



Job Announcement

The University of Potsdam was founded in 1991 and has firmly established itself within the scientific landscape and developed into an outstanding economic factor and growth engine for the region. The university excels in acquiring third-party funds, has received multiple teaching awards, has a very service-oriented administration, and has been honored several times for its family-friendly culture. About 20,000 students and 3,000 employees study and work at three campuses – Am Neuen Palais, Griebnitzsee and Golm – at one of Germany's most scenic institutions of higher education.

The **Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, Chair in International Organizations (Prof. Dr. Thomas Sommerer)** at the **University of Potsdam** invites applications for the following position limited to 36 months, which will be filled **by 01.06.2026**:

Academic Staff Member (f/m/d) ID no. 382/2025

The successful candidate will work 30 hours per week (75 %). The position is classified within remuneration group 13 of the collective wage agreement among the German states (TV-L). The fixed term of employment is in accordance with Section 2 subsection 1 of the German Act on Limited Scientific Contracts (*Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz* or WissZeitVG). If necessary, an extension is possible if personal and legal requirements are met.

Your Field of Work:

The position is located within the DFG-funded research project **“Autocratization, Policy Preferences, and Performance of International Organizations”** (APPIO), which is being conducted jointly with a team from Zeppelin University (Prof. Dr. Maria Debre). APPIO investigates the impact of autocratization, democratic backsliding, and populism on the problem-solving capacity of international organizations and the changing policy preferences of their member states. The project employs a mixed-methods research design that combines statistical analyses, automated text analysis, case studies, and survey experiments.

The Scope of Your Responsibilities:

- Development and independent work on a doctoral project (related to the project topics)
- Collaboration on the empirical strategy of the APPIO project
- Support and co-authorship of project publications
- Participation in project communication
- Further development of your own academic profile and acquisition of relevant qualifications

Further academic qualification (doctorate) is possible. At least one-third of working hours is available for in-depth academic work.

Your Qualifications:

- A university degree (MA) in political science, social science, or public administration, preferably with a focus on international organizations or international relations
- Knowledge of, and interest in, theory-driven empirical research, as well as expertise in (quantitative/qualitative) social science methods
- Excellent English skills; German language skills are an advantage

We offer you:

- Collaboration in a highly motivated and widely connected project team working on key

issues in international relations.

- Support for your doctoral project at a chair with extensive experience in supervising doctoral candidates

What we offer:

As a university, we combine the strong potential for development of a teaching and research institution with the attractive working conditions of the public sector. The University of Potsdam is a reliable employer that supports its employees with a variety of offers and benefits:

- Make the most of the various continuing education and networking opportunities offered by the University of Potsdam to refine your subject-specific and interdisciplinary competencies for professional as well as personal growth.
- All campuses have good transport connections. You can receive a monthly subsidy for the public transport job ticket and use our campus bicycles.
- Benefit from a company pension scheme, a special annual payment, and capital-forming benefits.
- Take advantage of the various offers from our Occupational Health Management unit as well as the Academic Sports Center.
- To improve employees' work-life balance, the University of Potsdam offers flexible working hours and a defined share of remote working hours (e.g. work from home). You have 30 vacation days per year (with a 5-day week) and are also exempt from work on December 24 and 31. Our Service for Families can advise you on how to better balance work and family life.

You can find more information about working at the University of Potsdam at <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/arbeiten-an-der-up/employer-up/overview>

For more information about this position, please contact Ms. Anja Winter by email: pol-in-torg@uni-potsdam.de

Your Application:

Please send us your application (**including a motivation letter, CV, an outline of your ideas on a dissertation project (up to 2 pages), your MA thesis (or writing sample), your MA certificate (or transcript of records) and contact details of two academic references by the deadline of January 31, 2026** and provide the **ID no. 382/2025**, to Prof. Dr. Thomas Sommerer by email to pol-intorg@uni-potsdam.de

If you completed higher education qualifications outside the EU, please submit a German translation and [the assessment of the Central Office for Foreign Education \(Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen – ZAB\)](#). Alternatively, please send us a PDF file from the database for the [recognition and assessment of foreign higher education certificates \(ANABIN\)](#).

The University of Potsdam values the diversity of its community and pursues the goals of equal opportunity regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. Applications from abroad and from persons with a migration background are expressly encouraged. The university strives for a balanced gender ratio in all employment groups; in areas where women are underrepresented, women are given preference in case of equal suitability (Section 7 paragraph 4 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act). People with disabilities are given preferential consideration in case of equal suitability. In aptitude tests and selection interviews, individual compensation measures for disadvantages are granted, taking the specific disability into consideration. If a person with a disability would like to make use of individual compensation measures, please state this in the application letter.

Potsdam, December 22, 2025