

The Project on Arms Control and Emerging Technologies of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH) is offering a one-year scholarship in “Public Interest Science.”

The IFSH is an interdisciplinary research institution based at the University of Hamburg and is funded by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. The research and transfer project “Arms Control and Emerging Technologies” deals with the technological development, political control and governance of modern weapon systems and other security technologies. Issues covered are the non-proliferation and disarmament of nuclear weapons, emergence of autonomous weapons systems, drones, and hypersonic as well as the security implications and potential regulations of the military use of artificial intelligence. The Project is implemented with the financial support of the German Federal Foreign Office. Its aim is to establish a leading international hub for interdisciplinary research and policy-relevant work on these issues. In doing so, the IFSH works closely with the Federal Foreign Office as well as international research institutions and think tanks.

Commonly, the field of policy consultation and knowledge transfer is dominated by people trained in political and other social sciences. Particularly in the field of arms control, however, technical and scientific knowledge is increasingly needed to understand, analyze and explain the challenges as well as the potentials of emerging technologies.

With this scholarship, young scientists and engineers will be given the opportunity to learn about science in the public interest and the intersection of science and policy in the field of arms control and emerging technologies. The awardee will have opportunities to conduct policy-related work and knowledge transfer on a both the national and international level. The stipend should further allow awardees to explore future interdisciplinary academic career pathway, to develop a policy-relevant research agenda and to draft a funding proposal for a future PhD research project.

Requirements:

- Master’s degree in natural sciences, computer science, mathematics or engineering (or proof of successful completion by the end of 2021).
- Strong interest in the application of scientific knowledge and skills to policy-relevant issues.
- Good command of spoken and written English. Knowledge of German is not a requirement.
- Ability to work independently with dedication and diligence, both alone and as part of an interdisciplinary team, and ability to handle time pressure.
- Interest in learning new skills (writing policy briefings, reports, and presentations).

What we offer:

- A stipend of 1350 Euro/month for a time period of 12 months
- 100 Euro/month research cost subsidy/month
- 100 Euro/month subsidy for health insurance
- Participation in activities of the Research Team “Arms Control and Emerging Technologies”
- As appropriate, interaction with government activities in Berlin through the Berlin office of IFSH.
- Mentorship throughout the period of the stipend

The IFSH is committed to promoting gender equality and is therefore particularly interested in applications from women in areas in which they are underrepresented. Women will be given priority in these areas in accordance with the Hamburg Equal Opportunity Act if they have equivalent qualifications. People with disabilities are also expressly encouraged to apply.

Your application for the stipend should consist of a cover letter, a current CV, and a two page statement outlining your interests in policy-relevant research in relation to your field of study. Please send all documents electronically to ennen@ifsh.de by **07 December 2021** (please send them as one single PDF file of maximum 8 MB in size). We plan to conduct interviews with potential candidates on 14 December 2021 via video conference.

For further information please contact Dr. Moritz Kütt (kuett@ifsh.de).