Guidelines
for the Review of
Reinhart Koselleck Projects

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.
I  Programme Information

The goal of the programme is to enable researchers with an outstanding scientific track record to pursue particularly innovative or, in a positive sense, higher-risk projects over a period of five years. Reinhart Koselleck projects are primarily aimed at university researchers. The programme enables researchers to work on projects that cannot be funded within the scope of other funding programmes or implemented within the framework of their own institution. Researchers from non-university research institutions are also eligible to apply if they meet these conditions (see the Guidelines for Reinhart Koselleck Projects – DFG form 1.18).

www.dfg.de/formulare/1_18

Please note:

General Guidelines for Reviews (DFG form 10.20) are available at:

www.dfg.de/formulare/10_20

The review should not exceed two pages in length.

II  Structure of the Review

1. How would you assess the quality of the project, especially with regard to originality and the anticipated contribution to knowledge?

2. Is the outlined project especially innovative or high risk? Is the applicant requesting funding for a project that cannot be funded within the scope of other DFG programmes, especially the Research Grants Programme?

3. To what extent do the objectives and work programme convincingly reflect clear working hypotheses and an appropriately distinct topic? How do you rate the explanations on the handling of research data?
   A proposal for a Reinhart Koselleck project is based on a project outline, as the progress of the project tends to be even less predictable than with other research activities. For this reason, a detailed work programme is not required.
4. How would you evaluate the soundness of the preliminary work, the quality of publications (please refer to the Guidelines for Publication Lists) and the qualifications of the applicant – both in general and in terms of the proposed project? Is the applicant qualified to independently lead the proposed project?
Can it be assumed on the basis of previous research achievements that the applicant can be trusted to carry out the proposed project successfully?

5. How would you assess the work and research environment at the institution where the project is to be carried out?
In the case of proposals from researchers based at non-university research institutions: Could the project not be carried out as part of the researcher’s regular work at the institution?

6. Please provide a clear recommendation as to whether the proposal should be approved.
As a detailed project description is not required, an itemised budget is not required either. Applicants may request between €500,000 and €1,250,000 for five years in increments of €250,000. Please explain briefly whether the requested sum seems plausible to you. If the amount appears too high, you can propose that it be reduced to the next lowest level, i.e. by €250,000.

7. Other aspects
If the proposal involves requests for specialised literature, please note the following:

Funds for purchasing specialised scientific publications may be granted in exceptional cases where the publications in question must either be permanently available to the project but are not purchased by the institution, or when they are not available through interlibrary loan. With this in mind, please state explicitly whether you believe the funds for procuring the specialised literature listed in the proposal should be approved.