

The Berlin Center for Global Engagement (BCGE) at Berlin University Alliance (BUA) organizes:

Training for BUA researchers/project managers

Safer Field Research and Research Communication in Challenging Research Environments

Venue	online platform (tbd)
Date and time	17 <u>and</u> 18 November 2022; each day 10 am-1 pm
Language	English
Target group	Members of the Berlin University Alliance (FU Berlin, TU Berlin, HU Berlin, Charité); Researchers at all levels that want to communicate their research to a wider public, Professionals in university and science communication
Participants	20
Trainers	Dr. Jannis Grimm, Berliner Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Friedens- und Konfliktforschung Ilyas Saliba, WZB Berlin Social Science Center and the Global Public Policy institute (GPPi)
Registration	Please send an email with a brief description of your key interests and your current position until October 17, 2022 to: bcge@berlin-university-alliance.de (We confirm your participation by October 25, 2022 the latest)

Description

Fieldwork on repression, armed conflict and other sensitive topics is increasingly dangerous for both researchers and their interlocutors. But also remote methodologies, which are increasingly replacing traditional field work, harbor a range of risks for researchers and their research participants. They often rely on technologies and software whose implications for anonymity and confidentiality are still little-understood by most scholars. Therefore, it is imperative to support early-career researchers as much as seasoned scholars with advice on how to maneuver this sensitive environment. The two-day workshop “Safer Field Research and Research Communication in Challenging Research Environments” addresses this need through a series of instructional, consultative and practical sessions, led by two experienced trainers of field safety, digital security and research communication for academics. The sessions on the first day of the workshop will focus on aspects of physical and digital security during field research, and how they have been impacted by the pandemic and the increasing digitalization of field work. The second workshop day will center on

strategies for communicating research to a wider audience and how to mitigate associated risks or a potential backlash.

Course content:

- Joint reflection on initial questions and examples provided by the participants from their own research projects to understand their needs and interests
- Introduction to fieldwork and remote methodologies and their intricacies
- Introduction to context- and risk analyses based on concrete examples
- Introduction to digital, data and communication security
- Scenarios and case studies to illustrate typical risks associated with surveillance and state repression during and after (remote) field work
- Introduction to science communication: What for? When? How?
- Scenarios and case studies to illustrate typical risks associated with public outreach after fieldwork-based data collection
- Reflection and transfer: What do we do already? What are best practices and tools and how can we implement them in our work and ongoing or future projects?

Learning objectives:

- Participants are sensitized for the trade-off between online and offline field research methodologies
- They understand and know about online and offline risks, and know basic strategies to avoid the risks of research data falling into the wrong hands
- Participants understand the basic pitfalls and risks in science communication
- The participants are aware that public outreach has to be strategized and that safety precautions ought to be taken to ensure their own and their interlocutors safety
- They are able to mitigate potential risks arising from public appearances or other forms of communication beyond their academic peer group

Organizational remarks

- The BCGE sends your contact data to the trainer. You will receive the link to the online platform a few days before the training directly from your trainer.
- You can receive a certificate for the training. Participation throughout the whole training is required.
- Please inform us in case you cannot participate in the training. It enables us to offer your spot to others.

Organizer

The Berlin Center for Global Engagement (BCGE) at the Berlin University Alliance (BUA), consisting of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin and the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. The BCGE is a platform for existing and new projects in the

fields of (1) research on, from, and with the Global South, (2) science diplomacy, and (3) academic freedom.

Further information on BCGE:

<https://www.berlin-university-alliance.de/en/commitments/international/bcge/index.html>