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 வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள், வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு மற்றும் சுற்றுலாத்துறை அமைச்சு  
**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT AND TOURISM**

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 திகதி }  
 Date }

03.02.2026

Director General  
 Department of External Resources  
 The Treasury Secretariat (3rd Floor)  
 Colombo 01

**Call for Nominations: GRO GEST 2027 - Fully Funded Postgraduate Programme in Iceland**

1. Reference Fax Msg. No. 27 dated 30 January 2026 received from the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Stockholm, on the above subject.
2. The Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme of the International Centre for Capacity Development (GRO), operating under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iceland, has announced a call for nominations for the GRO Gender Equality Studies and Training (GEST) programme - 2027 cohort, hosted by the University of Iceland.
3. This programme is fully funded, five month full-time postgraduate diploma programme scheduled to be conducted from **January to May 2027**. Sri Lanka has partnered with this programme in previous years, with Sri Lankan candidates successfully benefiting from the training.
4. The deadline for submission of nominations is **10 March 2026**.
5. In this regard, this Ministry requests the Department of External Resources to circulate this opportunity among relevant institutions and take necessary action to facilitate the nomination of suitable candidates prior to the deadline.
6. The detailed call for nominations and programme information are enclosed herewith for your reference and necessary action.
7. Forwarded for your action as appropriate.

Sachini Dias  
 Deputy Director/Europe & North America  
 for Secretary

Contact : 011 - 2338317  
 Email : [dgeurope@mfa.gov.lk](mailto:dgeurope@mfa.gov.lk)

Foreign Affairs  
 විදේශ කටයුතු  
 வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள்

📍 Republic Building, Colombo 1  
 ජනරජ ගොඩනැගිල්ල, කොළඹ 1  
 குடியரசுக் கட்டிடம், கொழும்பு 1

☎ 2 325 373/5, 2 207 200/7

✉ [cypher@mfa.gov.lk](mailto:cypher@mfa.gov.lk)

Foreign Employment  
 විදේශ රැකියා  
 வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு

📍 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, "Mehewara Piyesa", Narahenpita, Colombo 5  
 17 වන මහල, "මෙහෙරා පියස", නාරාහේන්පිට, කොළඹ 5  
 17-ஆவது தளம், "மேஹேரா பியேச", நாரஹேன்பிட்டி, கொழும்பு 5

☎ 2 331 200

✉ [info@mfe.gov.lk](mailto:info@mfe.gov.lk)

Tourism  
 සංචාරක  
 சுற்றுலாத்துறை

📍 No 03, Times Building, Bristol Street (Sir Razik Fareed Mw), Colombo 1  
 අංක 03, ටයිම්ස් ගොඩනැගිල්ල, බ්‍රිස්ටල් වීදිය (සර් රාසික් ෆරේඩ් මාවත), කොළඹ 1  
 இல.03, டைம்ஸ் கட்டிடம், பிரிஸ்டல் தெரு (சர் ராசிக் ஃபரீத் மாவத்தை), கொழும்பு 1

☎ 2 381 798, 2 321 222

✉ [secretary@tourismmin.gov.lk](mailto:secretary@tourismmin.gov.lk)



Americas Division &lt;north.america@mfa.gov.lk&gt;

**Fwd: STOCKHOLM MSG. NO 27- Call for Nominations: GRÓ GEST 2027 – Fully Funded Postgraduate Programme in Iceland**

1 message

Director General Europe &lt;dgeurope@mfa.gov.lk&gt;

Mon, Feb 2, 2026 at 10:04 AM

Reply-To: north.america@mfa.gov.lk

To: sachini Dias &lt;sachini.dias@mfa.gov.lk&gt;, Americas Division &lt;north.america@mfa.gov.lk&gt;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Embassy of Sri Lanka in Sweden Stockholm** <slemb.stockholm@mfa.gov.lk>

Date: Fri, Jan 30, 2026 at 7:11 PM

Subject: STOCKHOLM MSG. NO 27- Call for Nominations: GRÓ GEST 2027 – Fully Funded Postgraduate Programme in Iceland

To: Cypher Unit &lt;cypher@mfa.gov.lk&gt;, Director General Europe &lt;dgeurope@mfa.gov.lk&gt;

To : Secretary/Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment &amp; Tourism

**Attn. : DG Europe & North America**

From : Ambassador

Msg No. 27

File Reference : STO/ICE/POL/1-BL.GEN

**Call for Nominations: GRÓ GEST 2027 – Fully Funded Postgraduate Programme in Iceland**

Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme of the International Centre for Capacity Development (GRO) which is governed under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iceland has forwarded the email below regarding GRÓ Gender Equality Studies and Training (GEST) Programme, 2027 cohort, hosted by the University of Iceland. Nominations are called for scholarships for this 5-month, full-time postgraduate diploma programme running from January to May 2027. The deadline for submission of application is 10 March 2026.

As you may be aware, Sri Lanka was partnering with this programme in the past years with Sri Lankan students joining this programme.

I kindly request you to share this with relevant Sri Lankan institutions to nominate suitable candidates prior to the application deadline please.

***Embassy of Sri Lanka in Stockholm, Sweden****Concurrently accredited to Denmark, Norway,**Finland, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia & Lithuania**Strandvägen 39, 1st floor, SE-114 56,**Stockholm, Sweden*

Tel. : +46-8-6636523/25

Email : slemb.stockholm@mfa.gov.lk

Website : www.stockholm.embassy.gov.lk

Facebook : www.facebook.com/SLinSweden

Instagram : [www.instagram.com/srilankaembassyinsweden](https://www.instagram.com/srilankaembassyinsweden)

LinkedIn : [www.linkedin.com/in/embassy-of-sri-lanka-stockholm-sweden-01444817b](https://www.linkedin.com/in/embassy-of-sri-lanka-stockholm-sweden-01444817b)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme - HI** <gest@hi.is>

Date: Thu, Jan 29, 2026 at 7:47 AM

Subject: Call for Nominations: GRÓ GEST 2027 – Fully Funded Postgraduate Programme in Iceland

To: Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme - HI <gest@hi.is>



Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the open call for nominations for the GRÓ Gender Equality Studies and Training (GEST) Programme, 2027 cohort, hosted by the University of Iceland.

GRÓ GEST is a 5-month, full-time postgraduate diploma programme (30 ECTS) running from January to May 2027, designed for junior professionals and young researchers working to advance gender equality in policy, practice, or research.

We invite organisations to nominate highly qualified candidates who meet the programme's eligibility criteria and whose participation is expected to have clear post-programme impact.

### **About the programme**

The GRÓ GEST programme combines advanced academic training with applied project or research work. Fellows follow one of two admissions tracks:

- Project Track – for candidates developing applied, practice-oriented gender equality projects that will be implemented in their home country with formal backing from their organisation
- Research Track – for candidates undertaking rigorous academic research aimed at publication in peer-reviewed journals

## Eligibility (all nominees must meet these requirements)

### Nominees must:

- Hold at least one university degree (BA/BS/BEd or equivalent)
- Have a minimum of two years of professional experience relevant to gender equality
- Be fluent in spoken and written English
- Be junior professionals or young researchers (priority given to candidates under 35)
- Demonstrate leadership potential and commitment to advancing gender equality
- Be nationals and residents of low- or middle-income countries, or conflict/post-conflict societies  
(Candidates who are nationals or residents of countries not on the OECD DAC list are not eligible)

Priority is given to nominations from Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East, in line with GRÓ's strategic priorities.

### Scholarship coverage

Admitted fellows receive a full scholarship, covering:

- International travel and visa costs
- Accommodation on campus in Reykjavík
- Daily stipend
- Tuition and learning materials

### Nomination process and deadline

- Organisations submit nominations during the open call period
- Qualified nominees are subsequently invited to submit a full individual application
- Nomination deadline: **10 March 2026**

We *strongly encourage* nominating organisations to carefully review the full admissions criteria before submitting a nomination. Full information and access to the nomination form are available here: <https://www.grocentre.is/gest/capacity-development-gest/postgraduate-diploma-programme-1/admission>

Please feel free to circulate this call within your networks.

With best regards,

**DR THOMAS BRORSEN SMIDT**

Senior Programme Manager

GRÓ Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme

University of Iceland

Gimli, Sæmundargötu 10

Tel: (+354) 525 4579·Mobile: (+354) 663 1985

[tbs@hi.is](mailto:tbs@hi.is) · [www.gest.org](http://www.gest.org) · [www.hi.is](http://www.hi.is)



2/3/26, 12:19 PM

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka Mail - Fwd: STOCKHOLM MSG. NO 27- Call for Nominations: GRÓ GEST 2027 – Fully F...

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