PhD (100%) and Post-doc (50%) position in Jewish Studies / Middle Eastern Studies / Political Science

The Use and Abuse of the Israel-Palestine Conflict

The Institute of Jewish Studies at the University of Bern in collaboration with swisspeace/Swiss Peace Foundation invites for applications as part of a project that seeks to understand and analyze how the naming of contested space on the one hand and the most recent positionality of the conflict in a deeply transforming Middle East on the other hand affect the prospect of a peaceful coexistence and the potential for conflict and radicalization in the region. This call is for two positions:

PhD project, 100%: “What’s in a name? Mapping the Israel-Palestine Conflict"
Postdoc, 50%: “The Enigma of Encapsulation: The Israel-Palestine Conflict in its Middle Eastern Context, 2008-2018”

For more details on the projects please contact the address below. The fellows will conduct their research under the supervision of Prof. René Bloch (Jewish Studies), Prof. Laurent Goetschel (Political Science), and Prof. Maurus Reinkowski (Middle Eastern Studies). The project is part of an interdisciplinary research group at the University of Bern working on "Religious Conflicts and Coping Strategies" in the past and today.

Requirements:
The successful PhD candidate holds a Master’s degree or equivalent in Jewish Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Islamic Studies, Political Science, History, Religious Studies or an affiliated field. The post-doc-candidate holds a recent PhD in one of these fields. Candidates with strong language skills (especially Hebrew and/or Arabic) are given preference.

Further information
The positions are funded for four years (interim evaluation after 2 years). Starting date no later than April 1, 2018. Salaries will match the current base salary paid by the Swiss National Science Foundation: for PhD candidates CHF 47'000 to 50'000 per annum, for Post-docs (50%) ca. CHF 60'000 CHF per annum. A work space will be provided. Please submit applications in German or English (one PDF, including CV, letter of motivation, certificates and diplomas, and a list of publications) by January 30, 2018 by email to rene.bloch@theol.unibe.ch. Any inquiries may also be addressed to René Bloch.