1 Advertisement

Post Title: Research Fellow  
School/department: School of Global Studies  
Hours: part time, considered up to a maximum of 0.5 FTE  
Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).  
Contract: fixed term until 31 August 2022  
Reference: 4555  
Salary: starting at £33,718 to £40,322, pro rata if part time [current salary scales can be found here]  
Placed on: 07 September 2020  
Closing date: 17 September 2020  
Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.  
Expected start date: September or soon thereafter

An ERC Horizon 2020 project- VERSUS- seeks an analyst with skills and experience in the politics of Yemen and areas of Africa (unspecified), elite politics, conflict studies, social network analysis, econometric research, data collection and organization. This analyst should have an advanced degree which has incorporated both political studies and empirical approaches to political studies. The ideal candidate will have extensive evidence of their work in the politics and political geography of Yemen, political violence and spatial analysis.

Please contact Prof. C Raleigh at clionadh.sussex@gmail.com for informal enquiries.

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page]

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at School of Global Studies [http://www.sussex.ac.uk/global/]
3. **Job Description**

Job Description for the post of: Post-Doctoral Researcher

**Department: Geography**

**Section/Unit/School: Arts C – Global Studies**

**Location: Brighton**

**Grade: 7.1**

**Responsible to:** Prof. Raleigh

**Responsible for:** Post Doctoral Research on Elite Politics and Conflict in Yemen

The ERC consolidator project grant Violence, Elites and Resilience in States Under Stress (VERSUS) engages in the study of disaggregated violence and politics in Africa. This project assesses the roles of elites in political networks, and estimates the effect of formal and informal characteristics and relationships on the arrangement and distribution of power. The relevance of the project is to better understand political survival, the use of violence and policy-entry points to improve the political situation of people.

The project seeks an analyst with skills and experience in the politics of Yemen and areas of Africa (unspecified), elite politics, conflict studies, social network analysis, econometric research, data collection and organization. This analyst should have an advanced degree which has incorporated both political studies and empirical approaches to political studies. The ideal candidate will have extensive evidence of their work in the politics and political geography of Yemen, political violence and spatial analysis.

The research analyst positions will be directly working with the team at the University of Sussex. And the tasks include:

(a) engage in research work, writing and presentations
(b) conducting data collection and analysis with the PI; preparing and conducting quantitative analysis (including data cleaning, prepping for analysis, etc.),
(c) conducting literature reviews/desk research, etc.
(d) contribute to research articles on elite networks, power dimensions and strategies
(e) produce data visualizations
(f) work closely with other team members and support ways for VERSUS staff to engage in analysis.
(g) Other ad hoc research and analysis support tasks and occasional administrative and coordination tasks.
4. **Person Specification**

**Skills and competencies**

VERSUS is seeking applicants who are willing to be engaged in several simultaneous projects. The following experience and abilities are mandatory:

- Fluency in English
- Reliable with strong problem-solving skills, strong writing and editing skills, strong critical thinking and analysis skills, an extremely high level of attention to detail
- PhD in a field with combined political, geography and developing country politics knowledge
- 3-5 years of experience manipulating large datasets and building and testing statistical models
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills for engaging with team members and outside researchers
- Ability to work remotely and meet deadlines with limited supervision (experience working in a remote environment preferred)
- Familiarity with the academic literature around conflict and political violence
- Knowledge of statistical packages for conducting quantitative analysis
- Knowledge of social network packages and use
- Experience conducting desk-based research and literature reviews
- Solid experience with Tableau software, creating engaging data visualizations
- Experience with spatial software and applications (e.g. Esri GIS suite, QGIS, Mapbox, etc.)