

Historisches Seminar

Universität Zürich Historisches Seminar Karl Schmid-Strasse 4 CH-8006 Zürich Telefon +41 (0)44 634 38 66 Telefax +41 (0) 44 634 49 13 www.hist.uzh.ch

Prof. Dr. Monika Dommann telephone: +41 (0)44 634 38 49 monika.dommann@hist.uzh.ch

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The Chair of Contemporary History at the University of Zurich (Prof. Dr. Monika Dommann), in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Mareile Flitsch (Anthropology, University of Zurich), is looking for a

PhD researcher (60%) for 48 months

in the SNSF-funded project "Digital Entanglements: discourses and practices around Sino-Swiss fiber optic infrastructures since the 1970s". The position will start on August 1, 2021 or by agreement. Remuneration is according to the guidelines of the SNSF and the University of Zurich.

Focusing on the expansion of (digital) communication technologies and infrastructures (i.e. fiber optics), the project aims to investigate the history and present of "digital Switzerland" as a global phenomenon. The project explores the economic, political, and socio-technological entanglements between Switzerland and China, with the aim of provincializing prevailing digitalization narratives and contributing to a history of a global, digital Switzerland.

Applicants should have been awarded an excellent M.A. degree in history. Moreover, they should have a marked interest in the transnational corporate history of digital Switzerland as well as in interdisciplinary research. The position is limited to a maximum of 4 years.

The duties of the position include conducting independent scholarly research, writing a PhD dissertation, and actively participating in doctoral seminars, conferences, workshops and publications. In the application documents, applicants should justify their interest (max. 1 page) for a dissertation project about the economic, political or scientific actors related to the expansion of Swiss fiber optic, IT or telecommunication companies to China in particular, and the entrepreneurial entanglements of Swiss companies in China since the opening reforms in general.

In addition to the usual documents (letter of motivation including justification of interest of max. 1 page, curriculum vitae, copies of certificates), applicants should indicate two persons from whom recommendations can be obtained.

For further information, please contact:

Prof. Dr. Monika Dommann (monika.dommann@hist.uzh.ch | 044 634 38 49)

Please send your complete application documents by June 15, 2021 in one single PDF to:

Frau Karin Schraner (sekdommann@hist.uzh.ch | 044 634 40 44).