

JOB OFFERS

PhD student positions at the

Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR)

International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science

Application Deadline: May 13th, 2022

The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) is inviting applications from qualified and highly motivated students for **PhD student positions** in the Labs of the MPIDR Director Mikko Myrskylä and Max Planck Research Group Leaders Nicole Hiekel and Diego Alburez-Gutierrez. The MPIDR is one of the leading demographic research centers in the world. It is part of the Max Planck Society, a network of more than 80 institutes that form Germany's premier basic-research organization. Max Planck Institutes have an established record of world-class research and they offer a unique environment that combines the best aspects of an academic setting and a research laboratory. We are looking for candidates with a background in Demography, Data Science, Computer Science/Informatics, Applied Mathematics, Economics, Sociology, Public Health, or related disciplines.

1. JOSHUA WILDE from the **Lab of Fertility and Well-being**, headed by MPIDR Director Mikko Myrskylä, is seeking to supervise a doctoral student with interests in the intersection between fertility and global challenges, very broadly construed. Examples of possible research interests might include – but are not limited to – linkages between fertility and:

- gender discrimination (such as sex-selective abortion, determinants of missing women, or sex-ratios at birth);
- macroeconomic outcomes in low- and middle-income contexts, or other issues surrounding the Demographic Dividend;
- environmental interactions, such as pollution or climate change;
- infectious diseases (such as COVID-19, malaria, etc.);
- national crises, both economic and social.

Candidates with interests in topics surrounding fertility in both high-income and low- and middle-income settings are welcome. Demonstrable skills in R and Stata are highly desirable.

For questions, please contact Joshua at wilde@demogr.mpg.de.

2. NICOLE HIEKEL, Head of the **Max Planck Research Group on Gender Inequalities and Fertility**, is looking for PhD candidates with a pronounced research interest in gender inequalities and fertility in the context of the unprecedented complexity in partnership behavior and family forms. The successful candidates contribute to one or more of the research groups' objectives:

- incorporating increased union instability and family diversity in the demographic analysis of fertility behavior and its gendered outcomes;
- grasping how gender inequalities unfold over the course of relationships and over life courses;
- identifying the processes that link gender inequalities, fertility and intra- and interindividual outcomes (e.g. wealth, health, relationship stability).

For questions, please contact Nicole at phds@demogr.mpg.de.

3. DIEGO ALBUREZ-GUTIERREZ, Head of the **Max Planck Research Group on Kinship Inequalities**, is seeking candidates with an interest in family dynamics, demographic change, and social inequality. Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- kin availability, intergenerational overlap, and transfers;
- the experience of kin loss and bereavement;
- the effects of demographic change on family structures;
- and the implications of these processes for individuals, families, and societies.

Projects comparing countries or groups within a country (e.g., across gender, race, socioeconomic class, or geographic location) are particularly welcome (in both low- and high-income contexts).

For questions, please contact Diego at alburezgutierrez@demogr.mpg.de.



These PhD studentships offer an excellent opportunity for motivated students to work with a highly international team of researchers, to take advantage of the interdisciplinary intellectual environment at the MPIDR, as well as substantial financial support for travel, research training and data acquisition.

Admitted students take part in the **International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science (IMPRS-PHDS)** that merges demography, epidemiology and data science. IMPRS-PHDS equips doctoral students not only with advanced knowledge of the theory and methods of demography and epidemiology (broadly defined as 'population health'), but also with strong technical skills in statistics, mathematical modeling, and computational and data management methods (broadly referred to as 'data science'). PHDS supports strong interdisciplinary research training and exchange within a network of universities in Europe and the US. The research school offers a core training program in Rostock, extensive networking opportunities across partner sites, and high-quality supervision across at least two institutes. For more information on the IMPRS-PHDS curriculum please see <https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de>.

HOW TO APPLY

Please apply via <https://survey.demogr.mpg.de/index.php/266645?lang=en> by **13 May 2022**, include as ***a single pdf file***, in **English**:

- (1) Curriculum Vitae, including a list of your scholarly publications.
- (2) A two-page motivational statement explaining whether you are applying to work with Wilde, Hiekel, or Alburez-Gutierrez; how your planned PhD project fits with their research area; how the MPIDR could foster your career development; and describe your technical skills and areas of expertise.
- (3) Copies of transcripts of undergraduate and, if applicable, master's degrees. Applicants should hold a master's degree or equivalent at the time of starting the PhD.
- (4) Names and contact information of 2 academic referees.
- (5) One writing sample.

Online interviews will be held between 30 May and 3 June 2022. The starting date is flexible, but no later than 1 November 2022. The PhD students are offered a 3-year contract with remuneration based on the salary structure of the German public sector (Öffentlicher Dienst, TVöD Bund) currently starting at 34,295.22 € gross a year, and will be expected to be in residence at the Institute.

E-mail inquiries concerning the application process, the MPIDR, and IMPRS-PHDS should be sent to phds@demogr.mpg.de.

The MPIDR is an equal opportunities employer. Our work atmosphere includes respectful treatment of each other, with gender, nationality, religion, disability, age, cultural origin, and sexual identity playing no role. We aim to have an institutional culture that enables everyone to develop their individual skills and competencies.

The Max Planck Society offers a broad range of measures to support the reconciliation of work and family. These are complemented by the MPIDR's own initiatives. The Society has been awarded the certificate "Work and Family" which is granted to institutions committed to establishing a family-friendly corporate culture by binding target agreements. The MPIDR collaborates with a network of local day-care centers that provides childcare places for the children of Institute staff. The Max Planck Society has contracts with a private family service company that offers services such as arranging child care on short notice in various cities in Germany for parents who attend conferences, care services for children of school age up to 14 years, and support for those caring for family members and relatives. The MPIDR also practices flexible working-time models, which include at least one home office day per week, and scheduling meetings only within core working hours. To help accompanying spouses and partners find appropriate work at their new location, the MPIDR works in close cooperation with Dual-Career Partners in regional networks.

Our Institute values diversity and is keen to employ individuals from minorities.

The Max Planck Society is committed to increasing the number of individuals with disabilities in its workforce and therefore encourages applications from such qualified individuals. Furthermore, the Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.