

The Swiss National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) for migration and mobility studies **nccr – on the move** brings together research projects from the social sciences, economics and law. Managed from the University of Neuchâtel, the network comprises eight Higher Education Institutions in Switzerland. The nccr – on the move promotes equal opportunities, values diversity and fosters an inclusive research and learning environment.

At the University of Neuchâtel, we have an open position for a

PostDoc Researcher (sociology / social anthropology, 50%)

The preferred start date is 1st February 2023. The contract is limited to three years.

The successful applicant will contribute to an interdisciplinary research project entitled “Dealing with Crises and Liminal Situations: The Agency of Ukrainian and Syrian Forced Migrants in Three National Contexts”, under the supervision of Prof. Mihaela Nedelcu (University of Neuchâtel). The project studies agency processes of forced migrants in liminal situations related to the “refugee crises” provoked by the wars in Syria and Ukraine. It aims at understanding the forced migrants’ experiences of coping with adverse and uncertain conditions of a “state of limbo”; the agentic role of forced migrants’ personal networks and relations/interactions with civil society actors and solidarity activists; and the institutional dimensions (e.g. migration regimes, and related legal status) of liminality experienced by these migrants. It uses a qualitative approach combining document analysis, ethnographic observations, interviews, social network analysis and virtual methods to examine these questions in three different national contexts (Turkey, Romania and Switzerland).

You will be mainly in charge of the Swiss case-study and work as part of a team including another PostDoc (University of Neuchâtel), Prof. Walter Leimgruber (University of Basel), and research collaborators in Turkey and Romania.

Requirements: You have completed a doctorate in sociology or social anthropology, which you defended no later than five years ago (date of viva voce). Excellent knowledge of qualitative methods (e.g., narrative and semi-structured interviews, ethnographic observation) is required. Experience in the research area of forced migration and knowledge of European migration regimes is requested. Knowledge of qualitative social networks analysis and its use in previous research is an asset. Excellent written and oral command of English is required, and a very good knowledge of French welcome. A good command of Ukrainian and the capacity to conduct interviews in this language would be a major asset, but it is not mandatory. A record of international publications is expected.

You should have an interest in interdisciplinary collaborations with PostDocs, doctoral students and other network members in the framework of the nccr – on the move activities. Regular event attendance at the University of Neuchâtel, or elsewhere in Switzerland as well as online, is required.

Employer and benefits: The position is based at the University of Neuchâtel. The University of Neuchâtel is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The salary is in accordance with the regulations of the Swiss National Science Foundation. The nccr – on the move offers attractive working conditions, including support measures for researchers with childcare duties and for early career scholars as well as numerous opportunities for academic exchange.

Submitting application: Applications should be submitted to mihaela.nedelcu@unine.ch before **25 November 2022**. Please use this address as well for additional information about the position. Applications include a letter of motivation, a CV, a grade transcript of your last degree, a list of publications, two sample readings (published articles), and the names of two potential referees.