



Two Student Research Assistance – Liberal tensions in border management

Zürich, 23. September 2026

Description of UZH unit

Dr. Jana Lipps is inviting applications for two Student Research Assistance positions within the SNSF-funded Ambizione project “Liberal tensions in border management”. This research project examines the inherent tensions between state security imperatives and liberal democratic principles, specifically the rule of law and human rights, in contemporary border management. Concretely, the project investigates the institutional networks in which border security agencies are embedded: executive and parliamentary oversight, military or police governance, judicial accountability, and independent monitors and reporting channels.

Your responsibilities

As part of the project, the Student Assistance search and screen national legislation to identify reforms in border agencies, verify sources, and code the relevant information. We are currently designing an AI-assisted workflow that supports extracting the relevant legislation.

Your profile

I am looking for two students (BA or MA) enrolled in political science, history, or law with the following qualifications:

- a strong attention to detail and an interest in systematic data collection, meticulous documentation and coding;
- strong proficiency in English is required. Candidates who speak Eastern European languages (including Croatian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, or others) will receive prioritized review;
- Knowledge of Latex/Overleaf or willingness to learn;
- Knowledge of R Studio is an asset.
- Experience in prompting and verifying AI-generated output is an asset (please mention in your application in case you attended a related course, e.g. by Colin Henry or Hugo Subtil at IPZ)

What we offer

- 20 percent employment, possibility to work more during semester break
- Duration: 1 year with possibility of prolongation

Place of work

Hybrid: Zurich – Oerlikon and remote

Start of employment

Start of employment: 1. November 2026

Deadline for application: 15. Oktober 2026

How to apply

If you are interested in applying for this position, please upload your application, including motivation letter, CV, proof of academic performance to:

www.ipz.uzh.ch/de/ueber-uns/offene-stellen/2026-RA-Lipps.html

Further information

For informal inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact jana.lipps@ipz.uzh.ch.