

DTA3 Legacy Fund



Identified a challenge currently facing the UK society? The DTA3 Legacy Fund is an opportunity for DTA3 alum to find solutions by learning from practice in another country.

Background

Honouring the value MSCA places on international mobility, the DTA3 Legacy Fund is an opportunity for our fellows, following graduation from their doctoral studies, to learn from practice in another country, with the intention to apply this learning to UK society.

The DTA3 Legacy Fund will provide fellows with the opportunity to undertake a 1–2-month international placement to explore any of the challenges UK society is currently facing in order to identify potential solutions. The proposed solutions must be scalable, sustainable and include a non-academic partner (e.g., business, government agency, NGO, hospitals etc.).

Proposal should be submitted under one, or more, of the following themes:

- Creative arts
- Children and young people
- Climate change
- Active ageing
- Resilient economies and communities
- Technology for all

Eligibility

In order to be eligible to apply for this fund, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Have been a DTA3 Doctoral Research Fellow
- Have completed their doctoral degree programme (submitted thesis; viva undertaken)
- Be currently based in the UK

Application process

Complete a DTA3 Legacy Fund application form, accompanied by 2 references in support of the proposal.

Submit completed application and 2 references to dta@unialliance.ac.uk by **23 March 2026**

Selection process

Following an eligibility check by the DTA Team, based on the criteria noted above, all eligible applications will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary panel of judges who will use the following aspects to make their assessment:

- Does your proposal require learning that can only be obtained from other countries?

DTA3 Legacy Fund



- Does the solution you are seeking provide a public benefit in the UK, whether to a particular community or sector or to the UK as a whole?
- How achievable is your proposal within the timeframe of the placement (up to 8 weeks)?
- Does your proposal include a non-academic partner?
- Your commitment to make a difference after your complete your placement, such as ongoing involvement in the field, leadership qualities, networks you have identified, dissemination of findings
- Your plans to share your placement knowledge and findings

NB – awards will not be granted which only benefit the individual and show no potential for wider benefit.

Key dates

- Second funding call date launch: **9 February 2026**
- Application deadline: **23 March 2026**
- Eligibility checks completed by: **25 March 2026**
- Judging panel review completed by: **31 March 2026**
- Notification of outcomes by: **1 April 2026**
- Completion of placement: **by end of March 2027**
- Submit final placement report: **2 months post-placement**

Funding available

During the 2025-26 funding call a total of £10,000 will be available.

The number of awards funded will depend on a range of factors, including number of applications received, number of applications assessed as eligible and meeting the judging panel's selection criteria, length and destination(s) of proposed placements and estimated amount requested by each applicant.

It is predicted that 1-2 awards will be confirmed in the pilot funding call.

The Award will cover the following:

- Return economy flight, and any associated visas, to and from the UK
- Internal travel within destination countries, as required
- Accommodation and subsistence allowance for the duration of travel
- Travel insurance

When completing the application, please be as detailed as possible about the potential costs by detailing the length of time, destinations and types of activities to be undertaken. The DTA Team will work closely with successful award fellow(s) on the placement travel itinerary and costs to agree the final award amount once awarded. Please note that the award will not provide additional funds to cover childcare costs or for your time in planning your placement.

The Detail: Expectations of Fellows

BEFORE TRAVEL

- Fellows are expected to complete the placement within 1 year from the date of being awarded the fellowship.
- Preparing and finalising the travel itinerary: include proposed dates of international travel, dates and time spent in each city, all the confirmed/unconfirmed meetings (need at least 1 confirmed meeting in each city for the itinerary to be approved). A template itinerary will be provided.
- Email DTA completed itinerary at least 2 months before departure.
- Approval from DTA is required before any booking can take place. If travel or initial accommodation is booked prior to receiving DTA approval, these costs will not be covered by the award.
- Final grant payment will be made 3-4 weeks before departure
- DTA will provide an official letter of introduction explaining the reason of your visit which awardee can use.

Booking flights

- It is recommended that awardee pays for their own flights and DTA reimburse the costs on receipt of booking confirmation, however, please note that advanced approval is required before any bookings can be made.
- DTA will only cover economy flights.
- Avoid peak holiday periods or when there are large sporting or similar events planned in -country.
- Do not book single flights as these are typically more expensive, instead use the “multi-city” option if you plan on travelling to multiple destinations.
- Please note, DTA will not increase your grant if the travel costs are higher due to late or inappropriate booking.
- Bookings must be completely amendable and refundable.

Booking accommodation

- Book the first few nights and then make bookings as you go, so you can take advantage of local knowledge.
- DTA can reimburse advance bookings as long as they are included within the travel itinerary
- Ensure all bookings are completely amenable and refundable

Forward DTA all invoices

- Keep a record and copies of all invoices, receipts etc for bookings, travel, accommodation etc
- DTA is unable to release award money for flights and initial accommodation nights until we have received copies of invoices/receipts.
- Aim to send reimbursement within 30 days

Travel insurance

DTA3 Legacy Fund



- The DTA will reimburse travel insurance for the length of your placement only.
- It is important that you protect yourself during your placement with travel insurance, as DTA cannot provide any additional funds to cover cancellations, amendments or emergencies that occur.
- In your awards proposal, please include details of your travel insurance, including costs. Please note the travel insurance forms part of your award.

Travel restrictions, visas, documentation and vaccinations

- DTA cannot support travel to areas where the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) advise not to visit. For further information, visit the [FCDO website](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice), <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>
- Investigate local laws, customs, high and low seasons, transport etc.
- Check country's COVID restrictions.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they have a valid passport (valid for at least 6 months from time of entry)
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they have correct visa requirements well in advance.
- Apply for visas online or in person and avoid an agency as DTA will only cover the cost of the visa and not the cost of agency.
- Ensure you have necessary vaccinations and any other relevant medical precautions.
- Fellows can have a holiday while in the country, however at their own expense. They can have up to 2 weeks but this needs to be noted within the travel itinerary.

DURING TRAVEL

- Document your placement as you travel (photos, video, diary etc.)
 - Collect case studies and human stories, key statistics, contact details
- Posting live from the field
 - Consider posting on social media or writing a blog (DTA can host blogs on website and share social media postings).
- Stay aware of local, regional and national holidays, closures, events
- Report any in-country changes to your itinerary to the DTA Team as early as possible.
- Share your travel plans with someone at home and provide contact details so you can stay in touch, especially if you plan any periods of travel where contact will be difficult/not possible.
- Comply with the DTA3 Legacy Awards Code of Conduct

AFTER TRAVEL

- Provide the DTA Team with up to 10 people who you want to receive thank you emails from the DTA Legacy Fund.
- Become an active member of DTA Connections and encourage others to apply for the fellowship in future rounds.
- Submit a fellowship report within 3 months of the last date of return
 - The report can be in any format (e.g., written 15,000-word report, video or film, website) you feel appropriate for your placement.

DTA3 Legacy Fund



- The IP belongs to you the fellow, but the DTA will publish it on its website and use it for communications and marketing purposes.
- When drafting your report, please cover the following points:
 - What did you want to learn and the questions you wanted to answer
 - Why is this an issue in the UK and what is the potential benefit
 - Why you chose those destinations
 - Present your findings
 - What are you planning to do with your learning.

Code of Conduct

The DTA expects all DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows to uphold the highest standards of integrity and professionalism in the conduct of their placement throughout.

Fellows agree to:

- comply with all legal, regulatory and professional ethical requirements in the UK and in countries where the placement is conducted, including those relevant to any host organisations.
- understand and show respect for, local cultures, behaviours and customs.
- be transparent, open and honest with anyone they meet as to the subject and purpose of data collection and research.
- ensure that participation in their activities, interviews and overall project is based on participants' voluntary informed consent.
- ensure the dignity, rights, reputation, safety and wellbeing of all individuals involved in their research and avoid unreasonable risk or harm to others.
- not disclose confidential information attained during the placement, except with prior permission in writing from the individual, host organisation or relevant authority.

For those who will encounter children and young people as part of their placement, the following will apply.

The [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)](#) defines a child as everyone under 18 unless, "under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier".

Fellows agree to:

- prioritise the welfare of children and young people and avoid taking any unnecessary risks.
- be aware of the principles of safeguarding and child protection.
- contact and communication with children and young people is appropriate and relevant to their project.
- not engage in behaviour that is in any way abusive, this includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse.
- not share their contact details with children and young people, obtain their contact details or have contact with them via a personal social media account.
- ensure that, wherever possible, there is more than one adult present during activities with children and young people. If this isn't possible, Fellows shall ensure they are within sight or hearing of other adults.
- only provide personal care to children and young people in an emergency, and make sure there is more than one other adult present if possible.

Terms and Conditions

1. Definitions and Interpretation

Adults at Risk: [Under the Care Act \(2014\)](#), an adult at risk is someone over the age of 18 years old who has care and support needs, is experiencing, or is at risk, of abuse or neglect, as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it;

Award IPR: means all Intellectual Property Rights that arise, or are obtained, created or developed: (i) by either party, or by a contractor or subcontractor (or any other third-party) on behalf of either party; or (ii) jointly between the parties, in each case in respect of the Deliverables during and/or in connection with the Award;

Child: The [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)](#) defines a child as everyone under 18 unless, "under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier";

Doctoral Research Fellow: this means eligible researchers who were in receipt of a MSCA COFUND Doctoral fellowship as part of the DTA3 programme between 2019 and 2023 only;

Doctoral Training Alliance (DTA): this means the structured doctoral training programme coordinated by UA staff (DTA team) on behalf of its members and partners website www.unialliance.ac.uk/dta; (The Engager);

DTA3 Legacy Award (Award): this means the funding we give to a Fellow to pursue their placement;

DTA3 Legacy Award Fellow (Fellow): this means a person who is awarded a DTA3 Legacy Award (the Awardee);

DTA3 Fellows' Code of Conduct: this describes the ethical behaviour expected of a Fellow;

Placement: this means the activity for which you applied for a Fellowship, and for which we awarded it;

Travel Itinerary: this means the detailed plan of your travel and accommodation arrangements, together with your planned activities and meetings for your placement;

University Alliance (UA): this means the private limited company by guarantee without share capital, registered in England and Wales, under company number 8137679, office University House, 109-117 Middlesex Street, London E1 7JF, website www.unialliance.ac.uk.

2. The Award

2.1 The amount of your Award will be agreed on confirmation of your travel itinerary.

2.2 The DTA will not increase the sum following confirmation of your travel itinerary unless there are exceptional circumstances.

2.3 The DTA may decrease the sum agreed if your plans change significantly (for example, if your travelling time is reduced) either prior to or during your placement.

DTA3 Legacy Fund



2.4 The Terms and Conditions will apply to you from the date when you accept your Award. The Fellows' Code of Conduct will also apply to you from the date when you accept your Award. Failure to observe either of these documents will result in the withdrawal of your Fellowship.

2.5 Your Award must be used exclusively for your Placement, as described in your application for a Fellowship. It cannot be used for any other purposes. The DTA reserves the right to ask you for evidence of how you have spent your Award.

2.6 Any money from your Award that is not spent should be refunded to the DTA.

2.7 The DTA will pay the Award as explained in our award confirmation letter in line with your Project needs.

2.8 You must tell us promptly about any changes to your personal information, including changes to your home address, contact details, and bank or building society details. All the information you give us must be true and up to date.

3. Obligation of the DTA

3.1 The DTA does not have any legal responsibility for DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows or their possessions, during the period of their placement or thereafter. The DTA is not liable in any way for indemnifying Fellows against any risks whatsoever. This includes any risks that arise in any way relating to an Award.

3.2 The DTA is not liable to any third party as a result of any direct or indirect action of a Fellow, during their placement or thereafter.

3.3 As a DTA3 Legacy Award Fellow, you accept that the Award is the full discharge of the DTA's entire obligation to you.

4. Legal status of a Fellow

4.1 A DTA3 Legacy Award Fellow is not an employee, volunteer or representative of the DTA or University Alliance.

4.2 A DTA3 Legacy Award Fellow is not authorised in any way to act as an agent of the DTA or University Alliance.

5. Fellow's Report

5.1 All DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows must produce a Fellow's Report and send it to us within three months of completing their placement. This is a condition for receiving an Award.

5.2 Your report should describe the findings and results of your placement, your recommendations for others in your field, and your planned next steps in pursuit of the proposal.

5.3 Copyright in this Report remains with you, as its author. However, it is a condition of the Award that you allow the DTA to publish and publicise it, as we see fit.

5.4 The above clauses do not affect your copyright as the author of the work under UK law, or your rights to publish or licence it to others. The findings of your placement, whether in Report form or any other form, are your intellectual property.

5.5 The content of your Report, including its opinions and recommendations, are your own and not those of the DTA, and this must be stated prominently in the Report. A standard statement about this will be provided once your award has been confirmed.

5.6 As noted below, within the Report you must include acknowledgment of funding received due to being a DTA3 Doctoral Researcher under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and include the relevant grant code (No 801604).

6. Publication, publicity and acknowledgment

6.1 Funding for the DTA3 Legacy Awards is possible due to you being awarded a DTA3 Doctoral Research Fellowship funded by the European Union, therefore the fellow's report and any other formal publication that is a result of the placement activity should acknowledge the funder.

6.2 Please use the following the following logo and text:



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 801604

6.3 The University Alliance Communications Team must be consulted before release of any publicity and press statement about the Award.

6.4. You must also contact the University Alliance Communications Team immediately if you become aware of anything related to the Award that may have an adverse reputational impact on you, University Alliance or The Doctoral Training Alliance

7. Legal obligations

7.1 The DTA expects you to obey the laws of the countries you visit, and to respect their customs so as not to give offence.

7.2 If required, you must have appropriate policies in place at all times to comply with UK law and good practice (for example in the area of data protection).

8. Equality and diversity

All DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows have a duty to act in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and to conduct their placement in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination on the basis of age, disability, gender reassignment, marital or civil partner status, pregnancy or maternity, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation ('the protected characteristics').

9. Safeguarding children and adults at risk

9.1 The DTA takes safeguarding extremely seriously and requires DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows to observe best practice regarding proactively ensuring the safety and wellbeing of any Children and Adults at risk they interact with during their placement; and comply with all relevant local and UK laws and regulations.

9.2 DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows must contact their hosts to learn of any safeguarding policies in place and ensure that these are adhered to.

9.3 While travelling, if you have a safeguarding concern, you should ensure you are aware of local laws and regulations and seek advice from the local Foreign Office representative (such as the British Consul) before taking action.

9.4 If you have any queries about your safeguarding obligations whilst carrying out your placement, we strongly advise that you seek your own independent legal or professional advice.

10. Liability

We do not accept any responsibility for financial or other liability incurred by you, any organisation, or any participant that may arise out of the Award Activities.

11. Variation and termination

11.1. We reserve the right to amend these Award Terms and Conditions, our Award funding policies, and the terms of the Award Letter at any time.

11.2. Where there is any conflict between these Terms and Conditions and the Award Letter, the provisions of the Award Letter will take precedence.

11.3. We reserve the right to terminate the Award at any time. If we do this, we will set out our reasons to you in writing in a reasonable timeframe

12. Audit and financial administration

12.1. You must hold a bank account in the currency specified in the Award Letter with a bank that is acceptable to us and tell us of any changes to these details during the Award Period.

12.2. You must allow us, at our expense and on reasonable notice, to audit your records in relation to the Award.

12.3. You must give reasonable assistance to us in complying with our legal requirements relating to accounts, audit or examination of accounts, annual reports and annual returns.

12.4. You must keep all invoices, receipts, and other related documents relating to the Award for a minimum for three years after the Award end date and provide these to us if we ask you for them.

12.5. You must repay to us:

12.5.1 any part of the Award that has not been spent when the Award Activities have been completed.

12.5.2 any part of the Award used in breach of the Terms and Conditions.

12.6. You will be responsible for any expenditure on the Award Activities which exceeds the amount of the Award;

13. Confidentiality

13.1 Subject to **Condition 13.1**, the Parties agree not to disclose any Confidential Information to any third party without the prior written consent of the other Party. To the extent that it is necessary for either Party to disclose Confidential Information to its staff, agents and sub-contractors, the disclosing Party must ensure that such staff, agents and sub-contractors are subject to the same obligations as the disclosing Party in respect of all Confidential Information.

13.2 **Condition 13** does not apply to information which:

13.2.1 is (or becomes) public knowledge (other than by breach of this Contract or other obligation of confidentiality);

13.2.2 was in the possession of the disclosing Party, without restriction as to its disclosure, before it was received from the other Party;

13.2.3 is required by law to be disclosed.

13.3 This **Condition 13** will continue to apply after the expiry or termination of this Award.

13.4 A Party will not make use of any Confidential Information otherwise than for the purposes of carrying out the Services, except with the prior written consent of the other Party.

14. Non-discrimination

The Parties shall observe and comply with University Alliance's rules, regulations and policies (including but without limitation its policies on Equal Opportunities, Harassment and Bullying, Data Protection and Health and Safety) and any relevant legislation in relation to the provision of the Services or otherwise, and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all servants, employees or agents and all sub-contractors employed in the execution of the Contract comply with such rules, regulations and policies, and do not unlawfully discriminate. A breach of this Condition will be deemed a material breach of the Contract.

15. Force Majeure

15.1 Provided it has complied with **Condition 15.2**, if a party is prevented, hindered or delayed in or from performing any of its obligations under the Contract by a Force Majeure Event (the "**Affected Party**"), the Affected Party shall not be in breach of the Contract or otherwise liable for any such failure or delay in the performance of such obligations. The time for performance of such obligations shall be extended accordingly. If the Engager is unable to use or benefit from the results of the Award, or if the awardee is unable to provide the Services, by reason of a Force Majeure Event no Charges shall be due or payable under the Contract until the end of the Force Majeure Event. A "**Force Majeure Event**" is when a Party is prevented from or delayed in the carrying on of its business due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control including, without limitation, acts of God, governmental actions, war or national emergency, acts of terrorism, protests, riot, civil commotion, fire, explosion, flood, pandemic and public health emergency, period of national mourning, epidemic or pandemic, lock-outs, strikes or other labour disputes (whether or not relating to either party's workforce), or restraints or delays affecting carriers or inability or delay in obtaining supplies of adequate or suitable materials.

15.2 The Affected Party shall:

- 15.2.1 as soon as reasonably practicable after the start of the Force Majeure Event but no later than the next Business Day, notify the other party in writing of the Force Majeure Event, the date on which it started, its likely or potential duration, and the effect of the Force Majeure Event on its ability to perform any of its obligations under the Award Agreement and
- 15.2.2 use all reasonable endeavours to mitigate the effect of the Force Majeure Event on the performance of its obligations.

15.3 If the Force Majeure Event prevents, hinders or delays the Affected Party's performance of its obligations for a continuous period of more than 1 (one) month the party not affected by the Force Majeure Event may terminate the Award Agreement by giving 1 (one) week's written notice to the Affected Party. For the avoidance of doubt, on termination of the Award Agreement pursuant to this **Condition 15**, any Charges due by the Engager to Awardee will no longer be payable and the Engager shall receive a refund in respect of any Award services paid for but not received under the Award Agreement.

16 General conduct

16.1 DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows are required to conduct themselves in a manner which will not discredit themselves or the DTA and agree to comply with the Fellows' Code of Conduct at all times (see above).

16.2 If DTA3 Legacy Award Fellows have any queries on what is expected of them in relation to their conduct for the duration of the placement, they should contact the DTA for further guidance.