

# THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

## **Norwegian Nobel Institute Research Fellowships, Spring 2025**

The Norwegian Nobel Institute (NNI) houses a research unit which assists the Nobel Committee and conducts independent research and dissemination throughout the year. Since 1991, nearly 150 visiting fellows from over 25 countries have spent shorter or longer periods at the Institute, including many of the world's leading historians and political scientists.

After a quiet period during the pandemic, NNI is now reestablishing its visiting fellows programme and further strengthening its research activities. To that effect, it announces 3-5 NNI Research Fellowships for Spring 2025.

For scholars from outside the Schengen area, each Fellowship is awarded for a period of three months. For scholars from within the Schengen area, each Fellowship is awarded for a period of minimum three months and maximum five months. For a three-months Fellowship, the preferable starting date is 24-28 February. For a four- or five-months Fellowship, the starting date is flexible. (Preferably, the Fellowships will start no later than 24-28 February, and end no later than 23-27 June.)

One Fellowship includes free lodging in an adjacent, fully equipped, private apartment owned by the Institute. This Fellowship includes a monthly stipend of NOK 15.000 and reimbursement of travel costs (up to NOK 10.000 for scholars from within Europe; up to NOK 20.000 for scholars from outside Europe). The other Fellowships include a monthly stipend of NOK 30.000 and reimbursement of travel costs (up to NOK 10.000 for scholars from within Europe; up to NOK 20.000 for scholars from outside Europe).

Each NNI Fellow is provided with an office space equipped with wi-fi and printer access, as well as access to the Institute's library. Each Fellow is expected to deliver one research seminar and to contribute to the Institute's daily research environment throughout the Fellowship period.

Thematically, the applicant's project proposal (max. 3 pages) must show a clear link to issues relevant for peace or conflict broadly understood. This includes, but is not restricted to, analyses of democracy, justice, and human rights. We invite applications from a range of disciplines, including philosophy, history, and the social sciences. Analyses may be normative, empirical, or conceptual in nature.

The Fellowship period (preferably) coincides with a three-day Nobel Symposium, entitled “Rethinking Territorial Jurisdiction: normative perspectives on legislation and enforcement in cyberspace”, which takes place in Oslo from 12-14 March 2025. While the Fellowships are thematically open within the above-mentioned scope, we do strongly encourage project proposals revolving around the theme of the 2025 Symposium. (Please see the Appendix below for further details about the Symposium theme.)

Instructions for applicants:

The application must include:

1. An academic **CV**.
2. A research **project description** of maximum three pages. Your research may be free-standing or part of an ongoing project. The description must clearly state the relevant research question(s) you intend to pursue during your Fellowship, outline how you intend to go about answering it(them), and explain how your research is situated in the literature. In addition, please indicate the preferred start and end dates for your Fellowship period, and whether the dates are flexible.

The application may include:

3. Letters of reference (optional).

Please submit the application material as e-mail attachments to: [research@nobel.no](mailto:research@nobel.no).

Application deadline: **30 September 2024**.

Notification of award: by 15 October 2024.

Appendix:

**Rethinking Territorial Jurisdiction: normative perspectives on legislation and enforcement in cyberspace**

*Nobel Symposium, 12-14 March 2025, Oslo, Norway*

States, as we know them, claim jurisdictional rights – to make, enforce, and adjudicate the law within ‘their’ territories. Territorial jurisdiction clarifies, for any specific time and place, which state’s laws uniquely apply, and which state may sovereignly enforce them.

While the system of territorial jurisdiction is centuries-old, much human activity now happens online. Yet, there is very little international consensus on how to legislate and enforce the law in cyberspace. This poses an urgent challenge for several reasons. First, human online activity will presumably increase significantly. Second, some online activity has grave consequences (e.g., cyber warfare or foreign electoral manipulation). Third, online activity radically transcends territorial borders; it may happen in several states simultaneously, and data’s geographical location may shift at the click of a button. Considering this, the potential for international conflict over cyberspace activity is significant. One example is cybercrime investigation, where some states seek to unilaterally extract data from servers abroad. Such extraterritorial enforcement flies in the face of territorial jurisdiction.

Because cyberspace jurisdiction is in its infancy, the need for normative guidance is clear. Which values and moral principles are at stake for more or less territorial forms of jurisdiction? How should we distribute the relevant right of jurisdiction? Should agents above or below the state have rights to make and enforce cyberspace laws?

While scholars have had much to say about the nature and justification of state territorial jurisdiction, it is unclear whether existing theories may handle cyberspace jurisdiction. Are minor revisions to available theories enough, or must we radically rethink the nature and justification of jurisdictional rights?

To explore these issues, the Norwegian Nobel Institute gathers world-leading scholars of political philosophy, international law, internet governance, and informatics, for a three-day Nobel Symposium. Tentatively, the first day addresses how to best understand the status quo of cyberspace jurisdiction, as well as recent developments in cyberspace technology. Days two and three discuss normative theories of cyberspace jurisdiction, ranging from reformist to radical views.