

Das Berlin Center for Global Engagement (BCGE) im Rahmen der Berlin University Alliance (BUA) organisiert:

Trainingsmaßnahme für Mitglieder der Berlin University Alliance

Safer Research Communication
– **Handling Politically Sensitive Contexts and Contents**

Venue	online platform (tbd)
Date and time	16 and 17 June 2021; 16 June: 9-12 am, 17 June: 2-5 pm
Language	English
Target group	Members of the Berlin University Alliance (FU Berlin, TU Berlin, HU Berlin, Charité); Early career researchers, postdocs, administrative coordinators, and communication officers.
Participants	20
Trainers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jannis Grimm, Research Associate, Institute for Protest and Social Movement Studies in Berlin (ipb) • Dr. Kevin Koehler, Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics at Leiden University • Ilyas Saliba, Research Fellow at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center and the Global Public Policy institute (GPPi)
Registration	Please send an email with a brief description of your key interests and your current position until May 15, 2021 to: bcge@berlin-university-alliance.de (We confirm your participation by June 1, 2021 the latest)

Description

The communication of research conducted in politically challenging contexts or addressing sensitive topics, in particular, bears risks for both the researchers themselves and their interlocutors. Therefore, it is the aim of this workshop to sensitize the participating researchers on how to maneuver public relations and outreach in the face of increasing risks of becoming victims of shitstorms, hate speech or even physical attacks. The workshop “Safer Research Communication” addresses this need through a series of consultative, instructional and practical sessions, led by three experienced trainers of physical and digital security for academics. The sessions will focus on physical and digital security, discussing how to protect interlocutors, communication and sensitive data. Furthermore, they will contain strategies for communicating research to a wider audience and how to mitigate a potential backlash.

Course content

- Joint reflection on initial questions and examples by the participants to understand their needs and interests
- Introduction to context- and risk analyses
- Introduction to science communication: What for? When? and How?
- Scenarios and case studies to illustrate typical risks associated with public outreach
- Reflection and transfer: what do we do already? What are best practices and tools and how can we implement them in our work and ongoing or future projects?
- Introduction to digital, data and communication security

Learning Objectives

- Participants understand the basic pitfalls and risks in science communication
- The participants are aware that public outreach has to be strategized and that safety precautions ought to be taken to ensure their own and their interlocutors' safety
- They are further able to mitigate potential risks arising from public appearances or other forms of communication beyond their academic peer group

Organizer

The Berlin Center for Global Engagement (BCGE) at the Berlin University Alliance (BUA), consisting of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin and the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. The BCGE is a platform for existing and new projects in the fields of (1) research on, from, and with the Global South, (2) science diplomacy, and (3) academic freedom.

Further information on BCGE:

<https://www.berlin-university-alliance.de/en/commitments/international/bcge/index.html>