World Trade Institute, University of Bern

In the context of a collaborative research project in the social sciences on Private regulation in global supply chains, the World Trade Institute (WTI) is seeking

1 postdoctoral researcher

Start date:	01.11.2021 (or soon thereafter)
Grade and salary	Early postdoc (salary according to UniBE Postdoc Regulations)
Hours:	Full time (42 hours per week)
Contract type:	Fixed term (12-14 months, contract extension may be possible)
Location:	World Trade Institute, Bern (Switzerland)

The role

This is a postdoctoral research position in the project "Labor Standards Compliance and Buyer-Supplier Linkages in Global Supply Chains", funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and jointly led by Professor Damian Raess (WTI) and Professor Matthew Amengual (University of Oxford). The postdoc will join a team and conduct research on the governance systems that have been created to monitor and improve labor standards in global supply chains.

Job description

The postdoc will be expected to undertake the following activities:

- Conduct academic research under the direction of Professor Damian Raess and under guidance of, and in collaboration with the PIs, Professors Damian Raess and Matthew Amengual, as well as in collaboration with other team members.
- Be responsible for data analysis, wrangling, and modeling. The key skill is the ability to extract and manipulate large sets of data to enable analysis of trade networks and labor standards.
- Contribute to the writing of academic papers and presentations.

Requirements

Essential

- Hold a Doctoral degree in Social Sciences (Political Science, Industrial Relations, Sociology, Development, Economics and Management)
- Competence in quantitative methods in the social sciences, including knowledge of statistical software (Stata and/or R)
- Ability to publish in leading social science journals, as demonstrated by publications in those journals or advanced working papers targeted at and suitable to those journals
- Fluency in English.

Desirable

- Any one (or several) of the following skills: a) knowledge of text analysis and data scraping (text to data); b) knowledge of the Orbis dataset and fuzzy matching; c) experience in using Wordscore and supervised machine learning algorithms
- Research interest in social movements.

About the World Trade Institute
The World Trade Institute is a leading academic institution dedicated to graduate-level education and research on international trade regulation, investment and sustainability. As a centre for excellence of the University of Bern, it explores the interconnections between the fields of law, economics and political science at the global level. For more information: www.wti.org

How to apply
The deadline for applications is **September 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM** (CET), with first interviews held on Friday September 24 in the afternoon. We will accept and review applications until September 29, 2021 (10:00 am CET).
Applicants must provide the following documents in a single PDF file: i) a letter of motivation; ii) a detailed CV (comprising the names of 2 academic references); iii) a writing sample (e.g., published or working paper); iv) transcripts and degrees of all university/college courses (if not issued in English, officially certified translations are required), including a supplement explaining the grading system; and (optionally) v) evidence of English proficiency through the submission of objective test scores such as TOEFL (100 or higher) and IELTS (7.0 or higher). Applications must be submitted to Sandra.Joseph@wti.org with the subject line: Application postdoctoral researcher – SNSF project Private labor regulation.

For more information, please contact Professor Damian Raess (damian.raess@wti.org)