

Call for Fellowships at the Historical-Sociological Research Hub *Fault Lines of Democracy: Violence – Sovereignty – Territoriality* at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research (HIS) on the topic of “Excessive State Power and State Killings in Democracies”

Application deadline: 3 November 2025

The fellowship programme of the Historical-Sociological Research Hub offers postdoctoral researchers and advanced research personalities the opportunity to explore various aspects of the broad topic of *fault lines of democracy*.

From 12 to 13 March 2026, the HIS will host an international conference organised by Dieter Gosewinkel and Wolfgang Knöbl on the topic of “Excessive State Power and State Killings in Democracies”, with the participation of renowned scholars such as Charlotte Heath-Kelly, Fabien Jobard, Anna Bettina Kaiser, Klaus Schlichte, Luca Trenta, and Andreas Wirsching. The conference will take an international comparative perspective on the use of democratically illegitimate excessive force by state authorities in Western societies. Fellows will have the opportunity to actively participate in this conference and/or engage in intensive discussions with the speakers in order to prepare their own publications or third-party funding applications.

The programme is open to international applicants from the fields of sociology, political science, law and history. Substantial experience and qualifications in the proposed fellowship theme are required.

We award fellowships for a period of 2-8 weeks, linked to the conference date in March 2026.

The fellowship includes a basic stipend to cover living expenses. There is also the option of free accommodation in the HIS guest house. Travel expenses may be covered.

Interested applicants are kindly requested to send their application documents to the project coordinator Carolin Müller (email address: bruchlinien@his-online.de). Please include your CV, with a list of publications, a work sample and a project outline (two to three pages) in German or English. The decision will be based on the academic and professional qualifications of the applicants as well as the quality and relevance of their project in the context of the above-mentioned conference theme.

Contact

Carolin Müller

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