

10 postdoc/senior fellowships, Käte Hamburger Kolleg

RWTH Aachen University, Jun 1, 2024–Sep 30, 2025

Application deadline: Dec 31, 2023

Dawid Kasprowicz, RWTH Aachen

10 Junior (postdoc) / Senior Fellowships in Aachen (Germany) starting in 2024 (earliest in June, and latest in October) for up to 12 months.

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg: Cultures of Research (c:o/re) is offering ten research fellowships for international scholars from the humanities, social sciences or STS as well as from natural, life and technical sciences for the academic year 2024/2025. The fellowships can start between June and October 2024. The Käte Hamburger Kolleg: Cultures of Research (c:o/re) is an International Center for Advanced Studies at RWTH Aachen University funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Part of its mission is to offer a free space to its fellows to develop their research projects in a vibrant academic environment facilitating exchange of ideas for a timespan of up to 12 months.

The topic Cultures of Research is positioned where the fields of philosophy, sociology and history interface with natural sciences and engineering. The overall interest of the Center's work falls on transformations of science and technology as addressed by notions of complexity, lifelikeness and emergence. We are particularly interested in the digitalization of research (simulation, artificial intelligence, machine learning) for the study of epistemic complex systems (e.g., climate change, energy revolution, biologization, sustainability), in participatory arrangements between science and society and in investigating histories and varieties of cultures of research. Our aim is to explore new cultures of (transdisciplinary) research, and, as such, to develop new theories and methodologies for investigating scientific transformations.

For the year 2024/2025 call we are particularly, but not exclusively interested in the topic of Expanded STS. By this topic we mean reflecting on the specific challenges that STS is facing to explore and analyze scientific transformations, and providing this field with specific methods. Further, we are interested in the topic of lifelikeness, a research object emerging at the interface of engineering, AI, life sciences and material sciences. With this in mind, we encourage applications with research proposals from:

- the humanities, social sciences, and STS that explore methods for addressing the diversity of scientific and technological transformations;
- natural, life and technical sciences which scrutinize complex lifelike systems; and
- arts, art history, science journalism and scientific illustration to explore the mediation and repre-

sentation of lifelikeness in science and technology.

Location

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg: Cultures of Research (c:o/re) is part of RWTH Aachen University (Germany), which with a student body of 47,000 is one of the largest technical universities in Europe. With over fifty chairs at ten institutes from the humanities and social sciences, the Faculty of Arts and Humanities is an integral part of the interdisciplinary culture of teaching and research at RWTH Aachen University. Located at the borders of Germany, Belgium, and The Netherlands (Euregio), it has close ties with STS institutes at the universities of Maastricht and Liège, and with the Jülich–Aachen Research Alliance (JARA BRAIN) at the neighboring Jülich Research Center, a research campus of more than 5,000 researchers.

Fellowships

Fellows will join c:o/re for up to 12 months. The fellowships provide a full grant, commensurate with applicants' level of professional experience, working space in fully-equipped offices, logistical support, and access to the interdisciplinary research environment and research labs at RWTH Aachen University. Fellows who take unpaid leave during their fellowship will receive financial compensation in the form of a stipend; alternatively, financing for a teaching replacement at the fellow's home institution can be arranged for. In order to create a stimulating intellectual environment among the resident research community, the fellowships are in residence and fellows are expected to be regularly present at c:o/re during their fellowship. Thus, taking residency in Aachen or the surrounding area is required and c:o/re can support fellows in finding suitable accommodation.

Applications

Scholars can apply for either junior or senior fellowships. For junior fellows a successfully completed PhD is an eligibility requirement; for senior fellowships a professorship (associate or full professorship) or comparable position (e.g., senior lecturer) is expected. Applications (in English) should include a cover/motivational letter (1 page), CV (tabular, max. 2 pages), a project outline incl. intended goals/outcome of the project (max. 1300 words), and a list of publications. Please also submit a writing sample (journal article or book-chapter). Applications must be submitted via our online application platform:

<https://rwthachen.moveon4.de/locallogin/616e986bce8f8a7c10019fb8/eng#>

The deadline for applications is December 31, 2023.

Female researchers from the Global South are particularly encouraged to apply. For further information please visit the FAQs on our website.

<https://khk.rwth-aachen.de/>

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Reference:

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