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## The Penn Project on the Future of U.S.-China Relations Announces Call for Applications for Fourth Fellowship Cohort

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The Penn Project on the Future of U.S.-China Relations invites applications to join the Project's fourth fellowship cohort, made possible through generous support from Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Henry Luce Foundation. The Project develops recommendations for U.S. policies toward China from next generation China scholars and analysts, who are selected as Project Fellows through a competitive process. The Project has two primary goals: (i) to provide a forum for rising U.S.-based scholars and analysts of China to contribute academically-informed, policy-relevant analysis on the most pressing issues in U.S.-China relations; (ii) to deepen U.S. capacity to understand and evaluate critical issues in the U.S.-China relationship. Sixteen Project Fellows will be selected, with at least two fellows assigned to each of the Project's six issue areas: National Security; Trade & Economics; Science & Technology; Human Rights, Law, & Democracy; Climate & Environment; and Research, Education, & Academic Freedom.

The Project's fourth fellowship cohort will convene over a ten month period from **April 2026 through January 2027**. Fellows will be required each to prepare a maximum 6000-word policy paper which makes concrete recommendations, grounded in their substantive area of expertise, addressing an aspect of U.S. policy towards China in one of the Project's six issue areas. Early draft papers will be presented at a workshop to be held on campus at the University of Pennsylvania over two days **May 7-8**, for feedback from alumni mentors from the Project's earlier fellowship classes as well as relevant Penn experts. Project Fellows also will have the option to travel to China **the week of June 22-26**, to engage in substantive dialogue with Chinese counterparts, and conduct further research on the topics of their respective policy papers. Project Fellows' findings and recommendations will be shared in dedicated briefings for U.S. policymakers in Washington, DC **the week of September 21-25**, and later shared with the wider public through working draft and then final publication on the Project website, as well as discussion on Project webinars and its China Studies podcast.

**Eligibility:** Early to mid-career academics and professionals, with several years experience in full-time academic or equivalent appointments, who possess demonstrated expertise on China. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, or full-time employed at a U.S. institution. Preference given to candidates who are currently living in the United States.

**How to apply:** Submit application materials by email to [us-china@upenn.edu](mailto:us-china@upenn.edu) by **March 17, 2026**. All submissions will be acknowledged. Selection of candidates will take into account representation across the Project's six issue areas.

**Applications must include:**

- (i) a personal statement describing your area of expertise, eligibility for and interest in the Project (*max 500 words*);
- (ii) a full CV that details your educational and professional background, with special attention to any experience in the field of U.S.-China relations, and in bridging academic and policy discourses;
- (iii) a précis of the paper that you would develop through the Project, in support of your recommendations for U.S. policy towards China, to be published and disseminated at the end of the fellowship (*max 1000 words*).

Additional information is available on the Project website at <https://global.upenn.edu/future-of-us-china-relations/>.