



HEKIMA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

A CONSTITUENT COLLEGE OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

Office of the Principal

P. O. Box 21215
Nairobi, Kenya 00505
Tel: +254 722 201 288
+ 254 729 755 905
www.hekima.ac.ke

Ref: PRINC-2026-031

06 March 2026

Dear HUC Family,

Re: Appointment of the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

The Peace of Christ!

On behalf of Hekima University College, I am delighted to announce the appointment of **Rev. Dr. Ludovic Lado, SJ as the founding Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences**, effective 1 August 2026. The appointment has been duly approved by the Board of Trustees and the Council of Hekima University College.

Fr. Lado joins Hekima from Harvard University, where he is currently serving as a Research Scholar in Residence. A distinguished Jesuit scholar and respected voice in Social Anthropology, Ethics, Political Philosophy and Theology, he brings to Hekima a wealth of academic experience, intellectual leadership, and commitment to justice-oriented scholarship.

As Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Fr. Lado will oversee the following academic programs, working in close collaboration with and under the Principal:

- **Master of Arts in Peace Studies and International Relations**
- **Bachelor of Arts in Migration, Security and Diplomacy**
- **Bachelor of Science in Business Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship**

In this role, he will work closely with the academic leadership of these programs to strengthen teaching, research, innovation, and service in line with the mission and strategic vision of Hekima University College.

At the same time, we express our profound gratitude to **Rev. Dr. Elisée Rutagambwa, SJ**, who has served with dedication as Dean of the Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations (HIPSIR) for the past six years. Part of his tenure coincided with the global disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected academic institutions worldwide. Despite these challenges, he guided the Institute in consolidating its academic reputation in peace studies and international relations while strengthening its contribution to research, dialogue, and formation for peace in Africa and beyond. During this period, the MA in Peace Studies and International Relations gained greater visibility and academic strength, alongside the expansion of partnerships within the Institute. Fr. Rutagambwa will conclude his tenure at the end of the 2025–2026 academic year.

Beginning in **August 2026**, the position of **Dean of the Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations (HIPSIR)** will cease to exist as a separate structure. The programs previously housed within the

Institute will instead become part of the newly established **School of Arts and Sciences**, under the leadership of the Dean of the School. This transition reflects Hekima University College's commitment to strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration and responding creatively to emerging academic and societal needs. The creation of this new School is also a sign of the remarkable growth Hekima has experienced in recent years, confirming the truth that institutions, like living organisms, must continue to grow in order to thrive. As we welcome Fr. Ludovic Lado, SJ to Hekima, we do so with great joy and hope for the future of our growing academic community.

An African proverb reminds us: **"A tall tree is as strong as its roots."** As a community of learning and faith, we remain firmly rooted in our shared mission and hopeful about the future that lies before us. With gratitude for the past and confidence in what is to come, we commend both **Fr. Ludovic Lado, SJ** and **Fr. Elisée Rutagambwa, SJ** to God's gracious providence as they continue their service to the Church and to the academy. We assure them of our prayers, fraternal collaboration, and unwavering support as they carry forward their respective missions in the spirit of the Society of Jesus, for the greater good of Hekima University College and the wider world.

Your servant in Christ's Mission, I remain.



Rev. Marcel Uwineza, SJ, MBA, PhD
Principal, Hekima University College, Nairobi

Cc:

- Chair of the Board of Trustees
- Chair of HUC Council