

PhD Student / Research Assistant

Starting date: 01.09.2022 (length of research project: 4 years)

Occupational rate: 100% (40% for the research project / 60% for thesis work)

Job opening to work as fully-funded Research Assistant/PhD Student on new Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) funded project: "De-blackboxing the Production of Expert Knowledge in Global Governance", led by Prof. Annabelle Littoz-Monnet. SNSF salary rates will apply.

The project will explore how expert knowledge is produced and stabilised in global governance, with a specific focus on different areas of global health governance. Expertise is ubiquitous in global governance. 'Experts', sitting in expert groups, academia, private institutes, advisory committees of all sorts, abound and produce a plethora of studies, databases and seminal papers that form the knowledge base of given issue domains. But how is global governance expertise – the reports, studies and numbers that make the knowledge base of a field – produced? In what sites and through what mechanisms is such expertise made? Through what processes and negotiations are certain forms of knowledge deemed expert and others dismissed? In asking such questions, the project aims to shed light on the exchanges, iterations and concrete mechanisms that entangle politics and knowledge in the making of expert knowledge.

Job description:

- The PhD student/Research Assistant will be involved with the empirical work of the project, and expected to write their doctoral thesis on a topic related to the politics of knowledge, knowledge-making practices, or the sociology of expertise in global governance, in any empirical domain of their interest.
- The research work on the project will involve desk research on the different cases of the project; and tasks such as producing literature reviews; conducting interviews and/or ethnographic observations, and/or transcribing interviews and ethnographic observations.
- The PhD Student/Research Assistant will also be involved in the organization of two workshops related to the project and project management tasks.

The candidate is expected to have:

- An MA in either International Relations /Political Science/Anthropology/Science and Technology Studies/Sociology, completed at the end of this academic year
- A strong interest in knowledge and expertise production in global governance; with some familiarity with literatures on knowledge-making practices/the politics of expertise from fields such as sociology, STS, IR, or anthropology.
- Some practice of at least *some* qualitative research methods, such as interviewing, ethnographic methods, discourse analysis, qualitative network analysis.
- Excellent writing skills in English.

Apply for the position by writing to annabelle.littoz-monnet@graduateinstitute.ch. Include a one page motivation letter, a CV, a publication list (if available), transcripts, a writing sample, and the names and contact details of two references. **Application deadline: 5.06.2022**