Founded more than 25 years ago, BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion) is a non-university research institute with international staff. The Institute deals with a variety of global topics in peace and conflict research in international projects and, on this basis, provides policy advice and contributes to public debates.



To strengthen our team of researchers, we are looking for a

Researcher (m/f/x) in small arms and conflict research

Full time / up to TV-L 14 / initially for two years / as of 1 April 2021

BICC supports regional, sub-regional and national organisations in Sub-Saharan Africa in small and light weapons (SALW) control. Among other organisations, we advise the Peace and Security Department of the African Union (AU) and the Small Arms Division of the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). In East Africa, we closely cooperate with the Regional Centre on Small Arms (RECSA). This project is closely connected with topics such as disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR). An international team in Bonn, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Kenya is involved in the project funded by the German Federal Foreign Office since 2016.

Within the small arms project, you will be developing a research agenda on small arms in Africa. You will collect and analyse quantitative and qualitative data. Together with the Head of Advice and Scientific Transfer, you are responsible for the project budget. You will work closely with the project team and network with the academic community. You will publish your results in BICC publications and academic formats. You will share your findings with the advisors of the small arms project and initiate a mutually beneficial exchange format to best utilise your research results and the findings from many years of advisory activities.

Your tasks:

- Development of a research agenda for the duration of the project in cooperation with the Head of Advice and Scientific Transfer.
- Conceptualisation, organisation and implementation of data collection in Africa.
- Publication of the outcome of your analyses and research in high-level academic publication formats and BICC publication series.
- Own research and academic publications in small arms control, conflict dynamics and violent conflicts.
- Proactive participation in academic and transfer activities in the team on questions of small arms and the Center overall.

Your profile:

- Outstanding doctoral degree in social science (such as political science, sociology, peace and conflict studies).
- You have already published academically sound research outcomes in conflict research and have excellent knowledge of relevant theories and concepts.
- You are familiar with quantitative and qualitative social science research methods and have knowledge of statistics and statistics software (such as R or Stata).
- You have already conducted field research.
- Ideally, you have some experience in the conceptionalisation of research proposals.
- Your English language skills are very good—in daily use as in specialised topics. Knowledge of German and/or French is an advantage.
- Good communication and presentation skills round off your profile.

We offer:

We offer you the opportunity to conduct your own research in an inter- and transdisciplinary research and advisory institute located at the nexus between research and policy advice, which offers its staff contacts and networks in policy and (inter)national academic contexts. This environment opens up the opportunity to further develop your own profile by independent research. We will support you to the best of our ability. We attach importance to further (academic) qualification of our staff. This is why BICC offers various alternatives for this.

The position is remunerated according to the collective wage agreement for the public service of the Länder (TV-L) up to pay scale 14 and also includes the option of a company pension scheme (VBLU). The position is to be filled by 1 April 2021, initially for a limited period of two years with the possibility of a longer-term perspective. Your place of work is Bonn.

BICC supports the work-life balance of its staff through highly flexible working hours.

We expressly encourage women to apply. In those areas where women are still underrepresented, they will be given preferential consideration in accordance with the legal requirements if they have the same qualification, skills and professional performance as their competitors unless reasons relating to the person of a competitor outweigh this.

BICC strives for gender equality and diversity and welcomes applicants from any background. Applications by people with severe disabilities are welcome.

Please apply with the following documents: Motivation letter, 1-2 pg paper on ideas for research, complete CV (including copies of your academic degrees) as well as names and addresses—including email—of two potential references to Ms Susanna Balkenhol (application@bicc.de) by email by 31 March 2021. She will also be your point of contact during the application process.

Please combine your documents into one pdf document and state 5_21 as the reference. Application files in any other formats or applications received after the deadline cannot be taken into consideration.

By sending in your application, you agree that the required data will be stored as part of the application process.

Publication: 10 March 2021

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