EXCHANGING PEOPLE
EXCHANGING IDEAS

THE MERCATOR-IPC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
Stiftung Mercator and Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) at Sabancı University invite academics, journalists and professionals with an interest in Turkey to apply for a fellowship program that aims to strengthen academic, political and social ties between Turkey and Germany, as well as between Turkey and Europe. The program is based on the premise that the acquisition of knowledge and the exchange of people and ideas are preconditions for meeting the challenges of an increasingly globalized world in the 21st century.
The fellowship program supports research and practical projects within three thematic areas which are of essential importance for the future of Turkey and Germany within a larger European and global context:

- EU/German-Turkish relations
- Climate change
- Education

It allows academics, journalists and professionals from Germany, Turkey and other nations focusing on these areas to work on academic and practical projects at IPC.
EXCELLENT WORK IN A PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Mercator-IPC Fellows work at IPC for the duration of 6 to 12 months. The Center is an independent policy research institute with global outreach. Its mission is to foster academic research and its application to policy making. IPC is firmly committed to providing decision makers, opinion leaders, academics and the general public with innovative and objective analyses of key domestic and foreign policy issues. IPC offers the Mercator-IPC Fellows access to a broad network of academics, civil society activists and decision makers as well as a unique platform for sound academic research to shape hands-on policy work. Likewise, fellows profit from Sabancı University’s exceptional intellectual capital and vast reserves of scientific knowledge.
TYPES OF FELLOWSHIPS

Based on the experience and professional careers of the candidates there are two types of positions available:

**Mercator-IPC Fellowships** are available for outstanding young academics, journalists and professionals who have significant prior work experience. A PhD degree is strongly preferred. Applicants without a PhD degree will only be accepted if their work experience and expertise meet the program requirements to the jury’s satisfaction. Projects which focus on the German-Turkish nexus are likewise preferred.

**Mercator-IPC Senior Fellowships** are granted to internationally renowned scholars and highly respected representatives of civil society who have already made a significant contribution to the program’s three thematic areas and especially to EU/German-Turkish relations.
WHY EU/GERMAN-TURKISH RELATIONS?

Further deterioration of Turkey-EU relations bears considerable risks. Hence, it is of great importance that Turkey actively takes part in the debate on the future architecture of the EU. At the same time, a strong and stable Turkey which protects civil liberties and the rule of law must be a priority for Germany and the EU. The Istanbul Policy Center - Sabancı University - Stiftung Mercator Initiative and its fellowship program give new impetus to both the EU/German-Turkish partnership and to the accession negotiations.

Sub-topics of special interest are:

**Re-energizing the accession process and discussing Turkey’s role in the future architecture of the EU;**

**Exploring ways of cooperation complementary to the accession process;**

**Turkey’s role in the region and its impact on EU’s external action;**

**Refugee crises in the European periphery and its implications for EU/German-Turkish relations;**

**Facets of living together in Europe and Turkey;**

**The rise of right-wing populism and Euroscepticism in Turkey and the EU.**
WHY CLIMATE CHANGE?

Few issues necessitate international cooperation as strongly as the need to respond to the threat of climate change. The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions can only be accomplished through the joint efforts of national governments, businesses, civil society groups and individual citizens.

The Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program aims to create awareness among decision makers and the broader public of the threats posed by climate change and it aims to give policy advice in order to assure the maximum impact of projects.

Sub-topics of special interest are:

- Mapping the impact of climate change in Europe and Turkey;
- Overcoming the alleged dichotomy of economic growth and environmental conservation;
- Mechanisms for effective multi-level governance in climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Obstacles to policy change in developing countries;
- Turkey and its role for energy security in Europe.
WHY EDUCATION?

Education is a basic civil right that should be enjoyed by everyone. It allows for the creation of equal opportunities for all members of society and enhances individuals’ chances for self-realization. Additionally, it is a central means for strengthening democracy at all levels of society.

Education is particularly important in the context of EU/German-Turkish relations. Despite strong political, economic and cultural ties between Germany and Turkey, the public debate in both states is still dominated by misinformation and prejudice. Education must play a leading role in promoting mutual respect in a culture of living together.

Sub-topics of special interest are:
- Knowledge transfer within and across education systems;
- The governance of education systems;
- Trans- and intercultural education;
- Managing and teaching diversity in pluralist societies - Education as a means to promote democratization and a culture of living together;
- PISA and beyond - Education systems in comparison;
- Measuring the quality of education;
- Vocational training and lifelong learning.
TOP ENDOWMENTS FOR TOP FELLOWS

Mercator-IPC Fellows are granted:
A monthly net amount of up to 2,700 EUR;
A monthly family allowance of up to 500 EUR net (under preconditions);
A travel allowance of up to 2,500 EUR in total.

Mercator-IPC Senior Fellows are granted:
A monthly net amount of up to 5,000 EUR;
A monthly family allowance of up to 500 EUR net (under preconditions);
A travel allowance of up to 2,500 EUR in total.

The financial compensation of Mercator-IPC Senior Fellows varies according to the format and duration of their projects.

At the discretion of the IPC Director, additional funding will be provided to organize events and publications.
The Mercator-IPC Fellowship is the cornerstone of the Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative, a five-year strategic partnership between Sabancı University and Stiftung Mercator. It aims to strengthen the academic, political and social ties between Turkey and Germany as well as Turkey and Europe. The Initiative is based on the premise that in an increasingly globalized world the acquisition of knowledge and the exchange of people and ideas are preconditions to jointly prepare for the challenges of the 21st century.

The partnership was launched on July 5, 2011 upon the signing of the “Memorandum of Understanding” by the presidents of Sabancı University and Stiftung Mercator. It officially initiated its activities on January 1, 2012.
FURTHER INFORMATION

For further details about the Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program and updated deadlines please visit: http://ipc.sabanciuniv.edu/en/about_fellowship/

For further information about the Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program founding institutions visit:

Istanbul Policy Center
http://ipc.sabanciuniv.edu

Sabancı University
http://www.sabanciuniv.edu

Stiftung Mercator
http://www.stiftung-mercator.de

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IPC
ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER
SABANCI UNIVERSITY
STIFTUNG MERCATOR INITIATIVE

STIFTUNG MERCATOR