

swisspeace is a practice-oriented peace research institute. As an associate institute of the University of Basel, it carries out research on violent conflicts and their peaceful transformation. The institute shapes political and academic discourse on peace policy issues at the national and international level through publications, workshops and conferences. Thereby, swisspeace promotes knowledge exchange between researchers and practitioners.

For its mediation program, swisspeace is looking for:

2 PhD research fellows on “Are mediators norm entrepreneurs? The role of norms in international peace mediation”

Starting on 1 July 2015 (or by agreement)

The successful candidates will complete a PhD at the University of Basel as part of the Swiss National Science Foundation funded project “Are mediators norm entrepreneurs?” coordinated by Professor Dr. Laurent Goetschel and Dr. Sara Hellmüller. They will be based at swisspeace in Bern, Switzerland.

The research project seeks to shed light on the role of mediators in norm diffusion by asking to what extent mediators are norm entrepreneurs. More specifically, it addresses the questions of what norms belong to the normative framework for mediation processes; whether mediators promote and imitate norms and how; and which norms have been internalized in mediation processes. Methodologically, the project is based on a combination of case studies and process-tracing.

Your tasks:

- Developing and conducting high quality qualitative research on the role of norms in mediation on an agreed case study
- Completion of the required courses and credits for a PhD at the University of Basel
- Production of high quality single authored and co-authored scientific papers
- Contribution to the organization and coordination of research dissemination events
- Contribution to ongoing swisspeace program work

Your profile:

- A Master's degree in social sciences
- Fulfilment of the requirements for a doctorate at the University of Basel (<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Application-Admission/Admission/Admission-to-Doctoral-Studies.html>)
- Availability to participate in the G3S (<https://g3s.unibas.ch/>) and International Graduate School North-South (<http://www.igs-north-south.ch/Pages/default.aspx>) doctoral programs
- Language competency in English, French and/or German
- Proven capacity for high level academic work
- Interest to conduct research on ongoing mediation processes
- Experience of qualitative research methods
- Excellent communication skills
- Availability to work in a dynamic environment where researchers and practitioners interact and benefit from synergies

Our offer:

Attractive working conditions in a small, professional and dynamic team and a workplace in Bern, Switzerland.

We look forward to receiving your complete application in English, including the following documents:

- Motivation letter
- CV with list of publications and names of 3 referees
- Sample of published or unpublished written academic work on a relevant topic (in English, French or German)
- One page summary of your main topics of interest in the mediation field and how you would like to contribute to the project “Are mediators norm entrepreneurs?” (in English).

Please send your application to toni.joller@swisspeace.ch by 13 May 2015. More information can be found at: www.swisspeace.ch or received from Sara Hellmüller, sara.hellmueller@swisspeace.ch, Tel: +41 31 330 10 75.