



The University of Bremen, U Bremen Excellence Chair Prof. Dr. Shalini Randeria / Research Group “Soft Authoritarianisms: Comparative Interdisciplinary Perspectives” as part of the Interdisciplinary Research Platform “Worlds of Contradiction” (faculties 6, 8, 9, 10 & 12) invites applications for the following position within the fields of the humanities, cultural, social or legal sciences (Cultural Studies, Law, Linguistics, Political Sciences, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Sociology & related fields).

Research Associate (0,65%) (EG 13 TVL) – PhD-Position

part time (26 hours weekly) and limited until 31.12.2022.
Start time: at the next possible date

The University of Bremen, a mid-sized university with 320 professors, 19.500 students and a full-spectrum of academic disciplines is one of Europe's leading research universities and maintains close cooperation with international universities and non-university research institutions in the region. The promotion of young researchers is a core element of Bremen's research strategy.

The U Bremen Excellence Chair Program is a new initiative at the University of Bremen starting in 2019. It allows top international researchers to form their own research group in Bremen and to connect it to a network of outstanding research institutions worldwide in their respective disciplines. Shalini Randeria's research group Soft Authoritarianisms: Comparative Interdisciplinary Perspectives studies how “soft authoritarian” rule functions, how it is put in place institutionally and sustained rhetorically, how the rule of law is dismantled in everyday life and how democratic institutions are hollowed out slowly and systematically. Three case studies will focus on France, Eastern Europe and Turkey including their diasporas in order (1) to analyse authoritarian practices of state transformation, (2) to sharpen our political sensibilities and social science vocabulary and (3) to build process-sensitive theory that overcomes the West-non-West divide characteristic of the social sciences. Methodologically, the research group will fuse ethnographic approaches with text-, language- and discourse-oriented methods. The research group will also conduct a series of Young Scholars Autumn Research Schools starting in 2020 and in collaboration with WoC it will build the new research field Contradictions of Extractive Populisms.

Tasks:

- Independent research and development of own PhD project either for France or for one or more Eastern European countries (e.g. Poland, Hungary, Ukraine) within the methodological and analytical framework of the group; ability to conduct a full empirical case study in one of these two areas
- Participation within the activities of the research group and the wider Worlds of Contradiction network
- Supporting the organisation of international workshops, conferences and the Young Scholars Autumn Research Schools
- Individual publications and support for team publications resulting from the research group's activities.

Requirements:

- Very good Master degree in the humanities or cultural, social and legal sciences (Cultural Studies, Law, Linguistics, Political Sciences, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Sociology and related fields)
- Development of an independent doctoral research project either on France or Eastern Europe (Poland, Hungary, Ukraine etc.)
- Experience with qualitative methods (ethnographic/praxeographic field research, discourse analysis, language analysis), interest in interdisciplinary collaboration
- High level of proficiency in English (including demonstrated academic writing skills) is required, as the Research Group's working language is English, proficiency in German is highly welcome but not mandatory
- Language proficiency for the respective case study
- Ability and willingness to spend longer periods of fieldwork abroad
- Good organisational skills; willingness and ability to work in teams
- High commitment, reliable and careful style of work

The University of Bremen intends to increase the proportion of women in science and therefore specifically encourages women to apply. Severely disabled applicants will be given priority if they show the same professional and personal suitability. Applications are welcomed from people with a migration background. We encourage applications by international candidates, especially from the Global South.

The employment is fixed-term and governed by the Act of Academic Fixed-Term Contract, § 2 I (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz – WissZeitVG). Therefore, candidates may only be considered for appointment if they still have the respective qualification periods available in accordance with § 2 (1) WissZeitVG.

Please direct further inquiries on this position to Prof. Dr. Shalini Randeria (Randeria@iwm.at) or Prof. Dr. Michi Knecht (knecht@uni-bremen.de).

Please send your complete set of application documents in English including letter of motivation, CV (with publication record if relevant), certificates, a sample chapter from a completed MA/MSc thesis or a published paper, and a brief proposal of not more than three pages, outlining the individual PhD research project within the framework of the research group described above, including methodology and a time line.

Please send the documents with the **reference number A102/19 until July 5th, 2019** to

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attn. Ms. Martina Girwert
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Germany
or by mail as single PDF-file to:
girwert@uni-bremen.de

Please submit only copies with your application (no folders) as we are unable to return application material, which will be destroyed after the selection process.

