



Zurich, 29 September 2021

Research assistant in computer science (20-40%)

Professor Fabrizio Gilardi invites applications for a research assistant position (Hilfsassistent:in) (20-40%) in the context of the project “Problem Definition in the Digital Democracy” (PRODIGI), **starting on November 1, 2021**. The position is initially offered **until July 2022**, but may be extended.

Responsibilities

The position provides specific **technical, computational support** for several subprojects within PRODIGI, including further developing our Tool for Online Discussions (TOD), data pipelines in Python or R for our DigDemlab infrastructure (<https://digdemlab.io/infrastructure/index.html>) using SQL and Elastic DB's, and implementation of various topic modeling tasks and text classification algorithms.

Qualifications

The position is suitable for **MA students** who are interested in computational social science researching the implications of politics on digital technologies and vice versa. Applicants for this position should meet the following requirements:

- Enrolled in a **computer science or similar degree** program (MA) at the University of Zurich or ETH
- Excellent working knowledge of JavaScript (TypeScript) and Web Design (e.g. Svelte, React, Vue)
- Good working knowledge of web hosting and server management
- Good working knowledge of Python for Accessing API's / Machine Learning (numpy / pandas / Gephi / networkx)
- Good oral communication skills in English
- High degree of self-motivation and excellent work ethics



We offer

- Working with an international team of researchers doing cutting-edge research on digital technology and politics
- Gaining research experience
- Gaining substantive knowledge on digital technology and politics
- Workspace at the Department of Political Science, subject to COVID-19 rules.

This position opens on

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How to apply

For any questions about this position, feel free to send an email to Emma Hoes: hoes@ipz.uzh.ch. Please address your application, including motivation letter, CV, proof of academic performance and, if available, a link to your GitHub account as well as a 1-page description of one of your projects on GitHub, to hoes@ipz.uzh.ch with the subject "Student assistant (PRODIGI)". Review of applications will begin on October 18, 2021 and continue until the position is filled.