**PhD Scholarship with Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness**

**Guidelines for Research Proposal**

**Research Proposal main content** *(1500 – 2000 words)*

Please address:

* your key research question or thesis;
* the main issues that your thesis will deal with and how those issues are connected to answering the thesis question; and
* why your thesis is significant and original. This should be done by explaining the current state of the case-law (where relevant) and literature and demonstrating what your thesis would add to the existing literature. In your response you should demonstrate a good grasp (to the extent relevant) of the leading cases, statutes, and writers who work in the area that you propose to research. You need to explain what your thesis does that is not already done in the literature and why the question that you will examine is an important one.

**Methodology** *(approximately 500 words)*

Explain how you intend to develop your answer to the research question(s) that you have set. For example:

* If you are going to use empirical work (e.g. field work, interviews, questionnaires, a case study), explain your methodology and how this work will assist you to answer the question.
* If you are going to adopt a particular theoretical approach, outline what that approach is and who the leading authors in this area of theory are. Explain how this theoretical approach will inform the thesis.
* If you are going to undertake doctrinal work, explain what legal resources you intend to use, how you intend to analyse them, and what type of conclusions you hope to draw from them.
* If you are going to take a comparative approach, explain which comparator countries you are going to examine, why those countries have been chosen, and why they are appropriate comparators (if any of the countries use languages other than English, please explain how you will deal with materials in other languages).