



Department of
International
Relations

Department of International Relations Academic Visitor Policy

This document sets out the policies related to Academic visitors to the Department of International Relations (IRD) at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Purpose of the scheme

1. To enable IRD to host distinguished individuals who are either academics or practitioners in other institutions or companies, and to benefit from an association with them.
2. To ensure outstanding academic quality of incoming visitors.
3. To set out a clear framework in terms of benefits and expectations from visitors

Visitor Titles

The Department of International Relations welcomes applications from a wide range of individuals. Visitors to the Department come under three main categories, which fully aligns with [LSE Academic Visiting Policy](#), and is summarised below:

1. Visiting Fellow:
 - Those external to LSE who are post-doctoral/early career researchers, at Assistant Professor level, or non-academic professionals of an equivalent standing in an appropriate profession/occupation.
 - Those who have just completed their PhD at LSE, or those who are due to complete their PhD at LSE within the next twelve months
2. Visiting Senior Fellow: Academics at Associate Professor level, or non-academic practitioners at a broadly comparable level in their profession.

3. Visiting Professor: Full Professors, or non-academics practitioners who have achieved prominence in public life, or who have attained distinction in their profession.

For general information about coming to work at LSE please see the School's [Human Resources](#) website.

Application procedure

Please note that places within the Department are very limited and visitors should ensure that they identify [IRD individual academics](#) whose research interests fit with theirs and who would be interested in the proposed visit, so that they can be consulted as part of the selection process. Academics interested in the proposed visit should *not* be on sabbatical leave, unpaid leave, or buyout leave during the proposed period of visit.

All applications must be formally submitted to the Department Research Manager and must be accompanied by a completed Academic Visitor Application Form and an up-to-date CV.

Applications will be reviewed by Research Cluster convenors in consultation with the Departmental Research Sub-Committee before nominations to appoint are agreed and submitted to the Vice-President and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Faculty Development) and Vice Chair of the Appointments Committee.

The Department will apply the following criteria when assessing the quality of an application:

- The applicant's fit with [Departmental research clusters](#) and the research interests of individual academics
- The applicant's international standing in the discipline
- The applicant's intended contribution to the Department as outlined in their application
- The availability of desk space in the Department

Please note that the Department has two selections round only. Applications submitted after the published deadlines will not be considered until the next round. Once approved by the Research Sub Committee, applications need to be submitted to the School for HR approval. The process can take several weeks, and we therefore advise prospective visitors to apply well before they intend to come.

IR Deadlines	Selection	HR Deadlines	Outcomes to Departments	Outcome Letters	Start Date
20 Nov	By 4 Dec	6 Jan 2027	5 Feb 2027	17 Feb 2027	1 March 2027
25 March	By 26 April	5 May 2027	4 June 2027	16 June 2027	Sept 2027

Your time in the LSE Department of International Relations

All visitors are required to make a significant and substantial contribution to research and the intellectual life of the Department. This may include one or several of the following: giving a public lecture (to be discussed with cluster convenors well in advance of visit); giving a (brown bag) seminar/workshop; contributing a written piece to the webpages/ blog, meeting with postgraduate students to discuss their thesis or dissertation projects.

Visitors are expected to actively participate and contribute to the relevant research clusters, by presenting their work or acting as discussant in one of the cluster workshops.

Visitors are very much part of the intellectual life of the Department and are able to meet all staff here and elsewhere at LSE. Visitors are also welcome to join in the many talks, debates and public lectures held across LSE.

Visitors will be provided with a desk in a shared open space, an LSE IT account and email address, as well as access to LSE's library and the British Library of Political and Economic Science. They will be introduced to members of the Department and will receive updates about events in the Department and the School.

A department web profile page will be created for all visitors, except for those visiting for less than two terms, in which case a web profile page will be optional.

Academic Visitor appointments are unpaid, and visitors should have their own source of funding to support their visit.

Individuals can apply for external research funding in their own name and using the School's name (subject to the support and approval of the Department). Individuals intending to submit proposals for external funding are required to discuss their plans with the Department Research Manager, Sarah Hélias, prior to the School's consideration of their case for a visiting appointment.

The Department does not reimburse visitors' travel and accommodation expenses, and visitors are expected to make their own arrangements regarding these. Please note that the Department does not provide administrative or secretarial support to visitors, including support with grant applications.

Visitors who are not nationals of the European Economic Area and who receive financial support from a UK source to carry out their research are required to have eligibility to work in the UK.

Visitors are responsible for obtaining the correct visa and undertaking only permitted activities.

Visa guidance accompanies appointment letters. Information can be found on [Human Resources Overseas Visitors webpage](#)

Visitors are required to use the exact visitor title when referring to their LSE affiliation in any written or electronic correspondence. LSE should be listed as one of your affiliations on publications coming out of any research you undertake during your stay in the Department.

If you have any questions, please email the Department Research Manager, Sarah Hélias, at IR.Research@lse.ac.uk