



Two PhD positions 100% in an SNF project in the field of animal welfare law

The Chair of Private Law, Comparative Law, Animal Protection Law and Philosophy of Law of Prof. Dr. Margot Michel is seeking to fill two doctoral positions for a project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) entitled "Implementation of the 3Rs in Swiss Law" within the framework of the National Research Program NRP 79 ("Advancing 3Rs - Animals, Research and Society"). The planned duration of the project is four years.

Based on the 3Rs principles, the National Research Programme NRP 79 is dedicated to the question of which methods and instruments can contribute to a significant reduction of animal experiments and, in addition to life science and technology research, also supports projects that critically and innovatively address animal experiments and the use of animals in the sciences from a humanities and social science perspective. The project "Implementation of the 3Rs in Swiss Law" is located in the legal sciences. The 3Rs principles (Reduce, Replace, Refine) are now widely recognized internationally in the field of animal experimentation, but their potential has not been fully exploited. The project examines the extent to which the 3Rs principles could be more clearly anchored in Swiss law, where the opportunities and limitations lie, which current animal ethics, social and political developments need to be taken into account in this regard, and what development potential there is for this. In addition to the development of the normative basis, the focus is on the examination of the concrete implementation of the proposals, which is why a close exchange with various actors from the field of legal application as well as with experts is planned.

Your tasks

- You are writing a doctoral thesis in law. There are two possible topics to work on:
 - Topic 1: Substantive-legal and legal-ethical basics including comparative law, ethical, social and political discussions.
 - Topic 2: Procedural law issues and possibilities of strengthening the implementation of the 3Rs principles.
- You will plan, organize and actively participate in networking activities, seminars, conferences and workshops within the framework of the project with actors from legal application and practice, experts, peers and students from different disciplines.
- You will collaborate on publications in the thematic area of the project.

Your profile

- You have an excellent law degree.
- You have a strong interest in researching legal issues in animal welfare law, in interdisciplinary cooperation and in comparative law.



- You are communicative and able to discuss your research in an understandable manner with members of other disciplines.
- You have very good language skills and writing competence in German and English. Knowledge of another national language is an advantage.
- You work very independently, efficiently, accurately and carefully, are a team player, able to work under pressure, innovative, interested and committed to acquiring further skills (e.g. presentation and teaching skills).

We offer you

- Opportunity for in-depth research in animal protection law, writing of a dissertation as well as further publications
- Professional supervision and close exchange with members of the monitoring group and other persons involved in the project
- Excellent opportunity for intensive and international networking with experts from science and practice
- Stimulating working environment, challenging and varied activities
- Attractive employment conditions (SNF conditions, limited to 4 years), flexible working hours
- Wide range of continuing education opportunities at the University of Zurich

Work location

Faculty of Law, Zurich

Starting date

November 1 or by agreement

Information and e-mail address for sending in applications

Prof. Dr. Margot Michel, margot.michel@rwi.uzh.ch, 044 634 21 61

Please send applications electronically only and in a single PDF document and include a copy of a scientific paper (master's thesis, seminar paper, publication) with your application. Receipt of the application will be confirmed.