



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM
MARCH-JUNE, 2026

APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025

What is the Mentorship Program?

The **Mentorship Program** is a **joint initiative** of the **Policy Center for the New South** (PCNS) and the **Youth Policy Center** (YPC), designed to support the development of early-stage, policy-oriented young researchers through a structured research and writing journey.

Through **direct engagement** with **PCNS Senior Fellows** and **Experts**, selected participants will strengthen their analytical and policy-writing skills while **developing** a concrete **research output**. Mentees will be guided throughout the program to produce a **policy brief** aligned with PCNS thematic areas, bringing emerging perspectives into policy research and dialogue.

Key Information



Program Dates: March – June 2026



Location: Policy Center for the New South (PCNS), Rabat



Format: Hybrid (in-person and virtual engagements)



Languages: English, French, Arabic



Participants: 6 young researchers



Output: 6 policy briefs developed under the mentorship of PCNS Senior Fellows and Experts

What the Program Offers

- Personalized mentorship from leading PCNS Senior Fellows and Experts
- A structured pathway to develop policy-writing and analytical skills
- Access to workshops and thematic sessions supporting the development of key research and policy competencies
- Developing and writing a policy brief under the guidance of PCNS Senior Fellows and Experts
- Selected briefs will be published on the Youth Policy Center platform
- A certificate of completion awarded at the end of the program

Timeline & Format



The **PCNS-YP Mentorship Program** will run from **March to June** and will be delivered through a **hybrid format**, combining **in-person** and **virtual engagements**.

The program will launch with a **kick-off event** in late March at the **Policy Center for the New South in Rabat**, bringing together **mentees** and **mentors**, to introduce the program structure, and set the foundations for the research journey.

During the **core mentorship phase (April-May)**, mentees will follow a structured research and drafting pathway, including a **minimum of five mandatory meetings** (at least one to two in person) with the mentors.

Each mentee will benefit from the guidance of **two dedicated mentors**, one **PCNS Senior Fellow** and one **PCNS Expert**, ensuring complementary academic and policy-oriented perspectives throughout the process.

This **co-mentorship approach** provides close, continuous support across all stages of research and writing, ultimately leading to the **completion of a high-quality policy brief** aligned with PCNS thematic priorities.

Participants will have the flexibility to draft their policy brief in **Arabic, French, or English**, according to their preferred working language and research focus.

Who Can Apply ?



Aged **22 to 25** years old



Fully available to commit to the program period



Residing in **Morocco**



Pursuing **studies aligned with PCNS** thematic areas, such as:



Currently enrolled in a Master's program

- International Relations
- Geopolitics
- Political Science
- Public Policy
- Economics
- Social Sciences

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis. **Shortlisted candidates** will be contacted for a second phase of the selection process, which may include:

- A short written submission (600 words max) for each proposed topic, outlining the rationale behind the topic choice and the intended analytical approach
- An interview with the selection committee

Use of AI-Detection Tools



To ensure the **integrity and originality** of the work produced throughout the program, the Mentorship Program applies high academic and professional standards of authorship.

AI-detection tools will be used during the **selection and drafting process**, and participants are expected to submit original work developed through their own analysis and engagement with mentors.

Logistics



Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation for the kick-off and closing events.

How to Apply?

Please fill out the form [here](#)

Or scan the QR code



For inquiries related to the program, please contact: mentorship@policycenter.ma