

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 for outstanding achievements in German-Polish research collaboration.

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 joint research issues. The results of the cooperation should be of the highest research standards and open up new prospects for research. Each laureate may use his or her funds of €100,000 for any academic purpose, 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 and be employed 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.

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Researchers who hold a doctorate and work at a German or Polish university, at a German or Polish 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. Acknowledgement of the clearly defined, joint academic achievement of the two candidates.
2. Curriculum vitae of each candidate.
3. A list of up to 10 publications based on verifiable joint research in support of the achievement.
4. An additional independent letter of reference for each couple of researchers 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 eight researchers, four of whom are working in Germany and four 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 two associate jury members may be appointed jointly by the Management Board of the FNP and the Executive Board of the DFG. If possible, these people should also come in equal numbers from Germany and Poland. 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.