



At the HafenCity University Hamburg, subject to the provision of funds by the following position is expected to become available, in the SKU department: Urban Planning, Cultural Digitization, Metropolis, and Urban Design expected 01.03.2026

Research Associate (m/f/d) – in the project: „CliCCS II“

Pay group 13 TV-L

to support research with 65% of the regular weekly working time. The position is a fixed-term appointment until Feb. 28, 2029.

About us

The HafenCity University Hamburg, University of Architecture and Metropolitan Development (HCU) is a university that focuses on the built environment. The HCU unites all aspects of building and design, engineering, and natural sciences as well as geoscientific and social sciences under one roof.

The HCU is partner of the University of Hamburg's Cluster of Excellence "Climate, Climatic Change, and Society" (CLICCS) that investigates climate dynamics and climate-related social dynamics, as well as the interactions between the two (<https://www.cliccs.uni-hamburg.de>). To this end, researchers from a wide range of disciplines, including the natural sciences as well as the social sciences work together in a truly integrating manner.

The position is part of the project "Varieties of Climate Agency: constitution, dynamics, and effects (S3)" within CLICCS (<https://www.cliccs.uni-hamburg.de/about-cliccs/cliccs-ii/s3-varieties-of-climate-agency.html>). The project lays the foundation for a social science analysis on climate agency – i.e. the build-up of societal capacities to actively shape global climate futures through social mobilisations, legal action, grassroots innovations or international negotiations among others. We develop conceptual approaches and methodological tools to map different types of agency, identify institutional settings that enable or constrain them, and examine conditions of access to participation.

Duties include academic services in the project named above. Research associates may also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications. They may also pursue doctoral studies outside of working duties.

Doctoral candidates are members of the structured doctoral program of the School of Integrated Climate and Earth System Sciences (SICSS), which provides high-quality, interdisciplinary, and internationally oriented training. The position is assigned to the professorship „Law and Administration“ of Prof. Dr. Martin Wickel, LL.M. (Michigan).

Here you can find further information about the [HCU](#) and the [Arbeitgeberin Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg](#) as an employer.

Your tasks

- Conducting case studies on climate litigation and independent research on topics such as conflicts and legal disputes over climate justice in different legal systems within the project
- Systematizing research results and developing conceptualizations for different types of “climate agency”
- Work on a PhD thesis on legal disputes over climate justice
- Support project activities, including workshops, colloquia, and joint publications
- Present research findings at specialist conferences and in peer-reviewed journals and, where appropriate, in other relevant publication formats

Your profile

mandatory requirements

- university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in the social sciences (eg. International Relations, Political Science, Sociology), (International) Law or a comparable field of study
- very good written and spoken English

additional requirements

- ability to work in a team, strong communication skills, initiative
- Interest and knowledge in the field of research
- Knowledge and initial experience with legal analysis and qualitative research methods, including interviews, are an advantage
- International research experience, networking skills, and experience working in interdisciplinary teams are desirable
- german language skills are an advantage

Benefits

- workplace at an attractive location in HafenCity
- varied work in a university environment in cooperation with international scientific partners
- a family-friendly university that supports its employees in balancing work and family life
- support for professional and personal development through a wide range of training and continuing education opportunities
- discounts in the canteen of the student union, etc.

How to apply

In addition to an informative cover letter in which you explain to what extent you meet the requirements profile, we need the following documents from you:

- curriculum vitae in tabular form,
- proof of vocational training,
- current appraisal or current certificate (see also notes on the application and selection process),
- relevant proof of further training,
- proof of a severe disability or equal status in the selection process,
- declaration of consent to inspect your personnel file, stating the office responsible for your personnel file (only for applicants from the public sector).

For questions and further information, do not hesitate to contact Prof. Martin Wickel, martin.wickel@hcu-hamburg.de or Prof. Antje Wiener, PhD, antje.wiener@uni-hamburg.de

The applicant's classification in regard to the level of experience within the advertised TV-L pay group is based on the candidate's individual work experience and reviewed by the HR department. Legally binding statements can only be made by the HR department of the HCU.

Please send your application (including CV, cover letter, and copies of relevant certificates), no later than **08.01.2026** (preferably by email as one PDF file) to:

HafenCity Universität
Personalverwaltung
Stellen-Nr.: 2025-141
Henning-Voscherau-Platz 1
20457 Hamburg
E-Mail: HCU-bewerbung@vw.hcu-hamburg.de

Please include the reference number „**2025-141**“ in your application.

Please be aware that in case of an invitation to an interview, HCU will not be able to cover any expenses for travel and lodging.

Due to the high number of applicants, the HCU will not be able to return application documents. Therefore, please do not submit originals of certificates. If you add a post-paid envelope, the HCU will return your application documents.