

Research Assistant Job Description

About Geneva Graduate Institute, Gender Centre:

About the project:

Liminality is a research consortium across six countries conducting a multi-country, multi-disciplinary research on Survival Strategies and Health Repercussions in Forced Displacement. The research project focuses on the gendered dimensions of forced displacement; how social and political factors affect refugees' journeys; and ways they create strategies to survive in host countries. By applying an intersectional gender lens, we intend to capture the experiences of displaced women, men and people of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity; the gendered impact of structural vulnerabilities, including drivers, consequences and patterns of transactional sex and/or sexual exploitation. We aim to also gather data on the health repercussions, in particular, sexual and reproductive health and mental health implications. Data are mainly collected through in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and key informant interviews. To date, the research consortium has completed over 400 interviews across six countries (France, Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Switzerland, Turkey), including 35 interviews in Geneva, Switzerland. In 2023, we are expanding the research to collect data (40 interviews) in Zurich and St Gallen, in partnership with the Swiss Red Cross-St Gallen/Gravita.

The position:

The research consortium is looking for qualified research assistants in Zurich or St Gallen to support the research. The Research Assistant will be responsible for the data collection and data management in line with the study protocol, timely transcription and translation of the data, supporting coding and analysis, and writing reports and publications, including presentation of novel research findings.

The main tasks include:

- Maintaining trusting professional working relationship with various partners in Zurich and St Gallen.
- Manage recruitment of participants including scheduling interviews with participants and coordinating the logistics.
- Conduct in- depth interviews, focus-group discussions, and key informant interviews, according to the study protocol.
- Manage data in line with the data management plan.
- Ensure timely transcription and translation of the data.
- Support various administrative and operational tasks during data collection as needed.

- Code transcripts using industry-leading qualitative research software and support the analysis and interpretation of the results, as requested.

Expected outcomes: Completed 20 interviews, translated and transcribed; as requested, qualitative analysis of interview transcripts; thematic coding (all work performed in collaboration with study team)

Qualifications

- MSc or PhD students with experience in qualitative research and conducting interviews, preferably in anthropology and sociology, gender studies, migration studies or public health. Experience and knowledge of feminist and queer theories is advantageous. familiarity with the concept of liminality is an asset. [Both students and graduates are encouraged to apply.]
- Fluency in English and knowledge of German is a requirement. Additional languages in particular, Farsi / Dari is desirable.
- Excellent academic writing skills.
- Flexibility in working hours (interviews might take place outside of office hours) and willingness to travel within Switzerland (mainly between Zurich and St Gallen and occasionally Geneva).
- Highly motivated, independent and proactive working style
- Open-minded, sensitive and empathetic personality with strong communication skills

What we offer:

- Training and insights into conducting ethical research on a sensitive topic
- Working with a dynamic international consortium
- Flexible working conditions
- Remuneration on an hourly basis and compensation on travel expenses

Application / Contact

If you are interested, please send an email to maya.sopory@graduateinstitute.ch with your application materials, including:

- CV
- Short motivational letter including availability

Start Date: October 2023 or upon agreement

Location: Primarily Zurich or St Gallen and working from home

Duration: Approx. 2-3 months

Percentage: Flexible, approximately 10-30% depending on needs, hourly remuneration

Travelling: Zurich and St Gallen.