

The Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE – Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe – ([www.safe-frankfurt.de](http://www.safe-frankfurt.de)) promotes high-quality research and independent policy advice on all aspects dealing with the structure and functioning of the financial system. It is committed to contributing to the strengthening of a sustainable and resilient financial architecture that promotes innovation and serves the needs of the economy and its citizens. Researchers from the fields of economics, law, and political science collaborate at SAFE.

The **Leibniz Institute SAFE** is seeking to fill the position of a

**Research Assistant/Doctoral Student (m/f/d)  
in the area of Household Finance  
(70% Position)**

**Project Description:**

We are looking for a PhD-candidate for the research project “Reasons and Barriers to Stock Market Participation”, directed by Prof. Dr. Christine Laudenbach and Prof. Dr. Daniela Grunow, a project at the intersection of sociology and finance. Individuals and households vary substantially with respect to many important financial decisions. One striking finding is the low participation rate in capital markets, especially among women. Some individuals frequently trade stocks, while a large share of the population does not participate in the stock market at all. As a result, retirement savings vary hugely across individuals even after controlling for lifetime income and a large number of socio-economic characteristics. To study differences across investors with respect to whether to participate in the stock market or how to allocate investment capital, it is planned to analyze in-depth interviews to better understand the relative importance of a large number of explanations that have been proposed by existing research.

**Your tasks**

You will work on the analysis of the qualitative interview data which are available already at the beginning of the project. The objective is to probe the assumptions and motivations underlying interviewees’ financial decisions, to test the existing theories for investor decisions, and to explore possible tools and interventions that might affect financial decision making.

From there, it is also possible to conduct empirical research on household financial decision-making using panel survey data in conjunction with archival data or results from field experiments. You are welcome to design your own projects or join existing teams on ongoing long-term research initiatives.

**Your profile**

- Master’s or Research Master’s Degree in one of the social sciences or in Economics or Finance
- Affinity with qualitative methods and techniques in the social sciences
- Excellent performance in your field of study
- The ability to work independently and on your own initiative
- Flexibility and teamwork
- Fluency in English and German (interview transcripts are in German)
- Good knowledge of MAXQDA as well as basic knowledge in Matlab, R, Python, SQL or STATA is helpful

**We offer**

The infrastructure of a modern research centre with excellent contacts to the scientific and financial community. You will be working in a very attractive working environment in the House of Finance at Goethe University and an enthusiastic team of colleagues. Compensation will be **70% of a full-time position** in accordance with the standards of the public services wage agreement of the State of Hesse (TV-H E 13). The employment contract has an initial duration **of up to 3 years depending on the state of qualification**.

SAFE is committed to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities and therefore invites them in particular to apply. We also seek to increase the share of women in research and, thus, strongly encourage female scholars to apply.

**Your application:** Please submit your application, together with the usual credentials (CV, letter of motivation, transcripts etc.), by mail to Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE, House of Finance, Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 3, 60323 Frankfurt am Main, Germany or electronically by email to [applications@safe-frankfurt.de](mailto:applications@safe-frankfurt.de) by adding APPLICATION **Research Assistant in Household Finance** in the subject line of your email.

**Deadline** for the submission is **February 11, 2022**.

Should you have any questions please contact Michaela Peist, e-mail: [peist@safe-frankfurt.de](mailto:peist@safe-frankfurt.de)