

What we offer

- Freedom to choose your own research subject
- Mentoring by distinguished scholars
- No teaching obligations – though option to gain teaching experience
- Financial security and academic freedom
- Financial support for research-related expenses
- Professional and personal career development
- Becoming a member of the globally respected, interdisciplinary Max Planck community made up of 24,500 employees

Kick-start your career at the MPI-CSL and build a solid foundation for your professional future.

Our researchers go on to have impactful careers as professors, judges, policy-makers, public officials, and as leaders of think-tanks and civil society organizations.



MAX PLANCK LAW

By joining the MPI-CSL, you also become a member of Max Planck Law – a network of nine Max Planck Institutes engaging in legal research. Profit from:

- Research seminars and workshops
- Exchange with leading international law faculties
- A career development & mentoring program

RESEARCH STAY

Research Stay

Not currently looking for a PhD or postdoc position? The Institute also offers fellowships for excellent scholars with expertise in our research fields. Get to know the Institute and make the most of:

- An outstanding, specialized library with approx. 517,000 books and 900 print journals
- Access to 100,000 electronic books and journals
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- Open access pre-print publication option via the Institute's SSRN series
- Access to in-house researchers and international experts
- Workshops, seminars, and conferences
- Well-equipped workspaces
- Fully funded follow-up PhD and postdoc opportunities



Check out our Fellowships

<https://csl.mpg.de/guests/research-stay>

Questions?

Just reach out to our Recruitment Officer
Dr. Annika Hampel (she/her): a.hampel@csl.mpg.de



**Max-Planck-Institut zur Erforschung von
Kriminalität, Sicherheit und Recht (MPI-CSL)**

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<https://www.csl.mpg.de/en/>

@Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR THE STUDY OF
CRIME, SECURITY AND LAW



**Fully funded
research fellow-
ships, PhD and
postdoc positions**

JOIN US!

May 2025

You focus on the foundations of legal solutions and are interested in comparative and transnational approaches?

Join us at the Max Planck
Institute for the Study of
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The Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law (MPI-CSL) forms part of the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science, one of the world's most distinguished research organizations, decorated with no less than 31 Nobel Prizes. With its predecessor organization having been founded in 1911, today's Max Planck Society dates back to 1948.

Experience cutting-edge research in criminal law, public law, and criminology!

What assumptions and basic principles inform criminal law? Where does the legal community stand on the adequate scope of prohibitions and sanctions in socially and culturally fragmented societies? Our **Department of Criminal Law** explores answers.

What are the latest trends in public security law? What challenges do security measures pose to fundamental rights, the rule of law, and democracy? The **Department of Public Law** explores current topics such as internationalization, digitalization, and fragmentation, but also addresses general questions of public law and legal theory, which are thrown into sharp relief in public security law.

What about individual predispositions and environmental factors that cause people to commit crimes? Innovative investigations including a state-of-the-art laboratory run by the **Department of Criminology** facilitate a broad spectrum of human-subjects research, e.g., by using virtual reality (VR) technology.

The Institute, with its 150 employees, is located in Freiburg, a dynamic and green university city with a 900-year history. The city in the trinational border region – Germany, Switzerland, and France – impresses newcomers with its high quality of life and international flair.



Check out our podcast and dive into our research projects
<https://csl.mpg.de/podcasts/en>



After working and conducting research at several universities in Germany and abroad, this institute combines all the advantages I was looking for: intellectual vision, excellent networking opportunities, and the freedom to pursue research with outstanding and unbureaucratic support and assistance. The collegial atmosphere and Freiburg as a vibrant university city further enhance the experience.

Dr. Sarah Katharina Stein, LL.M. (Columbia), Postdoc,
Department of Public Law

We offer fully funded, entry-level PhD and postdoc positions. Check out our advertised positions or find out about our general requirements.

Our working language is English, and knowledge of German is not an essential requirement for application. Free in-house German language classes are available.



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