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**UNIVERSITÄT
BERN**

OESCHGER CENTRE
CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH

Oeschger Centre, Hochschulstrasse 4, CH-3012 Bern

March 09, 2023

The **Institute of Philosophy** <https://www.philosophie.unibe.ch>, the **Institute of Political Science** <https://www.ipw.unibe.ch> and the **Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research** <http://www.oeschger.unibe.ch>, University of Bern, Switzerland invite applications for the following position opening **September 01, 2023**.

Postdoc “Social tipping points and the climate challenge”
University of Bern, Switzerland
(80-100%, 2 years plus 1-year extension)

Tipping points in both natural and social systems are getting increasing attention in the face of the climate challenge. However, climate and social tipping points tend to be treated in a similar way and with similar tools despite fundamental differences, raising a number of epistemic and methodological issues. This interdisciplinary research project will investigate the extent to which a meaningful and operational notion of social tipping point can be articulated and applied to concrete case studies. The first (conceptual) part will critically examine the various ways in which the concept of social tipping point is articulated in relation to the climate challenge. In the second (operational) part, the aim is to identify potentially new cases of social tipping points, focusing in particular on the extent to which they can be predicted and intervened on (triggered). The Postdoc will be co-supervised by Prof. Dr. Vincent Lam (Institute of Philosophy, <https://philoclimate.ch>) and Prof. Dr. Isabelle Stadelmann-Steffen (Institute of Political Science).

Profile of the candidate

The successful candidate holds a PhD in Philosophy of Science or Political/Social Sciences or Climate Science with demonstrated interests in Philosophy of Science and Political/Social Sciences dimensions. The candidate will have strong capacities for interdisciplinary research and for working in an interdisciplinary environment. Fluency in English is required, both written and spoken.

Details

Starting date September 01, 2023 or upon agreement. Employment conditions and remuneration in accordance with the standards of the University of Bern, Switzerland. The salary ranges between 88,000 and 100,000 CHF p.a. (gross salary; ca 90-105 k US\$).

For further information please contact Prof. Dr. Vincent Lam (vincent.lam@unibe.ch) or Prof. Dr. Isabelle Stadelmann-Steffen (isabelle.stadelmann@unibe.ch).

Applications

All applications received **before April 15 2023** will be reviewed, and further applications will be considered until the position is filled. Please send your **application documents in ONE pdf** including a CV, a motivation letter, a one page research statement detailing the proposed contribution to the project, and contact information for 3 references by e-mail to vincent.lam@unibe.ch and isabelle.stadelmann@unibe.ch.

Applications from women and underrepresented groups are explicitly encouraged.