



Consultant - Writer
O'Neill-Lancet Commission on Racism, Structural Discrimination & Global Health

Terms of Reference (TOR) /Call for applications

Background

Georgetown's O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law is seeking a consultant writer to work with the O'Neill-Lancet Commission on Racism and Structural Discrimination and Global Health ("The Commission"). The Commission was launched in February 2023. Within its three-year lifespan, the Commission has set out four charges: (i) diagnose the problem of racism in health; (ii) identify best practices and actionable anti-racist strategies; (iii) compile a report of its findings; and (iv) disseminate its findings to the public. The Commission comprises twenty experts working at the intersection of racism, structural discrimination, global health, law and policy.

Commissioners represent a multitude of communities, ethnic and racialized groups, and disciplines. Their track record of trust and investment in communities is essential to the application of non extractive methods to engage communities as co-shapers of this research and ultimately the Commission's findings. The Commission is led by the co-chairs – Dr. Tlaleng Mofokeng, the current United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, and Dr. Ngozi Erondu, a Senior Scholar at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, and Technical Director, Global Institute for Disease Elimination (GLIDE).

The writer will support the Commission in drafting the *Lancet* report, which is anticipated to be approximately 25,000 words in length. The report will be a cohesive and strategic synthesis of all the work undertaken during the Commission's lifetime. It will consist of the Commission's conceptual framework, thematic analysis, case studies, findings, and recommendations intended to inform and guide anti-racist research, policies, and practices in global health.

The writer's role includes but is not limited to:

- 1) Close collaboration with the Commission leadership (co-chairs) and drafting committee to understand the objectives, scope, and content of the report.
- 2) Drafting sections of the report in accordance with the Commission's guidelines and standards, ensuring accuracy, clarity, and coherence.



- 3) Managing incorporation of feedback from Commissioners and the drafting committee and undertaking timely revisions.
- 4) Assisting with liaising activities with the *Lancet* team, to ensure that the Commission adheres to the expected substantive, ethical, aesthetic standards for the report.
- 5) Attending all Commission drafting committee meetings during the duration of the contract.
- 6) Attending a full Commissioner meeting (tentatively August, 2024) to discuss the draft version of the report and incorporate feedback.
- 7) Working with the Secretariat (the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law) to ensure adherence to the established timeline and deadlines for the completion of the report.

Confidentiality

1. The writer shall agree to the Commission's terms of confidentiality—that is, refrain from publicizing, in any manner, information gathered during the course of appointment.
2. The writer shall refrain from using data and information accessed during the term of appointment towards any form of publication outside the scope of the Commission.

Acknowledgement

1. The Commission will include a written acknowledgement to the writer in the final *Lancet* report.
2. For papers co-authored by the Commission and the writer, which are not included in the final *Lancet* report, the writer will be cited as author.

Compensation

The writer will be contracted by The O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. Compensation is to be negotiated based on prevailing market rates on a per diem basis, with an agreed deliverables-based contract.

Contract duration

This contract is expected to be executed over a period of 1.5 years, ending on 31 September 2025, or the date when the final version of the *Lancet* report is launched, whichever comes earlier.

Selection Criteria

Experienced science writer, with expertise in health and a track record of writing for the *Lancet* or similar top-tier medical or science journals. Must demonstrate understanding of racism and structural discrimination and past achievements in collaborating with diverse teams of researchers and experts to deliver high quality written work. To apply, please send a cover letter along with three samples of written work, a CV, and at least two references by May 13 to workatoneill@georgetown.edu