Call for Visiting Fellows

Spring 2023
To enhance international exchange and cooperation, the nccr – on the move wishes to facilitate the linking up with researchers and research teams abroad. Within the framework of its third funding phase, the focus will be on strengthening the collaborations with partners from outside of Europe – and especially coming from and/or based in the “Global South”. The short-term visiting fellowships will therefore be available for incoming fellows. The grants are explicitly not a salary: instead, they are meant to cover travel, accommodation, and living costs during the stay in Switzerland.

The fellowship scheme can be used to host senior (PostDoc) and junior (Doc) researchers from abroad who wish to collaborate with the nccr – on the move in Switzerland for a duration of two to three months (shorter or longer stays are possible if justified). The monthly stipend is based on a lump-sum amount for staying in Switzerland, which amounts to CHF 3’000 per month for applicants from developed countries and CHF 3’500 for applicants from developing countries. In addition, one roundtrip from the place of residence to the host university is paid. Travel related to nccr – on the move events in Switzerland is reimbursed upon presentation of receipts.

During the visit, the fellows pursue a small joint research project in collaboration with the research team hosting them. Research projects can either be joint project submissions, the preparation and/or realization of a workshop, or a joint publication. The academic guests shall also participate in the nccr – on the move activities.

For the present call, a maximum of three fellowships will be awarded by the nccr – on the move Scientific Committee in December 2022, for the Spring term 2023.

You can find information on the nccr – on the move, the focus of the research, and the individual projects on our website.

Eligibility

Please note that the fellowship is not a salary, and that it is only meant to cover the living and travel costs linked to the stay in Switzerland. Please also note that obtaining a travel visa is subject to acceptance by Swiss authorities.

The incoming senior fellows need to fulfill the following requirements:

– have completed doctoral training;
– be employed or affiliated as a researcher in their home institution abroad;
– provide a letter of recommendation or the names of two referees;
– have a formal invitation by one of the nccr – on the move partner institutions, which is issued by the Project Leader who is hosting them in Switzerland;
– participate in the nccr – on the move activities during the academic term they are present in Switzerland (Public Lecture, Research Days, Graduate Conference, etc.);
– present their research at an NCCR event (Research Days, Graduate Conference, etc.);
– present a research plan that illustrates potential synergies and collaborations with the work undertaken in the nccr – on the move and with members of the NCCR, as well as the related research module(s) and project(s);
– have a valid health insurance coverage that is recognized in Switzerland (upon award of the fellowship).
The incoming junior fellows need to fulfill the following requirements:

- be enrolled in a doctoral training in a university abroad;
- be employed or affiliated as a researcher in their home institution or be the beneficiary of a doctoral stipend;
- provide a letter of recommendation or the names of two referees;
- have a formal invitation by one of the nccr – on the move project leaders organized by the individual project that is hosting them;
- participate in the nccr – on the move activities during the academic term (Public Lectures, Research Days, Graduate Conference, etc.);
- present their research at an NCCR event (Research Days, Graduate Conference, etc.);
- present a research plan that illustrates potential synergies and collaborations with the work undertaken in the nccr – on the move and with members of the NCCR, as well as the related research module(s) and project(s);
- have a valid health insurance coverage that is recognized in Switzerland (upon award of the fellowship).

The nccr – on the move individual projects wanting to host a junior or a senior visiting fellow need to meet the following requirements:

- formal invitation/support letter to the interested applicant by the Project Leader with a confirmation to provide a desk and other infrastructure to the guest;
- permission of their head of department;
- settle details concerning the stay of the person with the cantonal employment office and support the invited person concerning the organization of the stay (depending on the host canton, the duration of the stay and/or their nationality numerous administrative details need to be settled).

Application Procedure

To apply for the visiting fellowship the applicant has to submit the following documents as a single PDF file:

- curriculum vitae;
- letter of recommendation or the names of two referees;
- confirmation that they are affiliated to a University/research center and/or are enrolled in doctoral training;
- list of publications (if relevant);
- invitation letter by concerned nccr – on the move Project Leader confirming that the demanded resources will be made available by the nccr – on the move partner university;
- motivation letter (1 page) explaining why the applicant wants to join the nccr – on the move or the partner institution;
- research plan (2 pages) describing the planned research, the nature of the planned cooperation within the nccr – on the move, and the expected output (e.g., publications, organization of a workshop, joint project submission etc.).

Upon the award of the fellowship, and prior to their travel to Switzerland, the fellow will have to provide a proof of valid health insurance (e.g., European Health Insurance Card or “Schengen Insurance”).

Please send your application including the above mentioned additional information to Lucas Oesch, Deputy Scientific Officer of the nccr – on the move, (lucas.oesch@nccr-onthemove.ch).

Deadline for application is 31 October 2022

Selection Procedure

Decision-making body

The project proposal will be evaluated by the NCCR Scientific Committee. The Committee will take the decision on the fellowships by mid-December 2022. The fellowships will officially begin in February, March, or April 2023 depending on the availability of the incoming fellow.

Evaluation criteria

- All formal requirements are met (see conditions under eligibility);
- quality of the proposed research plan;
- synergies with respect to the nccr – on the move research agenda in Phase III;
- academic potential of the applicant and benefits of the proposed cooperation for the nccr – on the move (publications, project submissions, etc.);
- fair distribution of fellowships among the NCCR individual projects and modules;
- scientific track-record of the fellows;
- in case of applications meeting all the previous criteria and of equal quality, priority will be given to scholars who are based or coming from countries listed under categories B and C identified by the International Sociological Association (ISA).