



Executive Board

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**Call for applications within the "Global Encounters" platform:
Four Global Encounters Fellowships starting April 1, 2025**

To further broaden the research topics of the Global Encounters platform, four Global Encounters Fellowships are now open for application.

The current thematic fields of the platform are:

- Knowledge formations in global context
- Religion in Global Encounters
- Global flows, fractured places: Un/doing difference, un/doing belonging
- Global transformations and potentials for change in the 21st century

Thematic field: Politics of Division

The so-called politics of division are increasingly taking hold in our societies, both within old and relatively new democracies. Politics of division exploit existing or newly created social divides and cleavages to utilize them as a political device towards the goal of maintaining the existing power structure and the status quo. A few key examples of such politics of division are the mutating iterations of ethnonationalism based on the imaginary of an exclusive citizenship that dehumanizes and vilifies certain racial, religious and national groups or the amplification of an animosity, social anxiety, and policy and legal divide based on gender and sexuality politics.

Yet, politics of division by no means have been an invention of the twentieth century. This call solicits applications from researchers who examine the global encounters of contemporary and past politics of division—how they are invoked, mediated, gain widening appeal within a particular population, and evolve over time in terms of its ideological sophistication, scalar reach and representation forms. In particular, much welcomed are researchers that shed new light to current and historical cases of how the politics of division is at the same time being challenged through both locally-grounded and globally-inspired movements that forge new alliances, social practices and imaginaries based on the principles of care, interdependence, cohesion and solidarity.

The Global Encounters initiative aims to bring together a multi-disciplinary group of scholars, researching both the Global South and North who will employ innovative methodological approaches to tackle this question from social science as well as from humanities perspective. The collective group of scholars will together advance our theoretical understanding of the processes and mechanism for building a civic culture of resilience against hate-fueled politics while bringing both depth and breadth to our knowledge of the politics of division. Finally, Global Encounters scholars will showcase their collective endeavor by organizing a workshop together.

Structure of the Fellowships

Each of the four fellows will be affiliated with the University of Tübingen through a host (professor at the university). During their stay, they will be placed at the College of Fellows, so that intensive collaboration between the four Fellows is possible. The Fellows have the opportunity to network not only with each other but also with the Global Encounters platform and the participating departments. During their stay, in addition to project presentations and participation in research colloquia and other events, they can work on potential project proposals and publications.

Fellowship formalities

International guest researchers can receive fellowships for a period of 12 months. In order to be eligible for a fellowship, researchers have to have spent the majority of their academic career outside Germany. The stipend amounts to 2350€ per month, plus supplements for children (400€ for the first child and 100€ for each additional child). The fellowship does not constitute employment status at the University, i.e. fellows will not automatically be covered by health, unemployment, or retirement insurance through the funding period. The fellowships are subject to the residency requirement. At the beginning of the fellowship, proof of residence in Tübingen or the surrounding area must be provided. Early and mid-career scholars (maximum 8-12 years after doctorate) with a research focus in one of the four thematic fields of the platform may personally apply or be proposed by faculty members of the University of Tübingen. It is important to note that although it is possible to propose persons who are already affiliated with the University of Tübingen through a scholarship or fellowship, there are restrictions regarding the duration of further funding. Applicants who are already affiliated with the University of Tübingen through a research fellowship cannot be funded for longer than a total of 18 months. Persons who were previously linked to the University via a teach@tübingen scholarship cannot be funded for longer than a total of 24 months. An already running Global Encounters Fellowship cannot be extended.

Documents to be submitted:

- An explanatory cover letter from the Tübingen host.
- A CV of the potential fellow
- An outline of the project to be implemented during the stay (maximum three pages).
- The stay should start in April 2025.

The deadline for submission is May 10th, 2024. Please send the application as one PDF file to: global-encounters@uni-tuebingen.de.

All applications will be reviewed by colleagues close to the subject at the University of Tübingen. In July, the platform's advisory board will discuss all applications received and make a recommendation; the final funding decision will be made by the university leadership.

If you have any questions about the application process, please feel free to contact the coordinator of the platform, Matthias Bornemann, at: global-encounters@uni-tuebingen.de

With best regards, on behalf of the entire advisory board of the Global Encounters platform,

the executive board members Prof. Dr. Hasenclever, Prof. Dr. Köhler, Prof. Dr. Polit

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