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Name of Thesis Supervisor: Professor Dr Manfred Elsig

Affiliated Faculty: Business, Economics and Social Sciences, *Institut für Politikwissenschaft*

Focus of Research

- The Politics of International Trade
- Regional Trade Agreements
- European Trade Policy
- International Organisations
- US-EU Relations
- Private Actors in Global Politics

Contact Details: manfred.elsig@wti.org

Guidelines

You should plan to live in Bern, Switzerland and spend four years, full-time, on your dissertation and on coursework in the World Trade Institute's doctoral programme.

Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Political Science / International Relations with an average of at least 4.75 (according to the Bern grading scale)¹
- Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods
- a TOEFL/IELTS score of 100/7 for non-native English speakers

Application Requirements:

Please send applications to Dr Shaheeza Lalani (shaheeza.lalani@wti.org), Director of the Doctoral Programme of the Graduate School of Economic Globalisation and Integration. Applications should include:

- Curriculum Vitae;
- TOEFL/IELTS scores (for non-native English speakers);
- Letter of Motivation;²

¹ Your Master's degree in Political Science must have been earned within the past 10 years and the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences will determine whether (i) your degree is equivalent to the Master in Political Science of the University of Bern and (ii) your average meets the minimum standard. If you are admitted, the Dean's Office will release a **notification of admission to doctoral studies** that you need for registration with the Admissions Office of the University of Bern.

² The Letter of Motivation should describe your experience in the proposed field of research and the manner in which you plan to finance your living expenses during your research stay.

- Research Proposal (if you are not applying for a posted NCCR position);³
- Letters of Recommendation (max. 3);
- A letter from the university from which you obtained your Master's degree (within the last 10 years), confirming that you fulfill the requirements for admission to its doctoral programme;⁴ and,
- Photocopies of your degrees, including grade sheets and explanation of grading system (**original transcripts and certificates will be required for admission**).

Annual Application Deadline: July 31st

Admissions Process:

Once you receive a **notification of admission to doctoral studies** from the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, you will be required to submit it with your Curriculum Vitae and the following documents to info@wisodek.unibe.ch:

- The completed form "Application for Admission to Doctoral Studies at the University of Bern", stamped and signed by [Prof. Manfred Elsig](#) (there is a separate form [for students holding a Master's degree from a Swiss university or federal institute of technology](#))
- Original diplomas and transcripts of your previous degrees (if these diplomas are not in German, French, English or Italian, then original documents plus a certified translation of all documents must be provided);
- Proof of ex-matriculation from your former university;
- Passport picture;
- Photocopy of your identity card (front and back) or passport;

Please refer to the "admissions" section of our website under the "doctoral programme" for further details.

Annual Starting Date: mid-September

³ The Research Proposal (8-10 pages) should set out the key research questions that you plan to analyse. It should demonstrate that you are familiar with the state of the art and the most relevant literature; that your work will make a meaningful contribution to the literature; and that you will have no difficulties drafting a scientific text in the language that you have chosen. Under the supervision of Prof. Manfred Elsig, you can write your thesis in German or English. Please note that your Research Proposal will only be reviewed once we have received your complete application.

⁴ This should be an original letter; certified or scanned copies will not be accepted. The University of Bern may require proof that the universities from which you obtained your degree(s) are recognised as state universities.