

Communication during and after COVID-19: (re)producing social inequalities and/or opportunities among African migrants in the United Arab Emirates and China (additional Corona-related funding)

Initiative: Globale Herausforderungen

Ausschreibung: Global Issues – Integrating Different Perspectives on Social Inequality

Bewilligung: 18.12.2020

Laufzeit: 1 Jahre 6 Monate

In the additional module, the team will investigate the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic affects the (re)production of social inequalities. The central question will be to what extent particularly socially vulnerable groups are explicitly affected by the negative impacts of the pandemic. For this purpose, the team focuses on the experiences of African migrant workers in China and the United Arab Emirates. Special focus is given on the role of communication with and within migrant communities. How and through which communication channels do migrants, who are subject to linguistic, economic and socio-cultural access restrictions, receive information on the pandemic process (emergency programs, vaccine distribution, etc.) in the destination country? The hypothesis here is that the pandemic situation also holds potential for overcoming structural inequalities, especially through a strengthening of activism at a grassroots level that build networks in the wake of the pandemic and develop joint solution strategies. The main impact of the study will lie in translating the findings into practical suggestions on how to improve communication with and within vulnerable migrant communities to strengthen their resilience in view of the ongoing pandemic and future crises.

Projektbeteiligte

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