

**Ties of Governance: The Welfare State in and through Germany, 1880-1960  
(Fellowship an der Freien Universität Berlin, Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut, von Dr.  
Chase Richards)**

Initiative: Postdoctoral Fellowships in den Geisteswissenschaften an Universitäten und Forschungsinstituten  
in Deutschland und den USA

Ausschreibung: Postdoctoral Fellowships in den Geisteswissenschaften an Universitäten und  
Forschungsinstituten in Deutschland

Bewilligung: 04.03.2014

Laufzeit: 1 Jahre

This project examines the transnational development of the German welfare state, often seen as a pioneer in modern welfarism. Richards pursues a multilayered history, one that looks discursively both at intellectual and political exchanges, at the top, and from below, ethnographically, at how everyday practices, gender roles, working-class sociability and political activism, migration, and religion interacted with the introduction of social insurance in Germany from the early 1880s onward. This project constitutes a transnational history of the German welfare state because it will turn on how modern welfarism developed not just in Germany but through the latter. Richards explores the connections and lines of conflict between state, society, and culture in this story, but as set within a global community of wealthy states and international bodies that sought to come to grips with the effects of industrialization and capitalism.

**Projektbeteiligte**

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