



## ICES Newsletter

Ausgabe 01 / 2026

*In our monthly newsletter we inform you about ICES news, dates, events and about the latest calls for research funding which are particularly relevant for the field of European Studies. If you have any questions, suggestions or if you would like to announce events or recently published calls, please do not hesitate to contact us.*



# ICES News

## *Aktuelles*

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[ICES Call](#)

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ICES Dates & Events  
*ICES Termine & Veranstaltungen*

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## ICES Research Atelier HeSe 2026

### Spring semester sessions open for registration

The Research Atelier is a space for work-in-progress. Early-stage research is more than welcome! The dates are tentative and subject to change. During the spring semester, sessions will be held on Wednesdays between 1pm and 2 p.m. and take place in RIGA 601 and online via webex. As always, most sessions will feature a 30-minutes presentation followed by a constructive discussion. Yet, at least two dates are reserved for a joint exchange on topics that are relevant for early-career researchers (e.g. “mastering a presentation”, “paper submission and peer reviews”, “every-day tools to save time and energy” etc. Get in touch with Claudio Gräßner-Radkowitsch and Sébastien Tremblay if you are interested in presenting your research, there are still spots available!

### Infoveranstaltung für promotionsinteressierte M.A. Studierende/ Termin: 09.03.2026, 18-19 Uhr (online)

#### Info event for M.A. students interested in pursuing a PhD

ICES, ZeBUSS, CREST und die Forschungsabteilung laden alle interessierten Masterstudierenden herzlich zu dieser Online-Informationenveranstaltung ein. Wir geben einen Überblick über die Promotionsmöglichkeiten an der EUF und darüber hinaus, einschließlich der Anforderungen, Bedingungen, Karriereaussichten und Finanzierungsmöglichkeiten. Darüber hinaus werden aktuelle Doktoranden der EUF über ihre Erfahrungen berichten und für Fragen zur Verfügung stehen. Eine Anmeldung ist nicht erforderlich.

### Informationsveranstaltung für Promovierende/ Termin: 15.04.2025, 12-13 Uhr (online)

#### Information event for PhD researchers

ICES, ZeBUSS, CREST and the Research Department cordially invite all interested PhD students of the EUF and interested staff members to a general information event. It is intended to give an overview of the various offers for doctoral students at EUF and provide you the opportunity to further strengthen the promotion of young researchers at the EUF with your feedback, ideas, and suggestions. Registration for this event is not required.

### Info Event for Postdocs/ Termin: 06.05.2024, 12-13 Uhr (hybrid)

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## Info Event about funding opportunities for Post-Docs

ICES, ZeBUSS, CREST and the Research Department cordially invite all Post-Docs at the EUF as well as other interested staff members to this information event. It is intended to provide an overview of funding and employment opportunities which contribute to the promotion of a career in academia. We will introduce funding opportunities for your own position within national or international research projects (e.g. DFG or Horizon Europe), fellowships such as DFG's or Thyssens's Post-Doc Stipend, as well funding for junior research group leaders such as DFG's Emmy Noether Program. You can find an overview of selected Post-Doc funding opportunities also on our [website](#). Besides funding opportunities we will briefly outline pathways to a permanent professorship/researcher career. At this event, we will inform you about these offers, provide you the opportunity to get in touch with other Post-Docs and contribute ideas to further strengthen the promotion of Post-Docs at the EUF with the support of the research centers. The presentation will be in English. The event will be held on campus in RIGA 514. It will also be possible to join online via WebEx. Registration for this event is not required

### Events of the ICES associated EUF-centres and other EUF-centres

#### Veranstaltungen der assoziierten Zentren und anderer kooperierender EUF Einrichtungen

#### Wasatia Graduate School: Spring 2026 programme

##### *Scholars in Residence, Workshops, lectures and European Future Talks at EUF*

The Trilateral Graduate School announces its spring 2026 programme, featuring a Scholar in Residence and several events at Europa-Universität Flensburg.

- **[Scholar in Residence: Prof. Leila Demiri](#)** (University of Tübingen)  
25 March – 1 April 2026, Europa-Universität Flensburg
- **Workshop: Scriptural Reasoning**  
30–31 March 2026, 11:00–16:00, Riga 3, Room 310
- **Guest lecture: Ciarán Ó Cuinn, Center Director and Head of Mission at MEDRC (Oman)**  
29 April 2026, 16:00–18:00, Riga 3, Room 310
- **European Future Talks – Europa Woche**  
4 May 2026, 09:00–14:00, Tallinn Building
- **Visit of Professor [Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela](#)** (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)  
One-week visit in Flensburg with a public lecture. 20 May 2026: “Responsibility, Recognition, and the Quest for Solidarity”

All interested colleagues are warmly invited to participate.

## Graduiertenzentrum – Graz

- 04.03.2026 DokNet & GraZ I Mentoring-Treffen, Ort: Riga, RIG 401, 10:00 – 11:30; Anmeldung: [graz@uni-flensburg.de](mailto:graz@uni-flensburg.de)
- 09-10.04.26 Bewerbungswissen kompakt, Workshop & Einzelcoachings I online; [Anmeldung](#)
- 23.04.26 Design Based Research in Theorie und Anwendung; online; [Anmeldung](#)
- 23.04.26; Wirtschaft oder Wissenschaft? Karriereentscheidungen frühzeitig treffen; Kurzworkshop I 2. Tag Einzelcoaching; [Anmeldung](#)
- 01.06.2026 Von Networking zu Community – Sinnvolle Verbindungen aufbauen für Forschung und Karriere; Tagesworkshop I Präsenz Riga 401 & hybrid; [Anmeldung](#)
- 24.06.26 Wasserdichte Förderanträge schreiben; Tagesworkshop I online oder Präsenz; [Zur Anmeldung](#)



## Recently published calls *Aktuelle Ausschreibungen*

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- [International project funding](#)
- [National project funding](#)
- [Scholarships and Fellowships](#)
- [Research Prizes](#)
- [Other funding opportunities](#)
- [General information and events](#)

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## ECPR and ECSR events and calls

➔ *Ongoing funding search tools:* EUF members can access the databases [ELFI](#) and FIT free of charge – simply log in using your EUF email address.

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## International project funding / Internationale Projektförderung

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### DFG: Call for Franco-German SSH Research Projects

*ANR-DFG-Programm für deutsch-französische Kooperationen / Deadline: 05.03.26*

To mark its 20th edition, the joint programme of the French Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) and the German Research Foundation (DFG) continues to support integrated Franco-German research projects in the humanities and social sciences. There are no thematic restrictions; however, the programme emphasises strong bilateral cooperation and the added value of bringing together different academic traditions. Proposals by early-career researchers are explicitly encouraged. Applications must be submitted in parallel to both agencies by 13:00 (CET) on 5 March 2026. German applicants must be registered on the DFG's *elan* platform by 27 February 2026. Source: DFG Information for Researchers No. 101, 05.12.2025. [Further information](#).

### DFG – AHRC Joint Call in the Arts and Humanities / Deadline: 11.02.26

*Deutsch-Englische Förderinitiative in den Geisteswissenschaften*

The German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC, UK) are once again funding seventeen joint projects in the arts and humanities, further strengthening their partnership established in 2018. The scheme follows a discovery-led approach, enabling researchers to develop internationally relevant topics independently and to build sustainable German–UK collaborations. The newly funded projects span a wide range of disciplines, from archaeology, history and law to literary and linguistic studies, musicology, religious studies and philosophy – reflecting the thematic diversity and innovative potential of this bilateral programme. Interested

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researchers can apply within the framework of the current eighth call. Application deadline: 11 February 2026. Details & application: via the DFG/AHRC call [website](#). Source: FIT-Newsletter, 24.11.2025.

### **German-Israeli Foundation (GIF): AI in Science and Society 2026 Call**

*Deutsch-israelische Forschungsförderung zu Künstlicher Intelligenz in Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft / Deadline: 15.10.2026*

The German-Israeli Foundation (GIF) invites innovative research proposals on the development, application and societal impact of artificial intelligence (AI). The call is open to projects from STEM disciplines (natural, technical, engineering, mathematics and medical sciences) as well as the humanities and social sciences. Two funding lines are available: a cooperation line for joint German–Israeli projects (up to three years, max. €300,000) and an individual line for early career researchers (up to eight years after PhD) for one-year projects without a partner from the other country (max. €25,000). Proposals must be submitted online by 15 October 2026. Source: FIT Newsletter, 02.02.2026. [Further information](#).

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### **National project funding / Nationale Projektförderung**

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### **DFG: Research groups in the humanities and social sciences / Deadline 03.03.26**

*Ausschreibung für Kolleg-Forschungsgruppen in den Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften*

The German Research Foundation (DFG) invites new pre-proposals for Kolleg-Forschungsgruppen in the humanities and social sciences. This funding scheme is tailored to the specific working modes of these disciplines and enables distinguished researchers to collaborate closely on an ambitious humanities or social science research topic. Kolleg-Forschungsgruppen are characterised by intensive research activity of two to three core scholars, who may be (partially) released from other duties. In addition, international fellows can be integrated through a fellowship programme and join the group for one to two years. The maximum funding duration is eight years, and the application procedure is multi-stage. Interested applicants are advised to seek advice from the DFG Head Office before submitting a pre-proposal. Deadline for pre-proposals: 3 March 2026. Further information and full call text: via the DFG information page (link in the announcement).

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## BMFTR: Strengthening Societal Resilience in Crises and Disasters

*Förderrichtlinie zur Resilienz der Bevölkerung in Krisen- und Katastrophenlagen / Deadline: 11.03.2026*

The Federal Ministry for Education, Research and Technology Transfer (BMFTR) funds collaborative research projects and an accompanying scientific study aimed at strengthening the resilience of the population in crisis and disaster situations. The call follows an all-hazard, all-threats and “whole-of-society” approach, addressing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, and the interaction of state, science, economy, politics, civil society and citizens in their local environments. Eligible consortia bring together research institutions and at least one practice partner (e.g. authorities with security tasks, municipalities, ministries, civil society or business) to develop and test needs-based solutions in areas such as risk awareness, self-help capacities and community resilience. A separate accompanying project will synthesise results, support dissemination and conduct a discourse analysis on societal perceptions of risk and security. The call follows a two-stage procedure; project outlines must be submitted by 11 March 2026. Source: BMFTR, Bekanntmachung vom 12.12.2025. [Further information](#).

## Gerda Henkel Foundation: “Prospekt Utopia” Postdoctoral Funding Programme

*Gerda Henkel Stiftung: Förderprogramm „Prospekt Utopia“ / Deadline: 15.04.2026*

On the occasion of its 50th anniversary, the Gerda Henkel Foundation has launched the international postdoctoral funding programme “Prospekt Utopia” for all disciplines supported by the foundation, ranging from archaeology to history and the social sciences. The programme supports research projects that engage with visions of the future, their interpretation and shaping, including historical concepts of progress, community and justice, contemporary ideals of future ways of living together, and the role of science and technological development. In total, 50 projects will be funded with up to €50,000 each in a two-stage selection process. The programme is open to postdoctoral researchers worldwide. Source: FIT Newsletter, 26.01.2026. [Further information](#).

## HfG Offenbach / TraFoDes: Call for Ideas on Safe Spaces in Future Cities

*Safe Spaces in der Stadtgesellschaft von morgen / Deadline: 23.02.2026*

The innovation community TraFoDes – Transformation by Design, coordinated by HfG Offenbach under the DATIpilot programme, invites interdisciplinary teams from science and practice to submit project ideas on “Safe Spaces in the urban society of tomorrow and their design in analogue–digital urban landscapes”. The call focuses on young people’s needs in diverse inner-city environments and aims to better understand tensions between visibility, belonging and retreat, developing transferable design and organisational approaches for urban spaces. One project will be selected for funding with up to €250,000, with projects expected to start from 1 August 2026. Source: HfG Offenbach. [Further information](#).

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## Fellowships and Scholarships / Stipendien und Lehrstuhlvertretung

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### UniGR-Center for Border Studies: UniGR-CBS Fellowships 2026

*Research stays in the Greater Region for border studies scholars / Deadline: 28.02.2026*

The UniGR-Center for Border Studies (UniGR-CBS) invites applications for its 2026 fellowships, offering researchers a two-month stay at one or more partner universities in the Greater Region (RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau, Saarland University, University of Liège, University of Lorraine, University of Luxembourg, University of Trier). Fellows receive up to €4,000 in financial support and are expected to engage with the interdisciplinary border studies community and contribute to ongoing research. The programme is open to postdoctoral and senior researchers as well as professors from all relevant disciplines worldwide who work in the field of border studies. [Further information](#). Source: Individual announcement, February 2026.

### ZEIT-Stiftung / Bucerius Institute: Manfred Lahnstein Post-Doctoral Fellowship

*Research stay for German History and Society Studies at the University of Haifa / Deadline: 31.03.2026*

The Bucerius Institute for Research of Contemporary German History and Society (University of Haifa), supported by the ZEIT-Stiftung, invites applications for the Manfred Lahnstein Post-Doctoral Fellowship in 20th-century German Studies for the 2026–2027 academic year. The fellowship (min. 10 months) provides 90,000 NIS and supports innovative projects on 20th-century German history, culture and society, with particular interest in work that engages the Middle East. Fellows are expected to reside in Haifa, register as postdocs at the University of Haifa and participate in Bucerius Institute activities, including delivering the annual Lahnstein Lecture. Eligible applicants obtained their PhD no earlier than October 2021 or will have submitted their dissertation by 1 January 2026 (degree awarded by October 2026). [Further information](#). Source: Individual announcement, 29.01.2026.

### VolkswagenStiftung: Navigating a Transforming World Order – Fellowships on Security and Technology

*Stipendienprogramm zu Sicherheit, Technologie und europäischer Perspektive / Deadline: 05.05.2026*

The Volkswagen Foundation's programme "Navigating a Transforming World Order: Fellowships on Security and Technology" supports early career researchers (up to five years after PhD) from all disciplines who work on the nexus of security and technology from a distinctly

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European perspective. Fellowships of up to €450,000 run for a maximum of three years and combine 24 months of research with 12 months of outreach and policy-engagement activities. Projects may address topics such as artificial intelligence, emerging technologies, space and security, defence, arms control, deterrence, and ethics, and are expected to adopt a holistic understanding of security while actively bridging science, policy and practice. Online Q&A sessions for prospective applicants will be held on 12 February and 9 April 2026 at 10:00 a.m. The fellowship program is embedded in further activities: 1. Research groups: Call for proposals planned for 2026 on global security and peace architecture. 2. Coordinating program: Various activities with European partner foundations, renowned scientific partners, and think tanks to establish a European security forum. Source: VolkswagenStiftung, 27.01.2026. [More information](#).

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## Research Prizes / Preise und Auszeichnungen

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### Kristina Hahn Prize: Women in Focus 2026

*Auszeichnung für systemische Praxisprojekte zu Lebensrealitäten von Frauen / Deadline: 23.02.2026*

The 2026 Kristina Hahn Prize “Frauen im Fokus” honours innovative, effective and practice-oriented projects that take a systemic approach to the diverse lived realities of women. The award targets projects, organisations and initiatives that use systemic methods to improve women’s social participation, visibility, social justice, health, self-determination or economic conditions. The prize aims both to recognise existing initiatives and to encourage the development of new, systemically grounded practice models. The total prize money is €9,000 and may be divided among several projects. [Further information](#). Source: FIT Newsletter, 2.2.2026.

### Körber-Stiftung: Deutscher Studienpreis

*Prize for outstanding PhD theses with high societal relevance / Deadline: 01.03.2026*

The Deutscher Studienpreis honours excellent PhD graduates from all disciplines whose research has a strong societal impact. The award encourages early career researchers to highlight the public relevance of their work and to engage actively in societal debate. The prize is awarded annually under the patronage of the President of the German Bundestag, Julia Klöckner. [Further information](#). Source: Körber-Stiftung website.

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## Die Junge Akademie / VolkswagenStiftung: Award for the Best Research Environment 2026

*Prize for outstanding research team culture / Deadline: 01.03.2026*

The Prize for the Best Research Environment 2026 honours research teams that create particularly supportive, appreciative, and creative working conditions. The award aims to highlight excellent scientific work that is enabled by strong team culture, recognition of individual strengths, and collaborative practices. It is open to research teams from all academic disciplines. From a shortlist, five teams will be selected in June 2026, each receiving €10,000. This is the second edition of the prize. [Further information](#). Source: FIT Newsletter, 26.01.2026.

## Petersen-Stiftung: Innovations-Transferpreis 2026

*Innovation award for research–industry cooperation in Schleswig-Holstein / Deadline: 15.03.2026*

The Petersen Foundation is accepting applications for the 2026 Innovation Transfer Prize (€45,000), which honours market-ready innovations, devices or services developed jointly by researchers in Schleswig-Holstein and small or medium-sized enterprises that visibly strengthen knowledge and technology transfer in the region. Eligible are collaborative projects that demonstrate a clear impact on science–industry cooperation and have already contributed to transfer activities in Schleswig-Holstein. Applications must be submitted jointly by the research team and their transfer partner. Source: Petersen-Stiftung, call for applications, 22.01.2026. [Further information](#).

## Hanns Martin Schleyer-Stiftung: Friedwart Bruckhaus Prize 2025/2026

*Prize competition on housing market failures / Deadline: 28.02.2026*

The Hanns Martin Schleyer Foundation invites submissions for its 2025/2026 prize competition on “Fehlentwicklungen am Wohnungsmarkt – Zwischen Markt- und Staatsversagen”. Young researchers and media professionals are encouraged to submit innovative work that analyses the causes of current distortions in the German housing market and develops practice-oriented solutions, for example on housing shortages, rising rents, regulatory obstacles, energy and sustainability requirements, or new housing concepts and technologies. Contributions should explore how public policy can intervene without paralysing the market and how to overcome both market and state failure to make the housing sector more sustainable in the long term. Source: Hanns Martin Schleyer-Stiftung, reminder email, January 2026. [Further information](#).

## Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg: Elise-Reimarus-Preis

*Publikationspreis für geistes- und sozialwissenschaftliche Monographien / Deadline: 02.03.2026*

The Elise-Reimarus-Preis awards €4,000 to support the publication of an outstanding monograph in the humanities or social sciences by a postdoctoral researcher affiliated with an institution in northern Germany (Bremen, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schleswig-

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Holstein). The prize aims to highlight excellent early career scholarship with strong intellectual and societal impact. [Further information](#). Source: Announcement by the Academy, 27.01.2026.

## Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg: Joachim-Jungius-Preis 2026

*Wissenschaftspreis zum Thema „Übertragungen“ / Deadline: 30.06.2026*

The Joachim-Jungius-Preis, endowed with €5,000, recognises outstanding scholarly work by postdoctoral researchers on the theme of “Übertragungen” (“transfers” or “translations” in a broad sense). The competition is open to all disciplines and targets early career researchers with strong ties to northern Germany. [Further information](#). Source: Announcement by the Academy, 27.01.2026.

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Other funding opportunities /

Weitere Fördermöglichkeiten

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## Alexander von Humboldt Foundation: Humboldt Research Professorships under the 1,000-Köpfe-Plus Programme *Internationale Spitzenforscher\*innen für den Forschungsstandort Deutschland gewinnen*

With the new Humboldt Research Professorships, funded through the federal 1,000-Köpfe-Plus programme, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation expands opportunities to attract internationally leading researchers to Germany. The awards provide up to €1.5 million for theoretically oriented and up to €3 million for experimentally oriented researchers over five years, including up to €10,000 per month for living expenses during research stays in Germany. The programme enables awardees to establish or expand their research activities at German universities and research institutions—without necessarily giving up their positions abroad—while building international research groups and long-term collaborations. Host institutions receive a 20% overhead on the prize amount, and in cases of permanent appointments in Germany, the funding can be increased by up to €500,000 and extended by one year. Online info sessions on the nomination process and funding conditions will take place on 13 January 2026 (14:00) and 5 February 2026 (16:00). [Further information](#). Source: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation website, 03.02.2026.

## Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg: Young Academy Fellows Postdoctoral Programme

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### *Nachwuchsförderprogramm „Young Academy Fellows“ für Postdocs in Norddeutschland / Deadline: 07.04.2026*

The Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg supports postdoctoral researchers from all disciplines through its *Young Academy Fellows* programme, offering at least three years of financial and non-financial support. The scheme targets early career researchers with strong ties to northern Germany (Bremen, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Schleswig-Holstein) and combines funding with mentoring, networking and interdisciplinary exchange within the Academy's community. [Further information](#). Source: Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg, announcement, 27.01.2026.

### **Alexander von Humboldt Foundation: Philipp Schwartz Initiative – 17th Call for Applications**

#### *Förderprogramm für gefährdete und geflüchtete Forschende / Deadline: 13.02.2026*

In its 17th call, the Philipp Schwartz Initiative enables German host institutions to offer at-risk and displaced scholars research fellowships of up to 24 months, complemented by additional funds to support integration and career re-entry; an extension of up to 12 months is possible under a co-funding model. Funding can start on 1 July 2026, with selection results expected by late May 2026. The initiative encourages applications from institutions that have not previously participated and cooperates closely with networks such as Scholars at Risk and the Council for At-Risk Academics, which can help identify suitable candidates. [Further information](#). Source: FIT Newsletter, 22.12.2025.

### **BMFTR: Support for Student Associations and Organisations at German Universities**

#### *Hochschulbezogene zentrale Maßnahmen studentischer Verbände und anderer Organisationen / Deadline: 01.04.2026*

The Federal Ministry for Education, Research and Technology Transfer (BMFTR) funds projects by student associations and other organisations that strengthen exchange and networking among students and help them exercise and further develop their rights and responsibilities as members of a higher education institution. The programme supports workshops, conferences, lectures and discussion events on higher education policy issues of nationwide relevance, with joint activities by several student organisations particularly encouraged. The aim is to foster student engagement in debates and change processes within the German higher education landscape and to enhance participation. Applications follow a single-stage procedure and must be submitted by 1 April 2026, 12:00. [Further information](#). Source: FIT Newsletter, 28.01.2026

### **German-Israeli Foundation (GIF): Young Scientists' Meetings**

#### *Deutsch-israelische Workshops für den wissenschaftlichen Nachwuchs / Deadline: laufend*

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The GIF Young Scientists' Meetings (GYSM) provide a platform for early career researchers from Germany and Israel to meet in small, thematically focused workshops. In 2–3 day meetings with around 20–30 participants (half from each country), participants present their work, receive feedback from senior scholars, and establish initial contacts for future cooperation. GIF supports each meeting with up to approximately €20,000 to cover travel, accommodation and subsistence costs, offering a low-threshold entry into long-term German–Israeli research collaboration. Applications to organise a GYSM can be submitted on a rolling basis; separate calls will be issued for specific meetings and participation deadlines. Source: FIT Newsletter, 02.02.2026. [Further information](#).

### **Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg: Forum Junge Wissenschaft – Conference Funding**

*Konferenzförderung für junge Wissenschaftler:innen in Norddeutschland / Deadline: 02.03.2026*

The Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg supports conferences organised by young academics from northern Germany (Bremen, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schleswig-Holstein) through its *Forum Junge Wissenschaft* scheme. Funding of up to €5,000 is available for conferences taking place by March 2027, open to students, doctoral candidates and postdocs from all disciplines. [Further information](#). Source: Announcement by the Academy, 27.01.2026.

### **Wübben Stiftung Wissenschaft: Sandpit idea labs on Bureaucracy**

*Sandpit-Programm „Bürokratie verstehen, gestalten, verändern“ / Deadline: 31.03.2026*

The Wübben Stiftung Wissenschaft invites researchers from all disciplines (PhD completed) to apply to its Sandpit Programme on the theme “Understanding, shaping, transforming bureaucracy”. Sandpits are intensive idea labs for up to 20 participants in which interdisciplinary project ideas are developed collaboratively. Applicants are asked to submit a two-page concept paper by 31 March 2026. Selected projects can receive funding of up to €50,000. Proposals are assessed in an anonymised review process. Source: Wübben Stiftung Wissenschaft, January 2026. [Further information](#).

### **Bundesregierung: Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme in International Organisations**

*Junior Professional Officer-Programm der Bundesregierung / Deadline: 22.02.2026*

The German government is currently advertising 24 Junior Professional Officer (JPO) posts in more than 21 international organisations, including the UN Secretariat in New York, UNICEF in Nairobi, the EBRD in London, UNEP in Montreal and the World Bank in Washington, D.C. The positions are part of a federal early-career scheme and offer regular UN contracts with a minimum duration of two years. Eligible are graduates with a Master's degree or equivalent (Diplom), German citizenship, two to four years of professional experience and excellent English skills, with backgrounds for example in social and political sciences, law, economics and finance, or natural and engineering sciences.

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Detailed vacancy texts and information on the application procedure are available via the BFIO website. Source: FIT Newsletter, 21.01.2026.  
[Further information](#).

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## General information, events and research policy

### Allgemeine Informationen, Veranstaltungen und Forschungspolitik

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#### DFG: Use of AI in peer review under new guidelines

##### *Neue Leitlinien zur Nutzung von KI in der DFG-Begutachtung*

The DFG's Main Committee has decided to permit the use of artificial intelligence tools in its review processes under clearly defined conditions. The new usage and transparency guidelines specify how researchers, reviewers and all actors involved in evaluation and decision-making may employ AI systems while safeguarding confidentiality and scientific integrity. With this step, the DFG responds to recent technical and regulatory developments and sets principles for a responsible, transparent use of AI in peer review. The guidelines will be published in spring 2026. [Further information](#). Source: DFG-aktuell, 1/2026.

#### Alexander von Humboldt Foundation: Use of AI tools in peer review

##### *Neue Richtlinie zur Nutzung von KI in der Begutachtung / 30.01.2026*

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation now allows reviewers to use generative AI tools to support their assessment work, provided that confidentiality of application documents and personal data is strictly maintained. Reviewers remain fully responsible for all content submitted under their name. [Further information](#). Source: Newsletter der Humboldt-Stiftung, 30.01.2026.

#### Horizon Europe: Japan to become an associated country

##### *Assoziierungsabkommen mit Japan eröffnet neue Kooperationschancen*

The EU and Japan have successfully concluded negotiations on Japan's association to Horizon Europe. Until the agreement is formally signed, a transitional arrangement applies: Japan-based organisations and companies can already participate as beneficiaries under the 2026–2027 work programme, receive EU funding and even act as project coordinators. For the moment, the association primarily covers Pillar II of

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Horizon Europe. This development significantly broadens opportunities for EU–Japan research collaboration, including in social sciences and humanities where relevant calls are open to international partners. Source: Newsletter NKS Gesellschaft 01/2026.

## **NKS Gesellschaft: Info Sessions on the Horizon Europe Cluster 2 Work Programme 2026**

*Online-Veranstaltungsreihe zu Demokratie, Kultur und sozialen Transformationen in Cluster 2 / 26.02.–05.03.2026*

The National Contact Point “Society” (NKS Gesellschaft) is organising an online info series to prepare potential applicants for the 2026 topics under Horizon Europe Cluster 2 “Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society”. An introductory session on 26 February 2026 (10:00–12:00) will provide an overview of Horizon Europe and Cluster 2, followed by three thematic events from 3–5 March 2026 on “Democracy and Governance”, “Cultural Heritage and Cultural and Creative Industries”, and “Social and Economic Transformations”, respectively. The series is aimed at prospective applicants, especially from the social sciences and humanities, but also from the cultural and creative sectors, public administrations, civil society organisations and EU liaison offices. The 2026 topics will be presented in detail; a separate series on the 2027 topics will follow later. Source: NKS Gesellschaft Newsletter 01/2026. [Further information](#) and registration.

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## **ECPR and ECSR Events and Calls**

### **ECPR and ECSR Veranstaltungen und Calls**

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ICES is an ECPR (European Consortium for Political Research) and ECSR (European Consortium for Sociological Research) member institution, providing ICES members significantly reduced fees for ECSR and ECPR conferences and method schools as well as access to exclusive funding opportunities and working groups.

## **ECPR: Funding for Joint Sessions and General Conference 2026**

*Reisekosten- und Teilnahmeförderung für ECPR-Mitglieder / Deadline: 02.02.2026 and 27.02.2026 (Joint Sessions)*

ECPR offers funding for scholars affiliated with Full Member institutions to support participation in its major 2026 events. They can cover, but are not limited to, registration fees, travel and accommodation (for in person events). For the Joint Sessions of Workshops (7–10 April 2026, University of Innsbruck), applicants whose proposals have been accepted can submit funding applications until 2 February 2026. For the

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General Conference (8–11 September 2026, Jagiellonian University, Kraków), funding applications open immediately after proposal decisions are issued (27.2.2026). [Further information](#). Source: ECPR News Bulletin | Friday 23 January 2026

## ECPR: Winter Methods School 2026 – Online Training in February

### *Methodenkurse für EUF-Angehörige mit Mitgliederrabatt*

The ECPR Winter Methods School will take place online from \*\*16–27 February 2026\*\*, offering a range of quantitative and qualitative methods courses. Most February courses are already sold out, but interested participants can join the waiting list by emailing. Affiliates of ECPR member institutions, including EUF, receive an additional \*\*50% discount\*\* on course fees. Booking at the reduced rate is possible until 29 January 2026. Source: ECPR News Bulletin | Friday 23 January 2026. Here's some of the courses:

**Introduction to Big Data Collection and Analysis in the Social Sciences**, 16 to 20 February, taught by Daria Dementeva ([more information](#))

**Political Ethnography: method, Sensibility, Writing**, 16–20 February, taught by Kristin Anabel Eggeling ([more information](#))

**Applications of Focus Groups**, 19–20 February, taught by Karen Lumsden ([more information](#))

**Introduction to R**, 16–17 February, taught by Akos Mate

**Quantitative Text Analysis and Machine Learning using R**, 16–20 February, taught by Z Greene ([more information](#))

**Comparing Countries with Multivariate Statistical Techniques**, 16–20 February, taught by Bruno Cautrès ([more information](#))

**Survey Design**, 25–27 February, taught by Julia Partheymüller ([more information](#))

**Applied Regression Analysis: Estimation, Diagnostics, and Modelling**, 23–27 February, taught by Alexandru Moise ([more information](#))

## ECSR: Prize for Best PhD Thesis 2025

### *Auszeichnung für exzellente sozialwissenschaftliche Dissertationen / Deadline: 05.02.2026*

Nominations are now open for the ECSR Prize for the best PhD thesis defended in 2025. The prize recognises outstanding doctoral work in sociology and related fields, with a particular emphasis on rigorous empirical research on social stratification, inequality and related topics. Submissions must be made by 5 February 2026. Source: ECSR newsletter, January 2026.

## ECSR: Spring School 2026 in Turin – Inequalities Across Lives and Generations

### *Doctoral Spring School on life course and intergenerational disadvantage / Deadline: 15.02.2026*

ECSR invites applications for the 2026 Spring School “Inequalities Across Lives and Generations: Cumulative Disadvantage, Life Course Dynamics, and the Intergenerational Transmission of (Dis)Advantages”, to be held from 23–26 March 2026 at Collegio Carlo Alberto in Turin. A limited number of PhD students and early-career researchers will participate in an intensive programme combining lectures on core topics

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with sessions where participants present their own work and receive feedback. Applications are due by 15 February 2026. Source: ECSR newsletter, 2026.

### ECSR Thematic Conference: Life Course and Social Stratification (Trento)

*Tagung zu Lebensverlauf und sozialer Ungleichheit an der Universität Trient / Deadline: 22.02.2026*

The ECSR Thematic Conference “Life Course and Social Stratification” will be held at the University of Trento on 23–24 April 2026. The conference focuses on empirical and theoretical contributions linking life course perspectives with social stratification research. Abstracts should be sent to [csis@unitn.it](mailto:csis@unitn.it) by 22 February 2026. [Further information](#). Source: ECSR newsletter, 2026.



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