

## Job advertisement Post Doc Displacement and Resettlement in Europe

We hire two postdoc and four doctoral researcher for our newly founded ERC research group GLORE – “Global Resettlement Regimes: Ambivalent Lessons learned from the Postwar (1945-1951)” at the University of Vienna.

The late 1940s and 1950s brought the construction of resettlement regimes on a global scale. Earlier scholarship on displacement and resettlement has treated post-war experiences in Europe (the aftermath of the Holocaust) and in Asia (for example, in China) as separate domains. This project uses a different approach showing the interconnections between the European and the Asian spheres and furthermore linking them to events in Australia and the Americas.

The project explores the potential of global history with an innovative interface to legal history, by

- (a) analysing the role of international organizations and experts (more particularly the United Nations system [UNRRA and IRO] in formulating policies that had a global impact)
- (b) analysing the interactions of this global resettlement regime with policies of state and regional/local actors and experts on a local/national level
- (c) analysing the movements of refugees across national borders and continents, and the role of communities in reshaping refugee lives
- (d) focusing on select biographical and intellectual archives and experiences, to emphasize how refugees and the media created connected imaginaries

The research group will use Social GIS methods to locate and map these flows of actors and knowledge, especially through an intensive focus on the International Tracing Service (ITS)/Arolsen archives (<https://arolsen-archives.org/en/>), which have hitherto seldom been analyzed in a global perspective. It will link this empirical corpus with data gleaned from other international, national, and local archives, as well as non-archival sources, such as refugee memoirs and biographies, and representations of refugee resettlement in newspapers and literature.

### Positions:

Post Doc 1: Forced Displacement and Resettlement of Ethnic Germans after 1945 in Europe and Abroad

Post Doc 2: Forced Displacement and Resettlement after 1945 in Asia

PhD 1: Vulnerable groups of Displaced Persons: Unaccompanied Children navigating the DP camps in Europe and the resettlement schemes to get abroad

PhD 2: Vulnerable groups of Displaced Persons: resettling the physically or mentally disabled DPs in Europe and abroad

PhD 3: Hubs of Displacement: Port cities (Shanghai or Hong Kong)

PhD 4: Hubs of Displacement: transit through the Philippines

-----

Text:

Post Doc Positions:

We hire two Post Doc positions within the context of our ERC research group GLORE – “Global Resettlement Regimes: Ambivalent Lessons learned from the Postwar (1945-1951)”. The Research Group has a digital humanities component and works with social GIS, to map life paths and trajectories of migrants. This working group should be managed by the Post Docs. Starting date of project is 1.2.2023, duration is 3 years, with a possible 2 year extension.

Key words: global history, national and international norm-building (constitutionalism, international law) and the central role of refugees there, refugee agency within the migration regimes

Post-Doc 1:

We are seeking a Post Doc interested in a project on DPs in Europe, especially the question of ‘Volksdeutsche’ (ethnic Germans) from middle and south-eastern Europe and their resettlement after 1945, by for example studying sample groups in transit camps in Austria and Northern Italy. Although the IRO had formally no mandate to include German refugees under the beneficiaries, around 1947 the rules were loosened. Gradually, the ‘Volksdeutsche’ could also claim assistance and ask for help with their transit or settlement. In many cases however, due to the lack of available living spaces, the UNRRA was forced to hold the German ‘Volksdeutsche’ in camps together with Jewish DPs or former forced laborers (one example being camp Saalfelden, near Salzburg), which resulted in tensions inside and outside the camp. This project will interrogate the different strands of organization on the UN side, as well as the strategies pursued by the ‘Volksdeutsche’, especially those from the Banat/ Donauschwaben and Siebenbürger Sachsen, to be recognized as DPs and to get help with the reconstruction of their lives. The project will also question the reactions to the resettlement of the ethnic German refugees from other groups of DPs who were hoping for assistance, as well as from the local population. The project will address questions of identity and belonging, the legal question of statelessness, as well as the cultural preservation of a sense of “home”/homeland in the narratives of the ethnic German refugees. It will combine the statistical data with narratives of the refugees themselves. Additional research on the impact of recovery measures provided by the post-war German state could also be discussed (‘Lastenausgleich’, the West German Equalization of Burdens Law) by scrutinizing the relevant archival documentation. We also encourage interested applicants to suggest further related topics.

We expect a project proposal of 2-4 pages including a project idea, reference to literature and possible sources, as well as a vision on the digital humanities component of such project, together with a letter of motivation (why this project, why Vienna?), CV, pdf of degrees, list of projects and publications.

Key words: global history, migration studies, digital humanities, national and international norm-building (constitutionalism, international law) and the central role of refugees there, refugee agency within the migration regimes

Your tasks:

- Writing a post-doctoral thesis or a "second book
- Collaboration in research and teaching in the subject of contemporary history in a European and global context

- Collaboration in the organisation of conferences, planning of focussed events

Your profile:

- Excellent doctorate in history (modern history or contemporary history)
- Research experience in the field of migration history and contemporary history as well as global or transnational history
- High level of written and oral expression
- Very good knowledge of English and knowledge of at least one other foreign language
- Ability to work in a team

The following are also expected

- Experience in participating in research projects - Publications in renowned, relevant media (peer-reviewed according to professional standards)
- International lecturing activities
- Knowledge of university procedures and structures
- Experience in student supervision

Documents to be submitted:

- Letter of motivation
- Academic curriculum vitae (incl. list of publications, list of courses, list of lectures or publications, references)
- Contact addresses of possible reviewers
- a short vision on how to map and visualize migration flows in this project with digital humanities methods/ GIS

For more information about the advertised position, please contact Erika Stiller-Lanz, [erika.stiller@univie.ac.at](mailto:erika.stiller@univie.ac.at) .

Please submit your application by email (pdf of all documents) by **1.12.2022**.

The University of Vienna pursues an anti-discriminatory employment policy and attaches importance to equal opportunities and diversity (<http://diversity.univie.ac.at/>). In particular, it aims to increase the proportion of women in management positions and among academic staff. Women are given priority in the case of equal qualifications.