

## External job advertisement Reg. no. 4-4213/24-H

Modern, interconnected, conscious of tradition: Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) is the oldest and largest university in the State of Saxony-Anhalt with a history dating back more than 500 years. Today more than 20,000 students are enrolled at the university. MLU's core research areas are in the nanosciences and bio- sciences, the Enlightenment, as well as in social and cultural research. The university is also home to a range of small disciplines, some of which can be found nowhere else in Germany. The university has excellent national and international ties, and works closely together with leading research institutes, industry, and more than 250 universities around the world.

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), Faculty of Philosophy I, Department for Anthropology and Philosophy, Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, offers a temporary position until 36 months starting on 1 October 2024:

### 1 x Doctoral candidate (m-f-o)

As part-time employment (65%).

The salary will be up to pay group 13 TV-L (according to the collective wage agreement of the German federal states), if the personal requirements and tasks are fulfilled.

The position is part of the International Max Planck Research School "Global Multiplicity: A Social Anthropology for the Now" (IMPRS-GM, <https://www.imprs-gm.mpg.de>), a cooperation between the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Leipzig University and FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg.

Situated at Martin Luther University within the research group "Political and Legal Anthropology Network (PLAN)" of the supervising Chair (Prof. Dr. Olaf Zenker), the position is related to the IMPRS-GM thematic group "Political Potentials" which addresses political potentialities within the cumulative crises faced by society, both as an empirical field of study and as an area that increasingly requires evidence-based intervention and care ([https://www.imprs-gm.mpg.de/3339/political\\_potentials](https://www.imprs-gm.mpg.de/3339/political_potentials)).

Within this framework, the doctoral project must apply ethnographic methods, position its conceptual framing clearly in Anthropology, and empirically focus on political movements, broadly conceived, that are situated at the intersections of contemporary populism and antiliberal critique. As this may include challenging fieldwork situations with research partners holding political convictions that the researcher may profoundly disagree with, a high degree of reflexivity and empathy is needed, and prior experience with comparable research fields is desirable.

#### Work Tasks:

- Participation in an intense, structured teaching and work programme of the IMPRS-GM, including the PLAN colloquium, as part of the PhD project
- Carrying out PhD research through long-term fieldwork for approximately one year, supported by the IMPRS-GM
- Administrative work for the Chair and the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology
- Teaching duties as based on LVVO LSA



**Prerequisites:**

- Master's or equivalent degree in Socio-Cultural Anthropology (Ethnologie/Sozial- und Kulturanthropologie) or an interdisciplinary study program with strong anthropological components
- Excellent knowledge of the discipline of Socio-Cultural Anthropology and its theories, methods and history
- Preferably good knowledge in Political Anthropology, ideally including specialized coursework
- Preferably first fieldwork experience, ideally in politically and morally challenging fieldwork situations
- Excellent proficiency in academic English (working language of IMPRS-GM and PLAN group) as well as the capacity, or willingness to learn the language required for the research project
- Ability/interest to work in a research team (including peer-instruction, intense regular group work etc.)
- Willingness to integrate the PLAN research focus and questions (as they develop) into the PhD project and contribute to the group's shared research agenda

Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the case of equal suitability and ability. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Applicants with a graduation not from a German university must provide a Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Educational Systems (<https://www.kmk.org/zab/central-office-for-foreign-education>).

If you have any questions, please contact Prof. Dr. Olaf Zenker, e-mail: [olaf.zenker@ethnologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:olaf.zenker@ethnologie.uni-halle.de).

Please submit your application quoting the reg. no. 4-4213/24-H including the following required documents:

- Signed cover letter explaining your interest in and suitability for the joint affiliation with the PLAN research group at Martin Luther University and the IMPRS-GM
- Curriculum vitae (including a list of publications, if applicable)
- Proposal for a dissertation project on (a) contemporary populist and antiliberal political movement(s), including details about the state of preparation, methodology, and a possible timeline, ca. 3-5 pages (excluding references)
- Writing Sample (publication or chapter from your MA thesis), preferably with ethnographic components
- Certificates & transcript of grades (BA and MA level)

by 24 May 2024 to Prof. Dr. Olaf Zenker, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Philosophische Fakultät I, Seminar für Ethnologie, 06099 Halle (Saale) or via e-mail (PDF) to Cornelia Heimann: [secretary@ethnologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:secretary@ethnologie.uni-halle.de).

The call for applications is subject to any budgetary restrictions.

Application costs will not be reimbursed by the Martin Luther University.