

2022 Pilot WEASA Fellowship Program

GENERAL RULES OF PARTICIPATION IN THE WEASA PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

§ 1

1. To participate in the WEASA Professional Fellowship Program (hereinafter referred to as Fellowship), the Fellow shall be a member of the WEASA Alumni group and satisfying the following criteria:
 - a. citizenship of one of the targeted countries covered by the WEASA Program, i.e. the Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), the Western Balkans countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia Serbia), and Poland;
 - b. higher education (Master's degree or equivalent);
 - c. English and/or Polish language proficiency.
2. The main organizer of the Fellowship Program is the College of Europe in Natolin (herein referred to as the WEASA Team). WEASA is conducted in partnership with the Polish-American Freedom Foundation and the German Marshall Fund of the United States.
3. The Pilot Fellowship Program is sponsored by a grant from the Polish-American Freedom Foundation in the framework of the WEASA 2021 project.
4. The WEASA Fellowship Program is addressed to WEASA Alumni who are professionally active, are willing to carry out a specific project in the area covered during WEASA 2017-2021 (technology, digital and cyber security issues, politics and technology, data journalism, data visualization, fight against disinformation, etc.) and are willing and able to involve in (Polish) host organizations.
5. Due to the pandemic situation the Fellowship Program (both the schedule and the manner of the implementation) may change. The Fellow will be kept informed on an ongoing basis.

§ 2

Participation in the WEASA Fellowship Program shall start in mid-March 2022 and be complete in mid-June 2022. These dates may change depending on the needs of the host organization and/or on the initiative of the WEASA Team and taking into account the pandemic situation.

§ 3

1. The Fellow, while participating in the WEASA Fellowship Program, is obliged to comply with the provisions of the Fellowship Agreement, in particular the Fellow shall:
 - b. stay in the host country within the period of the Fellowship Program if not a specific clause added due to pandemic situation;
 - c. comply with the recommendations related to the pandemic situation, including providing evidence of a negative test or full vaccination certificate for COVID-19;
 - c. participate in the online preparation and orientation meeting;
 - d. participate in activities organized by the host organization and/or the WEASA Team.
2. Absence from the preparation and orientation program, workshops and integration meetings mentioned in paragraph 1.c and d is possible in the following cases:
 - a. sickness, which needs to be documented by a valid medical certificate,
 - b. other serious circumstances, if possible, notified in advance.

3. Any unexcused or unjustified absence shall result in the reduction of the Fellowship allowance.
4. The Fellow is obliged and responsible for purchasing valid medical insurance for the duration of the Fellow's stay in the host country. The WEASA Team will ask for proof of medical insurance. The insurance can be purchased in the Fellow's home country or in the host country as long as the insurance provides coverage for basic and emergency medical expenses in the host country.

§ 4

1. The Mentor responsible for the Fellow shall act as a direct supervisor of the Fellow.
2. The Mentor is appointed by the host organization in consultation with the WEASA Team taking into account the Fellow's project area and specific requirements necessary for the successful implementation of the Fellowship project.
3. The Fellow and the Mentor will agree upon the work schedule of the Fellow in the host organization.
4. The Fellow and the Mentor will coordinate the Fellowship activity and the Mentor is responsible for tracking the progress of the project on a bi-weekly basis, during bi-weekly meetings. These meetings may take the form of an online session if the pandemic in the country or region prevents in-person meetings.

§ 5

1. During the Fellowship, with the exception of weekends, the Fellow is obliged to obtain the consent of the WEASA Team related to his/her travel outside the host country and to inform the Mentor about the date of such a trip (departure and arrival dates), in accordance with the rules outlined below in paragraph 2 and 3. A trip abroad may result in the necessity to undergo quarantine after returning to the host country - this fact should be taken into account before any decision-making process to leave. In that case, the WEASA Team does not reimburse the costs related to the quarantine.
2. The Fellow's absence from Poland without the consent of the WEASA Team and without the prior notice to the Mentor, shall result in the reduction of the Fellowship allowance by EUR 50 for each day of absence.
3. The Fellow's absence from Poland, which is longer than five days, without consent of the Program Team shall be deemed to mean the Fellow's resignation from further participation in the Program. In such a case, the WEASA Team can decide to terminate the Fellowship Agreement with immediate effect.

§ 6

1. During the Fellowship Program, the Fellow will be granted with the Fellowship support of 3000 EUR to cover accommodation and living expenses during his/her 3-month stay in Poland. In addition, 300 EUR for costs of travel from and to the country of origin.
2. Should the Fellow require, he/she may request assistance from the WEASA Team in finding offers for short-term rental of a flat. The WEASA Team is not obliged to secure accommodation for the Fellow.

§ 7

Prior to his/her arrival to Poland, the Fellow shall submit to the office of the College of Europe a certificate of fiscal residence in the Fellow's home country.

§ 8

While staying in the host country, the Fellow shall be bound by the law of that country.