Vacancy: Two Pre-doctoral Positions in Political Science (3 years)
Department of Political Science
Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna
http://www.ihs.ac.at

The IHS is Austria’s premier postgraduate research and training institute. It runs postgraduate teaching programmes and conducts both internal and contracted research in the disciplines of political science, sociology and economics. The IHS Department of Political Science has received funding for a project on “Political Preferences and Electoral Behaviour in the European Political Space” by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF; http://www.fwf.ac.at). In the context of this project, the Department is now inviting applications for two Pre-doctoral Positions in Political Science.

Tasks
The successful candidates are expected to undertake collaborative empirical research on the ideological and electoral dynamics of European integration. The research project covers the subfields of political culture, party politics, and electoral research. It specifically aims at integrating perspectives on preference formation, assessments of voter-party linkages, and analyses of voting behaviour in recent elections to the European Parliament:

- The first position concentrates on preference formation processes and explores the linkage mechanisms among voters and parties;
- the second focuses on formal models of voting behaviour, party strategy, and spatial competition in elections to the European parliament.

The successful candidates are also expected to write a PhD thesis on a topic closely related to the project. Additional details about the project are to be assessed via the departmental webpages (http://www.ihs.ac.at/newpage/resources/Political%20Science/Jobs/description_predoc_positions_IHS.pdf).

Requirements
Applicants must hold a Master’s degree in political science or similar disciplines. Excellent command of the English language is essential, while proficiency in German is desirable but not required. Most significantly, general knowledge of electoral research and specific skills in formal modelling and statistical data analysis would be strong assets. We are seeking candidates with enthusiasm for empirical research and the ability to collaborate in a small and dedicated team. Further information on substantive and formal details of the project can be obtained from the project manager Guido Tiemann (tiemann@ihs.ac.at).

Terms of contract
The appointment is for a fixed term of three years and covers a weekly working time of 30 hours. The commencement date is 1 March 2009. The annual gross salary is determined by the guidelines of the Austrian Science Fund and currently amounts to 25,628 Euro (approximately 18,700 Euro after deductions).

Application
Interested candidates should indicate which position they are interested in and email a letter of intent, a current CV, a brief dissertation prospectus (if available) and the contact details of two referees to the Department's administrative manager Elisabet Torgglre (office.pol@ihs.ac.at). The closing date for applications is 15 January 2010. We are committed to equality and diversity; women are therefore particularly encouraged to apply.