Call for proposals

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:

Digitalisation in the Foreign Cultural and Educational Policy

Digitalisation does not limit itself, as was the case previously, to an optimised rationalisation of routine processes, but develops its own dynamics and is disruptive. Which changes for human life Artificial Intelligence (AI) will bring in the next 20 years is therefore completely open. What is certain is that the development will not be linear but much faster, perhaps even exponential. Digitalisation does not stop at foreign cultural and educational policy (German: AKBP), but offers many opportunities such as better access to education and culture, the protection of pre-political free spaces, but also regarding better interconnectedness with intermediary organisations, civil society and other third parties. In addition, defending the freedom of art, science and speech also plays an important role in the digital world. Against this background, it is interesting to see how other countries deal with the possibilities of digitalisation and the necessary transformation needs. Therefore, the following questions are of interest:

How do, for example, France, Great Britain and Denmark work with digitalisation processes in the area of foreign cultural and educational policy?
Which concepts exist, predominantly with regard to the three main topics of access to education and culture, securing free spaces and better interconnectedness?
What ideas are there in individual areas of the creative industry? Which cultural digital projects are particularly promising?
In view of the above mentioned questions: How should the foreign cultural and educational policy of the German Foreign Office be set up in the future?

Format: study, workshop discussion
Beginning of project: 1 April 2019
End of project: 30 July 2019
Location: flexible
Fee: € 9.000,00 (gross)
Application deadline: 19 March 2019

Please e-mail all your application documents (maximum attachment size 3 MB)
by 19 March 2019 to: *research@ifa.de*
The selection interviews will be held during the week commencing 25 March 2019.

For more information on ifa's Research Programme, visit:
https://www.ifa.de/en/about-us/

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
- The research grants on offer are full-time grants. Candidates who are awarded a grant are not allowed to take on other employment during the period of the research project. This does not apply to research contracts.

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.