



The independent research group Space, Contexts, and Crime at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law in Freiburg i. Br. (Germany) is seeking applications for a

Doctoral Researcher (f/m/d, Sociology, Political Sciences, or neighbouring disciplines) (FGO-24-03)

About us

The Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law is a leading European center for research in criminology, public security matters, and criminal law and is part of the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science – one of the world's most distinguished research organizations. The independent research group Space, Contexts, and Crime led by Professor Dietrich Oberwittler pursues innovative approaches to the study of the causes and consequences of crime and related phenomena in spatial contexts.

The Institute is located in Freiburg i. Br., a dynamic and green city with a 900-year history, an international atmosphere, a vibrant student population, and many recreational opportunities. Freiburg ranks third on Lonely Planet's "Best in Travel 2022" list of the top ten city destinations.

Your Tasks

The successful applicant will contribute to the research project „Crime and the Social Dynamics of Urban Neighbourhoods“ and pursue a doctoral degree in Sociology or Political Sciences. In this project, four waves of survey data between 2014 and 2021 with 3000+ respondents each from 140 neighbourhoods were collected and matched to a rich set of contextual data. Analyses in this project focus on individual and collective changes in the experience and perception of crime, well-being and social capital. A special focus is on the consequences of increasing ethnic heterogeneity for neighbourhood social cohesion. As the data collection is completed, the doctoral researcher will concentrate on pursuing complex multilevel and longitudinal analyses and publishing innovative findings as part of the research group.

Your Profile

The applicant should have completed (or close to completing) a university degree (Master's or equivalent) in Sociology, Political Science, or a neighbouring discipline. We expect a solid knowledge of advanced quantitative research methods, ideally multilevel analysis and/or panel data analysis, and experience in working with Stata or R. The applicant should have strong interests in criminology or urban sociology, in particular in relation to social/ethnic

inequalities and social cohesion in urban contexts. Excellent written and spoken English language skills are essential. German language skills are not a requirement.

Our Offer

Our Institute offers unrivalled conditions for doctoral studies, including access exceptional specialist libraries and databases, excellent workspaces, and comprehensive administrative and academic support. Collaboration with other doctoral researchers, postdocs, and international partners at the Institute is a key element of our research. Additionally, there are many opportunities for our researchers to participate in workshops, seminars, and conferences.

The doctoral position is available from 1 October, 2024 (negotiable) and limited to three years with the possibility of renewal for two further periods of six months each in exceptional circumstances. It is a fully funded research position with no teaching obligations. The position is full-time (currently 39 hours/week). Remuneration and social benefits are based on the German Civil Service Collective Agreement (TVöD Bund), pay category 13, 65% (see <https://oeffentlicher-dienst.info/tvoed/bund/>). The salary includes all mandatory social insurance contributions for healthcare, long-term care, unemployment, and retirement. The workplace is Freiburg i. Br. (Germany). We are committed to ensuring a positive work-life balance and offer flexible work options, including remote work, as well as generous opportunities for personal and professional development, including free in-house German language courses.

The Max Planck Society is an equal opportunity employer and supports diversity in the workplace. Applications from disabled persons are welcome. We also aim to increase the percentage of female staff in fields in which they are underrepresented and therefore expressly encourage women to apply. Applications are particularly welcome from persons with backgrounds that have so far been underrepresented in science and research with regard to gender, age, professional and cultural background, family situation, sexual orientation, and nationality.

Your Application

To apply, please submit your application with the following documents:

1. a letter of interest/motivation (max. two pages);
2. your CV, including study certificates and transcripts of records;
3. name and email address of at least one scholar who has agreed to provide a reference for you;
4. a writing sample, e.g., your Master's thesis, a seminar paper, or a publication;

Please submit the application via our online application portal

(<https://csl.mpg.de/en/career>) for FGO-24-03.

For further information, please contact Prof. Dietrich Oberwittler (d.oberwittler@cs.l.mpg.de) or Dr. Annika Hampel, Recruitment Officer (a.hampel@cs.l.mpg.de).

The deadline for applications is 12 July, 2024.

For further information about our Institute, please visit our website at: <https://cs.l.mpg.de/en>.

