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Job offer!

Two research associate positions available at the University of Freiburg, Germany

Starting between January 15th and February 15th 2023, **two positions as research associates/ PhD candidates** are available in the research project “**Comparing the Forest Governance Performances of Regional Regimes. A Comprehensive Analysis**” at the University of Freiburg, Germany (Chair of Forest and Environmental Policy & Chair for Multilevel Governance).

Project summary:

Globalization, internationalization and an increasing number of cross-border environmental challenges like climate change and biodiversity have led political actors to recognize the need of forest policy beyond the domestic level. This has also been mirrored in research with an increasing number of studies on the international forest regime. This body of work revealed that the international regime is fragmented and contributes to forest governance, but does so only with limited effectiveness. While the international level is often under scrutiny, we know less about the governance performances of regional regimes dealing with forest policy despite the fact that there are a total of 76 different regimes on the regional level of which the European Union or the Congo Basin Forest Partnership are prominent examples. Given that the international forest regime's effectiveness is limited, the comparative and comprehensive study of different regional forest governance regimes and their differences and similarities in performance becomes all the more important. By adopting a comparative approach, this project contributes towards closing gaps in our knowledge about regional regimes. To this end, it examines three research questions on three dimensions of performance, output (words), outcome (deeds) and impact (effects), of forest governance in regional regimes. These are: Do regional regimes differ concerning the type and extend of forest governance output they produce (number of policies, decisions, declarations etc. a regional regime passes) and how can observed variation be explained? Do some regional regimes perform better concerning forest governance outcomes (activities based on regional regime output) and why? When do regional regimes reach a high impact of forest governance (problem-solving ability) and how can variation in this respect be accounted for?

More information on the team of and the research conducted at the Chair of Multilevel Governance are available under: <https://www.politik.uni-freiburg.de/professuren/governance>

Your responsibilities include:

- Support in the collaborative process of answering the project's research questions
- Data collection based on primary and secondary sources as well as interviews
- Coordination of and cooperation with student research assistants
- Conducting qualitative case studies (position 1)
- Conducting quantitative analysis (position 2)
- Co-authorship of project publications

Requirements:

- Completed MA degree in political science (or equivalent forest or social sciences degree) with very good grades (the degree needs to be completed by January 1stth 2023 at the very latest)
- Interest in the Subdiscipline 'International Relations'
- Very good skills in qualitative methods
- Solid knowledge of theory and practice of international relations
- Fluency in English, additional language skills are of advantage
- Ability to work in a team and an interest in the research project
- Writing a PhD thesis during the three year-contract

Please email your application as one pdf file that includes a brief letter of motivation, CV, a list of degrees/grades obtained, copies of your degrees as well as a one page outline of your planned PhD project by November 15th 2022 to susanne.hoelscher@ifp.uni-freiburg.de (please make sure that the pdf file does not exceed 8 MB).

Please note that job interviews will be held on December 1st 2022.