

Call for Proposals

Trilateral Partnerships – Cooperation Projects between Scholars and Scientists from Ukraine, Russia and Germany

Application dates

April 30, 2015

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1. Objectives

Recent events in Ukraine and the military conflict persisting in its Eastern part since March 2014 have had a severe impact on the political situation in Europe. This has not only led to an open conflict between Ukraine and Russia, but also triggered substantial tensions between the EU and Russia bringing back memories of the Cold War in the 1950s and 1960s. It is against this background that the Foundation wants to strengthen cross-border cooperation between scholars, scientists, and academic institutions from the countries involved in this conflict. Thereby, it intends to contribute to building rapprochement, confidence, and understanding in the region and to maintain a dialogue with colleagues in Germany, too.

The call is open to researchers from all scientific disciplines, i.e. natural, life and engineering sciences as well as humanities and social sciences. There are no preferences in terms of topics to be addressed.

2. Funding possibilities

Funding may be provided for research projects as well as small scholarly meetings such as workshops, symposia, or summer schools. For **research projects** of two to three years, funds of **up to 250,000 EUR** may be requested to cover costs for personnel, travel, consumables, and equipment. It is expected that the budget is evenly distributed between the partner groups, at least one per country, with the German share not exceeding one third of the total amount. For **scholarly meetings**, the funds requested should mainly cover expenses for travel and consumables. For both schemes a well-balanced distribution of participants from all partner countries is expected. Furthermore, junior scientists from the countries participating should be adequately involved in all activities.

Electronic application

Please use the Foundation's application system: portal.volkswagenstiftung.de for the electronic submission of your application. Please do not forget to print, sign and upload the scanned signature sheet. Instructions on the electronic application system are provided online and on the following page.

3. Requirements

The Volkswagen Foundation can award grants to academic institutions only. Applicants outside of universities and well-known research institutions are asked to provide details on the legal status, statutes, trustees and boards, charitable/non-profit status, budgeting and auditing of the institution to be funded.

Applications from the humanities and the social sciences **should**, those from the natural, life and engineering sciences **must** be submitted in English. The Foundation expects that applications be submitted jointly by all responsible cooperation partners. In case a proposal is approved the academic institution of the German main applicant will be the recipient of the grant.

The Foundation is unable to process applications that have been submitted in identical or similar form to another funding agency. The Foundation also does not pay for obligations which have been entered into prior to the receipt of a grant letter.

Deadline for the submission of applications is 30 April 2015. Decisions will be made on the basis of peer review and are to be expected by the fall of 2015.

4. Information requested

Please submit your proposal via the Volkswagen Foundation's electronic application system. There, forms containing information on the applicants, their institutions (recipients of the grant) as well as on the project (title, duration and total amount requested) and its budget are to be completed. In addition, the following documents are requested as pdf attachments:

- **Signature sheet** with signature
- **Cover letter**
- **Summary** in German **and** English (max. 1 page)
- **Project description** (max. 15 pages): state of the art including own preliminary results, rationale and objectives, hypotheses, methods, expected outcome
- **Time and work schedule** including distribution of tasks between the research groups involved
- Specification and justification of all **budget** items for all participating institutions, divided into personnel expenses, recurring non-personnel costs, and non-recurrent expenses, in Euros
- **CVs, list of relevant publications**
- **Statements of foreign partner institutions**
- **Bibliography**

Instead of a detailed project description and a time and work schedule, applications for support of **scholarly meetings** (workshops, symposia, and summer schools) should contain information about

- the academie **program** of the event, including time schedule
- the (tentative) list of **participants** including registrations approved (at least of speakers) and details on how participants were or are to be selected.

5. Electronic Application – Instruction and Tips

Please note that only registered users of the electronic application system have access to application data and are able to submit applications and receive corresponding e-mail messages. Hence, it is required for all applicants with project responsibility to register himself/herself or to ask a co-worker to register in his/her name with the proper e-mail address.

Please follow the five steps to compile and submit your application:

- If you are a new user please **register** on the application portal with your name, your e-mail address and your own password. When registering you will be asked about your work address details. Subsequently, you must **activate** your account using the link sent by e-mail. If you already have a user account you can immediately **login** using your e-mail address and password.
- The **function new application** starts the selection of the corresponding funding initiative (here: Trilateral Partnerships – Cooperation Projects between Scientists from Ukraine, Russia and Germany), the application type, the grant receiving institution, and the language.
- You can interrupt the completion of your application at any time. You can logout and login again as often as required.
- Please check whether the pre-filled data on the applicant are correct. Furthermore, we need application data (e. g. project title, duration) and the budget. The budget shall be uploaded as pdf-file under the heading “Other Enclosures”. You are asked to enter all information in the respective forms. Please note that the **save button** does not transfer any data to the Foundation. You are able to revise all data until the submission of your application. Please keep in mind to read and **accept** the legal statement. If you wish you can generate a PDF of the filled-in forms for verification and for your filing.
- Under enclosures you are able to **upload files** as required according to the checklist on the preceding page in the „Information for Applicants“. Only PDF files are accepted. Before submission all files can be exchanged for new versions.

Once your application is completed you can **submit** it electronically to the Foundation. Additionally, it is required to generate a **signature sheet** for print-out. Please do not forget to print, sign and upload your **signature sheet**.

In the course of processing your application the Foundation might request additional information. The function **new supplement** is used to upload and submit the respective files.