



Community Principles of STEWARDSHIP & PARTICIPATION

AFRICA HOUSE LEGACY INITIATIVE



These Principles protect the trust, equality, integrity and independent custodianship on which the Legacy Community depends. Participation signifies a commitment to uphold them.

1. Stewardship over status

We gather to carry values and responsibility forward, not to elevate surnames, celebrity or inherited status. Family connection creates responsibility; active stewardship gives that responsibility contemporary meaning.

2. Shared values, distinct histories

We are united by values including dignity, freedom, justice, equality, peace, unity, self-determination, service and responsibility. Our histories remain distinct and should not be flattened into a single story.

3. Equal standing

There is no hierarchy of families or legacies. No title within the Initiative implies that one history, family or contribution ranks above another.

4. Independent custodianship

Each family retains authority over its own name, history, archives, intellectual property and public representation. Membership does not grant a right to speak for, interpret or bind another family.

5. Collective purpose and individual honour

The collective purpose should take precedence over personal gain or recognition. At the same time, meaningful individual work, service and contribution should be acknowledged with fairness and respect.

6. One Global Africa

We strengthen relationships across continental Africa and its global diaspora while respecting their different histories and experiences. Unity does not require uniformity.

7. Integrity and transparency

We participate honestly and in good faith, disclose relevant interests, and do not use the community, another family's name or association, or the Africa House name in ways that place personal gain—whether financial, political or otherwise—above the community's shared purpose and collective interests.



COMMUNITY PRINCIPLES

Stewardship & Participation



8. Confidentiality and trust

Private discussions, personal or family information and sensitive materials shared within the community should be treated with discretion and should not be circulated or attributed without consent.

9. Intellectual property and collective projects

Members remain free to pursue independent projects and retain their intellectual property unless expressly agreed otherwise. Sharing an idea does not itself transfer rights. Projects collectively adopted by the Initiative follow agreed arrangements for ownership, leadership and recognition. Any net surplus supports the Initiative and its programmes unless another use is collectively agreed.

10. Respectful participation

Members should engage across differences with dignity, curiosity and care. Legitimate disagreement is permitted; harassment, discrimination, retaliation, deliberate exclusion and misuse of another person's legacy are not.

11. Safeguarding and accountability

Concerns should be raised responsibly and handled fairly, confidentially and proportionately. Allegations are not findings. Conduct should be assessed on credible evidence and in proper historical, legal and political context, including recognition that resistance to injustice has often been criminalised.

12. Responsibility across generations

Membership is not automatically inherited. Each generation must demonstrate stewardship anew and help create the conditions for knowledge, values and responsibility to pass forward with integrity.

Speaking collectively

A member may describe the shared work or positions formally agreed by the Initiative, but should make clear when expressing a personal view. No member may claim to represent another family, the whole Legacy Community or Africa House without express authority.

Good standing

Good standing reflects continued compatibility with these Principles. It does not require constant attendance. Where serious concerns arise, any review should include appropriate notice, an opportunity to respond, management of conflicts of interest, proportionate outcomes and a route to review.