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3 Vacancies for PhD Candidates ERC Project “Social Integration and Boundary Making in Adolescence”

We invite applications for three fully funded 3 year PhD positions to begin in February 2018. These studentships are available on Professor Clemens Kroneberg's ERC Starting Grant project on “Social Integration and Boundary Making in Adolescence” (SOCIALBOND). The project is based in the Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology at the University of Cologne.

The **SOCIALBOND project** is situated in the interdisciplinary fields of boundaries studies, immigration research, and network science. It examines peer dynamics across a large number of schools in order to understand how the school context affects the structure of peer group affiliations and identities. Ultimately, the SOCIALBOND project could help to identify new factors that support the social integration of minority students.

The PhD researchers will:

- Join the SOCIALBOND team to collect three-wave panel data in 54 schools located in the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.
- Analyze this accumulating, as well as existing longitudinal data on social boundary making, using social network analysis and regression techniques.
- Receive advanced training in theory and methods at the University of Cologne and at international summer schools.
- Write a doctoral dissertation and publish key results in peer-reviewed journal articles.
- Have no teaching obligations (although teaching experiences can be gained if sought by the candidates).

The **PhD theses of the successful applicants** will focus on a particular sub-project within the larger project. Possible subject-matters include ethnic identities and peer group affiliations; the role of school context in social boundary making; the incorporation of refugees in the school setting; new methods to study identities and to trace the impact of exogenous events.



Payment is according to the German pay scale TVL E-13 on a 65% contract. These and all other terms of the contract are governed by applicable German federal and state university law. The monthly payment amounts to approximately € 2,300 before taxes in the first year, increasing to approximately € 2,700 before taxes in the third year.

We seek candidates with an excellent academic background (at the Master's level) either in quantitative sociology, social psychology, or qualitative educational research. They should have research interests and/or demonstrated expertise in the areas of adolescence, schools and education, ethnicity, social networks, or social boundaries. Non-native speakers will need to acquire the capability to operate successfully in a German-language environment for project work.

Applications should include full contact details of the applicant, a short cover letter, a detailed curriculum vitae, and a one-page research exposé laying out the applicant's specific research expertise and interest. The deadline for applications is **15 September 2017**. Please submit your complete application materials electronically (one PDF file) to:

Prof. Dr. Clemens Kroneberg
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Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology
Greinstr. 2
50939 Cologne
Germany

Email: socialbond@wiso.uni-koeln.de

The University of Cologne is committed to diversity, equal opportunities and compatibility of family and career. International candidates are welcome. We explicitly encourage minorities to apply.

For more information about the ERC-funded SOCIALBOND project, see: <http://www.kroneberg.eu/socialbond/>. For more information about the Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology at the University of Cologne, see: <http://www.iss-wiso.uni-koeln.de>.

For further questions about the positions or the project, please contact Prof. Clemens Kroneberg (socialbond@wiso.uni-koeln.de).