

# The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Connecting academic excellence worldwide

Knowledge transfer and cooperation at the highest level





### The Humboldt Foundation's areas of work

- sponsorship of international academics as a part of foreign cultural and educational policy
- strengthening cutting-edge research through internationalisation
- impetus for the research location Germany by promoting individuals
- advancing development through academic cooperation





## **Principles of the Foundation**

- sole selection criterion: academic excellence
- no quotas for countries or disciplines
- sponsorship of people, not projects
- free choice of research topic and of academic host/collaborative partner in Germany





#### Historical and intellectual roots

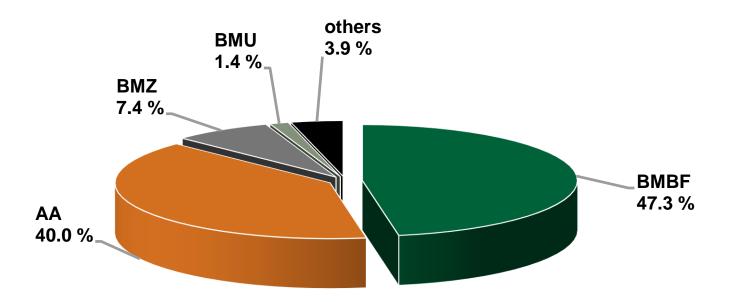
- Alexander von Humboldt (1769 1859): discoverer, universal scholar, cosmopolitan and patron of excellent scientific talent
- 1953: establishment of today's Alexander von Humboldt Foundation based in Bonn Bad-Godesberg
- international network of academic cooperation and trust inspired by Humboldt's example





### The Humboldt Foundation's funding

Budget for 2019\*: approx. €142.7 million Financed by federal funds: approx. 96%



AA: Federal Foreign Office

BMBF: Federal Ministry of Education and Research

BMZ: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMU: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation

and Nuclear Safety

<sup>\*</sup> according to second draft of 2019 Budget of 14.12.2018



### **Key Sponsorship Programmes**

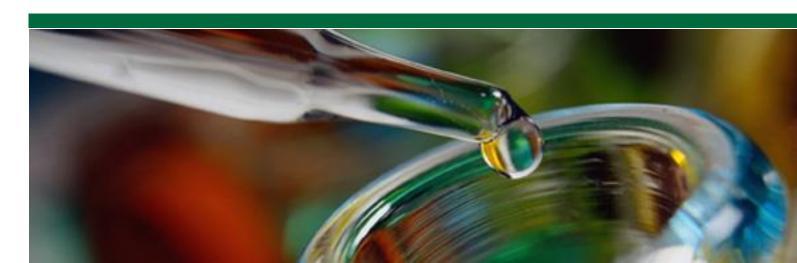
Flexible sponsorship programmes for cutting-edge researchers at all stages of their careers

## for postdoctoral researchers (doctorates completed less than 4 years ago)

Research Fellowships; 6 to 24 months; €2,650 per month

# for junior research group leaders (doctorates completed less than 6 years ago)

 Sofja Kovalevskaja Award; up to €1.65 million, to establish their own junior research group in Germany





## **Key Sponsorship Programmes**

# for experienced researchers with an own, clearly defined academic profile

- Research Fellowships (doctorates completed less than 12 years ago) 6 to 18 months; €3,150 per month
- Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award (doctorates completed less than 18 years ago) up to €45,000; research stay in Germany; nomination



# Research fellowships for research stays in Germany



# Humboldt Research Fellowship / Georg Forster Research Fellowship

	Postdoctoral researchers	Experienced researchers
Duration of sponsorship	• 6 to 24 months	6 to 18 months, may be divided up into 3 stays
Application period	<ul> <li>applications at any time, doctorates completed less than 4 years ago</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>applications at any time, doctorates completed less than 12 years ago</li> </ul>
Fellowship amount	<ul> <li>€2,650 per month (plus additional benefits)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>€3,150 per month (plus additional benefits)</li> </ul>

## **Benefits provided**



- fellowship
- travel lump sum
- language courses\*
- benefits for families
- allowance for research costs for the host institute\*

(\*not applicable to Feodor Lynen Research Fellowships)

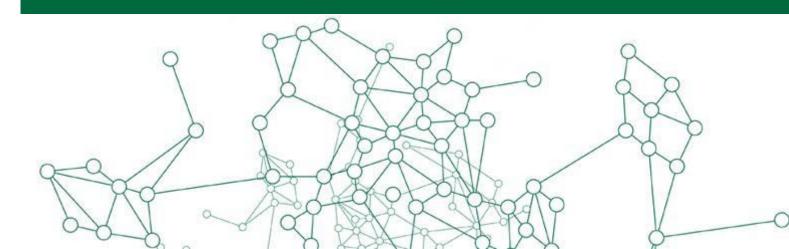




## **Benefits provided**

- intensive and individual mentoring in Germany and abroad by personal contacts at the Foundation
- study tour\*, network meeting, annual meeting
- return fellowships for specific regions
- alumni sponsorship

(\*not applicable to Feodor Lynen Research Fellowships)



### **Research awards**



### Sofja Kovalevskaja Award

- for top level junior academics from abroad
- up to €1.65 million for a period of 5 years
- to establish their own junior research group in Germany
- joint application by the applicant and the host institution





## **Key Sponsorship Programmes**

### for internationally recognised cutting-edge researchers

- Humboldt Research Award/Georg Forster Research Award;
   €60,000; research stay in Germany; nomination
- Alexander von Humboldt Professorship; 3.5 5 million euros for a period of 5 years, for the long-term recruitment of established cutting-edge researchers from abroad; nominations by German universities (or joint applications by universities and nonuniversity research institutions)



# Alumni sponsorship and international networking



- more than 29,000 Humboldtians in over 140 countries:
   "Once a Humboldtian always a Humboldtian"
- alumni sponsorship and international networking through e.g.
  - further research stays
  - Research Group Linkage Programme
  - Humboldt Colloquia and Kollegs
  - Humboldt Alumni Associations
  - Humboldt Alumni Award



### **Contact and Information**





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