2 PhD stipends in the research group „Gender policy and (Anti-)Gender Discourses“

The research group "Gender Policy and (Anti-)Gender Discourses - Between Progress and Regression. A Comparative Discourse and Policy Analysis in Four European Countries" is looking for two PhD fellows for 01 November 2023. The project, led by Dr. Stefan Wallaschek and Prof. Dr. Monika Eigmüller, is funded by the Gerda Henkel Foundation for three years. The project is based at the Interdisciplinary Centre for European Studies (ICES) at the Europa-Universität Flensburg (EUF) (Germany). In the Interdisciplinary Centre for European Studies, scholars at the university are networked across disciplines, institutes and universities.

Project description
The frequently stated crisis of Western democracies involves the rejection of the liberal-democratic canon of values in favor of an authoritarian-regressive value orientation, which strongly politicizes the value of gender equality in particular. Building on this theoretically, we turn to this value conflict by examining in four European countries (Germany, Ireland, Poland, Spain) why gender equality has become increasingly politicized and to what extent there is rising polarization within society. The aim is to analyze in-depth the intertwining and mutual influence of three discourse arenas - policy discourse, traditional media discourse and social media discourse - on debates about abortion (reproductive rights) and women's access to the labor market (productive rights). In doing so, the project aims to answer the questions of how democratic values are negotiated in the face of digitalization and discursive conflict, and what influence social media as well as national and transnational contexts have in this process. For more information, please visit the project website: https://www.uni-flensburg.de/en/ices/research/projects/gender-policy-and-antigender-discourses

Our offer
- PhD stipend for 3 years (11/2023 - 10/2026), 1600,00€ per month, additional family allowance if applicable
- Funding of research stays in the selected countries to conduct interviews with policy actors
- Funding of methodological training (method schools/training) and conference participation in Germany and abroad
- Support and supervision of the PhD project and opportunities to participate in local and (inter)national networks, e.g. the ICES Research School or the Gender Network at the EUF or in the ECPR or DGS
- Flexible working hours and the possibility of mobile and remote work
- Support to reconcile work and family life
- friendly, collegial atmosphere in an interdisciplinary team and in a dynamic research environment
Your tasks

- Development of a theoretical framework as well as analysis of the discourse arenas in the selected countries (depending on language skills) in close coordination with the project leaders and in cooperation with all project participants
- Development of an own dissertation project within the project framework with own emphasis
- Presence and presentation of the project work at conferences and workshops
- Preparation of publications, e. g. in peer reviewed journals (national/international)
- Co-organization of stakeholder workshops in Flensburg

Your profile

- Master's degree in political science, sociology, communication studies or related subjects relevant to the project with at least a good grade (degree should be completed at the start)
- Research interests on (comparative) gender politics, policy research, anti-gender discourses, polarization and/or political (digital) communication
- Demonstrable knowledge and experience in empirical social research (quantitative and/or qualitative) and media data (in a broad sense)
- Experience with network analysis, image analysis and/or quantitative text analysis is beneficial
- Very good language skills in German (C1), English (C1) as well as another European language (e. g. Spanish, Polish)
- Enjoy working in an independent manner as well as in an interdisciplinary team

Your application

- Max. 2-page cover letter which explains your scientific fit into the project and outlines your own idea for a doctoral project
- Writing sample of 15-20 pages (term paper, chapter of thesis or publication)
- Curriculum Vitae (publication list, if applicable)
- Copy of certificates (MA-certificate, if needed, certificate of foreseeable graduation prior to the start of the project; BA-certificate; if applicable additional work references)

If you have any questions about the job profile and the project tasks, please contact Stefan Wallaschek (stefan.wallaschek@uni-flensburg.de).

We would like to actively promote diversity and equality in the research group, which is why we explicitly welcome applications from people of any gender, people without an academic family background and/or people with a migration history. People with disabilities who are equally as qualified as other applicants will receive preferential treatment. Please refrain from attaching application photos to your application documents.

Please send your application by 11 August 2023 at the latest in a single pdf file of max. 15 MB with the subject "Application: Stipend" by e-mail to Stefan Wallaschek (stefan.wallaschek@uni-flensburg.de).