

Armenian Studies Scholarship



**Requirements, Criteria
and Conditions 2026**

Introduction

The Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is committed to enhancing Armenian Studies globally. It awards scholarships to research students admitted to or already pursuing a Master or PhD degree or a Post Doc in internationally recognized universities.

Note that “Armenian Studies” is understood in a broad sense and is not confined to “Area Studies”.

The aim of this scholarship category is to foster better understanding and knowledge about the most recent developments in Armenia and the region, as well as the Diaspora, and to build stronger theoretical and empirical foundations for Armenian studies in general. The Foundation will continue to privilege research on current and contemporary issues (i.e. post-Soviet) in 2026, but welcomes research proposals on all aspects of the Armenian experience. Projects with high policy relevance and practical use are encouraged. The following disciplines are of particular interest: political science/international relations, sociology, anthropology, current history, social psychology, international law, human rights, peace and conflict studies, international development and humanitarian studies, diaspora, refugee and migration studies, cultural studies, and other closely related disciplines.

Seven to ten Armenian Studies scholarships are planned to be granted in 2026. The scholarship amounts per year are indicated in the following table:

	Europe (incl. UK)	USA & Canada	Other Countries
Master degree	7.000€	10.000€	Please contact us
PhD degree	17.000€	25.000€	Please contact us
Post Doc	17.000€	25.000€	Please contact us

These are fixed amounts and applicants are expected to find additional funds from other sources. In case the full amounts are not needed, either because other scholarships are obtained or the fees are considerably lower, applicants must inform the Foundation.

This scholarship category not only promotes Armenian Studies as a separate field of study, but also its incorporation into wider disciplines, encouraging cross-fertilization.

Requirements, Criteria and Conditions

ARTICLE 1.

Requirements for Eligibility

Candidates wishing to apply for a Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian Studies Scholarship must meet the following requirements:

1. Be admitted to or already pursuing a Master or PhD degree or a Post Doc focusing on (contemporary) Armenian subjects from social science perspectives in an internationally recognized institution of higher education, in the academic year for which the scholarship is being applied to.
2. Have a supervisor or an assigned committee (in cases where a supervisor has not yet been identified, the candidate must provide an explanation. In cases of Post Doc, a letter attesting to institutional affiliation or similar must be provided in lieu of supervisor/committee).

If you do not meet these requirements, then you are unlikely to be successful in your application

ARTICLE 2.

Selection Criteria

The scholarships are granted on a competitive basis. The selection is made by a committee within the Foundation and in consultation with academics in the field of Armenian studies. Eligible candidates are selected for a scholarship on the basis of their academic excellence and potential, as evidenced by:

1. Academic curriculum.
2. The subject matter of the research.
3. Research proposal, including a timeframe.
4. Originality of the proposed research in the applicant's chosen field of study.
5. Publications in academic journals, if any, and prior recognition of academic excellence through earlier prizes and scholarships.
6. Letters of recommendation and achievement evaluations.
7. While it is not a requirement, knowledge of the Armenian language or willingness to learn it would be considered an important asset.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the selection committee reserve the right to interview short listed candidates in person or by telephone/zoom. The Foundation may seek the opinion of the applicant's institution in the evaluation of the application.

ARTICLE 3.

Conditions for Maintaining the Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian Studies Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded for the period of one academic year. It may be renewed once in the case of Master degree and Post Doc and renewed up to three times in the case of PhD degree (i.e. for a total of four years), should such a renewal be stipulated in the Fellowship Contract. Renewal of the scholarship from year to year is based on good progress as assessed by the candidate's supervisor and/or committee (in the case of Post Doc, by Head of Department), and validated by the Foundation's Armenian Communities Department. Failing this requirement will lead to the cancellation of the scholarship.

The scholarship may be terminated for any breach of the terms of the agreement to be signed by both parties. In this case, the candidate shall reimburse the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation the amount received.

ARTICLE 4.

Application Documents

1. A copy of the candidate's passport (main page with personal data) – it is legally required to provide the following data: complete name, date of birth, identification number, fiscal number and permanent address.
2. Attested copies of university certificates and grade-sheets (last academic year), with grades' clarification letter, translated into English, if originals are not in English or French or Portuguese (in case of Post Doc, copy of graduation certificate/diploma).
3. Two letters of recommendation from (i) a professor in the applicant's field and (ii) the supervisor. In the case of Post Doc a third letter from an expert in the field would be useful.
4. A complete research proposal (max. five pages), with abstract, describing the research problem, the framework of the research, a description of the way in which the problem will be approached and the proposed research methodology, the scientific scope, a prospective time-line, as well as the theoretical and empiric sources used (in the case of Post Doc, publication plan or need for further research must be explained).
5. A motivation letter (max. one page).
6. A full curriculum vitae including list of publications (if any).
7. Statement from the supervisor confirming the intention to supervise the candidate (in case of Post Doc, an invitation letter from the hosting institution).

ARTICLE 5.

Application

Applications must be submitted online. The application process for the 2026-2027 academic year will open on the 2 March 2026 and the deadline for applications is 15 May 2026 (23h59, Lisbon time).

We strongly advise candidates not to wait until the last few days before applying. Applicants will be informed of the decision during the month of June 2026.

Questions should be submitted to the following email address: carmenias@gulbenkian.pt.

Data Protection (this section is included as per European legal requirements)

All personal data provided in the application process or during the execution of the scholarship shall be processed by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, as the data controller, for the purposes of managing and execution the scholarship process based on the acceptance of the data subject of the terms and conditions of the scholarship (pre-contractual diligence and subsequent contractual execution).

The personal data shall be kept for the period of time necessary for the management and grant of the scholarship, except in cases where another period is required by applicable law. Some data (i.e., the name of the data subject, date of application, terms and duration of the scholarship and personal data potentially included in the works and final publications) will be kept indefinitely by the Foundation for the purpose of archiving relevant information in the context of its cultural activity.

The data subject may exercise the right of access, rectification, erasure, opposition, limitation and portability, according to the applicable legislation, through email directed to privacidade@gulbenkian.pt

The Foundation implements all security measures necessary and adequate for the protection of the personal data of the subjects, either when the data is processed directly by them or when the data is processed by entities subcontracted by it.

The Foundation may process the data directly and/or through processors for the purpose of managing the scholarship. In such cases, appropriate contracts shall be entered into with such processors, in accordance with the applicable legislation.

For the purposes of disseminating the activity of the Foundation, based on its legitimate interest in promoting its initiatives, the Foundation may communicate the data of the subject to partner entities for publications and institutional communications. These entities may be located within the territory of the European Union or abroad, and in the latter case, appropriate mechanisms under the applicable legislation to safeguard the security of personal data processed shall be used at all times.

Data subjects may file a complaint to the Portuguese National Authority (“Comissão Nacional de Proteção de Dados”) if they believe that there is a breach of data protection incurred by the Foundation.

For more information visit our [website](#)

To be able to process applications for scholarships and support, the Foundation will necessarily process the personal data requested from Users at the time of application, as well as during the monitoring, by the Foundation, of a scholarship or support granted by it. Collection of this data is necessary for the Foundation to be able to review your application and award the scholarship or support. The Foundation processes this data for purposes of pre-contractual diligence and subsequent contractual execution. For the purposes of submitting the application, it will be necessary to create an account as described in the preceding point.

Information and contacts

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
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January 2026