



berlin graduate school  
muslim cultures and societies

ZMO (Zentrum Moderner Orient) &  
BGS MCS (Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures & Societies)

### **Joint call for applications for Visiting Research Fellowships 2013**

ZMO and BGS MCS are inviting applications as Visiting Research Fellows for the calendar year of 2013. We are interested in attracting outstanding researchers who are engaged in research projects that are relevant to the respective research profiles at ZMO ([www.zmo.de](http://www.zmo.de)) and BGS MCS ([www.bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de](http://www.bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de)).

ZMO is an interdisciplinary research institute with an international community of researchers pursuing research with regional and trans-regional focus on societies in Africa, the Middle East, and South-, South-East and Central Asia and their interrelations (as well as their relations to Europe). The current main research programme, "Muslim worlds: world of Islam? Conceptions, practices and crises of the global", is concerned with social and historical dimensions of the Muslim world (and funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBF). We will, however, also consider excellent applications with a different focus. All applications should address themes covered by the three main working groups, "Concepts of World and Order", "Microcosms and Practices of the Local" and "Actors in Translocal Spaces", or themes that other ZMO-based working groups are engaged with (see website). One Fellowship will be dedicated to, and financed by, the "Crossroads Asia" research network group devoted to interaction between South and Central Asia..

The Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies (BGS MCS) is an interdisciplinary Graduate School based at Freie Universität Berlin, and coordinated between Freie Universität, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and ZMO. It is funded as part of the Excellence Initiative by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBF. The Graduate School has an international body of students and draws from a range of experienced researchers based in various institutions in Berlin who act as principle investigators and supervisors. The BGS MCS investigates the plurality, changeability, and global connectedness of Muslim cultures and societies. The area of study includes Muslim societies in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, as well as Muslim communities in Europe and North America. We specially invite applications in the following fields: education; communication, mediality, and media studies; Islam and Muslims in the West.

Applicants should indicate which of the two institutions they would prefer to be attached to for the period of their fellowship. Both ZMO and the Graduate School expect fellows to participate in their academic life, and to give one presentation on their research project. The call is open for senior researchers and recent postdocs as well as finishing PhD students in the humanities and social sciences. They are invited to apply for a monthly stipend (1500 EUR for PhD students, and 2500 EUR for all researchers on a postdoctoral level) and a period of stay that should normally last up to three months.

ZMO seeks to select about 5-10 fellows overall (covering doctoral, postdoctoral and senior levels); BGS MCS is looking for 2-4 postdoctoral and senior researchers. Slots are available throughout the year, and as we will allocate fellowships throughout all the months of the year, we ask applicants to indicate their preferred month(s) of stay as well as their potential flexibility. We particularly encourage applications by candidates from Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

The applications will be reviewed by senior researchers from the institutions. The decisions are expected by late November.

Applications should be emailed, and include:

- CV, including complete list of publications

Project description of research project to be worked upon during visit (max. 3 pages)

- A brief cover letter

- For PhD students: two letters of reference

Deadline: 30 September 2012

For any further information, please consult our websites, or contact us directly at [zmo@rz.hu-berlin.de](mailto:zmo@rz.hu-berlin.de) or [office@bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de](mailto:office@bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de); please email the finalized applications to us at [zmo@rz.hu-berlin.de](mailto:zmo@rz.hu-berlin.de), as the selection process will be coordinated from here.

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