MERCATOR-IPC
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

IPC | ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER
SABANCI UNIVERSITY
STIFTUNG MERCATOR INITIATIVE

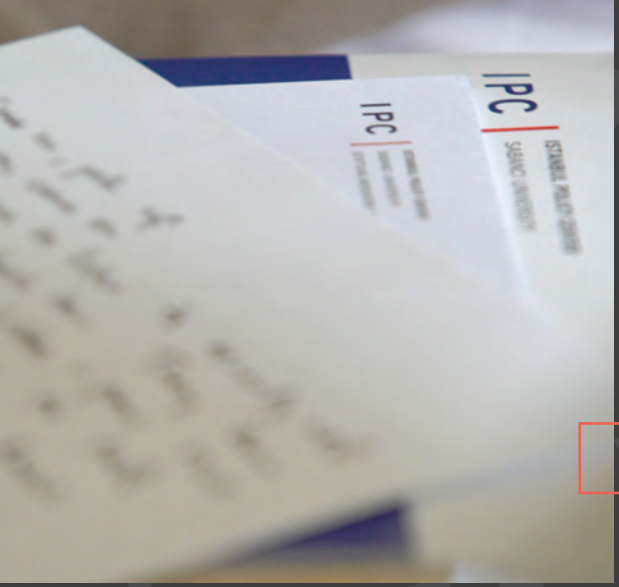
WHY?

The Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative invites academics, journalists, and professionals to apply for the Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program.

The program aims to strengthen academic, political, and social ties between Turkey and Germany, as well as between Turkey and Europe, based on the premise that the acquisition of knowledge and the exchange of people and ideas are preconditions for meeting the challenges of a globalized world.

The Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative has created a synergy between Turkish, German, and European research communities through the Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program in the past thirteen years.





WHERE?

Mercator-IPC Fellows work at IPC in Karaköy, downtown Istanbul for the duration of 6 to 12 months.

IPC offers 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. Fellows benefit from Sabancı University's exceptional intellectual capital and vast reserves of scientific knowledge.

HOW?

Mercator-IPC Fellowships are available for outstanding academics, journalists, practitioners, and professionals who have significant prior work experience aiming to strengthen academic, political, and social ties between Turkey and Germany, as well as between Turkey and Europe. A Master's degree is required for this position, but 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 according to the jury. Projects focusing on the German-Turkish nexus are likewise preferred.

Additionally, institutions from Germany/Europe whose areas of work overlap with the priorities of the Program are invited to nominate candidates for the Fellowship program.

Short-term visiting fellowships are also available to practitioners from Germany/Europe (i.e., policy experts, civil servants, civil society workers, advisors to MPs and policy officers working in the EU institutions). The minimum duration of this type of fellowship is one month.

Mercator-IPC Fellows are granted a monthly net stipend of up to 2,700 EUR, and a competitive compensation package with travel and research budgets.

WHAT?

EU/GERMAN-TURKISH RELATIONS

Amid an era of global polycrisis and interconnected challenges, fostering continuous and open dialogue between Turkey and the EU remains essential. This collaboration is vital for addressing shared priorities, including countering terrorism, promoting peace and stability in neighboring regions, and developing joint strategies to navigate complex and overlapping crises effectively. Furthermore, in the midst of economic and foreign policy-related challenges, Turkey's role in preserving stability in the region is now more crucial than ever.

Subtopics in this area:

- European security and defense cooperation and its implications for EU-Turkey relations;
- Economic, trade and technology cooperation between the EU/Germany and Turkey in a shifting international order;
- Turkey's role in the wider European neighborhood and its importance in the EU's external actions and foreign policy;
- Energy security; connectivity projects and geopolitics of critical minerals;
- Emerging technologies, artificial intelligence, digital governance and avenues for Turkey-Europe cooperation;
- Geo-economics, industrial policy, global supply chains, and economic security;
- Migration, refugee return, and mobility governance in a changing global order;
- Turkey-Europe and China in the Global South.

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 and local governments, businesses, academia, civil society groups, and individual citizens. In particular, the transformation of energy systems in Europe and elsewhere toward decarbonization is crucial for reducing greenhouse gases for mitigation and adaptation.

The Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program aims to raise awareness among decision makers and the broader public of the threats posed by climate change.

Subtopics in this area:

- Analysis of the social and economic impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation policies;
- Mechanisms for effective multi-level governance in climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Obstacles to policy reform (in developing countries) and overcoming the alleged dichotomy of economic development and climate change mitigation policies;
- Mapping the impacts of climate change in Europe and Turkey;
- Decarbonization of Turkish economy based on the Paris Agreement and Turkey's net-zero emissions target;
- Turkey's transition to a low-carbon energy and industrial systems (i.e., energy efficiency, renewable energy, grid flexibility, electrification, green hydrogen, zero-emission buildings, alternative technologies, etc.) in the European context;
- European Green Deal and Turkey: Challenges and opportunities;
- Just transition
- Adaptation policies and resilience to changing climate in Turkey in regard to food systems, water management, urban policies, health care, and nature (i.e. biodiversity, forests, etc).
- Climate finance;
- Gender and climate action;
- Climate diplomacy;
- International climate negotiations.

WHO?

The Mercator-IPC Fellowship is the cornerstone of the Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative. The Initiative 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.

ABOUT IPC

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.

ABOUT STIFTUNG MERCATOR

Stiftung Mercator is an independent private foundation. It aims to strengthen Europe and sees its role as helping to shape the processes of societal transformation. The main themes Stiftung Mercator works on Digital Society, Europe in the World, Climate Action, and Participation and Cohesion.



FURTHER INFORMATION

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