

Job advertisement

The Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography based in Leipzig, Germany, invites applications from qualified and motivated candidates for the following two positions (100%):

Postdoctoral Researcher (TV-L 13, 48 months with tenure) “MultiReg” (f/m/d) Experienced Researcher (TV-L 13, 24 months with tenure) “M&M” (f/m/d)

These positions are available from 01 May 2019 and are based within the Department “Regional Geography of Europe”. The IfL is an independent research institute with currently around 80 employees specialising in human and regional geography and a member of the Leibniz Association of Germany’s leading research institutions. The institute is financially supported by the State of Saxony and the Federal Republic of Germany through the framework for joint research support, and third-party funding.

The position of a *Postdoctoral Researcher* is part of the Multiple Geographies of Regional and Local Development (MultiReg) research cluster, currently encompassing ten largely international comparative research projects and nine team members. The main ambition of MultiReg is to better understand how multiple geographies based on diverging trends of development at various scales intersect and culminate at local and regional levels. MultiReg aims (1) to analyse the extent how socio-spatial processes of polarisation and peripheralisation are produced, reproduced, tackled and dissolved, (2) to understand how different actors set off new/alternative/hidden/diverging processes of development and (3) to highlight barriers and facilitators coming into play in processes of regional and local change. The research cluster builds on a constructivist understanding of space and follows approaches such as institutional change, path shaping and the geography of innovation, regional and local governance as well as processes of multi-scalar reconfigurations of place. With the postdoctoral researcher, the IfL aims to strengthen its research in the post-Soviet space in a comparative perspective.

The position of an *Experienced Researcher* is part of the Mobilities and Migration (M&M) research cluster, currently encompassing seven research projects and seven team members. The main ambition of M&M is to look into the conditionalities, contradictions and interdependencies between different forms of (im-)mobilities as well as the multiple connections between (im-)mobilities and social and spatial inequalities. M&M aims (1) to better integrate migration and mobility research, particularly with regard to multiscale forms of mobility, (2) to include considerations of power and justice, such as the social/demographic/cultural selectivity of mobility access and options, its causes and consequences, and (3) to develop new perspectives on immobility. The research cluster builds on a constructivist understanding of space and follows approaches such as mobility as a socially produced phenomenon (new mobilities paradigm), multi-scalar and multi-methods approaches, focus on infrastructures as enabling and constraining mobility, including questions of power and justice, inclusion and exclusion, polarisation and peripheralisation. With the experienced researcher, the IfL aims to work on the conceptual relation between new geographies of the regional and diverse mobilities and to strengthen its research in post-Soviet space in a comparative perspective, and to overcome the predominant apolitical and technocratic perspectives on mobility.

We offer:

- Institutionally funded research position with flexibility to implement and advance the MultiReg/M&M research programme with an empirical emphasis on post-Soviet space in a comparative perspective.
- Family-friendly working conditions that encourage the compatibility of work and family life, flexible organisation of working time, a good working environment, integration in a dynamic and international team.

- Funding for international activities (conferences, workshops) and additional funding for publication activities.
- Opportunity for further qualification (Habilitation) and training.
- The jobs are generally suitable to be part time.

Your responsibilities:

- To design, acquire and implement research projects contributing to the overall goals of the respective research cluster, and ensure the clusters' visibility in the national and international research landscape.
- To take a fair share of responsibility of preparation of and contribution to international workshops, conferences, as well as publication and outreach activities.
- To participate in the institute's research activities, self-administration and events, to supervise junior researchers/research teams and contribute to the advancement of the Institute's research programme.

Essential criteria "MultiReg"

- Academic background (doctoral dissertation) in human geography, public policy, political economy, urban and regional development, or related disciplines.
- Familiarity with current debates in critical human geography, urban studies and political economy about post-socialist transformation, particularly focusing on the post-Soviet space; engaging with post-socialist and post-colonial dialogues, placing Eurasia in global academic debates on labour, institutional transformation, social mobilisation, spatial inequalities, multi-level transformations of space and society.
- Experience in qualitative research methods and comparative studies.
- Basic proficiency in German, high proficiency in English and at least one further language from post-Soviet space (level C1/2).
- Experience in presenting at international conferences and workshops, high-profile publications in academic journals and policy outlets.
- Personal qualities: high level of motivation and the ability to work in a team and meet deadlines; personal commitment and reliability; ambition to design and implement own research projects related to post-Soviet space in a comparative perspective.

Essential criteria "M&M"

- Academic background (doctoral dissertation) in human geography, public policy, urban and regional development, or related disciplines.
- Familiarity with current debates in mobility studies and transport geography, and the theoretical/conceptual themes of the research cluster such as mobility governance, informal mobilities, mobility justice, digitalisation and mobility infrastructures.
- Experience in qualitative research methods and comparative studies.
- Basic proficiency in German, high proficiency in English and at least one further language from post-Soviet space (level C1/2).
- Experience in presenting at international conferences and workshops, high-profile publications in academic journals and policy outlets.
- Personal qualities: high level of motivation and the ability to work in a team and meet deadlines; personal commitment and reliability; ambition to design and implement own research projects related to post-Soviet space in a comparative perspective.
- Proof of awarded project grants, high profile publications and independent project leadership

We expect an ambitious, autonomous thinking and acting personality, furthermore a maximum of initiative, ability to work in a team and readiness to innovate. If requested, a participation in an academic study is possible.

The fulfillment of the tasks requires a maximum in spatial flexibility and willingness to travel in the examined region.

The IfL follows the goal of professional equality of women and men. Applications from qualified women are most welcome. Recognised persons with disabilities receive preference by equal qualification. We welcome applications from individuals with a migration background.

Your application:

Please send your application in English (1 page motivation letter, CV, list of relevant publications and projects, certificates, recent publication sample) in a single PDF file with the subject line "Job Application: MultiReg or M&M" to: personal@ifl-leipzig.de

By submitting the application, you consent to the processing of your personal data for the purpose of the application procedure.

Contact: Dr. Thilo Lang, t_lang@ifl-leipzig.de

Deadline for applications: 10 February 2019

