Call for Proposals
Research Programme „Culture and Foreign Policy“

ifa’s Research Programme “Culture and Foreign Policy” provides experts with an opportunity to study current topics related to Germany’s foreign cultural and educational policy and to work at the interface between theory and practice. Research projects normally last three to six months. During this period, the experts involved in the project provide actors in the area of international cultural relations with clear, concise summaries of the latest academic findings. They formulate recommendations for future external policy strategies, initiate expert dialogue and organise discussion forums and events.

ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen) invites proposals for the following research project:

Climate Crisis in the Mediterranean: the Role of Religious Actors in International Cooperation

International negotiations are always characterised by normative conflicts or a shift of existing normative conflicts to the international level. This also applies to the upcoming climate negotiations at COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh. All civil society actors can influence international politics, including religious actors. These also influence the discourse and narratives on climate policy and the management of climate impacts at national and regional level. What role do religious actors play in international negotiations and discourses? How do they influence climate debates at regional and local level? What role does interfaith cooperation play in this? How can religious actors be involved to advance climate policy?

These questions will be examined using the example of climate impacts in the Mediterranean region. This region is strongly affected by climate change due to increasing droughts and heat waves, which change the ecosystem accordingly and lead to consequences such as the spread of deserts in Southern Europe and North Africa. The research project will explore opportunities for cooperation to address climate change impacts and highlight the potential of religious actors in international cooperation to do so.

Format: study, workshop
Start: November 2022
Location: flexible
Fee: 9,000 € (gross)
Application deadline: 14 November 2022

Please e-mail all your application documents (in one attachment, maximum attachment size 3 MB) by 14 November 2022 to: research@ifa.de.

For more information on ifa’s Research Programme, visit: https://www.ifa.de/en/research/research-programme-culture-and-foreign-policy/.

The following application requirements and procedures apply to all projects:
Application requirements

▪ Postgraduate degree (minimum M.A.)
▪ Proven experience and sound knowledge of the topic of the particular project and of foreign cultural and educational policy
▪ For projects with an event format: proven experience in event organisation
▪ For projects involving publication: very good, proven knowledge of editorial work and academic publications
▪ Good knowledge of English and the language required for the particular project

Application procedures

Please attach the following documents to your application for the Culture and Foreign Policy Research Programme:

1. Letter of motivation (including address, e-mail, phone/fax/mobile numbers)
2. Description of project:
   ▪ Title and topic
   ▪ Short description of the topic's relevance and gaps in existing research
   ▪ Brief outline of project plan (max. 2 pages)
   ▪ Provisional work plan
   ▪ Work plan or schedule showing that the project is feasible within the funding period
   ▪ Indication of relevant sources and methods
3. Your CV.