

**International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation, Punishment  
(IMPRS REMEP)  
Call for Doctoral Research Positions**

The Max Planck Institute for European Legal History in Frankfurt/Main offers in accordance with the conditions of the Max Planck Society for the support of young researchers, and subject to required budgetary appropriations

**one doctoral research position within the areas of Legal History as of 1st November 2014 or later**

for the conferral of a doctorate degree in law (Dr. jur.) or Early Modern/ Modern History (Dr. phil.).

This doctoral position is granted in the context of the interdisciplinary programme of the International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation, Punishment (IMPRS REMEP). The research school aims to attract young researchers educated in law (in particular legal history) or historical sciences.

The doctoral student will carry out his or her studies mainly in Frankfurt; alternatively, in agreement with the Max-Planck-Institute a graduation is also possible at another University. He or she will participate in the training programme offered by the IMPRS REMEP and can make use of the facilities and infrastructure of the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History. The interdisciplinary curriculum further requires participation in several joint seminars to be conducted together with the doctoral students who are affiliated with the IMPRS REMEP partner institutes in Halle/Saale and Freiburg. During these seminars, all students shall achieve cross-disciplinary knowledge in order to develop a common understanding of the overall research agenda and to be able to mutually understand and discuss their doctoral theses from the perspectives of all relevant disciplines. Working language of the training programme is English. According to local university regulations, German language skills may be required in exceptional cases. The scientific supervision of the doctoral student will be carried out by the Max Planck Institute and the University of Frankfurt or the Technische Universität Darmstadt as the case may be. A cross-disciplinary dissertation project may be co-supervised by a member of the academic staff from a partner institute.

**Dissertation Topics**

The research agenda has its focus on the fundamental question common to the disciplines of social sciences and humanities regarding how peace and social order are negotiated, constructed, maintained and re-gained. In particular, in the context of conflict and post-conflict societies, traditional approaches to reconciliation and mediation are being adopted, amending, and – partially – replacing, well-established systems of punishment mainly based on concepts of retaliation.

The doctoral research project to be conducted in Frankfurt shall focus on basic questions in the field of legal history, from the 16th to the 20th century and should show a distinct interconnection to the current research focus areas and the research fields of the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History as outlined on the homepage of the institute (<http://www.rg.mpg.de/en/forschungsprofil.cfm>). With respect to the methodological approach field studies focusing on a respective territory/state, period or issue are welcome as well as comparative studies. Proposals with the emphasis on a theoretical issue are welcome, too. Applicants are expected to develop their research questions independently, and to specify those in their proposal. Proposals with a comparative perspective and/or an inter-disciplinary approach will be considered with priority.

**Application requirements**

1. Completion of a law degree at a German university or completion at an equivalent university abroad. First or Second German State Law Exam with a minimum overall grade of "vollbefriedigend" (according to the examination regulations "JAPrO" of the State of Baden-Württemberg), or an equivalent degree with an equivalent grade ("with distinction") from abroad.
2. Alternatively, completion of regular university studies in social sciences with sociology as major subject (and dissertation subject), a second major subject, and two additional minor subjects, with an overall duration of at least 4 years at a German university, or completion of an equivalent programme at an equivalent university abroad. Master degree or State Exam for second school level teachers ("Lehramt an Gymnasien"), or equivalent degree from abroad.
3. Submission of a substantive/meaningful proposal for a dissertation topic linked to the research agenda of the IMPRS REMEP. In exceptional circumstances it is possible to submit an application without a specific dissertation topic; however, applications with a fully developed proposal will be considered with preference.
4. Solid proficiency in the English language. In addition, students should have at least some basic knowledge of the German language and demonstrate willingness to improve it.

The IMPRS REMEP seeks to reach a composition of at least 50 percent foreign doctoral students. Thus, foreign candidates with a foreign degree are explicitly encouraged to apply. Recognition of equivalence of foreign degrees is to be determined by the doctoral committee of the respective Faculty of Law or Philosophy, as the case may be, in accordance with the criteria laid out by the Central Office for Foreign Education at the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs ("Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen im Sekretariat der Ständigen Konferenz der Kultusminister der Länder").

### **Application documents**

1. Application letter addressed to the 'International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation, Punishment' at the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, Frankfurt/Main
2. European style curriculum vitae (<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/>) in German or English. It should include information on all previous research activities.
3. Copy of Secondary Education certificate with a list of subject areas. The documents must be officially translated into German (preferably) or English and a copy of the original supplied.
4. Copy of certificates relating to the First and, where applicable, Second German State Law Exam(s) from lawyers or certificates relating to the University or State Exam from social scientists. From foreign graduates, copy of all university certificates with a list of all grades, including the overall grade, the average grade and the university certificate of graduation. The documents must be officially translated into German (preferably) or English and a copy of the original supplied.
5. Substantive/meaningful proposal for a research topic (3-5 pages), preferably in English, structured into a) relevance of the proposed topic in the context of the overall research agenda of the IMPRS-REMEP, b) state of preparation, c) aim of the project, d) probable links to other disciplines, e) methodology, f) proposed timeline, g) intended time of completion of the dissertation. It is intended that doctoral students, when participating in the research programme in a regular manner, will be able to complete the programme within a two year period.
6. Two letters of recommendation from two senior scientists (to be written in English or German). These letters should include information as to previous research experience, and vouch for the ability of the applicant to undertake doctoral studies at the Research School.
7. Applicants who do not speak English as their native language and who are unable of demonstrating good proficiency in English language in any other way must prove their skills through language examination certificates. In particular, the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with at least 6.0 bands or TOEFEL (at least 560 points, computer: 220 points) are recognized.
8. Applicants who do not speak German as their native language should be capable to demonstrate basic knowledge of German, e.g., through a certificate German language ("Zertifikat Deutsch", ZD). Proficiency in German language is not a formal precondition for application. However, subject to university regulations, German may be mandatory for the oral doctoral exam or defense, or for parts of it, in individual cases. If necessary, access to external language courses can be arranged.

Presentation of officially authenticated copies of the original certificates etc., with regards to Nos. 3 and 4 above, is only necessary once a decision has been made to admission.

### **Application dates**

Application documents must be submitted **electronically** (maximum 10 MB per E-Mail) no later than by **1-10-2014** to the following email address: [personal@rg.mpg.de](mailto:personal@rg.mpg.de). Please refrain from sending postal applications.

Applicants will be invited to telephone or personal interviews in Frankfurt upon prior notification. The selection procedure should be completed by **31-10-2014**. The applicants will be informed of the selection results in writing. During the selection procedure we ask applicants to refrain from contacting the institute with regards to the results of the procedure. An absolute right to financial support does not exist.

The Max Planck Society endeavour, wherever possible, to employ disabled persons and applications from such persons are expressly called for. The Max Planck Society also desires to increase the proportion of women in areas where they are underrepresented. Women are therefore expressly encouraged to apply.

### **Financial support**

Financial support is granted in accordance with the guidelines of the Max Planck Society in the form of a scholarship (1.365 € per month) or a doctoral contract. The financial support regarding the doctoral contract corresponds with public service organizations (up to 50 per cent of the payment group 13 degree 1 of the General Framework Agreement on Public Services, "Tarifvertrag Öffentlicher Dienst", TVöD). Financial support will be granted for a period of two years, with a possibility of two subsequent extensions, each for a duration of six months.

### **Inquiries**

Further information on the research programme of the IMPRS REMEP can be acquired at [www.remep.mpg.de](http://www.remep.mpg.de). For additional inquiries, please write to [haerter@rg.mpg.de](mailto:haerter@rg.mpg.de).