

**PhD Position (60%)**  
**in the research group of Professor Natasha Wunsch**

The research group conducts research on European Politics with a special focus on challenges to democracy drawing on quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods approaches.

**The position entails:**

- Developing and conducting your own PhD project, preferably in the research area of the professorship (e.g. democracy and democratic backsliding, rise of populism and illiberalism in Europe)
- Limited teaching assistance (one course per semester)
- Support with organisational matters related to the MA programme in European Studies
- Contributing to the activities of the research group

**Requirements:**

- Very good MA/MSc degree in Political Science (or a closely related discipline)
- Strong interest in research on challenges to democracy in Europe
- Solid training in social science methods (preferably both quantitative and qualitative)
- Ability to work both independently and in a team
- Very good working knowledge of English; additional fluency in German and/or French strongly desirable

**What we offer:**

- Integration into a young, dynamic, and research-focused department
- Conditional on approval of the PhD proposal by the end of the first year, funding is guaranteed for up to five years
- Flexible work arrangement alternating between on-site and remote work
- Additional funding for conference participation and methods training is available

**Place of work:** Fribourg, Switzerland

**Start of employment:** 1 March 2025 (or by arrangement)

**Closing date for applications:** 12 December 2024

**How to apply:**

Please send your application electronically **as a single pdf file** to [europa@unifr.ch](mailto:europa@unifr.ch). The file should contain a motivation letter, CV, writing sample (e.g., MA thesis), copy of university transcripts, and the contact details of two people willing to serve as references.

**Further information:** Informal enquiries can be directed to Prof. Natasha Wunsch ([natasha.wunsch@unifr.ch](mailto:natasha.wunsch@unifr.ch)).