

Methodology

Project ES/K008161/1

European, Ethnic and Expatriate: A Longitudinal Comparison of German and British Social Networking and Associational Formations in Modern-day Asia

This is a mixed-method research project with methods stemming primarily from History.

Research commenced with a desk-based collection of disparate evidence relating to the activities of British and German ethnic organisations and the mining of extant association membership records, including roll books, invitation lists for events, membership data gathered from social media sites such as Facebook, and newspaper reports. This included historical as well as contemporary data. The overall aim was to capture details on members' socio-economic and gender background.

A survey questionnaire was then sent out to associations and other relevant contact points, such as bigger companies with an expat workforce and culture organisations. This survey also enabled facilitation of fieldwork by providing one route to identifying potential interviewees.

This was then followed by fieldwork in the sites of study that included interviews with British and German expats on current expat life.

As this is a mixed-method longitudinal project much of the data is not captured through these components of the project, instead simply consisting of qualitative historical records data. This too will feed into future research outputs.