



OPANAL
Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the
Caribbean

Secretariat

08 April 2026

Inf.22/2026

Original: English

**Internship Programme earmarked for the OPANAL Member States which are also members of
the Caribbean Community – CARICOM**

The Programme

The Internship Programme dedicated to OPANAL Member States that are also members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) forms part of OPANAL's broader efforts in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education, in line with United Nations mandates. The Programme aims to encourage and strengthen the engagement of Caribbean Member States in OPANAL's work. It also provides young diplomats, early-career professionals, and graduate or postgraduate students in international relations, international law, political science and related fields with valuable "on-the-job" training and practical experience in a multilateral disarmament environment.

Since 2016, the Secretariat has welcomed sixteen young participants from across the Caribbean—Bahamas, Barbados (2), Belize (3), Dominica, Guyana (4), Haiti (2), Jamaica, and Saint Lucia (2)—under this dedicated Internship Programme.

As of 2025, the continuation of the Programme is made possible through the generous financial support of the Japanese non-governmental organization Soka Gakkai¹.

The Internship

The purpose of an internship at OPANAL Secretariat is to provide on-the-job training opportunities in the fields of international relations, international law, political sciences, translation and IT/Software. Interns will receive guidance and support from the Secretariat Officers regarding the duties to be performed, which include but are not limited to:

- Assisting in meeting preparations;
- Assisting in the elaboration of reports, conducting of research;
- Assisting in the translation of documents (knowledge of two of the four OPANAL official languages is a big asset);
- Assisting in the organization of documentation and the institutional archive;
- Assisting with background investigation of documents prepared by the Secretariat;
- Other duties as requested by the Secretary-General.

The duration of the Internship Programme is 5 months. The interns are expected to adhere to the following working hours:

Monday through Thursday – from 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM.

¹ <https://www.sokaglobal.org/>

Friday – from 09.00 AM to 02.00 PM.

Although interns will not be regarded as officers of the Agency, they will report to the Secretary-General. Additionally, interns shall not be entitled to the privileges and immunities by the Host State (Mexico). Finally, interns are required to keep confidential any and all unpublished information acquired during their internships and may not publish any reports or papers on the basis of information obtained, unless authorized to do so by OPANAL.

The selected candidate will receive a **round-trip airfare** to Mexico City, and a **monthly allowance of USD \$1,200.00** for accommodation and living expenses. The Secretariat does not provide accommodation for the interns. Interns are responsible for finding and securing their own lodging in Mexico City.

OPANAL does not provide any insurance coverage, medical or otherwise. An insurance certificate is required. Interns are entirely responsible for any insurance coverage that they may need. OPANAL reiterates that it is not responsible for any costs generated by COVID-19 or any other health incident.

Gender and Nationality Diversity

The OPANAL Secretariat is committed to creating a diverse, multicultural and inclusive environment of mutual respect. The interns' selection process will be carried out regardless of race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, nationality, etc, on the basis of qualifications, competence, integrity and organizational need, with the gender-balanced approach.

Moreover, the OPANAL General Conference at its XXVII Special Session, held on 17 November 2022, adopted the Resolution CG/E/Res.13/2022 "*Gender, non-proliferation, and disarmament*" which resolves: "*To urge the Secretariat, together with the Council, to mainstream a gender perspective and to support and strengthen the effective participation of women in the Agency, its organs and programmes.*" In this regard, with the aim to strengthen the effective participation of women in the Agency, its organs and programs, **applications from women candidates interested in the internship program are highly encouraged.**

Application Process

To apply, please submit the following documents in one email to natalia.zhurina@opanal.org:

- 1) Curriculum Vitae (2 pages maximum)
- 2) Statement of purpose (1-page maximum)
- 3) Certified copies of university studies transcripts (including courses taken and grades received).
- 4) A letter of endorsement from the candidate's academic institution or Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 5) Proof of enrolment in a health insurance plan.