Dear GIGA Doctoral Students,

We are in the middle of the DP Summer Term Programme with the next course on “Research Methods for Media and Online Data” coming up at the end of the month. The Helmut Schmidt University is also offering some interesting courses for doctoral students during the summer semester for which you can still register (see more detail in the section on External Courses).

Furthermore, the doctoral student representatives kindly invite you to the next general assembly of the GIGA doctoral students on 26 May 2016 (see more details in the News) – please save the date!

I wish you an interesting and successful summer term!

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.

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News

Alex Burilkov defended his dissertation!

On 25 April 2016, Alex Burilkov successfully defended his dissertation titled “The Maritime Strategy of Regional Powers: China, India, Iran, and Brazil from 2011 to 2015” at the University of Hamburg. Congratulations, Alex, and best wishes for your future endeavours!

General assembly GIGA doctoral students

The doctoral student representatives kindly invite you to the next general assembly of the GIGA doctoral students on 26 May 2016 at 1:30pm in room 237. On the agenda are a brief report from 2015/2016, an outlook for 2016, and, most importantly, the election of new doctoral student representatives. All three student representative positions will be open for election, so we strongly encourage you to attend the assembly in order to vote and also to apply for the positions! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the student representatives (stud-reps@giga-hamburg.de).

Financial support for doctoral students at the UHH

The WiSo Graduate School offers several funding opportunities to support the research of doctoral students at the University of Hamburg. You can find more information and application forms online.

External Courses

WiSo Graduate School UHH summer term programme

You can still register for some of the courses offered by the WiSo Graduate School – for example a course on Literature Research for doctoral students (only in German) on 26 and 27 September 2016. More information and registration via Geventis.

Courses for doctoral students at the HSU

The Helmut Schmidt University offers the following courses for doctoral students:

Introduction to SPSS
Dr Elke Goltz
Dates: 16, 17 and 23 June 2016

See more information here.

Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis
Dr Lasse Cronqvist
Dates: 12 and 13 September 2016
See more information here.

International Research Workshop

The 10th International Research Workshop on Methods for PhDs will take place at the Akademie Sankelmark and the University of Southern Denmark.
Date: 25-30 September 2016
You can find more information and the course programme online.
Who is where?

Victor Mijares is attending the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Conference in New York City from 27-30 May. He is the Chair of the Panel “Fifty Years of Venezuelan Foreign Policy: One Rupture, Many Continuities” where he will also present his draft on “Assessing Change and Continuity in Venezuela’s Latin American Policy”.

Insa Ewert is participating in the European Union in International Affairs (EUIA) conference in Brussels taking place on 11-13 May. She will present a paper on “The China Watchers: Knowledge and Representations of China in the European Institutions”.

I am currently working on … Robert Pijpers

Dear all,

My name is Robert Pijpers, a PhD fellow from the University of Oslo, and I am currently based at GIGA as a visiting doctoral researcher. I am working on the micro-politics of large-scale investments in Sierra Leone. By focusing on a large-scale iron ore mining company I study how large-scale transnational operations become entangled in local social, economic and political lifeworlds, as well as how local lifeworlds become entangled in global processes.

In the picture you see me sitting with three elders from Lunsar, a town located in the Northern Province of Sierra Leone, which is situated adjacent to London Mining’s iron ore mining operation. After having witnessed the resettlement process of a nearby village, thereby learning more about contemporary land ownership systems, this picture was taken after I recorded the history of the area and discussed the ways in which landowning families emerged. Land and its ownership/governance is one of the topics I study as part of the micro-politics of large-scale investments.

Scrubinizing these micro-politics (including for example power struggles, economic and social change and political discourse) is crucial to understanding the complexities of establishing a large-scale operation in Sierra Leone (as well as elsewhere). After all, large-scale investments may be driven by global processes and initially negotiated at the (inter)national scale, they materialize at the local scale. Hence, we should keep attuned to how investments take shape in particular social, economic and political landscapes.

In 2013/2014 I therefore spent 11 months talking with, among others, national government authorities, local landowners, land-users, jobseekers, company staff and management, local farmers, entrepreneurs and local authorities, such as the Member of Parliament of the constituency and the Paramount Chief.

After a brief follow-up visit to the field in April 2016, I have now concluded all the fieldwork and will fully concentrate on the writing process. Needless to say, I am hoping for and expecting a stimulating time at GiGA.
I am currently working on … Mamy Dioubaté

Hello everyone!
My name is Mamy Dioubaté. I am from Guinea (Conakry), however, for the past 10 years I have been living and studying in Germany. After I have completed German language courses in Leipzig and finished the Studienkolleg in Gießen (Hessen), I got my bachelor's degree in political science at the Philipps-University of Marburg, followed by a master's degree in the same area at Free University of Berlin. Moreover, I spent half of my master’s studies at Sciences Po Paris in the master's programme „International Affairs“.

In my bachelor thesis, I compared the governance-concepts of the World Bank with the governmentality-concept of Michel Foucault; and in my master thesis, I analysed how institutional determinants affect the economic performance of the cotton sector in Mali and Benin.

Since February 2016 I am a research fellow in the GIGA doctoral programme (Research Programme 3: Growth and Development, under Prof. Dr. Robert Kappel) and doctoral candidate at the Free University of Berlin (under Prof. Dr. Susanne Lütz). The main focus of my current project lies on agricultural soft commodities in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and on the significance of sector-specific institutional arrangements for the economic performance of those countries. My research will be based on comparative case studies (qualitative and quantitative) of coffee and cotton sectors in three SSA countries with different coordination mechanisms of the value chain. More precisely, I will examine how those specific arrangements affect the behaviour of the involved actors and therefore the performance of each sector.

I have noticed that there are several researchers at GIGA who are working on similar topics as I am. I would be very pleased to discuss and exchange experiences with these colleagues in the near future.

Jobs and Career Opportunities

- **Research Fellow in Conflict and Violence x2**
  Institute of Development Studies, Brighton
  Deadline: 23 May 2016

- **Lecturer in Politics and International Studies (POLIS)**
  Open University, Milton Keynes
  Deadline: 20 May 2016

- **Assistant Professor of Governance of Digitalization and Energy Policy**
  Hertie School of Governance, Berlin
  Deadline: 22 May 2016

- **Attaché (foreign service)**
  The Federal Foreign Office advertises for 35-45 Attachés as civil servant candidates for the higher foreign service.
  Deadline: 31 May 2016

- **Researcher “Dynamics of Political Systems”**
  Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)
  Deadline: 31 May 2016

- **Lecturer in International Relations**
  University of Edinburgh
  Deadline: 26 May 2016
**Postdoctoral position in Political Science**
Karlstad University
Deadline: 5 June 2016

**Postdoctoral position in International Relations**
RWTH Aachen
Deadline: 27 May 2016

**Research Fellow**
College of Social Sciences and International Studies, University of Exeter
Deadline: 8 June 2016

**Postdoc “International Relations and Global Society”**
University of Bremen
Deadline: 1 June 2016

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**Upcoming Events**

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<td>Colloquium: Ana Karen Negrete Garcia, Ximena Zapata Maflla</td>
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<td>31 May – 1 June 2016</td>
<td>Summer Term Seminar: Research Methods for Media and Online Data (Dr. Giuseppe A. Veltri)</td>
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<td>14 – 15 June 2016</td>
<td>Soft Skills Seminar: Presentation and Moderation Skills (Dr. Pamela Luckau)</td>
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<td>29 June 2016</td>
<td>Colloquium: Carolina de Oliveira Salgado, Markus Kirchschlager</td>
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