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**Centre for Geopolitical Security and
Strategy (CGSS)**

Faculty of Humanities
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**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES-RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY**

Call for Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

The Centre for Geopolitical Security and Strategy (CGSS) in the Faculty of Humanities at the North-West University is inviting applications from outstanding early career researchers for Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (PDRF) in Security Studies.

The CGSS is an academic hub within the Faculty of Humanities at North-West University, South Africa. Rooted in the Global South, CGSS promotes strategic stability and security from an African perspective for a global audience. The Centre prioritises African security challenges while maintaining an international outlook, thus contributing to knowledge production, policy formulation, and capacity-building in geopolitical and strategic affairs.

The successful candidate will be based at the Potchefstroom Campus of North-West University within the CGSS, reporting directly to the Director of the Centre. Your past and current research interests should include geopolitical risk or critical security studies. Specific requirements encompass experience in compiling and using datasets and a thorough understanding of the ethical application of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Experience in computer programming is highly desirable. Applicants must possess a relevant research track record and demonstrate the potential to contribute significantly to the CGSS's research outputs to be considered for shortlisting.

Minimum Requirements:

- A completed Doctoral degree within the last five years in Political Studies/ International Relations/ Geopolitics/ Security Studies.
- The applicant must be below 45 years or younger.
- Applicants must be either South African citizens, permanent residents, or holders of a valid work visa or relevant permit authorising them to legally work in the Republic of South Africa.
- Applicants selected for the Postdoctoral Research Fellowships may not simultaneously hold employment at another institution.

The following documents must accompany the application:

- i. Completed application form (See below)
- ii. Curriculum Vitae
- iii. Certified copy of Doctoral Degree certificate
- iv. Certified copy of ID
- v. A motivation on how the applicant can contribute to the research objectives of the CGSS as outlined above.

Application deadline: 8 May 2026

Kindly send the five documents specified above to:

Prof Barend L. Prinsloo: barend.prinsloo@nwu.ac.za

Copied to Ms Sanja Schutte at Sanja.Schutte@nwu.ac.za

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

APPLICATION FOR POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Part 1: DETAILS OF THE CANDIDATE

Surname:

Title and Full Names:

Date of Birth (*younger than 45*):

ID/Passport Number:

Nationality:

Race:

Gender:

Dependents (partner, children):

Current Address:

E-Mail Address:

Tel No:

Current address in South Africa (if applicable):

Part 2: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Institution currently attached to:

Address of institution:

Date of obtaining doctoral degree:

Field of Study:

Institution which awarded doctoral degree (attach copy of certificate):

Part 3: DURATION (Expected period of support from the Post-Doctoral Programme):

Start date: 1 Aug 2026

End date: 31 Jul 2027