



Geisteswissenschaftliche Zentren e.V. | ZMO |
Kirchweg 33 D-14129 Berlin

Job Advertisement

The Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) in Berlin is an independent academic institute focused on the historical and contemporary politics of Africa and Asia.

The ZMO is now seeking to hire

One Phd Student

to be employed for 36 months. The envisaged starting date is 1st September 2018.

The position is within the research project "Learning Intelligence: The Exchange of Secret Service Knowledge between Germany and the Arab Middle East 1960-2010" (head: Dr. Sophia Hoffmann). The project explores the international relations between German and Arab intelligence agencies to investigate whether such contact led to similarities (or differences) between them.

The candidate will be expected to carry out a comparative study between German (East or West) and Arab intelligence agencies (Iraq, Egypt, Yemen or Syria), based on extensive literature study, archival research and interviews in Europe and the US. Very good reading skills in German and Arabic are essential. The exact title and case studies of the project will be determined together with the candidate.

The ideal candidate should possess good knowledge of international relations or political theory (an interest in theory is crucial to carrying out this project!).

The received PhD will be in the discipline of political science.

Job Description:

- Title: PhD Student.
- Duration: 36 months.
- Salary: 65 % of German Salary Tarif TVöD 13, translates into between EUR 1400 and 1600 after tax, depending on personal circumstances (taxation differs).
- Location: ZMO, Kirchweg 33, 14129 Berlin.

Key Tasks:

Research/academic tasks:

- Carry out an independent research project, comparing German and Arab intelligence agencies.
- Extensive literature review, archival research and interviews.
- Present research results at conferences and workshops; write academic papers.
- Participate in regular meetings to discuss theoretical concepts, methodological approaches and research findings.
- Participate in institutional academic life at the ZMO.

Administrative and organisational tasks:

- Carry out the organisational requirements of a research project, incl. organising own travel, archival access etc.
- Comply with internal administrative requirements, such as filling in travel forms, book orders etc.

Person specification (essential)

- Master's degree in politics or related social science (anthropology MAs with an interest in political anthropology, and theoretically interested historians or regional scholars also welcome).
- Demonstrated qualitative research experience.
- Excellent Arabic (reading).
- Excellent German (reading).
- Very good English (reading, writing, speaking).
- Ability to take initiative and work independently.
- Ability to travel to the US.
- Organised and efficient person.

Person specifications (desirable)

- Good knowledge of IR and/or political or sociological theory.
- Good knowledge/experience of qualitative or comparative research methodologies.
- Previous study of the (international) politics of the Middle East.
- Previous study of East Germany's Ministry of State Security and/or West German intelligence agencies.

Please send your CV and Cover Letter to sophia.hoffmann@zmo.de.

Applications will be received until 31st May 2018.