

## A NEW PASSAGE TO INDIA

### Call

within the program

“Indo-German Partnerships – Environmental Interactions in Focus”

### Student Mobility for Studies from the University of Cologne (UoC), Germany to the Bharati Vidyapeeth University (BVU), India

#### General overview:

The University of Cologne offers in the field of **Biodiversity Conservation and Law:**

- **8** graduate student mobilities for a Summer School (from UoC to BVU) with a duration of **15** days.

Mobility period at BVU for graduate students: February 24<sup>th</sup> – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### Financial Coverage:

| Academic Level                         | Duration | Travel support | Individual support |
|--|----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Graduate students<br>(from UoC to BVU) | 15 days  | 1.075 EUR      | 34,17 EUR per day  |

#### Insurance:

All grant holders have to take care of their own international travel insurance.

#### Tuition fees:

The receiving institution will not ask the grantee to pay fees for tuition, registration, examinations or for access to laboratory and library facilities during his/her mobility period. Nevertheless, the grantee may be charged a fee on the same basis as local students for costs such as student unions and the use of study-related materials or equipment.



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



### Required language skills:

English level C1

### Application:

Please send your application documents to the project coordinator, Ms. Sarah-Marleen Dannenberg at [s.dannenberg@verw.uni-koeln.de](mailto:s.dannenberg@verw.uni-koeln.de)

The following documents are required in PDF-format:

- CV
- Letter of motivation

The deadline for application submissions is **Wednesday, November 23<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

## **Announcement and invitation of application for the Summer School on 'Biodiversity Conservation and Law' using an interdisciplinary approach and field work to Pench National Park," to be held in Pune / India from 24 February to 10 March 2023**

### **Overview**

Biodiversity conservation requires a broad spectrum of different perspectives, experiences and skillsets in order to be genuinely effective. Today there is a strong emphasis on interdisciplinarity, aiming to resist the stereotype that only a single type of researcher or discipline can study and practice conservation science.

India has the unique position of being a global biodiversity hotspot with a vast network of Protected Areas as well as huge development pressures. It has several unique conservation initiatives and a large body of environmental law that attempt to resolve various disputes that arise from the conflict of resource use. Tools like 'Public Interest Litigation' are unique to India and have been used widely to address environmental problems. India is the third country after Australia and New Zealand to set up 'Green Tribunals' akin to 'Green Courts' under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.

Against this background, we offer a joint field work in **the Pench Tiger Reserve offered as a summer school in Pune / India from 24 February to 10 March 2023**. This summer school is supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the frame of the project "New Passage to India". This course is organized and given by Prof. Dr. Shamita Kumar, Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Pune/India in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Kirk W. Junker, Faculty of Law, Director Centre for Environmental Law/ International Master in Environmental Sciences, University of Cologne, Germany.

Beginning with a brief overview of the scientific aspects of species, ecosystems, and genetic resources, this course investigates the interplay between science and law in biodiversity conservation. It includes classroom sessions, field sessions, and expert talks enhancing the understanding of the implementation of the various scientific and legal tools in conservation. A major field work component takes place in the Pench Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh, India., where through interviews, surveys and participant observation, researchers obtain firsthand scientific experience of the interplay among natural sciences, social sciences and the law in addressing wildlife management, human-wildlife conflict, and wildlife crime.

### **Scope and Goals**

The scope of the summer school is to provide the participants with the necessary expertise to understand current issues of biodiversity conservation in one of India's finest tiger reserves using an interdisciplinary approach integrating natural and social sciences and the role of the law in conservation and to acquire the scientific and methodological competence to analyze complex human-environmental interactions.

The students from Cologne will work with the students from the host University. The objective of the course is not only to build the necessary scientific and intercultural expertise but is particularly suitable to identify topics for future research (e.g. in the frame of M.Sc. or PhD theses) and to gain experience needed on the international job market.

### **Content of the summer school**

In the framework of this call for applications, persons with disadvantaged backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply and, in cases of equal qualification, aptitude and expertise, will be given preferential consideration.

Erasmus+ programme promotes equal opportunities and inclusion for all members regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, religion and belief, disability and chronic illness, ethnic and social background. The actions aim at facilitating the access to the programme for participants with special needs. The University of Cologne and Jawaharlal Nehru University recognize that faculty, staff, and students need an environment in which they are respected and valued for their contributions in order to work and study effectively. This applies irrespective of their age, (dis)ability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, ethnic origin, religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation

The course will cover the following topics, which is reflected in the tentative schedule:

Day 1: Introduction and field work around Pune introducing students to Pune's urban green spaces

Day 2: Classroom session on social science research methods

Day 3: Introduction to birdwatching and identification (classroom cum practicum)

Day 4: Formation of groups and preparatory reading

Day 5 to day Day 12\*: Field work in Pench Tiger Reserve (includes travel days)

Day 13 to Day 15\*: Group work, data analysis, presentation and conclusions

\*Each day will have a lecture/field work and a reflection and discussion part.

To achieve credits, the following guidelines apply:

**Law students:** Schein for the course; At least one fieldwork mandatory (could be in Germany with Eifel National park); Mandatory report based on questions assigned for the fieldwork in India; If credits are needed – paper on a predecided topic to be submitted- 10 pages for 3 credits and one fieldwork report; For coming to India attendance at the Biodiversity Law Block Seminar is mandatory.

**Biology/Anthropology students:** Schein for the course; At least one fieldwork mandatory (could be in Germany with Eifel National park); Mandatory report based on questions assigned for the fieldwork in India; If credits are needed – paper on a predecided topic to be submitted- 10 pages for 3 credits and one fieldwork report; For coming to India attendance at the Biodiversity Law Block Seminar is mandatory

**IMES students:** Can do it in the third semester as an Advanced module in which case attending three fieldwork sessions in Germany is mandatory (Long one, Eifel and green belt) with report based on pre-assigned questions. Mandatory attendance at the Biodiversity Block Seminar; Mandatory report based on questions assigned for the field work in India; 10 pages for 3 credits and one fieldwork report; 20 pages for 6 credits and two fieldwork reports; 30 pages for 12 credits and fieldwork reports for India and Germany

IMES students can take the course as basic 3 credit module in the first semester but must simultaneously complete Environmental Law and Comparative Studies course. *If the student decides to take it as a 3 CP module it cannot be retaken as an advanced module.*

A certificate of participation will be awarded.

Interested students should apply by 23 November 2022 to [s.dannenberg@verw.uni-koeln.de](mailto:s.dannenberg@verw.uni-koeln.de) by submitting a one-to-two page letter of motivation together with a CV. Students who have participated in the Biodiversity Law Block Seminar (even in the previous years) will be given preference.