

Summer School "Caucasus Conflict Culture" 12

5 places available for students | Summer 2024

Socio-economic effects of Ukraine war-related migration in the South Caucasus

The geopolitical shifts and consequences of the war over Nagorno-Karabakh and the war in Ukraine have triggered many other problems in the South Caucasus. The region is now experiencing numerous political, demographic and socio-economic upheavals, including a huge wave of migration since the beginning of the war with Ukraine. Its impact on the social and economic situation of the South Caucasus countries is controversial: On the one hand, host countries have benefited from migrants in terms of capital inflows and brain gain. However, migration has also resulted in political and security concerns, as well as limited institutional and infrastructural capacity to absorb the significant numbers of migrants. Moreover, it has severely affected local communities by increasing the prices of goods and services. This is leading to increased overt and covert tensions between host societies and migrants. Against this background, the project aims to explore how war-related migration has affected the region: How does it shape everyday interactions between local and migrant populations? What are the experiences of different migrant communities? How is migration and its social and economic impact perceived by host societies? What tensions and conflicts arise from migration and how are they managed? What frictions exist between and within migrant communities? How does war-related migration affect pre-existing tensions between Russia and Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan?

The current student research project examines the impact and consequences of war-related migration in the South Caucasus since the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Each group of students selects and researches a topic related to this migration and its impact on everyday socio-cultural and economic changes in local communities in Georgia. Students will be introduced to the practice of fieldwork, anthropological methodology and the organisation and conduct of a research project. A key aim of the project is to bring together students from the conflict regions of the South Caucasus and Germany and to give them the experience of working together in multinational teams. The project is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). This event is the 12th in the series 'Caucasus Conflict Culture' and is organised in cooperation with partners from the region.

We have the opportunity to take five students from Marburg to Georgia. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered. The trip will probably take place in the second half of August 2023, but the exact date is still being negotiated with the partners in the Caucasus. The trip will last about 12-14 days and will bring together 30-35 people. The research will take place in Tbilisi and Batumi, Georgia. Please note that due to the dynamic conflict situation in the South Caucasus, the date, topic and location of the Summer School may change.

This offer is primarily addressed to students of the MA programmes Sozial- und Kulturanthropologie, Friedens- und Konfliktforschung or Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Marburg. There will be an **information meeting** for all applicants on **06.03.2024 from 4-6 pm** held online (<https://webconf.hrz.uni-marburg.de/n/rooms/kxg-sag-g78-a1q/join>), where the project will be presented. For further information you can visit the project website <https://caucasusconflict.wordpress.com/> or watch a documentary film shot during a previous summer <https://vimeo.com/234465854> (password: CCC5)

We look forward to receiving your **application by 10.03.2024** at sophie.falschebner@uni-marburg.de, preferably in one file. Please use this application form (<https://uni-marburg.de/xMjx0o>) and attach a short CV. Previous knowledge of the region is not required.