

Guidelines

for Proposal Submissions under the Walter Benjamin Programme by Refugee Researchers



Disclaimer: The English translation of this document is provided for informational purposes. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and the German versions, the German text takes precedence.

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

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I General Information

1 Objective

The German Research Foundation supports refugee researchers in applying for a position at a German research institution under the existing Walter Benjamin Programme (see form 50.10). The aim of the funding is to integrate them into the academic system in Germany. Proposals may be submitted under this programme from all disciplines, and you are free to choose the subject of your research.

It is a requirement of the programme that you reach an individual agreement in advance with a research personality at the host institution where the project is to be conducted as to how you can be supported in this project and in your further career.

2 Scope of funding

Funding is provided for a research project lasting a maximum of two years to be pursued in Germany through financing a position in the postdoc category (so-called Walter Benjamin position). If you are successful, you will be employed at a research institution – financed by the DFG – and the research institution will be your employer.

In addition, an **allowance** of €250 per month will also be provided for direct project costs, travel expenses and publication costs (but not grey literature). Should the appropriate publication of your project findings call for a book format involving high production costs, the relevant funds can be granted additionally.

The **remaining funds necessary** to carry out the project must be provided by the host institution or host researcher.

3 Eligibility Requirements

- a) The regulations set out in section I 3 of the programme guidelines (DFG form 50.10) apply, but in this case there are no restrictions with regard to the career phase. This means that here, proposals can also be submitted by those who are no longer in the early postdoctoral phase.

The funding measure is intended to enable integration in the German academic system, so proposals are not accepted from individuals who already hold a comparable position in the academic system in Germany.

Furthermore, proposals are not accepted from those who have already received other funding as a refugee researcher (through the Philipp Schwartz Initiative of the Humboldt Foundation and the Federal Foreign Office or through any comparable programme for integration in the research system in Germany) if this funding covers a time period of two or more years.

b) In addition, the applicant must be a refugee researcher within the meaning of this measure. This is the case if the following criteria¹ are met:

- you have not been outside your home country for more than three years at the time of application and
- you have residential status in connection with an asylum procedure within the EU and are recognised as being at risk, or
- you are able to present credible third-party evidence of being at risk no more than 12 months prior to proposal submission.

II Proposal Information

You may submit your proposal at any time: there are no deadlines.

Proposals must be submitted via the elan portal

elan.dfg.de.

The proposal submission procedure is based on the guidelines and instructions for the Walter Benjamin Programme.

www.dfg.de/formulare/50_10

Under “Project Description” at the top of Part B of the application, please tick the box to indicate that you are applying as a refugee researcher.

¹ In acute crisis situations, proposals can be submitted without proof of the respective status after consultation with the DFG.

This funding measure only concerns projects that are to be carried out in Germany. Proposals are submitted via the so-called “Walter Benjamin Position” module.

Proposals to carry out projects abroad (“Walter Benjamin Fellowship” module) are not permitted under this funding measure.

III Contact persons

If you have any questions regarding the proposal submission process, please contact the relevant person at the DFG Head Office as listed here:

www.dfg.de/refugee_researcher