



**ACONA**

**Apply Now:  
ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATION ACADEMY  
2025-2026 Fellowship Cohort**

*The world is facing new global security threats. Great power and regional tensions are on the rise. The post-World War II security architecture is disintegrating. ACONA asks the next generation of arms control negotiators to meet the security challenges of our time.*

**What is ACONA?**

The Arms Control Negotiation Academy (ACONA) is a 12-month, high-level professional development program for a competitively selected cohort of rising international security experts and practitioners. The ambitious training curriculum addresses critical historical case studies, technological know-how, and advanced negotiation skills in the realm of arms control. Participants earn a Certificate in Arms Control Negotiation and become part of ACONA's network of next-generation arms control negotiators.

**Program**

ACONA Fellows partake in three week-long workshops (“boot camps”) as well as a conference to attend expert lectures, participate in immersive negotiation exercises, and engage in small group discussions with distinguished scholars and practitioners. Past ACONA speakers have included Prime Minister of Iceland, Katrín Jakobsdóttir and former High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton.

- Fellowship Term: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026
- Boot Camp 1: August 18-22, 2025, Virtual
- Boot Camp 2: January 26-30, 2026, Virtual
- Boot Camp 3: May 18-21, 2026, Reykjavík, Iceland
- 5th ACONA Conference Reykjavík: May 22, 2026, Reykjavík, Iceland

ACONA Fellows are required to participate in all boot camps and the conference, actively engage in discussions, collaborate with a small group of fellows on an international research project, and submit the results of that project by the end of their 12-month fellowship. The fellowship covers the cost of travel to and accommodation at the final boot camp and conference in Iceland.

For program details and logistics, please see the [FAQ](#) on the ACONA website.

## Eligibility

ACONA welcomes applications by highly qualified candidates of all nationalities who demonstrate 3-5 years of advanced professional or research experience in one of the following broad fields: (1) arms control and nuclear issues, (2) negotiation and mediation, and (3) international peace, security, and global affairs, particularly U.S.-Russia-China-EU relations. The most highly-qualified candidates will be able to demonstrate several years of professional or research experience in their field, international experience, an advanced degree, and public recognition of their achievements.

## Application

To apply, please fill out the form at [www.armscontrolnegotiationacademy.org/application](http://www.armscontrolnegotiationacademy.org/application) by **Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11:59 PM EST** (Sunday, May 11, 2025, 03:59 AM UTC).

Please note that you will need to upload the following:

1. A **motivation letter** (see the [ACONA website](http://www.armscontrolnegotiationacademy.org) for letter requirements).
2. A **CV or resume** reflecting relevant experience.

In addition, please ensure that a **recommendation letter** highlighting exceptional work is sent directly by the recommender to [acona@armscontrolnegotiationacademy.org](mailto:acona@armscontrolnegotiationacademy.org). (Please note again that the recommendation letter must be submitted by the *recommender*, not by the applicant.)

Candidates will be notified of their acceptance in June 2025.

## The ACONA Consortium

ACONA is an international consortium led by Höfði Reykjavík Peace Centre at the University of Iceland, in collaboration with the Woodrow Wilson Center's History and Public Policy Program, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF), the Project on Managing the Atom (MTA) at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard Kennedy School, the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS), and the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University.

## Contact

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