

Two funded PhD positions (TVL 13; 36 months) in research project on *Geodata for the digital documentation of human rights violations*

Background

The *Institute of Political Science* and the *Institute of Geography* at FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg collaborate on the documentation and monitoring of human rights violations via analysis of digital (geo)data, including, but not limited to remote sensing, web 2.0 cartography, social media, and open geodata. The aim of the project is to document the destruction and military appropriation of educational institutions in wartime situations, taking the war in Syria as case study. We will use pre-existing data sets and analyse opportunities and challenges of such documentation for human rights advocacy and accountability.

PhD positions

One PhD position will be related to the *Human Rights Research* focus within the *Institute of Political Science* ([Prof. Dr. Katrin Kinzelbach](#)) and one related to the *Digital Geography Research* focus at the *Institute of Geography* ([Prof. Dr. Georg Glasze](#) & [Prof. Dr. Blake Walker](#)). Both PhD candidates will cooperate closely with one another and with the aforementioned professors. We are presently offering two PhD positions (TV-L 13, estimated 75%, to be finalised) for three years, modern office space in close proximity to other PhD researchers in the fields of human rights research and digital geography at FAU, adequate IT equipment, and the possibility to use relevant software and databases as well as funds for research and conference travel (subject to final approval of public research funding).

Skills, knowledge, and experience

Both positions

- MA/MSc in relevant discipline;
- high degree of self-organization
- a strong interest in collaborative and transdisciplinary research;
- very good written and oral communication skills in English;
- German language skills are an asset.

Human rights research

- demonstrated research interest in empirical human rights research;
- Arabic language skills and relevant country expertise are an important asset;
- interest in use of geo-data for social science (prior experience welcome but not required).

Digital geography

- competences in the analysis of geodata (e.g., Geographic Information Systems (GIS); analysis of remote sensing data, geo-referencing of social media data);
- competences in the visualisation of geodata;
- conceptual expertise in the approaches of *critical* GIS/remote sensing/data studies.

Application

Submission of application documents (motivation letter, CV, transcripts, two-page research proposal that relates to the overarching theme of the project, writing sample) by email to Silvia Krönig (silvia.kroenig@fau.de) not later than 20 August 2022. We aim to fill both positions by October 2022 (subject to final funding approval and availability of the selected candidates). FAU is an equal opportunity employer.