The German research landscape

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Research expenditure & organization

736,000 staff in R&D

Pillars of the German research sector:

- Higher education institutions:
  - 420 universities, universities of applied sciences (Fachhochschulen) & Art Schools
- Non-university research institutions:
  - 1,000+ public & publicly funded research institutes & centres
- Companies & industrial research:
  - 17,500+ research companies

2019; internal expenditure on R&D by sector
Source: Federal Statistical Office
Overview

Research in Germany
Funding agencies & foundations

Private/ public foundations, e.g.

In Berlin, e.g.
Higher education institutions

**German Rectors’ Conference**

420 HEIs, incl.

- **120 universities:**
  - entitled to confer doctorates
  - strong in research
  - around 22,000 international collaborations

- **203 universities of applied sciences (FH/UAS):**
  - combine practical science & application-oriented teaching
  - entitled to confer doctorates in certain subjects/ joint doctoral degrees
  - regionally rooted & cooperate with companies, associations, municipalities or social institutions at the local level

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https://www.myguide.de/en/degree-programmes.html

https://www.hochschulkompass.de/en/degree-programmes.html
## Non-university research organizations: The big four

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>No of institutes/centres</th>
<th>Annual budget, bn</th>
<th>Staff in total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helmholtz Association</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>€5.0</td>
<td>43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>€2.8</td>
<td>29,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max-Planck-Gesellschaft</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>€2.6</td>
<td>24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leibniz Association</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>€2.0</td>
<td>21,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Non-university research organizations: The big four

- **HELMHOLTZ**
  - 6 research fields: Energy; Earth and Environment; Health; Information; Aeronautics; Space & Transport; and Matter
  - Large-scale equipment and infrastructure
  - Programme-centred

- **Fraunhofer**
  - World’s leading organisation for application-oriented research
  - Contract research for business, industry and government (66%)

- **MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT**
  - Basic research in all scientific fields
  - Person-centred

- **Leibniz Association**
  - Investigation of socially, economically & ecologically relevant issues
  - Runs research infrastructures, archives, museums & libraries

Research in Germany
Other non-university research

- 42 federal research institutions
- 143 state (Länder) research institutions
- 11 academies of sciences & humanities
BMBF program Funding of the German-Ukrainian “Cores of Excellence (CoE) in Ukraine

With this programme the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is supporting the establishment of excellent joint German-Ukrainian research groups or small institutes (Cores of Excellence, CoE) in Ukraine to strengthen the sustainable bilateral research partnership between Germany and Ukraine.

A total of 38 eligible applications were submitted in 2019. 12 concepts were selected for the concept phase funding (aiming at the development of a detailed economically feasible plan), incl. with Berlin researchers:

- **ReLoaD**: Interdisciplinary research on decentralization and its impact on the democratic process in Ukraine.
  Coordinator: Institute for European Politics (IEP), Berlin, in cooperation with Kyiv School of Economics (KSE)
World's largest academic exchange organization:
> 111,000 scholars funded
Promotes excellence & broadens perspectives of education & science through international exchange
€549m
68 offices worldwide
Національний академічний контактний центр для України/
National Academic Contact Point Ukraine
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

The Humboldt network

- Supports scientific cooperation between German & foreign researchers: approx. 1,000 scholars funded per year
- €131.4m
- Person-centred (from postdoc level)
- Philipp Schwartz Initiative for researchers at risk: The 12th call is expected to be announced in June 2022

The Humboldt network distribution:
- North America: 5,790
- Europe: 15,388
- Asia: 5,925
- Middle East, North Africa: 831
- Sub-Saharan Africa: 713
- Middle and South America: 1,170
- Australia, New Zealand, Oceania: 736

2021: 30,553 Humboldtians worldwide
Source: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
German Research Foundation

✓ Biggest research funder: €3.3bn, > 30,000 funded projects per year
✓ Self-governing organisation for science and research funded at federal & state level
✓ Project-specific funding for postdocs; coordinated programmes; Excellence Strategy; infrastructural funding

✓ Walter Benjamin position: refugee researchers who have been forced to leave their home country within the last 3 years could embark on their own research project
✓ Under many DFG funding programmes it is possible to submit supplemental proposals for the purpose of integrating persons who have fled their home countries in ongoing DFG projects that already receive funding


✓ DFG grants' database: www.gerit.org

2020; source: DFG; amount of research funding awarded by programme
Cooperation with Developing Countries

- **Eligible** to apply are researchers/scientists from all subjects and disciplines at German research institutions who have completed their academic education (typically by having completed a doctorate).

- **Funding** for personnel, scientific instrumentation and apparatus, consumables, travel, miscellaneous expenses and publications.

- For **both the partner institute in Germany and the cooperation partner/institute in the developing country**.

- **No deadline**

  [https://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/programmes/international_cooperation/developing_countries/index.html](https://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/programmes/international_cooperation/developing_countries/index.html)
**Berlin University Alliance (BUA)**

**Vision:** Turning Berlin into an integrated research environment that will be one of the Europe’s leading science hubs with the alliance as nucleus & driving force

- **7** Clusters of Excellence
- **12** Core research areas
- **30** Collaborative Research Centers
- **540** Study Programmes
- **565** Million € extramural funding
- **1,735** Professors
- **100,340** Students
- **11,500** Doctoral Students (2,279 Doctorates awarded)
- **21,800** Employees

Research in Germany
A network of currently 49 non-university research institutes in Berlin

Aims to further strengthening Berlin as a European science metropolis

Works for an overcoming of the pillarization in the research area Berlin & initiates new forms of cooperation

Provides a one-stop point of contact regarding issues of non-university research in Berlin

www.br50.org/en/br50/

@B_R_50
European Fund for displaced scientists

On 31 March, ALLEA launched a new programme to support scientists impacted by the war. The initiative is funded thanks to the Breakthrough Prize Foundation donation of $1.5 Million.

**Funding Line 1** provides funds to academic institutions in Europe that are willing and able to host researchers who have been displaced by the war in Ukraine. The aim is to provide immediate assistance to scholars in the continuation of their research in a safe environment.

- **Eligible** are include postdoctoral & senior researchers, as well as assistant, associate or full professors affiliated with Ukrainian academic and/or research-performing institutions.
- Applications will be received in 2 rounds: (1) **1 July 2022** and (2) Information about the 2nd round will be provided in due course.

**Funding Line 2** provides funds to affected Ukrainian universities, academies, and research institutes to help them maintain and/or reinstate their scientific operations and research collaborations. Its aim is also to support the reintegration process of researchers upon their return to Ukraine. The call will be launched in the near future.
UKRAINET Information & Collaboration Platform (currently includes 104 collaborative projects)

#SupportUkraine sites: https://ukrainet.eu/supportukraine/, including:
- Non-residential offers
- Jobs4Ukraine
- Supporting learning
- Saving heritage & Data rescue

Info-session „Funding opportunities for German-Ukrainian STI cooperation“, Days of Ukraine in Berlin & Brandenburg, 16-17.09.2021; Video-recording & presentations (check the event’s digital brochure)
#StandWithUkraine

- **Science For Ukraine**
- **EURAXESS Germany:** Information for refugees who wish to study in Germany
- **DAAD:** Національний академічний контактний центр для України/ National Academic Contact Point Ukraine
- Alexander von Humboldt “War in Ukraine: Information and measures”
- The online platform [www.chance-for-science.de](http://www.chance-for-science.de) aims at facilitating the access to German universities and colleagues of the same research field for scientists who fled to Germany
- **Telegram Channel “Career for Refugees”** created by Tetiana Ovsiienko created to help Ukrainian refugees in their careers and education in Germany
More information

- www.research-in-germany.org
- www.funding-guide.de
- www.higher-education-compass.de
- www.phdgermany.de
- www.academics.com

In Berlin:
- https://braincity.berlin/en/
- PhD programmes: https://www.doctoral-programs.de
- Summer & Winter Schools: https://braincity.berlin/en/science-location-berlin/summer-schools

PDF download: https://www.research-in-germany.org/downloads
Grand Challenge Initiatives

- Climate Change
- Social Cohesion
- Pandemic Research
- Global Health
- Digitalisation
- Quantum Computing

Research in Germany
Funding for PhD students
Graduate and research schools

- DFG-funded Research Training Groups (research programmes with a thematic focus)
- Graduate School Scholarship Programme (GSSP): DAAD-funded programmes at universities or non-university research institutions
- International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRS)
- Helmholtz International Research Schools and Helmholtz Graduate Schools
- Max Planck Schools (joint initiative of German universities and non-university research institutions)
- Structured programmes offered by universities and other higher education institutions
Individual doctoral projects at universities

Individual doctoral projects at non-university research institutes

DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships

…
Research grants – binationally supervised doctoral degrees

**In brief**
Doctoral degree at home university with integrated research phases in Germany or partner country

**Who?**
PhD students

**Duration?**
Up to 2 years

**Value?**
Grant: €1,200 /month + additional allowances during stay(s) in Germany

www.funding-guide.de