

Call for Applications: Postdoctoral Fellowships 2021/22

The Orient-Institut Beirut (OIB) of the Max Weber Foundation seeks to further international dialogue by supporting doctoral and postdoctoral research through a variety of competitive fellowships.

To this end, the OIB awards a number of visiting fellowships of 6 and 9 months for the academic year 2021/22 to junior scholars during the early stages of the postdoc period in support of excellent research projects in the humanities and social sciences. We invite applications for projects and are particularly interested in research projects that fit our annual topic of “humans in their relations to the divine and humans in their relation to their productions” (see OIB’s research profile).

Applicants must hold a doctorate in Middle East Studies / Islamic Studies or related disciplines. Applicants must demonstrate how their projects will benefit from a fellowship at the institute and an extended stay in the region.

We expect written and oral proficiency in English and all languages relevant for your research project. A basic command of German will be of benefit. Visiting fellows will actively participate in the OIB’s research community, the weekly internal colloquia and relevant scholarly activities and events. Fellows are expected to present their work at least once during their fellowship.

Fellowships include a monthly stipend of currently 1900 Euro and a one-time travel allowance of 600 Euros. We also offer support for organizing an academic workshop that fits within the research profile of the OIB. The OIB will provide postdoctoral visiting fellows with office space, although this might be affected by OIB’s measures to counter the spread of Covid-19 and to protect its community. The OIB will not provide funding for preliminary research, language courses, manuscript composition, or the revision of manuscripts.

Applications must include:

1. A brief cover letter
2. Curriculum vitae
3. Research proposal / project description (max. 2000 words)
4. Research schedule for the fellowship with realistic outcomes to be achieved within the proposed duration of the fellowship
5. At least one letter of recommendation
6. Copy of your doctoral degree
7. Proof of proficiency in English and all languages relevant to the research project

The application package should be submitted as a single PDF file (excluding letters of recommendation, which should be submitted directly by the referee) to sek@orient-institut.org. Applicants may write in either English or German; we recommend that they use the language in which they are most proficient. The deadline for applications is June 6th, 2021. Interviews will be conducted via video call in June 2021. Please note, however, that all dates are provisional and subject to change due to the crisis caused by the spread of Covid-19. Please note also that we shall require for access to OIB premises proof of Covid-19 complete vaccination or antibody immunity or self-testing, depending on the overall situation.