Safer (Remote) Field Research and Communication During & After Fieldwork

Objective

- Participants understand pitfalls of science communication and remote methodologies as well as the risks of technical tools for data collection, analysis and storage.
- Awareness of trade-offs between personal safety and public outreach, awareness of potential risks of data collection practices, basic knowledge of safety precautions to ensure personal and interlocutor safety.
- Ability to mitigate potential backlash from public appearances or other forms of communication beyond one’s academic peer group.
- Knowledge of basic technologies for research data encryption and safe digital communication, and of next steps to deepen the engagement with digital security in collaboration with supervisors and peers.
- Participants understand the basic steps of systematic risk assessment during field work and can incorporate them into their research projects.

Description

Fieldwork on e.g. armed conflict and other sensitive topics harbor a variety of risks for researchers and their interlocuters, but also remote methodologies can compromise ethical and safety standards in often unforeseen ways. Increasing reliance on technologies whose implications for anonymity and confidentiality are still little-understood complicate safe and ethical conduct as well as duty of care obligations.

Course content:

- Joint reflections on participants’ questions and examples
- Introduction to context- and risk analyses based on concrete examples
- Scenario sessions to illustrate typical risks associated with field work and public outreach after data collection
- Reflection and transfer exercises: What do we do already? What best practices and tools can we implement in future projects?
- Introduction to digital, data and communication security

Methodology

The training will include classical input sessions by the trainers, discussing case examples and questions of the participants as well as potentially smaller group discussions amongst participants moderated by the trainers in subgroups.

Organizational Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language / Format</th>
<th>English / On campus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target group</td>
<td>Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs from the Humanities and Social Sciences</td>
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| Date              | Wednesday, 10 May 2023, 11:00 – 15:00  
                    | Thursday, 11 May 2023, 10:00 – 14:00 |
| Registration      | For registration click here |