

Information for PRIF Academic Visitors

24 March 2022

About PRIF

At PRIF, we analyze the causes of international and intrastate conflicts and look for ways to solve them.

As one of the leading peace research institutes in Europe, we combine basic research with knowledge transfer into policy-making, media and society. In this mission and as a member of the Leibniz Association, we are funded by the federal government and the state of Hesse.

Our main topics are arms control and disarmament, conflicts over international norms, regimes and organizations, military and non-military interventions, peace consolidation, democratization as well as radicalization and political violence.

We critically examine the scientific mainstream and the political zeitgeist and provide important stimuli for the academic and political debate, nationally and internationally.

We develop options of action and provide background information and analyses for ministries, parties, NGOs and companies. Furthermore, we provide experts for interviews, information and discussion events.

Our research activities are organized into five research departments:

International Security

Research department I addresses international security policy, particularly states' capabilities for military violence and how they can be controlled and limited.

International Institutions

Research department II focusses on the institutional conditions of peace and especially the relationship between institutional characteristics of international organizations and regimes and the establishment of sustainable peace.

Transnational Politics

Research department III studies the transnational dimension of conflict and peace, focusing on activities of non-state actors and how transnational phenomena impact peace and security.

Intrastate Conflict

Research department IV examines peace and conflict at the intrastate level. Its particular concern is with the organization and transformation of political rule and the international dimension of intrastate conflicts.

Glocal Junctions

Research department V studies conflict and peace processes in glocal situations and the entanglements of local, regional, and global life-worlds and action constellations.

Research Stays at PRIF

As one of the major German and European peace research institutes, PRIF is a top destination for scholars from all world regions. Convinced that international exchange and personal encounters are essential both to academic excellence and to developing common solutions for key global conflicts, PRIF welcomes international researchers at all career stages for research stays at our Frankfurt office.

Visiting Fellows

PRIF's Visiting Fellows programme is open to applicants employed as an academic member of staff or enrolled in a doctoral programme at a non-German university or research institute.

PRIF prides itself on its culture of intellectual and social openness. PRIF visiting fellows are invited to participate fully in the institute's life, ranging from discussions with fellow experts in one of PRIF's research departments to academic workshops and talks to regular brown bag lunch meetings on current political events. While PRIF's main working language is German, English is an increasingly important second (given PRIF's recent diversification of its own staff) and will be used whenever international researchers participate in meetings.

Pre-doctoral visiting fellows are matched with a senior member of staff as academic advisor for the duration of their stay, and are invited to discuss their research with the vibrant group of PRIF's doctoral researchers. Visiting fellows often develop and pursue joint publications or project proposals with PRIF staff, or contribute to one of PRIF's house publication series (PRIF Blog, Spotlights, Reports).

While a typical research stay at PRIF runs over a period of three months, a shorter or longer duration can be agreed depending on individual needs and research projects. While some past visiting fellows have used their time at PRIF for concentrated work on manuscripts, others have used PRIF's location in a major hub at the center of Europe to conduct fieldwork or reach out to colleagues located in other German and European institutions. With its Berlin office, PRIF is uniquely equipped to provide support to visiting fellows interested in conducting research trips to Germany's capital.

At the Frankfurt office, visiting fellows are provided with office space and IT support and have full access to PRIF's library resources.

Visiting Professors

Under the Visiting Professor programme, PRIF invites internationally renowned experts in the fields of international relations and peace and conflict research to spend a period of one to three months at PRIF. Visiting Professors receive accommodation and a monthly allowance from PRIF, and are invited to share their research and expertise with both senior and junior staff members through talks, workshops, or academic collaborations.

There is no formal application process for the Visiting Professor programme, as PRIF usually reaches out directly to scholars whose work could make a particularly strong contribution to PRIF's international profile and visibility. However, interested senior scholars may directly contact research department heads to discuss potential opportunities.

How to become a Visiting Fellow at PRIF

Application process

Researchers interested in a stay a PRIF are invited to submit their application to the coordinator for academic visitors at AcademicVisitors@hsfk.de. There is no fixed application deadline, as applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. However, we recommend that you apply well in advance (and at minimum 6 months ahead) of your proposed stay. Your application should include an academic CV and a short (1-2 pg.) research proposal on the project that you intend to work on during your stay. Please also include information on the preferred date and duration of your stay, and – where applicable – who you would like to work with at PRIF. It can be useful to get in touch directly with PRIF colleagues in your area of interest before submitting your application, to ask about collaborative opportunities. Please also indicate how you are planning to fund your stay (see → funding your stay) below.

Funding your stay

While PRIF cannot currently offer direct financial support to visiting fellows, we support suitable candidates in applying for a variety of funding schemes, including fellowships offered by

[Humboldt Research Fellowships](#) for postdoctoral researchers and experienced researchers, 6-24 months

[German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\) short term grants](#) primarily for doctoral students and early postdoctoral researchers, in exceptional cases also for graduates with a BA degree, 1-6 months

[European Commission Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Postdoctoral Fellowships](#), 1-2 years or shorter “secondments” within the framework of a stay at other institutions, please note application deadlines on the website

In addition to hosting shorter stays, PRIF also welcomes expressions of interest from international researchers wishing to bring their own third-party-funded research project to PRIF.

Practical Information

Prior to Arrival

Visa

Depending on your home country, you may need a visa for your stay at PRIF (see information provided by the [German Federal Foreign Office](#)). For longer stays, an additional residence permit may be required. Please inform yourself about requirements and start the application process well in advance of your trip.

Health insurance

Academic visitors are legally required to have a health insurance that covers the entire duration of their stay, immigration authorities may ask you to prove your insurance status upon entering the country. For short term stays, EU citizens may have sufficient cover under their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). For longer stays, non-EU visitors and more extended coverage, we recommend that you take out an additional insurance policy in your home country or with a German insurance company (“incoming travel health insurance”) such as [Allianz](#), [Hanse-Merkur](#) or [Würzburger](#).

Liability insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out liability insurance to insure you against any claims for damages you may accidentally cause during your stay. Examples of liability insurance policies include [Huk Coburg](#) or [Cosmosdirekt](#).

Accommodation

Please be aware that it is extremely difficult to find accommodation in Frankfurt and the prices are very high as Frankfurt is an economically very busy city and space is limited. In many parts of Germany, it is quite common to spend 40% to 50% of your net salary on accommodation. **Warning!** Do not transfer any security deposit for accommodation before you have signed a contract or viewed the apartment/room. If you are unsure whether it is safe to transfer money, you should contact us before proceeding. Please be particularly cautious when asked to transfer money to a foreign country (not Germany). We are happy to give you advice on recommendable neighbourhoods.

Types of accommodation

Furnished: it is rather uncommon for apartments to be rented furnished, though, about 20% of the rental market (mainly one/two bedroom apartments) are furnished. These will also be more expensive.

Unfurnished: If you stay in Frankfurt for a longer period of time you may consider renting an unfurnished flat.

Shared accommodation: it is common to live in shared housing (*Wohngemeinschaft/WG*). In this case, you will have your own room but will share the bathroom and the kitchen with all the other occupants in the apartment. These rooms are usually cheaper than a furnished one-room flat and have the advantage of offering you the companionship of the other tenants from the beginning of your stay.

Where to find accommodation

For shared accommodation: [WG Gesucht](#)

Furnished flats: [Homecompany](#), [City residence](#), [9flats](#)

Apartment swaps: [sabbatical home](#), [homeexchange.com](#), [homeforswap.com](#)

The real estate section of daily newspapers such as the "Frankfurter Rundschau" or "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung".

You can also post your own advertisement on the websites mentioned above, for example, or in local newspapers and on notice boards.

Agent: You can enlist the help of an agency to find accommodation. Note, however, that in Germany the tenant/purchaser usually pays the agent's commission.

Upon arrival in Frankfurt

Register with the municipality ([Bürgeramt](#))

Open a bank account (recommended for stays exceeding three months)

Arriving at PRIF

The PRIF headquarters are conveniently located very near to Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof (Main Station) at [Baseler Str. 27-31](#). On your first day, please go to the 4th floor reception desk, where you will receive your keycard and will be shown your office and desk. The PRIF coordinator will arrange to meet you and give you an introductory tour of PRIF.

Travel in and around Frankfurt

By bicycle: Frankfurt is easily accessible by bicycle. Be aware to cycle safely, preferably with a helmet and note to always lock your bike properly, as it is common for bicycles to be stolen in Frankfurt. You can buy a used (such as on flea markets) or new bike, or join bike-rental apps, such as by [DB](#) or [nextbike](#). o Public transport: [RMV](#) is the regional public transport company.

Tickets: Note that there are different tariffs if you live outside of the city (e.g. Offenbach). There are various options for weekly, monthly or yearly tickets. If you travel more than one trip on a given day, a daily ticket is usually more economical than singles.

Public transport maps are to be found [here](#). Note that Google Maps only works for rail services in Frankfurt. Bus lines are not included. There are however, other apps to plan your journeys with, such as the RMV App.

Weekends/nights: Many lines are serviced throughout the night on weekends, while there are night-buses on weekdays.

By car: If you prefer to travel by car, please note that parking especially in inner city areas in Frankfurt is limited and expensive. There is no parking available at PRIF. If you do not own a car but would like to use one at times, car sharing is a great and popular choice. The most popular car sharing services in Germany are the following:

[Book-n-drive Carsharing](#) (in German Only), [Car2Go](#), [Stadtmobil Carsharing](#), [App2Drive Interactive Carsharing](#).

Private (non-profit) car sharing platforms: [SnappCar](#) (in German only), [Drivy](#)

Language courses

Join Goethe University's intensive German courses !

PRIF doctoral and post-doctoral staff is eligible to take part in GU's language courses:

http://www.uni-frankfurt.de/49405112/Einstufungstest_Intensivkurse_Deutsch die Möglichkeit haben oder auch gew

Emergency Phone Numbers

- o Police emergency call 110
- o Fire Fighters and Ambulance 112
- o Call a Taxi in Frankfurt (069) 23 00 01 / (069) 25 00 01
- o Emergency doctors Frankfurt (069) 19292
- o Dental emergency services (069) 63015877
- o Pediatrician emergency services (069) 63 01 71 70
- o Women's Emergency Call Frankfurt (069) 709494

[Life in Frankfurt](#)

Helpful collection of information from the [Welcome Center](#) at Goethe University Frankfurt