

## **Job Title**

Post-Doctoral Researcher in International Relations and Internal Displacement

## **Job Description**

The Centre for International Peace and Security Studies (CIPSS) at McGill University invites applications for a full-time Post-doctoral Researcher to work as part of a new SSHRC funded research programme on internally displaced persons (IDPs), under the direction of Prof. Jennifer Welsh and Prof. Megan Bradley.

## **Research Project**

In 2021, the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on IDPs painted a stark picture of the expanding number of forced migrants worldwide and outlined a series of challenges related to the provision of humanitarian assistance, protection, and 'durable solutions' for IDPs. The Panel also provided a series of recommendations to improve national and international responses to IDPs – including through more research on IDPs and strengthened academic engagement on these responses.

In response to this call, the **primary objective** of this new research project is to develop a landmark, comparative study of the localization of international norms on IDP protection, centering the roles of IDPs themselves and focusing on responses to two critical challenges: acute risks to IDPs' physical security, and the pursuit of durable solutions to displacement. The project will draw on theories of localization and sovereignty from the field of International Relations (IR), alongside original empirical and normative analyses, to address five inter-related questions: (1) How have international norms on the protection of IDPs been localized since the adoption of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in 1998? (2) What have been the consequences and limitations of these localization efforts and how can we explain them? (3) How have IDPs figured as agents in localization processes? (4) What are the implications of this empirical analysis for normative understandings of internal displacement, particularly from the perspective of international normative theory, political theory, and citizenship studies? (5) What insights does this analysis offer for improved policy and practice on IDP protection?

## **Applicant Profile**

This research project welcomes postdoctoral applicants from political science, international relations, law, and forced migration studies, or related fields who can contribute to the project's research objectives. Applicants with experience in conducting fieldwork would be particularly valuable for the project.

The postdoctoral researcher will interact with the two senior researchers on the project – Prof. Welsh and Prof. Bradley – as well as graduate students and research assistants. The successful applicant will also join a network of scholars working in international relations across McGill and its partner institution, the Université de Montréal, as a fellow in the Centre for International Peace and Security Studies.

## Conditions and Requirements

The start date for the position is 1 January 2024 (or as soon as possible thereafter). The duration is initially one year, with the possibility of renewal for a further year based on satisfactory progress. The postdoctoral researcher will receive a salary of \$C52,000 per year as well as benefits and a \$C4,000 annual research fund.

The postdoctoral researcher will be expected to be in residence at McGill during the academic year, to maintain an active research and publication agenda, and to take full part in the activities of the research project, as well as seminars, workshops, and other events that form part of CIPSS.

There is no teaching requirement associated with the position.

Candidates must have recently been awarded (within 5 years) a PhD or must have been awarded or submitted (oral defense pending) by the start date of 1 January 2024. Knowledge of French is an advantage but not required. The competition is open with respect to citizenship and nationality, but applications should indicate the applicant's citizenship.

Other information on postdoctoral fellowships at McGill is available at <http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/postdocs/fellows>, including information on obtaining a Canadian work permit if necessary.

## Application Process

Applicants should include a cover letter, CV, research statement and one writing sample of no more than 8,000-10,000 words as a single document. They should also provide the names of **two referees** who will be contacted if the candidate is short-listed.

Applications should be sent to [hiba.zerrougui@mcgill.ca](mailto:hiba.zerrougui@mcgill.ca) and must be received by **15 August 2023**.