

Mission

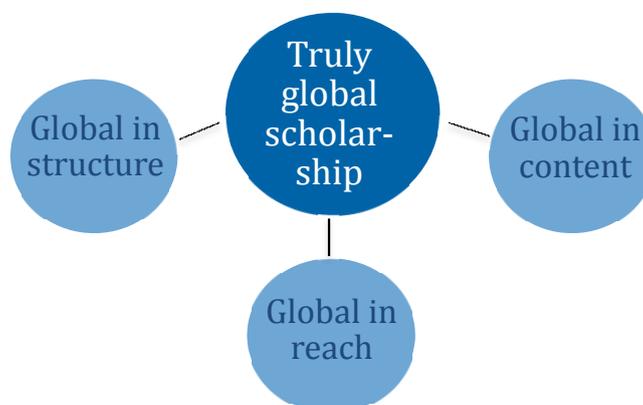
The GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies conducts research on political, economic, and social developments in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East, as well as on global issues. On the basis of its research the GIGA advises decision makers in politics, business, and civil society. The institute operates the largest non-university information centre for Area Studies and Comparative Area Studies in Germany. As a member of the Leibniz Association the GIGA is committed to the principle of *theoria cum praxi*.

Vision

Our research (1) encompasses in-depth area expertise on Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East that uses state-of-the-art comparative methods (“Comparative Area Studies”), (2) covers and combines different levels of analysis – global, regional, national, and subnational, (3) applies and develops innovative theoretical and empirical approaches from the social sciences, (4) and engages with ideas and concepts from different parts of the world.

We use academic rigour to contribute to solving some of the fundamental social, political, and economic problems of our times. To fulfil this ambition, we believe it is critical that we take into account the philosophical traditions and historical experiences of all world regions and develop a well-informed, inclusive, and pluralistic approach to scholarship and policy. We serve as an intellectual bridge between theories, frameworks, and cases from different world regions. Our research has scientific impact and direct, real-world implications.

The GIGA stands for a truly global approach to scholarship: research that is global in content, reach, and structure.



Global in content

With its pluralistic approach and comparative methods, the GIGA analyses political, social, and economic transitions, and how they originate and unfold in the world regions we study. We focus on questions of global relevance and investigate their impact upon multiple levels in the regions and vice versa. We balance our commitment to rich empirical detail while keeping a close eye on how these details add up to the bigger picture. And we build a theoretical repertoire that uniquely combines approaches from different world regions and academic traditions.

Global in reach

The GIGA achieves high global visibility by publishing internationally recognised research in high-impact journals and top-notch publishing houses, thereby taking on an intellectual leadership role. Our various events and open-access publications seek to bring together world-leading academics and practitioners into intellectual dialogue and policy exchange. We contribute to the further development of Hamburg as a hub of knowledge, address the media and the general public, and make the results of our research readily available to a global audience. On the basis of our research we advise decision makers in politics, business, and civil society.

Global in structure

The GIGA collaborates with leading institutions and researchers worldwide. We are active in the regions we study via research platforms, long-standing and expanding networks, and extensive field research. Our institute is proud of its unique and rich library collection on Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and global issues. Dedicated to excellent research and doctoral education, the GIGA attracts outstanding minds from all over the world. Our team is committed to our truly global approach to scholarship. We provide an inspiring institutional culture that promotes equal opportunity, family friendliness, and diversity.

Values

The GIGA

- conducts excellent and impactful research, based on a truly global approach to scholarship,
- stands for independent scientific investigation that is committed to universally accepted standards of good scientific practice and research integrity,
- follows a consequent open-access policy and promotes the best possible access to and dissemination of its research results,
- is committed to providing a stimulating, productive, and positive work environment for all of its staff members and to offering opportunities for personnel development at all career stages, and
- promotes equal opportunity, family friendliness, and diversity.