The British Academy

Nature, Culture and Communities

ISPF/ International Fellowships ECR Symposium

20-21 November 2025

The British Academy

Dear Participants,

We would like to welcome you to this symposium on the theme of “Nature, Culture and Communities.” The symposium will enable the exchange of ideas across disciplinary as well as national boundaries, with the aim of facilitating cooperation and partnerships between researchers from the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

This booklet contains useful background information for the symposium: directions for the symposium; an agenda; further information on the symposium sessions; and participant biographies. It also includes information about funding and other opportunities that will be available following the symposium, along with details of how to apply for them.

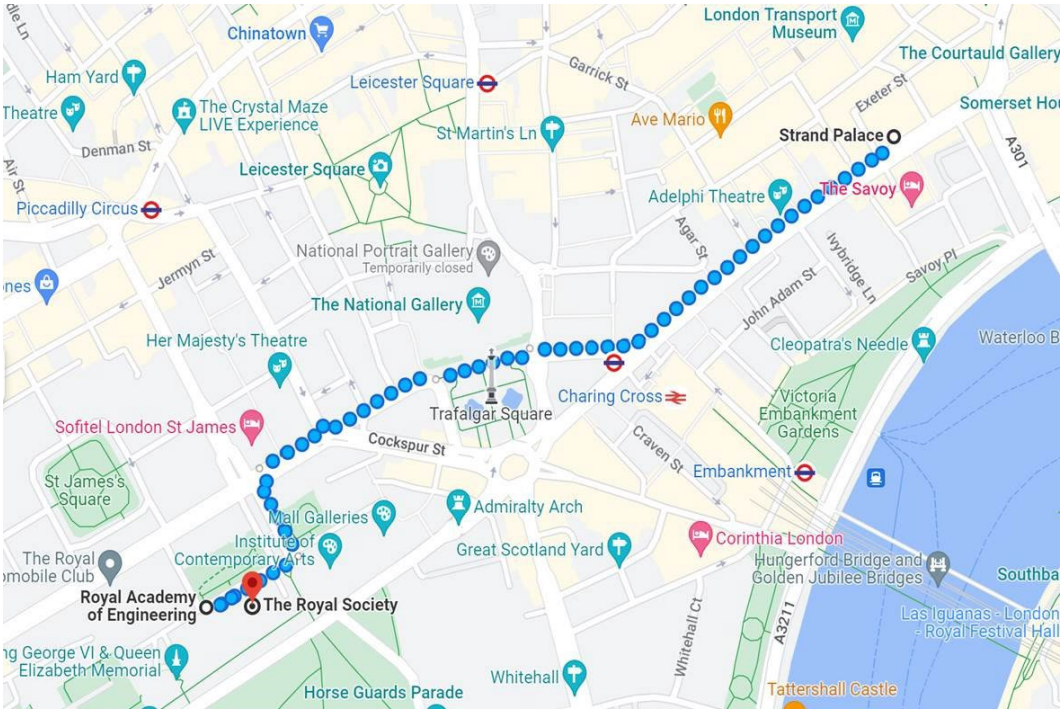
We are very much looking forward to the symposium and to a wide-ranging and fruitful discussion.

The British Academy

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Directions



The Strand Palace

Strand Palace, 372 Strand, London WC2R 0JJ



St James Court

54 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF

Programme

Wednesday 19 November
Pm Participants to arrive in London

Thursday 20 November
12.00-12.45, Registration for the symposium and Lunch

12.45-13.00, Welcome and Opening Remarks

13.00-14.15, Introductions

14.15-15.45, Exploratory Roundtable: How are Natures, Cultures and Communities Understood and Represented?

15.45-16.15 Tea/Coffee Break

16.15-17.15, Leading and Managing an International Research Team

17.15-18.30, Speed Meeting

18.30, Dinner, with presentation on British Academy Funding

Friday 21 November

09.00-09.30, Arrival and Registration

09.30-10.30, Works in Progress: Session 1

10.30-11.00, Tea/Coffee Break

11.00- 12.30, Exploratory Roundtable: How are Natures, Cultures and Communities adapting to change?

12.30-13.30, Lunch

13.30- 14.30, Works in Progress: Session 2

14.30-16.00 Seed Funding Proposals

16.00, Closing Remarks

Symposium objectives

Our aim for this symposium is to provide a range of opportunities to get to know one another and one another's work in order to aid you in working in ways you may well not often get the chance to do, and to provide a model through which we might support and encourage directly and indirectly future discussion and collaboration amongst yourselves well after the end of this symposium.

Our hope is not to come to a research conclusion in these sessions or at this symposium. What we hope might happen is that you begin discussions that set out a variety of different perspectives and understandings for yourselves and how that might link up with others participating here as well. That linking up may come organically though the session but is very likely to also happen by the follow-up you might do off the sessions and as the symposium goes on. See this as a conversation, not a debate. As a beginning, not a conclusion.

This is a broad disciplinary group. This may well be something that is unusual in your own institutional setting. This is an opportunity to have a different set of discussions and a different set of interactions that perhaps you may not usually be able to do so. You are likely therefore to hear things at the symposium which are completely new to you and perhaps not things that you readily see as engaging with your research. We would encourage you to absorb and to listen as much as you can and with some time that may well change in ways that could help your own research by having had the opportunity to be enriched by a different set of perspectives and understandings.

That is certainly one aim we are hoping that will come out of this. Another is the potential for cooperation and collaboration between you. Some of this may come through from the seed funding at the close of the event but of course there are many other ways that you could work together which would require no involvement from the British Academy. You are very welcome to pursue all of this.

The idea is to see the symposium as a space where potential collaboration may be fostered and to learn new and different perspectives. Our hope is that if you keep that in mind then you will have a good chance of finishing these weeks you have committed to the symposium with some new outlooks, new possibilities and perhaps most importantly some new friends.

Symposium sessions

There are different session types over the course of the symposium. The key session types are outlined below:

Introductions
In order to provide an opportunity for each participant to introduce themselves, each participant will have one minute to say a few words about themselves, such as their research priorities, personal interests, and professional background (you are welcome to throw in a joke or two!). Participants will be divided into three groups for this exercise. Each member of the group will have one minute to introduce themselves to the rest of the participants. After this, there are five minutes when people are free to approach those who have just spoken to discuss further. This is repeated until each participant and group has had a chance to introduce themselves.

Speed Meeting
This session will provide an opportunity to meet rapidly a series of other participants (around 10) through a sequence of brief 1:1 meetings. Each participant will be paired with another for a set amount of time, before then rotating to the next individual and so on.

Works-in-progress
These will be discussions of works-in-progress submitted in advance by participants and circulated for discussion and comments. The author will give a three to four minute introduction (with no formal presentation) to the piece of work which will then lead directly into a free-flowing discussion with comments from other participants. The objective of these sessions is to familiarise participants with others' works, discuss the pieces from outside normal disciplinary boundaries and learn from one another through constructive feedback and different disciplinary perspectives.

Exploratory Workshop Discussions Sessions
Each session, linked to the Natures, Cultures and Community theme, will begin with a couple of participants speaking for around five minutes to kick off the discussion. The discussion will then be opened for a free-flowing exchange among participants. We hope and expect that everyone will have an opportunity to participate fully in each session.

Symposium information

Attendance
Attendance at all parts of the symposium is mandatory for all participants. British Academy (BA) staff will be taking note of attendance, and participants who do not attend all parts of the symposium will not be eligible to apply for the opportunities available following the symposium such as the seed funding, as set out in the call for applications.

Exclusion of Liability
BA are not liable for any physical injury or damage to property that may occur during your travels to and from the symposium or during your stay in London. It is recommended that participants secure appropriate travel insurance, but please note this cost cannot be covered by the BA.

Expenses
The organisers will cover travel, accommodation, meals and soft drinks for the duration of the symposium (Wednesday evening to Friday evening). Breakfast and lunch are included for participants on both 20 and 21 November, along with dinner on 20 November.

Participants (from the UK and overseas) will be reimbursed by the British Academy up to £25 for dinner and soft drinks on Friday 21 November upon submission of a valid receipt. Lunch (up to £10) and dinner (up to £25) will also be covered for all participants where they take place during travel to and from the symposium.

Any additional items will not be included and must be paid for separately by participants. Participants may wish to bring sterling with them for additional purchases.

Room charges for all participants will be billed directly to the British Academy. However, individuals will be responsible for any incidental charges (laundry, minibar, phone calls etc.) upon check-out.

Public transport to airports (valid only for participants from UK) and train stations must be used unless alternative arrangements have been made with British Academy staff prior written agreement. **All expense claims must be supported by a receipt to British Academy by 1st December. Late submissions will not be processed.**

Any additional expenses will not be covered by the BA.

What to prepare

A number of participants have submitted in advance works-in-progress for the relevant sessions in the programme. Before attending the session, please review the pre-circulated works-in-progress and be prepared to both offer and receive feedback on the pieces.

Some participants have also been asked to provide opening reflections during the exploratory workshop discussions to encourage the discussion. We hope with the sessions to elicit flowing discussion and exchange to spark and share ideas.

Ideas for collaboration are expected to develop organically over the course of the symposium. If you could though review your and the other participants' biographies, which are contained in this booklet, thinking of areas of mutual interest and potential collaboration that will be helpful.

If you think you might be interested in applying for the available seed funding, we recommend that if you are a UK-based participant you speak in advance of the symposium with your research office so that they are aware of the possibility that you might receive some funding. If you are successful in receiving funding, then it will be necessary for you and your UK institution to approve the funding via the British Academy's FlexiGrant system.

Seed funding

At the end of this agenda book, in annex 1, you will find the seed funding form, which we have provided in advance so you can consider possible collaborative proposals and the process for applying.

These grants of up to £5,000.00 offered by the British Academy are designed to facilitate collaborations that are formed directly from the symposium. These can take many different forms – in the past we have had proposals to co-host workshops, work on a co-authored article, attend a specific conference together and present at it, develop a further grant application, and many more. They are not designed for participants to pursue their own research individually.

Collaborations can be of two or more people, and each participant may apply for multiple seed funding applications in different groups or partnerships, though each application must be justified individually and be able to stand alone from any other that is being made.

At least one participant in the collaboration must be UK-based for the duration of the award. The seed funding is designed to facilitate cross-border collaboration. It thus should include a mix of UK and overseas-based researchers.

All applications must be received by 4pm (UK time) on Friday 21 November 2025 and must be emailed to internationalchallenges@thebritishacademy.ac.uk. Any applications received after 4pm will be deemed ineligible.

Participant biographies



Dr Laela Adamson is a Lecturer in Education Policy at Strathclyde Institute of Education, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. She did her PhD part-time at the UCL Institute of Education before returning home to Scotland. Her research explores issues relating to language-in-education, including: language(s) and inequalities; the socio-emotional impact of an unfamiliar language of instruction; and inclusion and recognition through multilingual pedagogies. Her work has thus far focused on East Africa, where her British Academy funded project is currently analysing the role of language(s) in Higher Education in Tanzania and Kenya. Laela enjoys working with the Capability Approach and finds it a useful frame for conceptualising and explaining diversity in learners' experiences, and recognising individuals' and communities' values and aspirations. Laela has a professional background as a secondary History teacher in the UK as well as experience in the NGO sector.

laela.adamson@strath.ac.uk



Dr. Bayes Ahmed holds the position of Associate Professor in the Department of Risk and Disaster Reduction at University College London (UCL). His research experience spans across disaster risk reduction, Hydrocide, conflict and migration, genocide diplomacy, and climate mobility. He specialises in the intersection of conflict and disaster, with a vision to improve the quality of life of displaced persons, genocide survivors and stateless populations. He is driven by a passion for collaborating with frontline communities, aiming to understand their challenges comprehensively and develop actionable policy recommendations to meet their specific needs. Currently, Bayes is leading a project titled, Politics of Denial and Non-Recognition of Genocide, funded by the British Academy. His academic journey led him to earn a PhD in Disaster Risk Reduction from UCL, a joint Master of Science degree in Geospatial Technologies from universities in Spain, Germany, and Portugal, and a Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning degree from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

bayes.ahmed@ucl.ac.uk



Dr Danilo Baraúna (he/him) is a queer academic researcher, lecturer, independent curator, and visual artist. Over the years, Danilo has worked across higher education, primary and secondary education, and the cultural industries, developing art projects both as an institutional and independent curator. Danilo is currently a British Academy International Fellow at Newcastle University. Their interdisciplinary research concerns the fields of queer studies (ecological, decolonial, and affective approaches) and artists' moving image theory and criticism, with a particular interest in LGBTQIAPN+ art and cultural production from the Brazilian Amazon. Prior to moving to the UK, they held postdoctoral positions at São Paulo State University (funded by the São Paulo Research Foundation, FAPESP) and at the Federal University of Pará (funded by CAPES Foundation - Brazilian Ministry of Education). Danilo holds a PhD in Fine Art from the Glasgow School of Art, fully funded by CAPES Foundation.

danilo.barauna@newcastle.ac.uk



Dr Nico Brando is Co-Director of the European Children's Rights Unit, and a Derby Fellow on childhood and children's rights at the School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool. He does research in Political and Moral Philosophy, working particularly on children's rights, decolonial theories, and the capabilities approach. Prior to his current post, he was a Newton International Fellow at Queen's University Belfast. He has published widely on the capabilities approach, theories of childhood and children's rights, education theory, and global justice. He just published his first monograph Childhood in Liberal Theory: Equality, Difference, and Children's Rights with Oxford University Press (2024).

N.Brando@liverpool.ac.uk



Dr Emma Colven, Lecturer in Risk, Environment and Society in the Department of Geography at King's College London. Emma is an urban geographer and political ecologist whose research has explored dynamics of environment and financial risk and speculation in Jakarta, and critical approaches to climate modeling, risk analytics, and AI, informed by feminist epistemologies and Science and Technology Studies. Emma is currently a Co-PI on a British Academy funded research project, titled 'Empowering resilience in a sinking city: a Decision Support System (DSS) for participatory knowledge exchange, urban simulation, and modelling'. They are currently developing two new threads of research: (1) Engaging the arts and visual and practice-based research methods to understand socio-ecological transformations; (2) Digital ecologies: they are currently developing a new research project exploring the application of digital technologies to monitor bird trapping in Cyprus.

emma.2.colven@kcl.ac.uk



Dr Juliana Camargo is a Teaching Professor at the School of International Relations of the Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), co-Head of the International Development Research Lab, Associate Researcher at FGV EESP Clear Center, the Center for Learning in Evaluation and Results for Brazil and Lusophone Africa, and at C-Micro – Center in Applied Microeconomics. She is also a Consultant in Applied Microeconomics at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Juliana holds a PhD in Economics from FGV EESP, as well as a master's and bachelor's degree in Economics from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). Her main research interests include applied microeconomics, policy evaluation, economic development, education, early childhood, socioemotional skills, labor market, and environmental politics.

juliana.camargo@fgv.br



Dr Jaskiran Kaur Chohan is a Senior Lecturer in Political Ecology at the School of Geographical Science, University of Bristol. She holds a PhD in Development Studies from UCL, where she explored tensions between industrial farming and agroecology in Colombia's Zonas de Reserva Campesina. At Bristol, she has examined livestock transitions and conservation conflicts in Colombia's Páramo region and led a project on 'peasant and popular feminism', sustainability and peace-building in the Middle Magdalena. As Principal Investigator on a British Academy 'Evidence-Informed Policymaking' grant, Jaskiran works in North-East Brazil with diverse ethnic communities to make desertification policy more inclusive, using decolonial principles, participatory methods and critical dialogue between institutional science, policy, and traditional water-saving knowledges/practices. Her research spans feminist agroecology, decolonising food systems, agrarian change, and radical approaches to conservation.

j.chohan@bristol.ac.uk



Dr Debashree De is a Lecturer in Supply Chain Management at the University of Essex, specializing in sustainability, the circular economy, and environmental management. Her core research investigates how small and medium enterprises (SMEs), especially those in emerging and resource-constrained economies, can achieve operational sustainability and strategic transformation through the adoption of circular economy practices . Her expertise covers Green Supply Chain Management, low carbon strategies, and Operations Management for the manufacturing sector. She is the Principal Investigator for the British Academy-funded project, 'Greening' White Gold: Co-Creating Climate-Friendly Practices through Regenerative Agriculture among Togo Cotton Farming Communities. This project applies her expertise to a developing country context, focusing on implementing Regenerative Agriculture (RA) to build climate resilience and enhance social outcomes in Togo's cotton sector. The project places a strong emphasis on empowering marginalized groups, indigenous community, particularly women producers, to address systemic inequalities and improve farmer livelihoods through responsible supply chain practices.

d.de@essex.ac.uk



Dr Livnat Konopny-Decleve is a British Academy International Fellow at The School of Social and Political Science at The University of Edinburgh. She is a political anthropologist working on the Jewish radical left, and on alternative political imagination in Israel/Palestine and abroad. Livnat received her PhD from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Tel Aviv University (2022) and was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2023). She is a co-convenor of APeCS – Anthropology of Peace, Conflict, and Security network at EASA. In 2025, together with Adi Liraz and Na'ama Landau, Livnat produced the film 'The Rose of Ioannina', which is based on her research and was funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Impact Acceleration Accounts (IAA).

livnat.decleve@ed.ac.uk



Dr Hridaya Raj Devkota is a public health researcher and academic specializing in epidemiology, social inclusion, and health equity. He earned his PhD in Epidemiology and Public Health from University College London (UCL) and completed postdoctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley. Currently, he serves as Research Lead at the Dalit Lives Matter Global Alliance, Research Associate at the Institute for Social and Environmental Research Nepal (ISER-N), and Visiting Faculty at Nepal Open University. His work applies critical and participatory approaches to examine intersections of gender, caste, disability, and health systems in low- and middle-income contexts. With over two decades of experience in policy research, program evaluation, and development leadership, Dr. Devkota has an extensive record of scholarly and professional contributions in maternal and reproductive health, disability inclusion, and evidence-informed policymaking, and continues to collaborate with leading international universities, research institutions, and development partners to advance equitable health systems and social justice.

hridaya.devkota.10@alumni.ucl.ac.uk

Dr Dinh Thi Thuy Hang is a lecturer at Vietnam Maritime University and an environmental consultant focusing on environmental governance, pollution prevention, and community resilience. Her work integrates science, policy, and local knowledge to advance sustainable development and marine management. She has led and contributed to projects funded by the British Academy, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the World Bank Vietnam, and the Mekong River Commission Secretariat. Her current British Academy-funded project, Rethinking Responsibility: Understanding the Role of Evidence in Viet Nam's EPR Policy, examines the design and implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility policies for packaging in Vietnam. Dr Hang is dedicated to interdisciplinary collaboration and capacity building to strengthen environmental sustainability in Vietnam and across Southeast Asia.

dinhthuyhanghp@vimaru.edu.vn



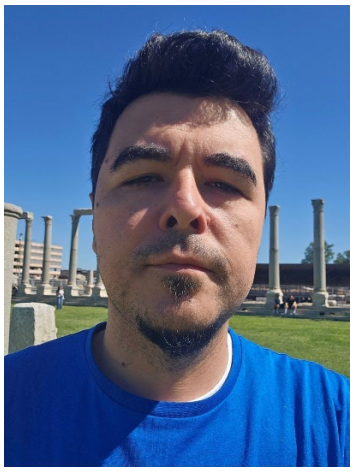
Dr Daniel Fuks is an archaeobotanist, studying plant remains retrieved from archaeological excavations to better understand ancient agriculture and landscapes. His current focus is on sites from the first millennium CE in southern Israel, to explore the significant agricultural changes and related social and economic developments of that era. Ultimately, this research contributes long-term perspectives on food security, biodiversity, climate change, and globalization. Daniel completed a BA and BSc at the University of Pittsburgh, an MA and PhD at Bar-Ilan University, and a postdoc at the University of Cambridge. He is also the founder and a steering committee member of the Crop History Consortium—a multi-disciplinary research group focused on the geographic and evolutionary trajectories of crop plants across the Middle East and Mediterranean.

dfuks@bgu.ac.il

Dr Helen Kezie-Nwoha is the Founder and Team Leader at Researchers Without Borders (REWiB). She is a Member of the Network of African Women Mediators (FEMWISE), African Union ECOSOCC Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security, and Chair of the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign at the African Union. Helen is a feminist peacebuilder and researcher whose work bridges gender justice, climate policy, and local governance. She is part of the research team on Localising National Gender and Climate Policy in Uganda, examining how women in refugee-hosting and climate-affected districts in Kasese, Adjumani and Mbale in Uganda are shaping adaptation strategies and influencing policy implementation. She contributes to regional and global policy dialogues linking the Women, Peace and Security

agenda to climate justice, highlighting African women's agency in resilience-building, leadership, and transformative adaptation. Her scholarship and activism promote sustainable, inclusive, and feminist approaches to climate action and peacebuilding.

hnwoha@gmail.com



Dr Metin Koca is a British Academy International Fellowship award holder in Sociology at the University of York and the principal investigator of a BA-funded Fellowship project (ref no. IF24\100616) examining young individuals' religious disaffiliation in Turkey. Koca holds a PhD in Social and Political Sciences from the European University Institute, Florence (2020). His research sits at the intersection of cultural studies and political sociology, exploring cultural change, reproduction, and periods of contestation. Combining ethnographic and archival methods, he examines politics of difference, recognition, tolerance and radicalisation. His work has been published in various journals, including Politics, Religion & Ideology and the Journal of Contemporary European Studies, as well as in edited volumes on European, Turkish and Middle Eastern politics. He is the author of Tracing Cultural Change in Turkey's Experience of Democratization (London: Routledge, 2023).

Metin.Koca@alumni.eui.eu



Dr Lilian Korir is an agricultural economist and Senior Lecturer in Sustainable Agri-Food Systems at the University of Lincoln, where she also serves on the Board of Management for the Lincoln Centre for Ecological Justice. Her interdisciplinary work explores how agricultural knowledge circulates across communities and institutions, the value and political economy of under-utilised and neglected crops, and the role of emerging and low-cost technologies in shaping equitable and sustainable food systems and futures. She is the Principal Investigator of the British Academy–funded project Histories and Futures of Under-Utilised Crops: Reimagined (2023–26), which examines how indigenous crops such as millet, sorghum, and traditional vegetables, and the ecological knowledge surrounding them, were

marginalised through colonial and postcolonial agricultural regimes, while collaborating with communities to imagine alternative, just, and resilient food futures.

lKorir@lincoln.ac.uk



Dr Sabrina Li is an Associate Professor in Quantitative Geography based in the School of Geography at the University of Nottingham. As a health geographer and spatial epidemiologist, her work focuses on understanding how the physical, social, and built environments interact to shape human health, with a particular emphasis on the impacts of infectious diseases. She is currently the PI of a British Academy ODA-Challenge Grant that focusses on mapping vulnerability during Brazil's dengue crisis, aiming to enhance epidemic preparedness and tackle key policy challenges in managing public health crises. Specifically, the project explores how inequalities affect dengue fever, assessing control strategies, and inform policy decisions to address health disparities. She received her DPhil in Geography from the University of Oxford.

Sabrina.Li@nottingham.ac.uk



Dr Sarah Linn is a researcher and lecturer based in the Migration and International Global Studies group at the Department of Sociology at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU). She is an interdisciplinary scholar, interested in socio-spatial justice and how this manifests across temporalities and communities, particularly migrant and refugee groups. She works across history, geography, refugee studies and youth studies, and is highly experienced in collaborative, community engaged research, using creative and participatory methods in projects in the UK, Lebanon and Jordan. She joined MMU after completing her ESRC PhD in the Department of Urban Studies at the University of Sheffield, joining the Manchester Centre for Youth Studies to work on the citizen science UKRI funded project Ancient History, Contemporary Belonging (2021-2023). She is currently the PI of the British Academy funded project Surfacing Zarqa: Heritage, space and youth in Jordan's Industrial Heartland (2024 – 2026) and the Pennine Heritage Trust/AHEAD funded project Collaborative Histories in the Valley of Sanctuary (2025-2026).

S.Linn@mmu.ac.uk



Dr Jacob Lollar (PhD Florida State University) is a historian of religions of the ancient and late antique Mediterranean. Before being a British Academy International Fellow, he was an Alexander von Humboldt fellow at the Universität Regensburg and a Chateaubriand fellow in humanities at the CNRS, Paris. His current research focuses on apocryphal narratives in manuscripts of the Syriac Christian traditions. He is a BA fellow at Durham University.

jacob.a.lollar@durham.ac.uk



Dr Marcus V. A. B. de Matos is a Senior Lecturer in Law at Brunel University of London. His research focus on human rights policy, politics and history. He is currently the PI in a British Academy funded project on the Protection of Witnesses and Human Rights Activists in Brazil and South Africa. His work has been funded by CAPES, CNPq, The British Council, and BA, and other funders. He holds a PhD in Law from Birkbeck, University of London, and is an Honorary Member at the Institute of Brazilian Lawyers (IAB). He has previously been a Visiting Professor at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ); Director of Teaching Programmes at the Judicial School in the High Labour Courts in Rio de Janeiro (TRT/RJ); Advisor to the State Secretariat for Human Rights in Rio de Janeiro (SEASDH); and Part-time teacher at the London School of Economics (LSE).

marcus.dematos@brunel.ac.uk



Dr Nguyen Thi Nha Trang has over 12 years of teaching and research experience at the Department of Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Faculty of Economics, Vietnam Maritime University (VMU). She received a doctoral fellowship from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under SDGs Global Leader Program and completed her Ph.D. in Asia Pacific Studies at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (Japan) in 2024. Her dissertation, which applied a System Dynamics approach to government policies on end-of-life motorcycle management in Vietnam, was recognized with the Outstanding Dissertation Award. Dr Trang's research is interdisciplinary, focusing on cold chain, reverse supply chain, waste management, evidence-based policy analysis, and the informal sector within EPR regulations. Her work has been published in journals such as Resources, Conservation & Recycling Advances and The International Journal of Logistics Management, and presented at major international conferences including the International Conference on Resource Sustainability and the Global Cleaner Production Conference.

trangntn@vimaru.edu.vn



Dr Ahd Othman is an Assistant Professor in Translation Studies at Sultan Qaboos University, Oman, and a Visiting Research Associate in Translation at the University of Bristol, UK. She has practiced, taught and studied translation and interpreting in a variety of contexts including France, Oman, Palestine, Qatar and the United Kingdom. Her primary research interests include translation sociology, translation history and alternative epistemologies of translation, with special focus on the Arabic and Qur'anic translation traditions. She is the author of Eurocentrism, Qur'anic Translation and Decoloniality (Routledge, 2024) and "Narratives of (un)translatability: the recurrent case of the Qur'an" (Translation Studies, 2024, 17(2)).

ahd.shaker@gmail.com



Dr Yahya Qtaishat is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Architecture at The Hashemite University, Jordan. His research is dedicated to sustainable and vernacular architecture, exploring building sustainability assessment and the integration of socio-cultural factors. His work focuses on bridging the gap between technical innovation and cultural heritage within the built environment. He earned his Ph.D. in Architectural Engineering from the University of Bath, UK. Dr. Qtaishat has contributed to the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, studying demonstrator projects for circular water solutions. In addition to his academic and research roles, he brings professional experience from his previous work as an architect. He is a certified Passive House designer and currently serves as the head of the climate change committee at ICOMOS-Jordan.

Yahya.MQ@outlook.com



Dr Geetha Reddy (they/she) works within and outwith the psychological sciences to understand how people make sense of colonisation, multiculturalism, and migration in contemporary societies. As part of a global academic movement that questions and disrupts Western psychological understanding of our social worlds, they have co-edited three special issues on decolonising psychology and one special issue on developing a transdisciplinary understanding of precarity. As an academic consultant to organisations like the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia for Sustainable Development Goals, they work to bridge academic research with stakeholder needs. Geetha is the principal investigator of the British Academy funded "Exploring coloniality and precarity engagements amongst Urban-Poor Resilient Malaysian Indian Women (EXCAPE-URMI) Project that reviews the intimate connections between nature,

culture, and the Malaysian Indian community. They also lead the Open Societal Challenges funded BUSSIN project and are based at the Open University, UK.

geetha.reddy@open.ac.uk



Zara's research integrates artificial intelligence, urban data science, and urban planning to address critical challenges in contemporary cities. She employs diverse methods such as machine and deep learning, natural language processing, geographically weighted regression, and spatio-temporal modelling to inform planning and policy development. Her work focuses on themes like platform urbanism, climate sustainability, and data-informed urban planning. She's currently the PI for the British Academy–funded project Empowering Resilience in a Sinking City (2024–2026). Based in Jakarta, this project has developed an open data platform, decision support tools, and predictive flood models to support urban planning and enhance climate resilience in a vulnerable megacity, while also incorporating communities' perspectives and artistic engagement. Her previous works have looked into the impact of short-term rental platforms like Airbnb on housing markets, while other projects have used social media data to understand public perception and urban dynamics.

zara.shabrina@kcl.ac.uk



Dr Akina Shrestha is a dedicated Public Health Professional from Nepal with a strong background in Epidemiology and Public Health Research. Dr Shrestha is passionate about promoting health equity, disease prevention, and evidence-based policymaking to improve community well-being in Nepal and beyond. Her academic professional experiences have strengthened her expertise in data-driven public health analysis, health system strengthening, and program evaluation. Dr Shrestha has been involved in initiatives addressing maternal and child health, adolescent health, infectious diseases, and broader determinants of health. She brings an analytical yet compassionate approach to her work, emphasizing collaboration, capacity building, and suitable public health solutions. With a growing interest in global health and health system resilience, Akina strives to contribute to research and policies that bridge the

gap between data and action, ensuring that health interventions are inclusive, equitable, and effective.

akinakoju@kusms.edu.np



Dr Débora Swistun is PhD in Social Anthropology (Instituto de Altos Estudios Sociales at the National University of San Martin, Argentina) and master in Sciences of International Cooperation and Urban Development (Institut d'Urbanisme de Grenoble (France) and Technische Universität Darmstadt (Germany)). Through her training and research experience in UK, Europe, North Africa and Latin America she has specialized in urban conflicts and environmental justice studies. Her book Flammable. Environmental suffering in an Argentine shantytown won four international awards. At present she is a professor of Environmental Humanities at the National University of Avellaneda (Argentina), researcher of the Argentine National Council of Research (CONICET), affiliate at the Centre of Geohumanities (RHUL) and a consultant on environmental health, human resettlement and disaster risk reduction. She co-created the Latin American School of the Anthropocene and the Sensora.ar project to explore the potential of art-participatory science-low cost technology interface in preventing environmental suffering.

dswistun@undav.edu.ar

Dr Mehmet Fatih Tatari is Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Hacettepe University (Ankara, Turkey). He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology with a designated emphasis in Science and Technology Studies at the University of California, Davis. His main research interests include the anthropology and sociology of agriculture and food, economies and ecologies of pastoralism, and science and technology studies with a special focus on food. He has conducted research on the crafts and sciences of artisanal cheesemaking in Turkey, and his current project examines the governance of extensive grazing by the Turkish state and local communities under conditions of the climate crisis. He is also a partner of the Yerküre Local Studies Research Cooperative and has been involved in various projects on rural development and local-traditional food products.

mtatari@ucdavis.edu



Dr Wang Weinan is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Philanthropy at the University of Kent. He completed his PhD in 2022 at Beijing Normal University. Weinan has more than 10 years of research and practical work experience in Chinese philanthropy, including working at Tsinghua University's NGO Research Centre and as a long-term volunteer at "Facilitators," a migrant worker NGO in Beijing. His research interests include Chinese philanthropy and civil society, elderly care systems in Asia (mainly in China and Vietnam), and evaluation practice and theory in the third sector. Weinan is also a non-profit evaluation expert belonging to the China Evaluation Support Platform for Philanthropy, the editor and writer of the "Science Philanthropy" weekly column in China Philanthropist, and the executive editor of Chinese Law and Government.

W.Wang-240@kent.ac.uk

Staff Contact Information

Charlie Bush
c.bush@thebritishacademy.ac.uk

Jack Payne-Cook
j.paynecook@thebritishacademy.ac.uk

Annex 1 – British Academy seed funding form

*Please email the completed application form to internationalchallenges@thebritishacademy.ac.uk before 4**pm on Friday 21 November 2025**. Any applications received after 4pm will be deemed ineligible*

Details of Applicant (1)	
Name	
Position	
Affiliation	
Email Address	
Award held	

Details of Applicant (2)	
Name	
Position	
Affiliation	
Email Address	
Award held	

You are welcome to have more than two applicants and please just add further applicants to the form if desired.

Title:

Description of the proposed collaboration (max 500 words)

Details of Proposed Collaboration

Summary of the impact of the proposed collaboration (300 words). Applicants should identify any outputs that they seek to pursue through this collaboration. This will be measured based on the originality and perceived added value of the proposed collaboration.

Potential Impact

Provide details of how you plan to use the funding, including total cost and a breakdown of costs (see eligible costs in Notes for Applicants below).

Financial Statement

Applicants' Declaration
I confirm that the proposed research collaboration has yet to receive funding either from external or internal sources and is not under consideration for funding from any other sources. I understand that if awarded the funding, I shall be required to write a brief report on the outcomes of the collaboration, to provide a brief account of expenditure and to adhere to the expectations set out in the notes below. **Name:** **Name:** **Date:**

Notes for Applications:

1. The British Academy is inviting proposals from UK-based and overseas researchers who participated in the ISPF/IF ECR Symposium. At least one participant in the collaboration must be UK-based for the duration of the award. The seed funding is designed to facilitate cross-border collaboration. It thus should include a mix of UK and overseas-based researchers.

2. Each collaboration must be led by a named Principal Investigator (PI) who must be based in the UK as the award must be hosted by a UK organisation. The PI must hold an established role in an eligible UK-based university or research institute, and their position must last at least the duration of the grant funded by the British Academy.

3. Awards are of 18 months in duration and should be finished by the end of July 2027.

4. The value of the award is set at a maximum of £5,000. Funding can be used to support: organisers costs; research costs and expenses; support for caring commitments; travel and accommodation; networking, meeting and workshop costs (including online). The following items are not eligible for funding:
    - Any hardware including: computer hardware including laptops, electronic notebooks, digital cameras, etc;
    - Books and other permanent resources;
    - The preparation of camera-ready copy, copy-editing, proof-reading, indexing, nor any other editorial task;
    - Subventions for direct production costs (printing, binding, distribution, marketing etc);
    - Cost of publication in electronic media.

5. Collaborations should be based on equitable partnerships. Partnerships should be transparent and based on mutual respect. Partnerships should aim to have clearly articulated equitable distribution of resources, responsibilities, efforts and benefits. Partnerships should recognise different inputs, different interests and different desired outcomes. Awards will be paid in full on acceptance of the award.

6. Award holders will be required to submit a statement of expenditure and a short report (two pages) indicating how their collaboration met the objectives outlined in the impact statement within a month of completing their collaborative work, and no later than the end of August 2027.

7. Applicants must ensure that the proposed project will be carried out to a high ethical standard. They must ensure that any potential ethical issues have been considered and must also explain how these will be addressed. The British Academy requires the research it funds to be conducted in an ethical manner.

8. Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:
    - Potential impact of the collaboration.
    - Originality and excellence of the proposed collaboration.
    - The collaborative value of the proposed project.
    - Value for money

Successful applicants will be informed of decisions by January 2026.

We kindly ask that you do not make any public announcement of this award, via institutional web pages, Twitter, or any other online platform, until both you and your institution have accepted the award on Flexi-Grant, and the British Academy has announced the full list of awards supported under this programme on its website.