



Centre for

## **Global Cooperation Research**

UNIVERSITÄT  
**DUISBURG  
ESSEN**

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Federal Ministry  
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### **Research Fellowships 2018/2019 Open Call for Applications**

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg/Centre for Global Cooperation Research (KHK/GCR21) invites applications for Research Fellowships in the period March 2018 – February 2019. Proposals regarding 1) pathways and mechanisms of global cooperation and 2) global cooperation under conditions of polycentric governance are especially welcome. The fully funded fellowships for up to 12 months are available to both senior and postdoctoral researchers across the humanities and social sciences. Deadline for applications is 19 November 2017.

#### **The KHK/GCR21**

The Centre for Global Cooperation Research at the University of Duisburg-Essen is one of ten Käte Hamburger Kollegs sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Established in 2012, the Centre is an interdisciplinary and international learning community that seeks to enhance understanding of the possibilities and limits of global cooperation and to explore new options for global public policy. The working language at the Centre is English.

Over the next funding period (2018-2023) the Centre's research and fellowships are organized around four broad themes: pathways and mechanisms of global cooperation; global cooperation and polycentric governance; critique, justification and legitimacy in global cooperation; and global cooperation among plural conceptions of world order. Empirical research on these themes will focus especially on climate change, digital spaces, migration, and peacebuilding.

#### **Fellowships 2018-2019**

In the period March 2018-February 2019 we invite fellowship applications from across the humanities and social sciences (including psychology, law and economics) in relation to the first two main themes, as detailed below. Preference is for fellowships of twelve months, but shorter periods will also be considered. We particularly encourage female researchers and scholars from the Global South to apply. Applications from scholars at risk are welcome.

#### ***Benefits to Fellows***

- An intellectually stimulating and vibrant interdisciplinary learning community
- Excellent infrastructure with fully equipped offices, library facilities, and administrative support (also with finding accommodation)
- Travel expenses and funds to organize workshops (subject to approval)

- Either a monthly stipend commensurate with experience or salary reimbursement to the home institution

### ***Expectations of Fellows***

- Personal research and publication in the Centre's thematic areas
- A contribution to the Centre's own publications (e.g. Global Cooperation Research Papers or Routledge Global Cooperation Series)
- Active participation in seminars and other Centre events
- Collaboration with other fellows in interdisciplinary exchange
- Work in residence at the Centre in Duisburg, Germany
- A completed PhD (for postdoctoral fellows)

### **Themes 2018-2019**

The Centre's work in the first year of its second funding period will focus on the themes 'Pathways and Mechanisms of Global Cooperation' and 'Global Cooperation and Polycentric Governance'. We especially invite fellowship applications that address these themes, as described below. In addition, empirical focus on climate change, digital spaces, migration, or peacebuilding is particularly welcome.

#### ***Pathways and Mechanisms of Global Cooperation***

This theme aims to develop a dynamic understanding of global cooperation (i.e. extensive and intensive collaboration of two or more parties to address a collective problem of global scale). Analyzing both successful instances and failed attempts of global cooperation – and investigating how these experiences have in turn fostered or hampered further cooperation – will shed light on the durability, reversibility, linearity or changeability of global governance arrangements. In particular, longitudinal studies comparing processes of cooperation across space, time and scales, as well as examining the dynamic interaction between public, private and civil society actors therein, will contribute to a more systematic understanding about the factors which shape trajectories of global cooperation over time.

For 'Pathways and Mechanisms of Global Cooperation' we invite fellowship applications that address theoretical, methodological and substantive issues related to the temporality and dynamics of global cooperation. Relevant questions include: how can institutional mechanisms explain the movement of global cooperation along specific trajectories? What role do narratives and forms of collective sense-making play in supporting or undermining pathways of global cooperation? What types of positive or negative feedback might generate upward spirals of sustained cooperation or downwards spirals of dissolution? To what extent can existing concepts from the humanities and social sciences, such as path dependency and path generation, be applied to contemporary global cooperation – or do we need new concepts?

#### ***Global Cooperation and Polycentric Governance***

This theme examines the repercussions of institutional complexity for global cooperation. Governance of global challenges increasingly involves a plethora of public, private and civil society actors across multiple scales and sectors. In this situation, global cooperation must develop across many institutional sites which are often only loosely interlinked. Comparative mapping of complex polycentric governance arrangements across policy fields is important to determine whether the flexibility, creativity, adaptability and responsiveness that such

arrangements may entail can offset their challenges in terms of coordination, compliance and accountability.

For 'Global Cooperation and Polycentric Governance' we invite fellowship applications that address theoretical, methodological and substantive issues related to the nature and repercussions of polycentric governance in respect of global cooperation. Key questions include: how can we best conceptualize the institutional complexity which is here called 'polycentrism' (e.g. in terms of actor-networks, regime complexes, global assemblages, fragmented architectures, new constitutionalism, etc.)? How can we map institutional complexity around global cooperation, particularly in the governance of climate change, digital spaces, migration, and peacebuilding? Which practices of polycentric governance are particularly conducive to successful (or failed) global cooperation?

### **How to Apply**

Applications (in English only) should include:

- cover letter
- concise research proposal (3-5 pages)
- CV
- list of publications
- text of one relevant publication

Please submit applications at <http://www.gcr21.org/en/fellows/how-to-become-a-fellow/fellowships/>. Deadline for receipt of applications is **19 November 2017**. Please indicate in the cover letter your preferred start and end date of the fellowship.

For questions on this call, please contact Matthias Schuler at <schuler@gcr21.uni-due.de>.