

Mercator Research Fellowship at the NRW School of Governance (Duisburg, Germany)

- CALL FOR FELLOWS 2015-

1. The Mercator Research Fellowship

Between 2013 and 2016, the NRW School of Governance (University of Duisburg-Essen) and the Mercator Foundation (Stiftung Mercator) are granting multiple *Mercator Research Fellowships* with the aim of intensifying the international exchange of scientists.

The *Mercator Research Fellowship* Program allows postdoc researchers with an academic background in the social sciences to spend a period of three to six months at the *NRW School of Governance* (Institute of political science; University of Duisburg-Essen) to research and to be involved in the institute's various projects.

The Mercator Research Fellowship enables researchers to develop new research ideas in an inspiring environment as well as to conclude already existing research projects. The Fellowship aims at providing researchers with the time and space to realize creative research projects away from their daily routine.

During their time in Duisburg, Fellows will have access to office space at the *NRW School of Governance* and will be integrated into the university's lively campus. This will foster their daily interaction with fellow professors, researchers and students. In order to make your stay in Duisburg as comfortable as possible we are happy to assist you in finding the right accommodation, for example at the university's international guest house, which is within close walking distance to the *NRW School of Governance*. If you wish, we can also assist you in organizing your travels to and from Duisburg.

The Fellowship will be remunerated. The specific amount of the scholarship is dependent on the Fellow's qualification and will be closely linked to the rates provided by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Any further expenses like travel costs cannot be covered.

2. Contributions and Duties of Perspective Fellows

It is expected that *Mercator Research Fellows* actively participate and contribute to the *NRW School of Governance's* research and teaching activities as well as to its events. Fellows are asked to spend a considerable amount of their time on campus and to exchange with local colleagues and PhD Students. Their involvement in colloquia, lectures and seminars is explicitly desired. However, the Fellows have no obligation to teach courses. Further research expeditions might be granted whilst your stay in Duisburg.

3. Application/Admission

Fellowships will be awarded by a commission of the NRW School of Governance. Applicants for the Mercator Research Fellowship are required to hand in an outline of their research project (max. 5 Pages / around 3.000 Words), their full CV as well as a list of their publications. Please submit your application including these documents and your desired period of

stay by sending an email to Mr. Markus Hoffmann (markus.hoffmann@uni-due.de), who is manager of the **NRW School of Governance**. The application deadline is November 30th 2014.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Hoffmann if you have any further questions regarding the application process or the *Mercator Research Fellowship*.

4. The Partners in Cooperation

Stiftung Mercator is a private foundation which fosters science and the humanities, education and international understanding. It specifically initiates, develops and funds projects and partner organizations in the thematic fields to which it is committed: it wants to strengthen Europe, improve integration through equal educational opportunities for everyone, drive forward the energy transition as a trigger for global climate change mitigation and firmly anchor cultural education in schools. Stiftung Mercator feels a strong sense of loyalty to the Ruhr region, the home of the founding family and the foundation's headquarters.

The *NRW School of Governance* is a professional school for political and policy science. The school is both active in research and in education and has high recognition and reputation within the german-speaking political science community. The *NRW School of Governance* is part of a public university with a clear public mission in education. Theoretically reflected case teaching is one main ingredient of the offered Master-Degree program "Politikmanagement; Public Policy and öffentliche Verwaltung" (political management, public policy and public administration). Applied political science is a core component in research and in the PhD-Programs provided. Scientific policy advice is offered to institutions, governments and the public sector. The *NRW School of Governance* offers a central geographic Location at the University of Duisburg-Essen, close to the major European centers of political decision making.