

Just Landed: A Practical Guide to Life and Academia in Germany

Objective

This interactive online workshop supports international researchers who are new to Germany in navigating both academic life and everyday challenges.

It helps you explore questions such as:

- What opportunities and challenges can I expect as an international researcher in Germany?
- How does the German academic system work – both formally and informally?
- What do I need to know to feel confident and well prepared from the start?
- How do I navigate German bureaucracy – and the opportunities that come with it?

Description

Starting an academic career in Germany can be exciting, but it also comes with many new and sometimes unexpected challenges. This workshop is designed to help international early career researchers make a confident and informed start to their life and work in Germany.

This workshop places particular emphasis on:

- Intercultural understanding and communication in the German academic context
- Practical administrative and everyday logistical challenges when living in Germany
- Formal structures, rules, and expectations of German academia
- Unspoken norms and conventions shaping professional and social interaction

Day 1: Participants work together as a group with the trainer to explore some of the challenges that they will likely face.

Day 2: Individual one-to-one sessions with the trainer allow participants to address their personal questions and concerns in a tailored way. Coaching slots will be organized on the first workshop day.

Methodology

- Role-play and recreation of real-life situations
- Continuous focus on the link between theory and practice
- Extensive hands-on, practical exercises
- Use of intercultural surveys
- Individual and group feedback

Target group

Aimed at non-German participants who recently moved to Germany or are soon to do so. The workshop is not intended for German participants or for those who have already been living in Germany for more than a year.

Organizational Information

Language / Format	English / Online
Target group	Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs (R2/R3) from all faculties
Date	Group workshop: Wednesday, 16 December 2026, 9:00 – 18:00 Individual Coaching Session: Thursday, 17 December 2026, 9:00 – 16:00 Coaching slots will be organized on the first workshop day
Registration	For registration click here

Trainer



Dr. Matteo Garavoglia
Impulsplus, Köln

He is Professor of Practice and Research Director of the Europe-China Centre at Tsinghua University Beijing and Senior Research Associate at the University of Oxford. Previously, he was the Italy Program Fellow at the Brookings Institution's Centre on the United States and Europe and Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington DC. Matteo was educated at the universities of London (SOAS), Paris (Sciences Po) and Berlin (FUB). He lived in twelve countries across four continents and speaks English, French, Italian, Spanish and some German.

www.impulsplus.com/team/dr-matteo-garavoglia/