

8. Enthusiasm for working as part of a small research team.
9. Desire to communicate research beyond the academy.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Familiarity with the history of one or two of the countries the project focuses on.
2. Experience of doing fieldwork in difficult terrains.
3. Experience of engaging beyond the academy (whether public, government or industry) and disseminating research.
4. Experience of managing relationships with external bodies such as local history/literary societies, museums, archives, libraries, etc.
5. Speak more than one language fluently, aside English (preferably Swahili, Hausa, Arabic, Portuguese, French and/or other relevant African languages).
6. Ability to communicate with public audiences.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Informal enquiries may be directed to: Eric Morier-Genoud at [e.morier-genoud@qub.ac.uk](mailto:e.morier-genoud@qub.ac.uk)