

Development Academy 2020; application instructions

Background

The Foreign Ministry's first annual induction course into development policy and development cooperation for journalists (Development Academy) was organised in 2010. So far, ten courses have been organised.

Development Academy 2020

The Development Academy consists of three full-day or half-day seminars in Helsinki in September–October and a 4–5-day visit to Geneva in October–November. **Because of the coronavirus situation, more detailed information about the timetable and programme will not be available until in August. The visit to Geneva will depend on the coronavirus situation and possible travel restrictions at the time.** The practical matters relating to the implementation of the seminar days will also be specified in autumn.

Selection criteria

In the selection process for the course, attention is paid to how the applicant intends to make use of the content of the programme in journalistic work, what are the reasons that make the Development Academy useful for him or her, and which themes the applicant intends to focus on.

Previous participation in the Development Academy does not prevent anyone from applying to this year's course. Knowledge of development questions is considered an asset. The number of participants will be 10–12 journalists.

The selection process will be completed by the end of July, and the results will be sent to the applicants via email. The names of the participants will be posted on the Foreign Ministry's website, too. **The selected journalists must confirm their participation within two weeks of the having received the decision. Before confirming the participation, it is important to get the employer's permit for participation in the whole course.**

Costs

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs will cover the costs arising from the visit to Geneva, including accommodation, and other expenses relating to the joint programme during the visit. The Ministry will reimburse the travel expenses and, as necessary, accommodation expenses for those arriving from outside the Greater Helsinki area in accordance with the State Travel Regulations. For those living in the Greater Helsinki area, expenses arising in Finland will not be reimbursed.

If your employer will cover the cost of the field trip, please mention this preferably in the application form, but no later than when confirming your participation. In that case, you must reserve the flights yourself and pay the hotel accommodation in Geneva using your credit card.