



**Fundació
Autònoma Solidària**

UAB CAMPUS

JCP Scholarships

**Specialized training program in peacebuilding and
human rights advocacy at the University
Autonomous of Barcelona**

BASES OF THE CALL

8th April 2022

Bellaterra Campus UAB (Cerdanyola del Vallès)

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1. Who we are

The **Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)** is a public university located in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain. UAB is ranked among the top 5 best universities in Spain and among the top 100 best universities in Europe. The UAB is committed to contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Global Sustainable Development. With the aim of enhancing the university role as a socially transforming institution, the UAB develops equal-opportunity support strategies to ensure access to higher education. The refugee scholarship program #UABRefugi is designed to support students in need of international protection to resume their academic career.

The Fundació Autònoma Solidària (FAS) is a university-based social organisation affiliated with the UAB that strives to promote social change. To this end, FAS collaborates in applying social, solidarity and cooperative policies for the development and equality of opportunities at the UAB. FAS is responsible for promoting, implementing, and coordinating the *FAS/UAB Hosting Program*. Designed to improve university practices towards the defence of refugee rights, the Program aims to foster full social inclusion of youths in need of refuge, enhance knowledge on the underlying and structural causes of forced displacements, and to facilitate access to higher education for refugee students and scholars.

FAS is in charge of managing JCP Scholarships and supporting the selected students during their stay at the UAB.

The **International Institute for Nonviolent Action (NOVACT)** is an NGO that promotes international peacebuilding actions in conflict situations. NOVact was born out of civil society's efforts to contribute to a peaceful, just, dignified and equitable world.

NOVACT, as a coordinator, and FAS collaborate to carry out the project *“ASÎTÎ: Fostering the role of internally displaced and refugee youth from the long-term conflicts in Syria and the KRI and youth from host communities in Jordan and Catalonia in peace building and the consolidation of democracy and human rights in the Middle East”*.

2. Context

In Syria, ten years after the beginning of the civil war, the magnitude and complexity of the situation continues to aggravate a humanitarian crisis that has created more than five and a half million refugees in neighbouring countries and has displaced more than six million people within their own country. In Iraq, the population lives in a perpetual state of instability and crisis due to four decades of conflict, sanctions, and violence. In both countries, there is part of the Kurdish territory, which, in a climate of tension, is demanding recognition of its autonomy. Countries such as Jordan have been the recipients of a large number of people who have been displaced as a result of these contexts, often without having the material capacity to accommodate them or the time to prepare for their arrival.

3. Objectives and description

Within the framework of the "ASÎTÎ" project, the Fundació Autònoma Solidària (FAS) is launching this call for scholarships to finance three positions for specialized higher education studies.

The positions offered are aimed at **generating knowledge in the field of peacebuilding, consolidation of democracies, and conflict transformation**. They are aimed at three young women with an academic profile from Syria, Iraq or Syrian/Iraqi Kurdistan.

The main objectives of JCP call are to:

- **Strengthen the capacities of women as key agents in peace building**, conflict transformation, and community leadership in both home and host communities.
- **Facilitate higher university education for young women from Syria/Iraq/Kurdistan** and strengthen their knowledge as key agents in advocacy, specially on peace, gender justice and environmental global justice.
- **Promote interconnected knowledge and effective networking** between non-violent struggles among young people in Catalonia, Syria, Iraq and Kurdistan.
- **Create a direct impact on the academic community of the UAB** and, more generically, on the host social community in Catalonia. In particular, academic collaboration and joint research links will be promoted between the universities of origin and/or university centres of host countries and the UAB, with the aim of sharing experiences and good practices in the field of peacebuilding.

The scholarships will cover the full costs of study and living expenses during their stay at the UAB, and they will be provided with full academic support. This program falls within the *FAS/UAB Hosting Program*, managed by the FAS and is **funded by the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD)** and the UAB.

In addition to working on the research of the highlighted themes, the selected candidates will be directly involved in the UAB community and will take part in awareness-raising, training and advocacy activities on refugee issues and peace-building, within the framework of the UAB Program for the Inclusion of asylum-seekers, managed by the FAS.

4. Purpose

The call is open to:

- **Three (3) positions for women of the Sirian, Iraqi, Kurdish academic and research communities who are in Syria, Iraq or Kurdistan**, and who wish to continue their university career in Catalonia.
- The call is open to both **official masters and PhD programs at the UAB** in any discipline directly applicable to peacebuilding and conflict transformation.

4.1. Eligible Masters Programs

Are eligible within JCP scholarship all UAB official master's programs (excluding Erasmus Mundus and interuniversity programs).

UAB official master's programs taught 100% in English are:

<u>Advanced English Studies</u>
<u>Advanced Genetics</u>
<u>Advanced Nanoscience and Nanotechnology</u>
<u>Applied Research in Economics and Business</u>
<u>Bioinformatics</u>
<u>Economic Analysis</u>
<u>Economics and Business Administration</u>
<u>High Energy Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology</u>
<u>Industrial Chemistry and Introduction to Chemical Research</u>
<u>Modelling for Science and Engineering</u>
<u>Plant Biology, Genomics and Biotechnology</u>
<u>Political Science</u>
<u>Telecommunication Engineering</u>
<u>Zoonoses and One Health</u>
<u>Interdisciplinary Studies in Environmental, Economic and Social Sustainability</u>

4.2. Eligible PhD Programs:

Any research proposal directly applicable to peacebuilding and conflict transformation that can be hosted within the current PhD programmes at the UAB.

5. Funds coverage

The scholarship is intended to support only the student herself. Due to limited resources, UAB, FAS and NOVACT cannot provide any financial or location assistance for family members.

The scholarships will cover all the following items:

- **Full tuition fees for the 2022-2023 academic year at UAB;**
- **Exemption from any other academic fees** associated with the programme followed at the UAB;
- **Monthly allowance for accommodation expenses** (preferably housing in Vila Universitària de la UAB) and living expenses during the academic stay at UAB. This allowance consists of **965€ per month during 10 months;**
- The scholarship includes a **one-time extra payment of 965€** for other study-related expenses (transportation, teaching materials, technology, other goods and services related to the development of academic work).
- **Travel expenses;**
- **VISA arrangements.**

6. Selection criteria

Interested candidates must meet the following requirements to apply:

- Be a **Syrian, Iraqi or Kurdish (from Syria or Iraq) woman.**
- **Meet the academic requirements of the selected studies at the UAB.** It is the candidate responsibility to determine whether she does by visiting the respective master's program website.
- Hold **experience and/or expertise in peacebuilding, gender and climate justice** (academic, professional, activist or other).
- **Have a strong record of human rights' advocacy and/or community engagement,** as demonstrated through volunteer and/or work experience.
- Be interested in pursuing a graduate degree or undertaking a doctoral research project that, from any branch of knowledge, contributes to peace building, consolidation of democracies and conflict transformation. Alternatively, interested in collaborating in one of UAB's research programs and contributing to an already existing project in the aforementioned fields.
- Be **interested in participating in the UAB university community** as well as in FAS projects related to the promotion of critical thinking on asylum seeking and peacebuilding from a human rights perspective.
- Be **interested in creating research links** and networking between UAB and the home university.
- Demonstrate intent to **contribute to peacebuilding in Syria, Iraq and Kurdistan,** and to engage and participate in the FAS community.

Preference will be given to candidates who demonstrate protection or financial need.

7. How to apply

The period for submitting **applications will open on 19th April 2022.**

It will **close on 3rd May 2022, at 00:00 hours.**

To be eligible for the scholarship, **candidates must provide all the following documentation** within the abovementioned timeframe:

- 7.1. **Online application form** duly completed and signed (available at FAS website). The form can be submitted in Catalan, Spanish, or English. It must include a brief training/research proposal specifying academic aspirations within the selected programme.
- 7.2. **Motivation letter** specifying experience in activism, community leadership and or advocacy.
- 7.3. **Brief CV**
- 7.4. Scanned **copy of the passport**;
- 7.5. Supporting **documentation of previous studies**¹;
- 7.6. If considered, **additional information relevant to the candidacy.**

The above-listed documentation **must be delivered** only in digital format, **via e-mail to the address: fas.acollida@uab.cat** .
The subject of the email must be: "*Application JCP scholarship*"

By submitting an application, the candidate authorizes the UAB and the FAS to verify with other institutions the necessary data to resolve the call.

The application must not be followed by an independent enrolment in the program of interest. **Enrolment and place reservation will be processed only through this call.**

8. Selection process

The Evaluation Committee is responsible for assessing applications and it will issue the final resolution of the call. It is composed of:

- UAB Academic Affairs Deputy;
- ASÎTÎ Program Manager, Novact;
- Director of FAS;
- FAS/UAB Hosting Program representative.

¹ Note: in the first phase of the procedure, supporting documents will be accepted in an unofficial format and in the original language. English or Spanish translation must be provided. Official documents will have to be submitted if the applicant is shortlisted.

The Evaluation Committee will verify that the applicants meet the minimum requirements and that the documentation provided is sufficient to resolve the application. Otherwise, additional documents may be requested.

Within the next two weeks following the receipt of the application, the FAS will carry out the necessary verifications and will study the adequacy and relevance of the proposal within the program of preference. At this stage, the FAS can contact short-listed candidates to open a conversation in order to assess alternative programs, if they are considered more suitable.

During that period, shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview with members of the Evaluation Committee.

Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with point 6 of this call. The Evaluation Committee will nominate the three selected candidates before May 31, 2022.

By June 2022, the resolution of the call will be final and published on FAS website.

9. Incompatibilities and commitment

The scholarship is not compatible with any other scholarship covering totally or partially tuition fees, whether from private or public entities. In the application form, the applicant must indicate other benefits or allowances that she is receiving or planning to receive in order to assess the compatibility.

The scholarship may be revoked if an incompatibility is identified, with the obligation to refund any component of the aid already paid out.

The provision of false information or the partial or total non-compliance with the requirements and obligations established in this call will result in the opening of the corresponding revocation procedure, with the obligation to refund any component of the aid already paid out.

By signing a document of responsibility, the beneficiaries undertake the commitment to fulfil the academic itinerary for which the funding is granted. Failure to comply with this agreement may result in the same penalty as in the previous two scenarios.

10. Privacy and data protection

All the data provided by applicants of this scholarship will be treated in compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (GDPR), assuming the liabilities arising from the breach of this obligation.

11. More information

All the documentation regarding the JCP will be published at the FAS webpage (<http://www.uab.cat/fas>).

On **25th April 2022**, an **open online session will be held** to answer any doubts that may arise regarding the call. Interested candidates can connect [through this link](#).

During the application process, FAS will provide any requested additional information through fas.acollida@uab.cat