

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

In order to strengthen the French-German scientific cooperation in all fields, the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (hereafter “ANR”) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (hereafter “DFG”) have agreed to enable applicants in France and Germany to jointly apply for research projects that are jointly administered, decided on and financed by the ANR and the DFG.

The ANR and the DFG agree to pursue this objective in the manner set forth below.

1. In establishing this Memorandum of Understanding the ANR and the DFG have created the administrative framework to jointly support research projects in all fields of science and the humanities. These projects will be developed, applied for and conducted jointly by researchers working in France and Germany.
2. The ANR and the DFG will issue specific calls for proposals, to be organised jointly between the interested disciplines at both organisations.
3. All persons eligible to apply for purely national projects at the ANR or the DFG are also eligible for the joint research projects. The language of the proposals will be decided on according to the requirements of the respective scientific fields.
4. The ANR and the DFG are to provide jointly agreed proposal forms for the joint applications.
5. The projects are to be reviewed by external peers according to review criteria agreed upon by both parties. Two peer reviews may suffice, if the implementing rules allow this. The peer reviews and the coordinates of the peer reviewers will be exchanged by the ANR and the DFG.

6. If the number of applications expected is small, the parties will agree to fund jointly through their national programmes. In this case, joint recommendations may be formulated by either the ANR or the DFG review committee with an adequate number of representatives of the partner organisation participating.
7. If a large number of proposals is expected, a joint ad-hoc review committee with a suitable and equal number of delegates from the ANR and the DFG will convene to formulate a joint recommendation. The resulting recommendation could then be handled case-by-case; details are to be fixed in the respective implementing rules.
8. The joint recommendation is then to be forwarded to the decision-making bodies at the ANR and the DFG, where formal decisions will be made independently. The decision-making bodies are expected to consider the recommendation very seriously. Ratification by both decision-making bodies is required for the proposal in question to be accepted.
9. The review committee's report including all excerpts of the peer review that support the recommendation will be sent to the applicants as feedback.
10. The "location principle" applies to the financing of the projects. This means, that successful ANR applicants are financed by the ANR and successful DFG applicants are financed by the DFG.
11. Detailed implementing rules for this memorandum including follow-up on the projects and programme evaluation are subject to further negotiations between the disciplines that have agreed to launch a joint call.
12. This memorandum is valid from the date of signature for a term of three years.

Bonn,

Paris,

**Matthias Kleiner**

Präsident  
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

**Jacqueline Lecourtier**

Directeur  
Agence Nationale de la Recherche