

Call for Applications – Doctoral Position on Informal Communication and the Holocaust in World War II Poland

The Institute for Contemporary History Munich – Berlin (IfZ) invites applications for one Doctoral Researcher’s position, with place of employment in **Munich**, for the following, Leibniz Competition-funded project:

“Man hört, man spricht’: Informal Communication and Information ‘From Below’ in Nazi Europe” (INFOCOM)

INFOCOM is a five-year collaborative research project dedicated to investigating the intersection between official, “from above,” and state-driven communication and “from below” practices of information production, gathering, and interpretation in Nazi Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe. Inspired by cultural histories of National Socialism, media studies, and historical anthropologies of violence and war, the project highlights “from below” practices of communication — especially rumor — to explore innovative questions and establish a modern, transnational history of communication under National Socialism. How did individuals in Nazi Germany and its occupied territories construct knowledge in discursive fields dominated by censorship, state propaganda, and authoritarian rhetoric? What might the brokerage, form, and interpretation of informal information reveal about practices of inclusion and exclusion, gender relations, ethnic categorizations, or the distribution of power in a given society? How might we conceive of the interactions between societies and subjectivities in conditions of mass violence and exception, or between construals of reality and individual/collective agency?

Exploring these questions from a multidisciplinary, transnational, and comparative perspective, INFOCOM includes one doctoral project on **informal communication and the Holocaust in occupied Poland**.

For this, the Institute is opening the following position:

One Doctoral Researcher (f/m/d) 65% E13 TV-L

The main duties include:

- To undertake independent doctoral research on an aspect of the collaborative research project, as outlined above

- To write a dissertation based on the research undertaken as part of the project
- To collaborate with team members in the organization of workshops and conferences, and in the production of an edited volume
- To prepare and present research findings to colleagues and other relevant audiences
- To proactively participate in team meetings and joint project events

Key requirements:

- M.A. or equivalent in History or a related field, with excellent academic achievements (M.A. diploma to be received no later than September 1, 2019)
- Expertise in 20th-century German and European history, including the Nazi period, the Holocaust, and the history of Poland
- Good language skills in English and German
- Proficiency in the Polish language (or the willingness to acquire such proficiency within the first year of employment)
- Willingness to work in a collaborative environment

We offer:

- Employment at one of the world's leading institutions dedicated to the history of National Socialism and its wider contexts
- Participation in a dynamic international research team
- Career development opportunities in cooperation with the IfZ's programs for doctoral students, as well as with the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich
- Generous research and conference travel allowance
- Salary with health insurance and benefits according to Germany's salary scale for civil service employees

The position will begin on **October 1, 2019**. Contracts are limited to three years, with the possibility of an additional six-month completion period of employment. **Salaries** will be paid according to the TV-L scale (for more information, see: <http://oeffentlicher-dienst.info>).

The Institute for Contemporary History strives for a gender balance in all of its employment groups. We therefore particularly encourage applications by women. Our aim is to further improve the compatibility between working and family life. In case of equal qualifications, applications by individuals with severe disabilities will be given preferential treatment.

Please submit the following **application materials**:

- A cover letter demonstrating how you meet the criteria for the post
- A full CV, including publications (if available)
- One letter of recommendation
- A research proposal (1-2 pages) outlining your ideas for a doctoral research project, pertaining to INFOCOM's specific themes, on the Holocaust in occupied Poland
- Copies of your university transcripts

Please send your application **in one PDF file by e-mail** to the Director of the Institute for Contemporary History, Prof. Dr. Andreas Wirsching (wirsching@ifz-muenchen.de). Informal inquiries about the project may be addressed to the Project Leader, Dr. Caroline Mezger (mezger@ifz-muenchen.de). Applications may be submitted in English or German.

Application deadline: June 21, 2019

Prospective interview date: Fourth week of July