

## **Advancing Children's Rights in Palestine (ACoRN) Fellowship for Palestinian Scholars at Risk**

University College Cork School of Law is delighted to launch the **ACoRN Fellowship Programme** for Palestinian researchers and scholars. The Fellowship is open to all Palestinian researchers and scholars, conducting research on Palestinian childhood or the rights of Palestinian children, at all stages of their research careers from early career (postdoctoral) researchers through to experienced researchers and professors. Priority will be given to those at risk of conducting their academic work freely because of displacement, restriction on movement or other elements that make them at risk. The Programme offers four Palestinian researchers the opportunity to undertake research at UCC for a period of up to 12 months. In very exceptional circumstances, consideration will be given to the placement being undertaken virtually.

The Fellowship involves:

- An annual salary (pro rata for less than 12 months) of up to €55,000, in line with experience.
- A relocation grant (to cover travel, relocation and visa expenses) of up to €20,000. Support for the visa application will be provided.
- An equipment grant (to cover laptop, mobile, etc.) of up to €2,000.
- A mobility allowance (to cover accommodation and travel) of €2,500 per month.
- Further supports depending on need and family obligations.
- Academic peer mentorship by a colleague in the same or a cognate discipline at UCC.
- Dedicated support to facilitate successful relocation and orientation into the University, Cork and Ireland.

### **ACoRN Project**

The Fellow will join the ACoRN project team for the duration of the Fellowship, and their work will be spotlighted as part of the project. ACoRN (Advancing Children Rights Research Network) Palestine is a three-year research project led by Prof. Laura Lundy and Prof. Ursula Kilkelly at the School of Law, University College Cork (UCC) in Ireland. The primary aim of the project is to build capacity for implementing children's rights research in Palestine. Working in collaboration with academic and civil society communities in Palestine, to date we have partnered with An Najah National University, Defence for Children International (DCI) Palestine and Bethlehem University to develop three thematic networks on health, education and justice.

The key objectives of Project ACoRN are to:

- **Build a community of researchers:** Establish a sustainable network of researchers dedicated to children's rights in Palestine.
- **Commission and publish working papers:** Produce and disseminate papers addressing foundational aspects of children's rights and childhood research methods in Palestine.
- **Build capacities:** Enhance the knowledge and skills of network members on children's rights, its application in research, participatory approaches, ethics, and conducting participatory research in Palestine.

## ***The Fellowship Programme***

*The following are the requirements of the Fellowship Programme:*

- The Fellow must be a Palestinian researcher or scholar who is conducting research on Palestinian childhood or the rights of Palestinian children. We welcome applications from Palestinian researchers and scholars currently based in Palestine or displaced.
- Fellows may be at any stage of their research career, including, postdoctoral or other experienced researchers, and academics at any career stage from lecturers to professors.
- Priority may be given to scholars who consider themselves or their research to be at risk. If relevant, applicants should set out in their application why this is the case.
- Fellows may conduct academic research work at UCC in Arabic but must apply for the Fellowship in English and have an appropriate level of written and spoken English to engage with an international audience. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in English where they can demonstrate their language ability.
- Fellows must have a valid passport, be eligible for a visa and be available to travel/relocate to Ireland. In exceptional circumstances, a virtual placement may be possible and any case for such an arrangement should be set out in the application.

## ***How to Apply***

To apply for the Fellowship, applicants are requested to:

- Write a detailed research proposal in English, in no more than five pages, outlining their research objectives, how these objectives align with the objectives of Project ACoRN, their methodology, and expected outcomes.
- Include a personal statement, in no more than 500 words, explaining how the Fellowship will support their research and career. If relevant, this should include a statement as to why they are not currently able to pursue their research programme freely.
- Provide a short, current CV highlighting academic and research experience, including links to any publications.

All applications should be compiled in one PDF document titled "APPLICANTS NAME\_UCC ACoRN Fellowship" and emailed to [mohammed.owaineh@ucc.ie](mailto:mohammed.owaineh@ucc.ie) no later than **27<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

For further information please contact Dr Mohammed Owaineh at the above email address.