

Motivation Letter

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To: Brigitte Dolenc

Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH)

University of Luxembourg

Subject: Application for Scholars at Risk Fellowship 2026

Dear Ms. Dolenc,

I am writing to express my strong interest in the Scholars at Risk Fellowship 2026 at the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH). I hold a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Wolkite University (GPA 3.35, 2023) and currently work with social media platforms and digital technologies to support research, communication, and community engagement in Ethiopia. Through this work, I have observed how digital tools can both reflect and influence the social and political challenges in Ethiopia, including ethnic tensions and regional conflicts. My experience in software development, web technologies, database management, and data visualization equips me to contribute meaningfully to digital history projects that preserve, analyze, and share knowledge. I am particularly motivated to leverage these technologies to promote understanding, unity, and collaboration across Ethiopia's diverse communities, while supporting research that can inform both national and international audiences.

Ethiopia is currently experiencing significant social and political challenges, with various regions affected by armed conflicts, ethnic tensions, and humanitarian crises. As a member of ethnic group, e.g., Amhara, Oromo, etc., optional, I have firsthand experience of these challenges, which have impacted the academic and professional environment. These circumstances have reinforced my commitment to using digital technologies to preserve cultural knowledge, document historical narratives, and support research initiatives that highlight Ethiopia's diverse heritage and contemporary social dynamics.

I am particularly drawn to the C²DH fellowship because it allows for cross-disciplinary collaboration in digital history, combining historical research with modern technology. I am eager to apply my technical expertise to projects such as:

- Developing interactive digital archives of historical and cultural data.
- Visualizing social and historical datasets to support research and public engagement.
- Creating web-based platforms for collaborative historical research and storytelling.

This fellowship represents an invaluable opportunity for me to continue my work in a safe, intellectually stimulating environment, while contributing to global scholarship in contemporary, public, and digital history. I am confident that my skills in programming, data management, and digital communication can support C²DH's mission and foster new avenues of research that bridge technology and history.

Thank you very much for considering my application. I have attached my CV for your review, and I would be honored to contribute to the important work of C²DH.

Sincerely

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