



Call for Applications: “Gerald Mader Fellowship”

Guidelines for the Award of Fellowships (September 2026 version)

Purpose of the Fellowship

The Austrian Centre for Peace (ACP), together with the Province of Burgenland, awards two fellowships, each in the total amount of €6,000 (plus €1,500 in travel expenses), for a period of six months. The fellowships support students from Burgenland or students whose work focuses on topics related to Burgenland (see thematic priorities below). The fellowship provides highly qualified MA graduates, doctoral candidates, and postdoctoral researchers with the opportunity to conduct research in peace-related fields (see below) and to publish a peer-reviewed article. If required, a workspace will be provided for the duration of the fellowship.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Fellowships are awarded for academic research addressing relevant topics within the thematic areas specified by the ACP.
2. Applications must be submitted individually, in the name of the researcher leading the project.
3. Each person may submit only one application.
4. Exclusion of double funding: The submitted project must not be receiving funding. Applications submitted to other funding bodies must be disclosed. If funding is subsequently approved by another funding body, this must be reported immediately and will result in the application being excluded from further consideration.
5. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a connection to Burgenland, either through their place of residence, institutional affiliation in Burgenland, or because their research topic relates to Burgenland (see thematic priorities below).
6. Application

Applications must be submitted by the applicant via email to the Austrian Center for Peace (ac4p@ac4p.at).



The following documents must be submitted:

1. Research proposal (exposé) outlining the content of the research and describing the topic's relevance to peace policy;
2. University degree certificate / if applicable, an assessment or report of an academic thesis / if applicable, confirmation of admission to a degree programme / confirmation of approval of the doctoral project;
3. Research timeline;
4. Curriculum vitae and letter of motivation.

The submitted data will be used exclusively for the purpose of conducting the selection process.

Application Procedure

Applicants may apply **until 15 October 2026**. Two fellowships will be awarded. The fellowships will be awarded by a jury consisting of five representatives of the Province of Burgenland and the ACP, who will decide on the awards based on the criteria outlined above within a maximum of three months after submission.

Payment

The fellowship will be paid monthly. If the research cannot be completed, the ACP must be informed immediately. In such a case, the ACP may, considering the progress already made, demand repayment of part or all of the fellowship funding.

Deadline for Completion

The total period for completion of the research-related activities, including the duration of the fellowship, is 24 months. In exceptional cases, an extension may be requested. The written application for an extension must explain the reasons for the request and include a detailed timeline and schedule of expected results, documenting the progress of the work to date and the work that remains outstanding.



Obligations Upon Acceptance of the Fellowship

If the fellowship is awarded, the applicant gives a presentation at a conference or participates in a public panel discussion about their planned research activities. The applicant will also give a presentation as part of an event in Stadtschlaining or at the Synagogue in Kobersdorf.

In addition, a peer-reviewed article must be written during the period of the Gerald Mader Fellowship and published within 18 months thereafter. Elements of an academic thesis may also be published. For postdoctoral researchers, the preparation of the publication of the doctoral dissertation in book form and/or the preparation of a resulting academic article is additionally expected. Proof of this must be provided within 18 months after the end of the fellowship by submitting the book.

Furthermore, the fellow is required to acknowledge the Province of Burgenland and the ACP as funders of the research in their work, in all resulting publications, and when participating in conferences, specifying the funding program (“Gerald Mader Fellowship”). A complimentary copy of the publication must be provided to the ACP upon completion of the work. By accepting the fellowship, the fellow agrees to any publication by the ACP of publications resulting from the fellowship, particularly through the ACP’s public-relations channels, including its website.

There is no legal entitlement whatsoever to the award of the “Gerald Mader Fellowship” or to an extension of the fellowship.

Thematic Areas

1. Peace and Antisemitism Research

This thematic area focuses on social and political engagement with antisemitism. The focus is not only on the analysis of antisemitic ideologies, practices, and discourses, but also on addressing structural and systemic forms of antisemitism. The emphasis is on forms of antisemitism and their implications for the fields of peace and conflict research. Research is supported that examines systemic and structural manifestations of antisemitism from an academic perspective and contributes to critical reflection on historical and political responsibility in a pluralistic society. Interdisciplinary approaches and post-migrant research approaches from the fields of



history, political science, cultural studies, or social sciences are expressly encouraged. Research projects with a connection to Burgenland are particularly welcome.

2. Peace and Anti-Racism Research with a Focus on Ethnic and Linguistic Groups

This field of research addresses the protection of minorities and officially recognized ethnic groups. Important starting points for this thematic area include, among others, the legal, political, and social framework established by Article 7 of the 1955 Austrian State Treaty, as well as the Austrian Ethnic Groups Act (Volksgruppengesetz), which provide for the protection and preservation of recognized ethnic groups. Research may address both the current implementation of minority rights and aspects of developing a democratic, anti-racist society that actively protects and promotes linguistic and cultural diversity. Research is supported that examines the historical development, current practice, and prospects of minority protection in Austria. The focus includes both legal foundations and the social, cultural, and political dimensions of inclusion, multilingualism, and anti-racism. The combination of legal, political-science, historical, or sociological perspectives is expressly encouraged. Research projects with a connection to Burgenland are welcome.

3. International Peace and Conflict Research

The thematic area “International Politics with a Focus on Peace” addresses the analysis and sustainable promotion of social justice and peace dynamics in a global context. The focus is on issues of international cooperation, conflict prevention, and civilian conflict management in peace processes. Research regarding peace-policy issues in the context of international relations is of particular interest. Projects that contribute to addressing current global challenges, take an interdisciplinary approach, or have practical relevance for international organizations are encouraged. Research projects with a connection to Burgenland are welcome.

The research project must address a topic within one of the thematic areas listed above.