

**OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS
INTERNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM
ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

invites applications for the

**Returning Scholars Fellowship Program
2011-2012 academic year**

The Returning Scholars Fellowship Program invites applications from talented scholars who seek university positions and academic careers in their home countries after studying abroad. The program operates in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine.

The Returning Scholars Fellowship Program supports scholars from these countries who have received (or will receive by September 2011) an internationally competitive Master's or postgraduate degree in the following fields: **anthropology, area/cultural studies, economics, gender studies, history, human rights & public law, international relations, journalism/media studies, philosophy, political science, psychology, public policy/ environmental studies, public policy/public health, social work, and sociology.** **The program does not support scholars in philology, the visual and performing arts, and business.**

Academic Fellowship Programs (AFP) fellows are placed in carefully selected university departments that are amenable to change and demonstrate a realistic and clear vision for future development. The program, which represents part of a conscious strategy to combat "brain drain," helps universities in the region retain promising young scholars, who are essential to the revitalization of departments and to the sustainability of higher education reforms. Fellowships comprise monthly stipends and various allowances, including departmental, professional development, and mobility funds, and are renewable. Returning Scholars and partner departments also benefit from the presence of AFP-supported International Scholars, who provide expert mentorship in such areas as professional development, curriculum development and reform, research methods, and teaching/learning methodologies specific for their discipline. **The program supports placement of Returning Scholars only in AFP partner departments. An interested scholar already associated with a department that is not supported by AFP either will be ineligible or may discuss the possibility of relocating to a qualifying department at another university.** A list of current AFP partner departments can be found on the program's website (<http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/afp>). The list is subject to change in the 2011-12 academic years.

Potential applicants are advised to explore placement possibilities with an AFP Region Manager or Country Coordinator before applying. Please see the full list of contacts at <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/afp/contact>

Application deadline: April 11, 2011. Fellowships begin in August or September 2011 and last one academic year.

Applications should be submitted via the **Online Application System** (<https://oas.soros.org/oas/>). For application procedure and guidelines, please see the program's web site: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/afp>

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