**British Council | North African Policy Initiative**

**Young Policy Leaders (YPL) programme**

Call for Proposals

**Description**

The British Council in Tunisia and the North African Policy Initiative (NAPI) invite young leaders to apply for its Young Policy Leaders (YPL) training programme, which will be launched in Tunisia in March 2020 and will last 6 months. The programme aims to provide youth from MENA countries participating in the Young Mediterranean Voices programme with the knowledge, on-going mentorship, guidance, and support to carry out policy-oriented research and writing on issues of their interest in their home countries.

YPL enables a generation of MENA youth to carry out rigorous research, articulate evidence-based policy advice, and convey it effectively. To this end, NAPI trains and supports knowledgeable and engaged youth across the whole policy cycle: research; discussion and refining; writing; outreach and advocacy. YPL participants receive both education and ongoing mentoring and guidance throughout all steps of policy formation and sharing. In short, YPL programme helps motivated and engaged youth become leaders who inform policy discussions and help shape the future of their country.

***Training Languages:*** Arabic, English, and French

***Training Dates:*** 30 Mar-2 Apr 2020

***Application Deadline:*** Sunday, 15 March 2020 at 23:59 GMT+1

**About British Council**

British Council is the UK's international organisation for educational and cultural relations and manages a wide range of activities covering the arts, science, technology and education. Through our work we aim to build and develop long-term relationships with governments, organisations and people to provide mutual benefit and promote a wider knowledge of the UK and the English language. All jobs in the organisation contribute towards these aims. All our work is concerned with people and involves quality and customer care.

**About NAPI**

The North African Policy Initiative is an independent, non-partisan, and non-profit initiative based in Tunis, Tunisia. NAPI seeks to facilitate and develop the production of evidence-based research, to articulate policy analysis and recommendation in excellent writing, to disseminate it in three languages (Arabic, English, and French), and to support it through public communication and effective advocacy. In short, NAPI seeks to empower knowledgeable and engaged youth to produce policy research, analysis, and advice, and to connect them with a wide range of relevant stakeholders, including national and international decision-makers, international organizations, journalists, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

**About Young Mediterranean Voices**

Young Mediterranean Voices (YMV) seeks to empower young women and men to enhance a culture of dialogue, to contribute to public policy and shape media discourses, and to create a shared understanding with peers across the Mediterranean on how to address issues of common concern to their communities. This programme is co-organised by the British Council and the Anna Lindh Foundation and co-funded by the European Union.

**Benefits and Cycle of Activities**

During the three days, the training will cover seven modules, both theoretical and practical as follows:

1. Policy-making cycle
2. How to affect policy and shape society?
3. Policy research fundamentals
4. What is a policy briefing paper?
5. Strategic communication
6. Writing a policy briefing paper
7. Facilitated peer feedback on PBP proposals

During the last two sessions participants apply the knowledge they acquired during the previous sessions. Potential authors receive individual guidance, feedback, and advice to define the boundaries of the policy issue each aims to address. Lastly, they receive guidance and support from the NAPI team and their peers to draft their research and writing plan.

Throughout the three-day training, participants are carefully assessed to identify the most qualified and promising potential authors and leaders. These further selected participants will be invited to participate in the entire NAPI program cycle (6 months), which will culminate with the publication and presentation of their policy briefing paper.

Certificates of Participation will be provided to the candidates who take part in all the training sessions.

**Who can apply?**

Applicants for the YPL programme are expected to:

1. Be a national of one of the eight following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia
2. Be 18-35 years old throughout the cycle of the programme
3. Have a background of civic, political, and/or economic engagement, including civil society activism, policy analysts, journalists, academics, entrepreneurs, community and cultural leaders, and junior public sector officials.
4. Have knowledge on youth priorities, one or more pressing policy issues and UN Sustainable Development Goals in home countries
5. Be committed to making a difference on a policy issue and submitting a policy briefing paper focusing on one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals
6. Be ready to travel to Tunisia from 30 of March to 2nd of April 2020,
7. Be able to submit their visa application before Fri 20 March 2020, including all required documents, for nationals required a visa to Tunisia.

**How to Apply?**

Interested applicants are requested to send the following documents by email to Rim Azib at [rim.azib@tn.britishcouncil.org](mailto:rim.azib@tn.britishcouncil.org) before Sunday, 15 March 2020 at 23:59 GMT+1 mentioning in the subject email: YPL - Your Country – Your Name:

1. A detailed curriculum vitae (i.e. education, professional activities, research and writing, volunteer activities, interests, knowledge of languages);
2. A brief statement that identifies the issue(s) you are interested in tackling back in your country and why you care about that issue
3. A short policy briefing paper proposal (max. 500 words) proposal in English, French, or Arabic. The proposal must include:

* A clear and concise **title** that indicates the policy are you are addressing
* A clear **problem** statement: What is the problem you are seeking to tackle? Why is it important? What is the purpose of the policy paper: what do you seek to improve?
* The main **Recommendation(s)**: A preliminary indication of the course of actions that you intend to recommend to national and/or to international actors (specify which actors)

If you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at [rim.azib@tn.britishcouncil.org](mailto:rim.azib@tn.britishcouncil.org)

**Selection Criteria**

British Council and NAPI’s Selection Committee will invite 20 young leaders (11-15 from Tunisia and 1 from each of the other 7 countries) based on the following criteria:

* Passion and dedication: track record showing willingness to invest time and energy to advocate for policy
* Quality of the policy paper proposal
* Clear and convincing preliminary idea on a policy issue and strategy
* Professional and/or academic experience on a relevant issue

After the first phase of the programme, selected participants will be invited to join the entire YPL mentoring programme and write a policy paper.

The British Council in Tunisia will only contact applicants who are accepted.

**Young Policy Leader Future Roles**

The Young Policy Leaders are expected to:

* Submit their visa applications (if needed) by Fri 20 March
* Attend a 3-day policy training in Tunisia from 30 March-2nd April 2020
* Submit a policy paper focusing on the UN Sustainable Development Goals within a period of 6 months
* Coordinate with YMV country team and national and international stakeholders to ensure that the policy briefing paper is representative of them and their views
* Commit to following up and seeking the advice of the assigned mentors on a regular basis (approximately every 2 weeks), and of British Council and NAPI coordinators
* Keep track of YMV debates and activities to capture content and include pertinent content in their policy briefing paper
* Show full commitment throughout the YPL cycle of activities
* Prepare a policy dialogue session to present and discuss the findings/results of the policy paper during the YMV National Debate Forum

**Programme Fees**The programme will cover the costs of:

* Accommodation, Meals, International Travel, and Airport transfer in Tunisia for international participants
* Accommodation and meals for Tunisian participants
* Field research fees on ad hoc basis

Visa fees, travel insurance, airport transfer from home country, and per-diems are not covered by the programme.

**Personal Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full name |  |
| Age/Date of Birth |  |
| Nationality |  |
| Sex |  |
| Email Address |  |
| Phone Number |  |
| Facebook |  |
| Twitter |  |
| Other social media |  |
| Preferred Language of Training and Writing (English, Arabic, or French)\* |  |

\*Note: if your level of knowledge allows, you are strongly encouraged to choose English as your writing language

**Checklist**

Insert Yes (Y) or No (N) in each box in the table below to indicate that your submission includes all of the mandatory requirements for this application.

**Important Note:** Failure to provide all mandatory documentation may result in your submission being rejected.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Submission Checklist** | |
| **Document** | **Y / N** |
| 1. Completed the Personal Information section |  |
| 1. Submitted a detailed curriculum vitae (i.e. education, professional activities, research and writing, volunteer activities, interests, knowledge of languages); |  |
| 1. Submitted a brief statement that identifies the issue(s) you are interested in tackling in your country and why you care about that issue |  |
| 1. Submitted a short policy briefing paper proposal |  |
| 1. This checklist signed, and declaration completed |  |

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief, having applied all reasonable diligence and care in the preparation of the application, that the information contained is accurate and truthful.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date:** |  |
| **Name (print):** |  |
| **Location:** |  |
| **Signature:** |  |