Network of Global Future Councils
2020 – 2021 Term

Fellows – Call for applications

Context

The World Economic Forum’s network of Global Future Councils is the world’s foremost multistakeholder and interdisciplinary knowledge network dedicated to promoting innovative thinking to shape a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable future.

The network convenes more than 900 of the most relevant and knowledgeable thought leaders from academia, government, international organizations, business and civil society, grouped in expertise-based thematic councils. It is an invitation-only community and members are nominated for a one-year period.

The Global Future Council Fellowship

Global Future Council (GFC) Fellows, nominated by leading universities, are fully embedded in each of the 40 Global Future Councils. Fellows play a crucial role in councils by being responsible for capturing, synthesizing and disseminating knowledge and insights from the councils’ deliberations.

The GFC Fellowship is an unparalleled opportunity for promising young scholars to develop design-thinking skills and to build their network while gaining exposure to multistakeholder discussions by working with leading experts from around the world.

Examples of council achievements

The GFC on the New Equality and Inclusion Agenda produced a toolkit for leaders to improve diversity, equity and inclusion in the post-COVID-19 workplace.

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Toolkit explores the practical opportunities and risks that rapidly emerging technologies represent for diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

The GFC on Media, Entertainment and Culture published a report on Understanding Value in Media: Perspectives from Consumers and Industry.

This report considers how different stakeholders in media – content creators, advertisers, marketing agencies and individual consumers – each value media content.

GFC Fellow Profile

- Postdoctoral scholars at leading universities
- At early stages of your professional career (not yet tenured)
- Keen to shape the global agenda and interact with luminaires in their field
- Disposed with a future-looking and systems-oriented mindset
- Knowledgeable and can provide critical thinking
- Able to articulate their ideas in a way that influences the prevailing thinking
- Eager to take initiative, a self-starter
- Engaged and collaborative and curious
- Good listening and analytical skills, able to synthesize and have a desire to share insights through written work
- Able to facilitate group discussions

How does a GFC Fellow work within a Council?

You will serve as a GFC Fellow from October 2020 to September 2021.

You will work with Council members by:

- Participating in and actively contribute to the council’s virtual meetings (at least four in the one-year term)
- As part of virtual interaction work, assisting in capturing and synthesizing expert contributions, drafting outputs and identifying actionable next steps
- Helping facilitate break-out groups during virtual meetings

You will work with the World Economic Forum by:

- Supporting the Council Manager (World Economic Forum staff) by driving council work forward (transforming ideas into actions; capture meeting notes; writing reports; project coordination, etc)
- Disseminating content produced by the council via TopLink, the Forum’s collaboration platform, and other media as determined by the council role description
- Investing on average over the year 2-4 hours per week

Note: Global Future Council participation, for members and fellows alike, is unremunerated.
How to apply

Are you interested in working in one of the World Economic Forum Global Future Councils?
Do you think you have the right expertise to help shape the future of a thematic council and improve the state of the world?

2. Explore the portfolio of councils (page 2 of the concept note). Please note that only a subset of the 40 councils are looking to fill their Fellow position. These are listed below.
3. Read the preliminary descriptions of council mandates to learn more about a council’s thematic focus, mission and objectives.
4. Send the following information to gfc@weforum.org no later than Friday 14 August 2020:
   a. Name of the Global Future Council to which you are applying
   b. Motivation letter of no more than 500 words
   c. CV/Resume

Only candidates that are short-listed will be contacted.

Global Future Council portfolio 2020-2021

The portfolio is composed of 40 councils across 10 areas. Only a subset of the portfolio are looking to fill their Fellow position. Councils that are looking to fill their Fellow position and whom are therefore open to applications are listed below.

Shaping the global economic growth and a new trajectory of growth
- New Agenda for Economic Growth and Recovery
- New Agenda for Fiscal and Monetary Policy
- Responsive Financial Systems

Strengthening labour, well-being and the social contract
- Healthy Ageing and Longevity
- New Agenda for Education and Skills
- New Agenda for Equity and Social Justice
- New Agenda for Work, Wages and Job Creation

Restoring our global commons through the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate change
- Clean Air
- Nature-Based Solutions
- Net Zero Transition
- SDG Investment

Developing successful, sustainable and resilient business models
- Energy Transition
- Media, Entertainment and Culture
- Sustainable Electrification
- Sustainable Tourism

Strengthening regional development and cooperation
- China
- Cities of Tomorrow
- Japan

Building future resilience to global risks
- Frontier Risks
- Humanitarian System

Harnessing and disseminating the new technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Agile Governance
- Artificial Intelligence for Humanity
- Cryptocurrencies
- Data Policy
- Synthetic Biology

Promoting global cooperation and revitalizing the multilateral system
- Scientific Collaboration
- Trade and Investment

Strengthening cultural ties and human values globally
- Systemic Inequalities and Social Cohesion

Assuming greater stakeholder responsibility
- Transparency and Anti-Corruption