


Guidelines

Copernicus Award



With the Copernicus Award, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) and the Foundation for Polish Science (Fundacja na rzecz Nauki Polskiej, FNP) recognise researchers who have made outstanding contributions to German-Polish research cooperation.

I Objective

The Copernicus Award is conferred every two years to two researchers, one in Germany and one in Poland, for outstanding achievements in German-Polish research cooperation. It is awarded jointly by the DFG and the FNP. The researchers' expertise should be complementary and the nominees should work on common research issues. The results of the project, which should be of the highest research standards, should open up new prospects for research and make an innovative contribution to research cooperation between the two countries. Each laureate may use his or her funds of €100.000 for any research project, in accordance with the DFG's and the FNP's mandate.

II Nomination Requirements

To be considered for nomination, candidates must hold a doctorate and be actively involved in research at a German or Polish university or research institution. Nominations submitted by a third party or self-nominations will be considered by the jury. The award is open to all disciplines in science and the humanities.

Researchers may receive the award only once.

Scientists who hold a doctorate and work at a German or Polish university, research institution, or at a German-Polish research institution, are eligible to submit nominations.

III Nominations

Nominations must be received by the call deadline, which will be announced by the DFG and the FNP. Nominations should contain the following documents in English:

1. An appraisal (description of achievements with regard to German-Polish scientific cooperation).
2. Curricula vitae in tabular form (max. 2 pages).
3. A list of up to 10 joint research publications.
4. An additional independent letter of reference for each couple of scientists when the nomination is submitted by a third party, two independent letters of reference in case of self-nomination.

Nominations can only be considered by the jury if all documents mentioned above are complete and submitted on time.

Additional information on submitting nominations is contained in the call published on both the DFG's and the FNP's websites.

IV Selection

Nominations will be collected, checked for completeness and formal accordance with nomination requirements, and sent to the jury.

The jury consists of six researchers, three of whom are working in Germany and three in Poland. Members will be appointed for a four-year term of office by the DFG (German representatives) and the FNP (Polish representatives). The German members of the jury will be appointed by the DFG's Executive Committee. In order to cover all fields of science and the humanities represented by the candidates, up to four associate jury members may be appointed jointly by the Management Board of the FNP and the DFG's Head office. The jury's decision is final and is not subject to appeal.

The official award ceremony will be held alternately in Poland and in Germany.