



**ROYAL NORWEGIAN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

International Peace Institute
777 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017-3521
United States of America

Your ref.:

Our ref.:
18 -14284

Date:
08.05.2019

FUNDING UNDER THE UN AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES GRANT SCHEME

I refer to the grants provided previously by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the International Peace Institute (IPI) under the UN and Global Challenges grant scheme.

We regret to inform you that IPI will not be invited to submit a proposal under this scheme in 2019. This decision is in no way a reflection of the quality or relevance of the work undertaken by IPI, nor of IPI's administrative capacity. The Ministry has full confidence in IPI's work and has no doubt that it is carried out in accordance with the agreements.

The reason for the Ministry's decision is to avoid a possible conflict of interest. The Permanent Mission of Norway to the UN plays an important role in identifying eligible institutions to be invited to apply for funding under the scheme, and in assessing the proposed programmes. The current situation where Norway's Permanent Representative to the UN and the President of IPI are married to each other may raise questions about the impartiality of the Permanent Mission's advice in this regard. The Ministry has therefore decided that no further funding may be provided to IPI programmes under the UN and Global Challenges scheme as long as the positions of Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN and President of IPI are held by a married couple.

This decision does not preclude IPI as an eligible candidate for procurement of services for such activities as the annual Trygve Lie Symposium or from applying for funding under other grant schemes where the Permanent Mission of Norway to the UN is not involved in the decision-making process.

Yours sincerely



Merete Fjeld Brattested

Director General