

The **Professorship for International Relations (Prof. Dr. Helmut Breitmeier), Institute of Political Science, Faculty of Social and Cultural Studies**, is carrying out a project on „*The UN Human Rights Regime and the Protection of Minorities in Syria*“. The project is embedded in the context of the LOEWE program (State Initiative for the Development of Scientific and Economic Excellence) on „Minority Studies: Language and Identity“ and invites applications for a **part-time position to the extent of 65 % full-time equivalent** of a

Research Assistant (m/f/d)

The position is available as of now until 31.12.2023. Fix-term employment is possible subsequently. The position is entitled to pursue a PhD promotion on the topic of the project. The salary of the position is determined by payment group E 13 according to the collective labor agreement of the State of Hesse (TV-H).

The Research Assistant will carry out the project „*The UN Human Rights Regime and the Protection of Minorities in Syria*“. The project intends to explore the options and limitations for the protection of minorities in Syria since the early 1990s through the present. It is based on a set of theories (e.g., governance theory, constructivism, international law and other theories) which deal with the impact of international institutions on the implementation of human rights. In particular, the project addresses the following questions: How did the UN human rights regime contribute to compliance with norms for the protection of ethnic, religious, linguistic or political minorities in Syria? How did this global regime influence the evolution of the identities of minorities in Syria? How did the norms and rules of this regime impact on the identities of minorities from Syria who fled to Germany? Empirical research will mainly be based on qualitative case studies. These case studies will focus on different historical time periods since the early 1990s through the present. The topic of the dissertation must consider the broader context of this project and should develop a special and more detailed focus. Applications shall include a 3-page dissertation proposal (including research question, information about empirical case study, theoretical approach, methodology). The dissertation can be cumulative or consist of a monography.

Your responsibilities:

- Carrying out independent research on the project and close cooperation with the LOEWE-programm including project management (e.g., planning of research visits, networking with the scientific community, financial and administrative project management)
- Evaluation of research results, development of scientific publications for international journals, completion of the project report
- The position includes completion of a dissertation on the project theme or on an alternative topic linked to the project theme

Your profile:

- A completed academic university degree in political science or other relevant fields in the social sciences, or in international relations or peace- and conflict studies, or in law, or in regional studies with a focus on the Middle East
- The capability to perform independent, empirical and methodological research
- Profound knowledge of international relations (e.g., research on governance or conflict studies or human rights) or of the Middle East is preferable
- Strong interest in developments related to the Syrian Arab Republic and the system of the United Nations is preferable
- Good knowledge of qualitative methods as well as the excellent command of English language
- You aim at pursuing a PhD

The Justus-Liebig-University Giessen (JLU) aims to employ more women in academic research and therefore particularly encourages female candidates to apply. JLU is regarded as a family-friendly university. Applicants with children are most welcome.

Further information about research tasks or the application procedure can be obtained by E-mail from Prof. Dr. Helmut Breitmeier (helmut.breitmeier@sowi.uni-giessen.de).

Please send your application (including cover letter, CV, a three-page dissertation proposal, documentation of your qualifications and competences, certificates) stating the **reference number 233/03** as a single file electronically to the following E-Mail address: ib@sowi.uni-giessen.de until **May 19th, 2021**. We ask that you submit your application only as a single file via Email. The university will not return applications after completion of the application process.