



MERCATOR KOLLEG

FÜR INTERNATIONALE AUFGABEN

Mercator Fellows 2011/12

Brief portraits

Sibel Atasayi (25) studied psychology and social policy at Heidelberg University and at the Woodrow Wilson School for International and Public Affairs in Princeton. Within the framework of the leadership programme run by the Bertelsmann Foundation, she qualified as a democracy and conflict trainer at the Centre for Applied Policy Research at the University of Munich and at the Adam Institute for Democracy and Peace in Jerusalem. During her fellowship year, she will explore good governance strategies as a possible basis for democratic change in the Middle East, using Lebanon as an example.

Hanna Baumann (25) from Berlin studied Middle Eastern history and history of art in New York and Cairo. Upon completing her BA degree she spent two years working in the area of humanitarian aid and human rights in the Middle East before taking an MA in refugee and forced migration studies in Oxford. Her project focuses on the marginalization of social and ethnic minorities as a result of expanding tourism in the cities of the Eastern Mediterranean.

Damian Borowski (25) studied international relations at Tischner European University in Krakow (Poland) and at the University of Siegen. He then graduated from the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin with an MA in public policy, specializing in European and global governance, after which he worked at the Polish Embassy in Berlin as an expert in science and research. His project will explore EU innovation policy as a source of economic growth in the 21st century.

Silvia Danielak (23) is from Düsseldorf. She took a degree in European studies in Maastricht and in security and conflict studies at the Sciences Po in Paris, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Harvard Kennedy School. While still at university, she gained initial vocational experience at the Council of Europe, with the EU Delegation in Kiev and at an NGO in Moldova. In her planned project she will be examining various mediation techniques and the development of strategies for efficient multi-track conflict management in the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

Felipe Alexander Dunsch (26) from Hamburg studied political science at the University of Hamburg and the Université Libre de Bruxelles. As part of his master's degree, he also spent a year as a visiting scholar at Columbia University in New York. In his project he will be focusing on methods of evaluating development cooperation, especially randomized field research and its influence on programme planning and implementation by multilateral donor organizations.

Mariko Higuchi (29) studied Russian and social sciences (BA) at the Humboldt-University Berlin and then completed an MA degree in Eastern European studies, specializing in politics, at the Free University in Berlin. While still at university she worked and studied in Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. In her project she will focus on economic support for women in countries with emerging economies, exploring in detail the effects of international support for women in Central Asia.

Ein Projekt der Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes und der Stiftung Mercator in Kooperation mit dem Auswärtigen Amt



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Nicolai von Hoyningen-Huene (29) from Hamburg studied administrative sciences and political science, specializing in international relations, at the University of Potsdam and at Duke University in the USA. While still at university, he undertook work experience placements in the field of international relations in Berlin, London, Washington D.C. and New York. Upon graduation he spent three years working in the private sector. During his fellowship year he will study the area of disarmament and arms control, focusing particularly on strategies for controlling and reducing small arms and light weapons in South Sudan.

Kristen Huttner (29) from Heidelberg studied law at Freiburg im Breisgau and then graduated from McGill University in Montreal with a Master of Laws. After completing her legal traineeship, during which time she worked at the EU Commission, among other places, she accepted a post at the international energy corporation E.ON. During the course of her project, she will explore the legal framework conditions for using renewable energies to produce drinking water through desalination in developing countries.

Matthias Kaufmann (26) from Erlangen studied East Asia studies, politics and history in Heidelberg, Beijing and Hong Kong, and international relations in Paris (MA in international public management at the Sciences Po in Paris) and Boston (Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Harvard Kennedy School). He gained initial international work experience at the German Embassy in Beijing and at the Think Tank China Institute in Paris. During his fellowship year he will focus on communication strategies and diplomatic dialogue with China in the area of good governance.

Katrin Keuzenkamp (24) comes from Zurich and studied liberal arts and sciences at University College Utrecht, after which she graduated from the University of Cambridge with a master's degree in politics, development and democratic education. Since then, she has lived in Cambridge, where she works as a self-employed consultant for NGOs and research institutions. In her project she will examine the protection of the human rights of sexual minorities, i.e. lesbian, gay and bisexual people.

Nina Köksalan (26) comes from Duisburg and studied geography in Cologne and Vancouver. After graduation she worked for the United Nations University in Tokyo and at the Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics. During her fellowship year, she will explore the impact of climate change on the agriculture of the Bolivian high plateau. Her project will concentrate on adaptation strategies in agricultural policy.

Jan-Christoph Kuntze (25) from Hamburg studied international relations (BA) in Dresden and international law (MA) in Geneva. He spent semesters abroad at the Sciences Po Bordeaux and at Harvard Law School. In his planned project he will focus on the promotion of foreign investment in solar and wind energy projects, based on the example of Morocco.

Florian Lewerenz (27) from Bonn studied political science in Berlin (Free University) and Grenoble (Science Po Grenoble). He specialized in peace and conflict studies and development cooperation with a regional focus on Latin America. During his fellowship year he will look at international drug policy, and specifically the concept of alternative development as a way of changing the framework conditions of drug economies.

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Fei Lu (28) studied molecular biotechnology at the Technische Universität in Munich and at Tsinghua University, and international environmental policy at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. She has been able to acquire practical experience in research and industry in China, Israel and the USA. In her Mercator Fellowship year she will explore the health-related aspects of climate change. Suitable climate adaptation strategies are to be developed to better enable the integration of health risks.

Friedrich Lutz (25) read environmental science, business studies and political science in Nancy, Paris, London and Hong Kong. While still at university, he completed several work experience placements in the environmental field and spent a year drawing up environmental and social guidelines for lending in the finance sector. In his fellowship year he will examine the interactions between economy and ecology, focusing on economic evaluation methods in the environmental domain.

Max Middeke (26) is from Kassel. While still at university studying political science in Berlin, Istanbul and Pau, he acquired initial practical work experience at the German Bundestag (the German parliament), the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (the German Institute for International and Security Affairs), the Federal Foreign Office and the Goethe-Institut. Upon graduation he went to Ethiopia, where he worked in the ILO Regional Office for Africa on matters relating to migration, social security and peace and development in the Horn of Africa. During his fellowship year he will focus on the peace process and possibilities for economic development in Somalia.

Corinna Müller (28) from Nuremberg studied in Passau, Verona and Los Angeles, acquiring a degree in cultural studies with a special focus on American studies and political science, and then conducted research in security studies at Georgetown University. She gained practical work experience at the Federal Foreign Office (New York), at the German Bundestag, at UNECA (Addis Ababa) and at the Boston Consulting Group und McKinsey. Following her present position at a management consultancy (goetzpartners), she will focus during her fellowship year on ways of overcoming the refugee problems currently facing North African states.

Daniel Palmer (28) from Zurich acquired his BA at the University of St. Gallen, after which he graduated with a dual degree from the University of St. Gallen and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. His specialist areas were conflict resolution, negotiations, international peace missions and civilian and military cooperation. In his Mercator project he will explore the transitional phase from short-term conflict resolution to long-term development policy in former conflict regions.

Stefanie Rinaldi (27) is from St. Gallen, Switzerland. She attained an MA in international relations in Geneva and studied economic, social and cultural rights at the Irish Centre for Human Rights. In between she worked as a policy advisor for the Swiss Federal Office for Migration. In addition, she does voluntary work for several NGOs, including Amnesty International. During her project year she will focus on using human rights education to promote active co-determination in Palestinian refugee camps.

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Florian Schatz (26) initially majored in political science with a minor in economics at the Free University in Berlin and at the Sciences Po in Paris. After spending a year as a Fulbright student at Columbia University in New York, he worked for a year in development cooperation in Uganda, first for UNDP and later for the GIZ. After completing his MSc in development management at the London School of Economics, he plans during his Mercator year to research governance and the establishment of accountable institutions in developing countries.

Max Schaub (27) from Ganderkesee read international relations in Dresden, peace and conflict studies in Oslo and African studies in Oxford, after which he taught international and European law at Yerevan State University as a Robert Bosch Foundation lector. During this time he was particularly interested in migration and its regulation. In his project he will explore the extent to which the concept of mobility partnerships recently created by the EU can help constructively reduce irregular migration.

Michelle Söller (25) lives in Berlin and will spend her fellowship year exploring the promotion of democratic accountability in developing countries. She studied political science and international relations at the Sciences Po in Paris and at the Free University in Berlin, specializing in international public management. Previously, she acquired experience in a number of positions, for example as a student researcher at the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development (AWZ) of the German Bundestag and as a consultant for the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Cambodia.

Jasper Dag Tjaden (25) from Berlin studied history, communication and European policy in Berlin, Seville and London, specializing in migration, nationalism and public policy. He has gained practical work experience as a journalist, in NGOs and in international organizations. During his Mercator Fellowship year he will explore internationalization trends in integration policy with regard to immigrants in Europe.

