



# CAMBRIDGE POLITICAL RISK FORUM

# POLITICAL RISK TALENT PATHWAY

An industry-supported initiative

## PURPOSE

To support a small cohort of doctoral-level political risk students from the University of Cambridge, UK, who are actively exploring careers in insurance. These individuals bring expertise in geopolitics, sovereign risk, sanctions, conflict dynamics, and political violence—capabilities that sit at the core of political risk, credit, structured finance and specialty underwriting.

The aim is to create a light-touch, high-quality industry pathway that helps young talent understand our market—while supporting the market to identify, assess, and sponsor future political-risk specialists.



## WHY IT MATTERS

Doctoral candidates have limited knowledge of the risk-transfer industry and may view insurance as opaque or inaccessible. The insurance industry will be able to assess academic candidates in a commercial context.

# WHAT THE PROGRAM INVOLVES

This is not a graduate scheme or academy. It is a focused exposure + sponsorship framework built around:

## Senior Market Access

—Sessions with senior leaders at brokers, carriers, and Lloyd's to demystify how political risk is underwritten, distributed and capitalised

## Real Market Output

—Students produce short, practitioner-focused political-risk briefs or country notes written for practitioners, creating immediate commercial relevance and allowing firms to observe talent in action

## Practical, Ongoing Exposure

—Mentoring (senior + early-career practitioners); micro-internships, or shadowing (part-time, 4–6 weeks); exposure to underwriting discussions, broker placement thinking, and, where appropriate, claims-led learning

## Career Translation & Sponsorship

—Guidance on CVs, interviews, and role selection, combined with intentional introductions to graduate program, underwriting teams and broking desks



## WHAT SUPPORT LOOKS LIKE

Support is flexible and time-efficient, including:

- Hosting a small roundtable or discussion
- Offering one or two mentors
- Allowing limited shadowing or short project work
- Reviewing a student's political-risk brief
- Being open to considering candidates for entry-level roles

Participation to be tailored to each organization's capacity.

## THE NETWORK EFFECT

Alongside the program, seeking to build a cross-market network linking senior leaders, practitioners, early-career professionals, and emerging talent. Adjacent benefits include:

- Early visibility of talent
- Stronger alignment between academia and commercial reality
- Informal knowledge-sharing across firms and generations

Over time, it is intended this program becomes an established self-reinforcing network that deepens political-risk capability across the market.

# INDUSTRY EXPOSURE PROGRAM

A structured pathway into insurance underwriting, broking and Lloyd's market careers

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## STAGE 1—London Market Experience Day [Date TBA]

Presentations by senior leadership on Lloyd's and the political risk market positioned as the inaugural meeting during Q2.

### Proposed Agenda:

**10—Registration**

**10:30–11:15:** Broker: Risk transfer for asset investments

**11:15–12:** Broker: Risk transfer for trade development/finance

**12–12:45:** Industry discussion panel

**13–14:30:** Lunch at Lloyd's of London sponsored by Mosaic, hosted by Lloyd's

**15–15:45:** Underwriter: Breadth of risk-transfer products

**15:45–16:30:** Underwriter: Career development in political risk market

**16:30—Closing comments/questions**

Time permitting, a panel with:

- Underwriters, brokers, reinsurers, and capital providers.  
Themes: how risks are selected, priced, and future of risk transfer
- Case study: “Insuring an infrastructure project”
- Networking session

**Objective:** To demystify the market and show real-world application of students' knowledge

## STAGE 2—Mentorship & Career Pathways



### A. Industry Mentorship

Each student paired with underwriter or broker with five to eight years' experience: Quarterly conversations, career guidance, CV positioning



### B. Career-Mapping Sessions

sponsored by human resources leaders with workshops explaining career pathways

- What an underwriter does
- How broking works
- Lloyd's structure
- Compensation/progression



### C. Day in the Life

Shadowing for one- to two-day placements:

- Sit with underwriting teams
- Join broker negotiations
- Observe client presentation



### D. Pathways into the Market

- Lloyd's Graduate Program
- Broker graduate schemes
- Direct underwriting roles

## STAGE 3—Practical Experience

### A. Micro-internships (four–six weeks)

Flexible placements designed to fit student schedules, with manageable commitment while providing real exposure

Options:

- Underwriting teams
- Broker advisory/placement teams
- Research units (scenario analysis, emerging risks)

Deliverables:

- Short paper or model
- Presentation to team

### B. Live Risk Projects

Students work on real problems from the market

Examples:

**Country-risk  
scoring model**

**Climate/political  
instability mapping**

**Sanctions  
impact analysis**

**AI tools for underwriting  
geopolitical risk**

## STAGE 4—Talent Pipeline & Network Creation

Annual Cambridge–Market Forum hosted in London or Cambridge

To put thinking into practice and increase visibility

Content:

- Student research presentations
- Market panels
- Networking reception

Case Competition—Example brief: **“Design an insurance solution for sovereign debt restructuring risk to present to underwriters, brokers and capital”**

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### About Mosaic

Mosaic is a global specialty insurance platform with an innovative structure allowing deployment of different forms of capital aligned for the benefit of clients and partners. We underwrite for 40 other top-rated carriers alongside our Lloyd’s syndicates 1609 and 2610—offering lead-line + syndicated capacity, and claims-settlement authority across eight product lines via seven countries. We harness the heritage of Lloyd’s and benefit from the market’s global licenses and financial-strength ratings.

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