



**PhD position (m/f/d)**  
**“Transnational contentious politics and situational publics in South-South relations”**  
**(E 13 TV-L, 65%, limited to 3 years)**

This PhD position is offered within the European Research Council funded research group “AFRICA’s ‘INFRASTRUCTURE GLOBALITIES’ ([www.infraglob.eu](http://www.infraglob.eu)). The group as a whole focuses on South-South infrastructure globalities to understand how the governance of business-society relations are reshaped by the experiences and practices, and relationally between differently positioned actors in the Global South. It analyses in particular what emerges from the circulations of and frictions between diverse practitioners, technologies and practices.

**The project:**

Within this broader endeavor, you will have the opportunity to develop and conduct a research project on contentious politics and transnational situational publics in the context of large-scale economic projects from investors from the Global South in Africa. The specific focus and case studies are to be developed; synergies with existing empirical focal areas of the group are welcome (Guinea, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique or Democratic Republic of the Congo). We particularly welcome expertise and project proposals engaging with China in Africa and (transnational) contentious politics that address the Chinese government or Chinese publics as part of their audience.

In cooperation with the principal investigator, you will develop a methodology to integrate analysis of multi-sited fieldwork observations and interviews with written sources, objects and digital material. You will collaborate with other team members and local/international research partners and contribute to the high-level publication of research results. You will be able to combine project-related research and PhD project. For the latter, there is the opportunity to join the Bayreuth-based international BIGSAS Graduate School for African Studies.

**Your Profile:**

You are intellectually curious and enthusiastic about working in an international team across disciplinary and methodological boundaries.

You have:

- an interest in studying and theorizing transnational publics and/or transnational contentious politics in ways relevant to mobilizations in and across Africa, Asia and Latin America targeting (among others) audiences in the Global South; familiarity with the pragmatist tradition of situational publics is desirable but not a must
- preferably knowledge of the literature and experience in studying situational, transnational publics and contentious politics outside Europe and/or in authoritarian contexts

- a master's degree in a relevant social science discipline, such as Sociology, Political Science, International Relations, Global Studies, Social Movement Studies, or in a related Area Studies program, such as African Studies or Sinology/China Studies
- relevant international networks; experience with international collaboration is desirable
- an **excellent** command of English, knowledge of other languages necessary for the conduct of the project (e.g. Mandarin or Portuguese) is desirable

The University of Bayreuth values the diversity of its employees as an enrichment and is expressly committed to the goal of equal opportunities for all genders. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Applicants with children are very welcome. The University of Bayreuth is a member of the Best Practice Club "Familie in der Hochschule e.V.", and has successfully participated in the HRK audit "Internationalization of the University". Persons with severe disabilities will be given preferential consideration if equally qualified.

### **Your application:**

Please apply **online** until 10 February **2022** via the **Application Portal Uni Bayreuth** using the keyword: "INFRAGLOB".

The following documents should be included:

- a letter of motivation
- a curriculum vitae with names and contact details of two academic referees and copies of the key certificates obtained
- details of publications if any and one sample writing (published or recent course work)
- an initial idea for a potential PhD project (1-2 pages excluding references)

The documents will be deleted after the position has been filled, in accordance with data protection requirements.

The intended start date is 1 April 2022 but can be discussed.

For questions concerning the research, you are welcome to get in touch with Prof. Dr. Jana Hönke ([jana.hoenke@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:jana.hoenke@uni-bayreuth.de)).

For administrative questions, please contact Ms. Romina Hazzard ([SozAfr@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:SozAfr@uni-bayreuth.de)).