

# THE GLOBAL HUMANITARIANISM RESEARCH ACADEMY

Mainz – Exeter – Geneva



# Academic Training Archival Research Scholarly Debate



I deeply appreciated the GHRA's ability to bridge history & present-day humanitarian themes; academia & practice; senior & junior scholars; theory & archival fieldwork; and to bring together scholars from different disciplines to examine and discuss global humanitarianism.

Mie Vestergaard,  
Roskilde University



The international **GLOBAL HUMANITARIANISM | RESEARCH ACADEMY (GHRA)** offers research training to early career researchers.

It combines academic sessions at the Leibniz Institute of European History in Mainz and the Imperial and Global History Centre at the University of Exeter with archival sessions at the Archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva.

The Research Academy addresses advanced PhD candidates and early postdocs who are working in the fields of humanitarianism, international humanitarian law, human rights, peace and conflict studies, development, and others related topics from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

It supports scholarship on the ideas and practices of humanitarianism in the context of international, imperial, and global history thus advancing our understanding of global governance in humanitarian crises of the present.





The **GLOBAL HUMANITARIANISM | RESEARCH ACADEMY** first meets for one week in Mainz or in Exeter for academic sessions of lectures, class meetings, and discussions, including study time. PhD students have the chance to sharpen the **methodological and theoretical focus** of their thesis through an intense exchange with peers, postdocs, and established scholars working in the same or related field of humanitarianism. The postdocs benefit from discussing their research design and publication strategy with established scholars.



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The week in Geneva was very useful, because going into the ICRC archives and engaging with ICRC staff, we had to apply the conclusions of our prior discussions.

Bastiaan Bouwman,  
London School  
of Economics

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The academic session at Mainz and Exeter is followed by a one-week **archival session at Geneva**. Here the archives of the ICRC offer a unique insight into humanitarian action during the past 150 years. The holdings also provide rich material for the history of international affairs in the ages of nation states, empires, and global governance. Under the guidance of the experienced staff from the archives, the members of the Research Academy study **primary sources** related to the previous discussions as well as to their own research projects. Opportunities are also provided for intensive discussions with active members of the **ICRC staff** and other Geneva based humanitarian organisations.

# The GHRA Experience – Fellows' Voices

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The GHRA was certainly the best experience I have had so far during my PhD. It is by far a better experience than big conferences or short workshops, and much more useful.

Luís Paulo Bogliolo,  
University of Melbourne

Discussions during the first week, surrounding the link between humanitarianism and human rights, encouraged me to challenge my assumptions and have let me to trace this connection throughout my period of study within my thesis.

Jenny Chapman,  
University of Manchester



*Discussions were not limited to the theoretical aspects of humanitarianism and human rights. The exchange of the experiences of practitioners in the field was an added value during the discussions.*

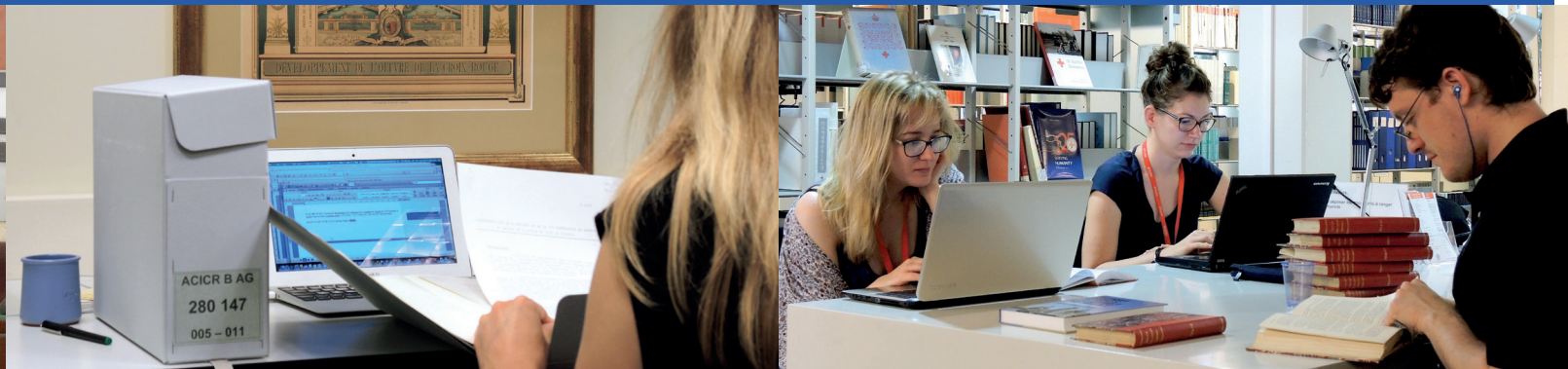
Jihane Chedouki,  
CNRS Paris

*When I applied for my current job, it was good for my CV to have one line on this academy and to show that I had the possibility to engage with scholars from almost all around the world.*

Cédric Cotter,  
University of Geneva

*Informal professional and personal connections have been maintained with several participants of the inaugural GHRA that continue to strengthen my program of research as it develops.*

Sonya de Laat,  
Western University Canada







# Online Atlas on the History of Humanitarianism and Human Rights

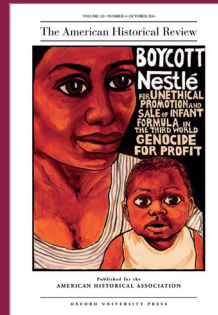
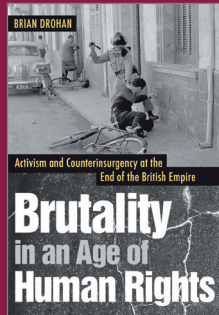
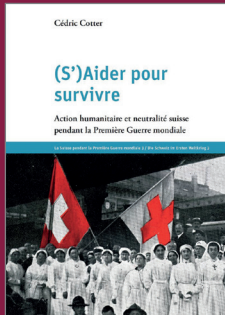




The **GLOBAL HUMANITARIANISM | RESEARCH ACADEMY** publishes an Online Atlas on the History of Humanitarianism and Human Rights. Based on an interactive world map with locations in Africa, America, Asia, Australia, and Europe, the Online Atlas provides readers with concise analytical information on key concepts, events, and people which shaped the development of modern humanitarianism and human rights. The entries are written by the successive generations of fellows of the GHRA and other experts connected to the Research Academy. It is a valuable resource for those engaged in the field of humanitarian action and human rights as well as students and academics.

<http://hhr-atlas.ieg-mainz.de/>

# Selected Publications by Former GHRA Fellows



Cédric Cotter, *(s')Aider pour survivre*. Action humanitaire et neutralité suisse pendant la Première Guerre mondiale, Georg Editeur 2018.

Brian Drohan, *Brutality in an Age of Human Rights*. Activism and Counterinsurgency at the End of the British Empire, Cornell University Press 2018.

Tehila Sasson, Milking the Third World? Humanitarianism, Capitalism, and the Moral Economy of the Nestlé Boycott, in: *The American Historical Review*, Vol. 121, Iss. 4, 1 Oct. 2016, p. 1196–1224.



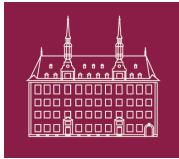
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As an academy fellow, I learned about important historiographical developments and new projects in the field. The discussions broadened my knowledge and research skills that inform my current dissertation project. These important lessons have helped me grow as a scholar.

Nicole Dressler,  
Northern Illinois  
University

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**IEG**  
Leibniz-Institut für  
Europäische Geschichte

## Leibniz Institute of European History Mainz

The Leibniz Institute of European History investigates the historical foundations of Europe from the Early Modern Period to Contemporary History. With its international fellowship programme, the institute supports PhDs and Postdocs from Germany and abroad.

<http://www.ieg-mainz.de/en>



## Imperial and Global History Centre at the University of Exeter

The Centre for Imperial and Global History brings together the strong research expertise of the University's eminent imperial historians. It comprises one of the largest groups of imperial and global historians currently working in the UK.

<https://humanities.exeter.ac.uk/history/research/centres/imperialandglobal/>



## Archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross Geneva

The ICRC archives collect and preserve ICRC documents dating from the organization's inception to the present day, and make them available for research. The historical archives comprise 6,700 linear metres of textual records and a collection of photographs, films, and other audio archives.

<https://www.icrc.org/en/archives>







# How to Apply:

The Research Academy invites applications for the **GLOBAL HUMANITARIANISM | RESEARCH ACADEMY (GHRA)** from PhD students and early postdocs. The Steering Committee will each year select up to 12 participants. Announcements are usually on our website and social media in September for the following year; deadline for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> December.

## Further Information:

<http://ghra.ieg-mainz.de>

<http://hhr.hypotheses.org>

<http://imperialglobalexeter.com>

**Application at:**  
**[ghra@ieg-mainz.de](mailto:ghra@ieg-mainz.de)**

## Academic Conveners

**Fabian Klose**

Leibniz Institute of European History Mainz

**Johannes Paulmann**

Leibniz Institute of European History Mainz

**Andrew Thompson**

University of Exeter

in co-operation with the **International  
Committee of the Red Cross** (Geneva)



**IEG**  
Leibniz-Institut für  
Europäische Geschichte

UNIVERSITY OF  
**EXETER**



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