

# Doctoral Programme Newsletter



January 2018

Dear GIGA Doctoral Students,

happy new year! I hope that you have enjoyed the holiday season.

In this newsletter, Svenja Schöneich and Ximena Zapata are reporting from their field research trips.

We are currently planning the summer term programme, which will focus on deepening your knowledge of qualitative and quantitative data analysis, including e.g. seminars on qualitative interviews, process tracing, or QCA. We will also continue our CAS and Global Studies Series.

Furthermore, the deadline for submitting applications to the DP is approaching (1 Febru-

ary). Should you know anyone interested in joining our programme, please spread the word.

Best wishes,  
Maren

P.S. Are you going on a conference trip or research stay? Did you come across an interesting job announcement or summer school? This newsletter lives on your input – just send an email to [maren.wagner@giga-hamburg.de](mailto:maren.wagner@giga-hamburg.de).



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## News

### **Christoph Heuser has submitted his thesis!**

Christoph Heuser has recently submitted his dissertation titled “Contested State Formation? The Effect of Illicit Economies in the Margins of the State” to the University of Marburg. Congratulations, Christoph!

### **Charlotte Heyl has defended her thesis!**

On 13 December, Charlotte Heyl has successfully defended her dissertation on “The Contribution of Constitutional Courts to the Democratic Quality of Elections in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comparative Case Study

of Madagascar and Senegal” at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Congratulations, Charlotte!

### **Rules for the DP travel budget 2018**

You have received the rules for the DP travel budget for 2018, which you can also download in EGON. Please read them carefully! You have also received individual emails informing you about the grants that you will receive from this year’s travel budget. Please be aware that we expect you to apply for external funding and inform us immediately once you know that you will not make use of the DP grants.

## Summer Schools

### [Barcelona Economics Summer School](#)

Offers a variety of one-week courses in Economics, Finance, or Data Science.

Dates: 25 June – 6 July 2018

### [ECPR Summer School, Budapest](#)

Offers again cutting-edge courses on qualitative and quantitative methodological topics.

Dates: 26 July – 10 August 2018

### [Essex Summer School](#)

Consists of three 2-week sessions, each covering various methods such as Survey Experiments, Mixed Methods, etc.

Dates: 9 July – 17 August 2018

### [University of Groningen Summer Schools](#)

Research-driven summer schools (5-6 days) on various topics, e.g. “Illicit Trade” or “Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Growth.”

Dates: June/July 2018

### [Utrecht Summer School](#)

Broad selection of course (1-2 weeks) including courses in the social sciences and economics, e.g. “Applied Bayesian Statistics” or “Contemporary and International Conflict Management.”

Dates: April – July 2018

## I am currently working on ... Svenja Schöneich

Happy 2018 everyone!

I am sending you New Year’s greetings from Mexico where I’m currently staying for my second field research stage. I am based at the CIESAS Golfo (Centro de Investigaciones

y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social) in Xalapa, the capital city of the state of Veracruz, where I have been conducting research in a campesino community for the last four months. I already knew the community, which is strongly affected by oil and gas

extraction, from my field research stay last year and now I am looking on recent social and economic changes, initiated by the Mexican Energy Reform of 2013/14. While focusing on the community, I am also having a closer look at the oil companies' view on the issue and luckily, I already had the chance to conduct some interesting interviews in this regard.

I really enjoy being back in Mexico and also to be engaged in the interchange of ideas with national and international scholars at three conferences last year (one in Morelia Michoacán, one in Xalapa, Veracruz and one in Washington D.C.) where I met many interest-



ing people and got valuable feedback on my work.

Currently I am in Mexico City to conduct expert interviews and search the available archives to gather further background information on the issue, but in mid-January I will go back to the community for another four weeks to conclude the research activities. Then I am going to finish my empirical part and in the beginning of March I am coming back to the GIGA for the data analysis and to write up that thesis... and although I am going to miss the people, the sun and the great food in Mexico, it will certainly be nice to have some quiet time to structure my thoughts and to spend some summer evenings at the beautiful river Elbe again this year. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Hamburg soon!

All the Best from sunny Mexico until then,

Svenja

## I am currently working on ... Ximena Zapata

Dear all,

I send you my greetings from Quito-Ecuador, my home city where I am currently spending the last month of a very exciting period of fieldwork that started in November.

As part of my doctoral research, I examine China's relations with South American countries, particularly with the so-called progressive governments, taking the cases of Ecuador and Bolivia, in the areas of trade, investment and financial lending. From a qualitative and comparative approach, I aim to analyze how the political economy of these relations is contributing to the reproduction of dependency and autonomy patterns for these two Andean countries.

These last three months of on-site research have been very worthy for my investigation.

Before I conducted interviews in Bolivia, I had the chance to participate in the II International Conference "China & Latin America: Multidisciplinary Approaches" in Santiago de Chile where I presented an analysis of the political and economic ties between China



and Ecuador and the social impacts of Chinese oil and mining investments in Ecuador. It was a great opportunity to

meet and exchange ideas with outstanding researchers from Latin America, Europe and Asia.

After this, I travelled to Bolivia where I interviewed researchers, government officials and activists in La Paz and Cochabamba. I was also a visiting researcher at the CIDES-UMSA (Higher University of San Andres) and was involved in academic events organized by this institution and the government. I had a great time in Bolivia and was very surprised by the willingness of the interviewees to openly discuss and contribute with their knowledge and expertise to my research.

Now I am in Quito where I am also preparing and conducting interviews with academics

and government officials linked to my topic. So far, I can say that doing fieldwork in Bolivia and Ecuador during this time has been a very stimulating experience for me, not only because of the interesting information I have gathered from the interviews and discussions, but also because of the day-to-day political and social developments of both countries that I can now perceive and understand from a closer look.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and successful 2018!

Best, Ximena

## Jobs and Career Opportunities

### [Researcher and Lecturer in European and Global Governance](#)

Bavarian School of Public Policy, Munich  
 Deadline: 19 January 2018

### [Research Fellow – Maritime Economics](#)

National University of Ireland, Galway  
 Deadline: 26 January 2018

### [Postdoctoral Research Fellow – Comparative Politics](#)

University of Bergen  
 Deadline: 28 January 2018

### [Joint Berlin-Jerusalem Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme](#)

The programme aims to promote research cooperation as a career track to leverage synergies between the two universities and to foster the career development of young researchers. Each fellowship is awarded for 24 months.

Deadline: 31 January 2018

### [Postdoctoral Programme](#)

The Max Planck Institute for the Studies of Societies offers up to three postdoctoral positions investigating the interrelation between economic, social, and political action with a focus on further developing the approaches of new economic sociology and comparative political economy.

Deadline: 31 January 2018

### [Postdoctoral Position – Comparative Politics and/or IR](#)

Lund University  
 Deadline: 28 February 2018

### [Lecturer in Global Politics](#)

University College London  
 Deadline: 16 February 2018

### [Lecturer in Development Studies \(x 2, fixed term\)](#)

University of Cambridge  
 Deadline: 15 February 2018

## Upcoming Events

31 January 2018	<b>Colloquium:</b> Tom Konzack, Aline Chianca Dantas
14 February 2018	<b>DP Jour Fixe</b>
28 February 2018	<b>Colloquium:</b> Aline Hirseland, Christian Schultheiss
14 March 2018	<b>DP Jour Fixe</b>
28 March 2018	<b>Colloquium:</b> Nils Lukacs, Sinan Chu