



# DFG Emmy Noether Programme

Verena Aust  
Anna Boehme  
Anjana Buckow  
Ina von der Beck



**Your grant.  
Your research.  
Your career.**

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**Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V.**



**Germany's largest independent research funding organisation**  
3.9 € billion annual budget

**DFG members**  
99 leading universities, non-university research institutions, scientific associations, academies

**Independent association**  
under private law



**Funding**  
knowledge-driven research

**Researchers have the majority**  
in decision-making committees

**DFG's Independence**  
guarantees academic freedom



**Any discipline, any topic, any time**

Wide **variety** of project and cooperation formats

**All career stages** after the PhD, promoting early career researchers

**Transparent, anti-bias** review process

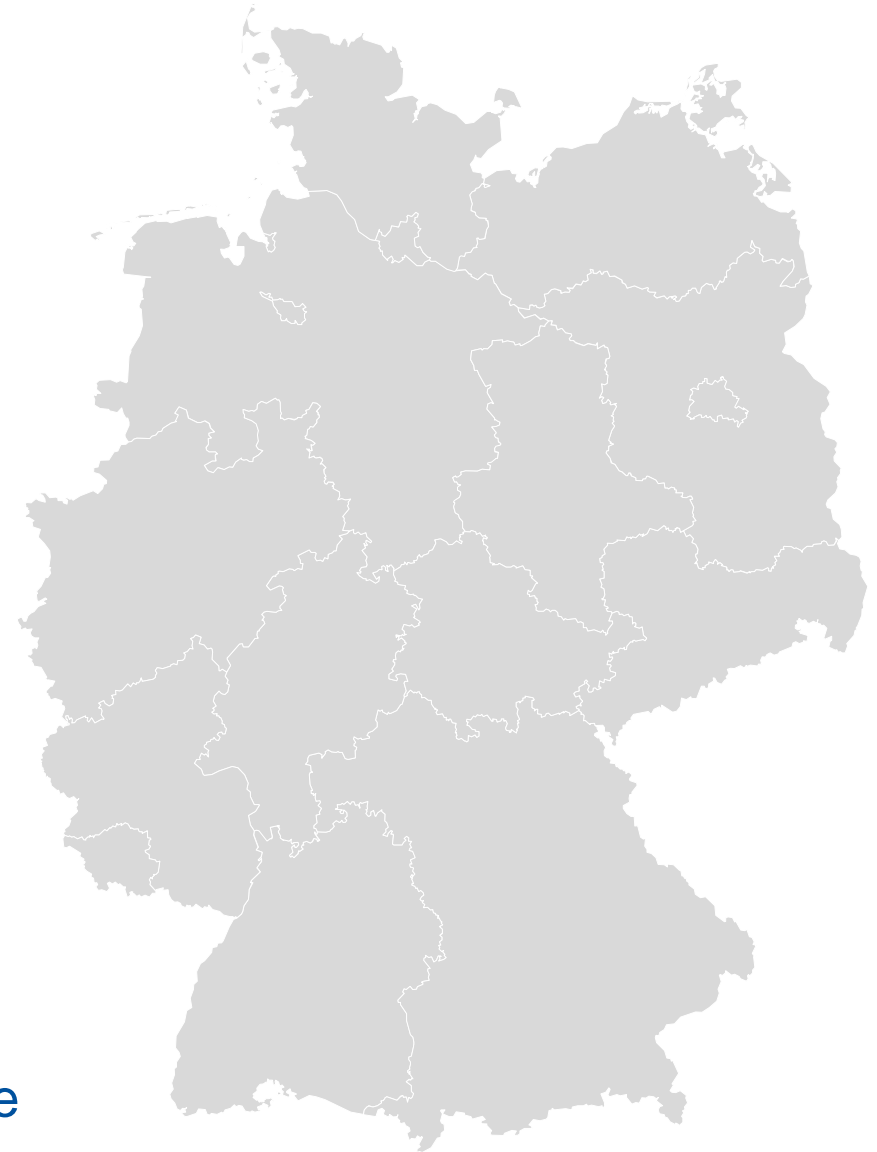
## Who is eligible to apply for DFG funding?

### Researchers

...who have completed their scientific training,  
i.e. **who hold a doctorate\***

...who (would like to) work  
**in Germany**

\*earliest date: upon submission to the examination office



# DFG Funding 2024



**30.500**  
Individual Projects

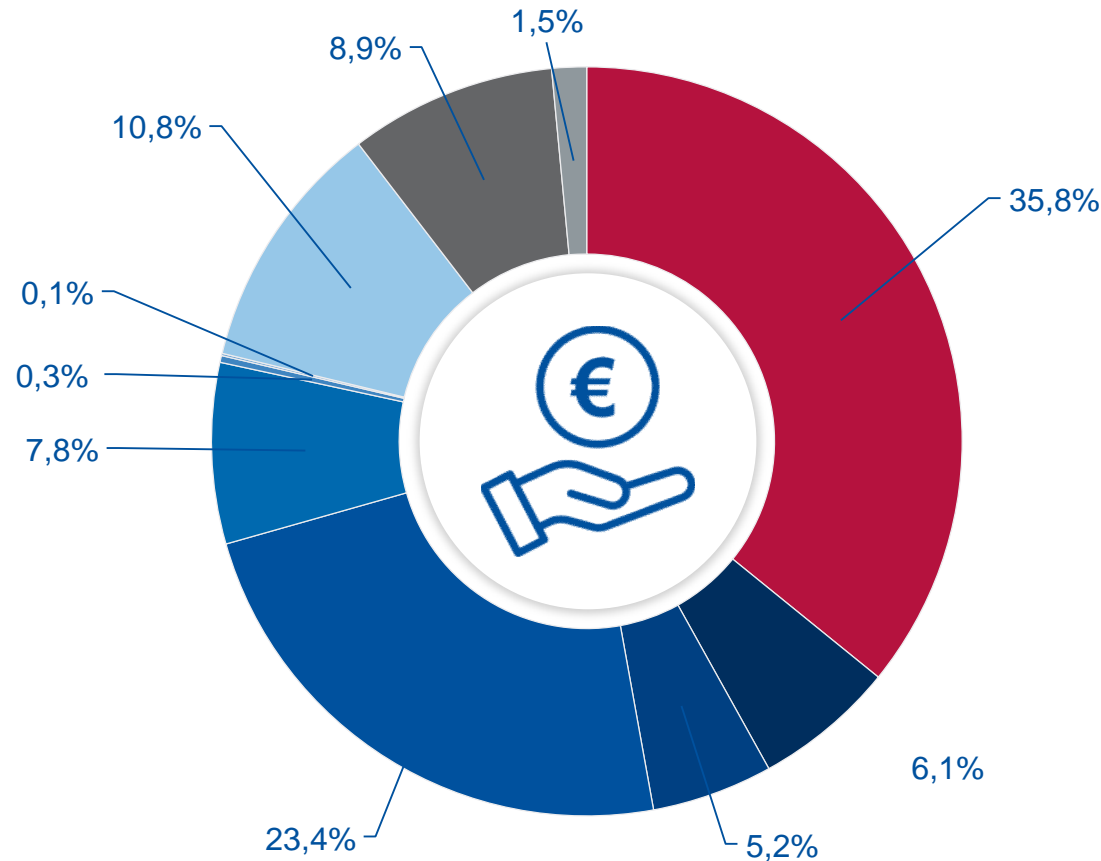


**993**  
Coordinated projects



**3,9 Billion €**  
Budget for research projects

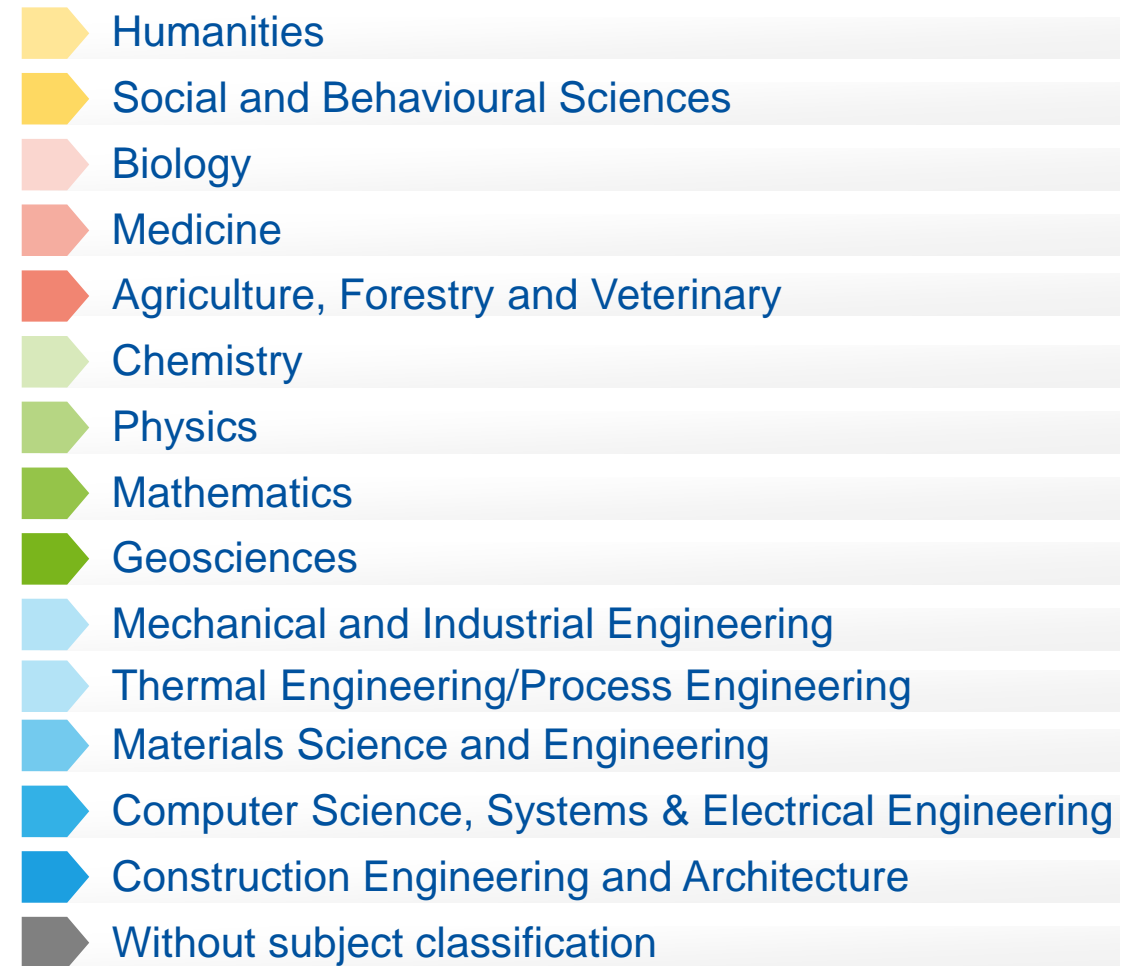
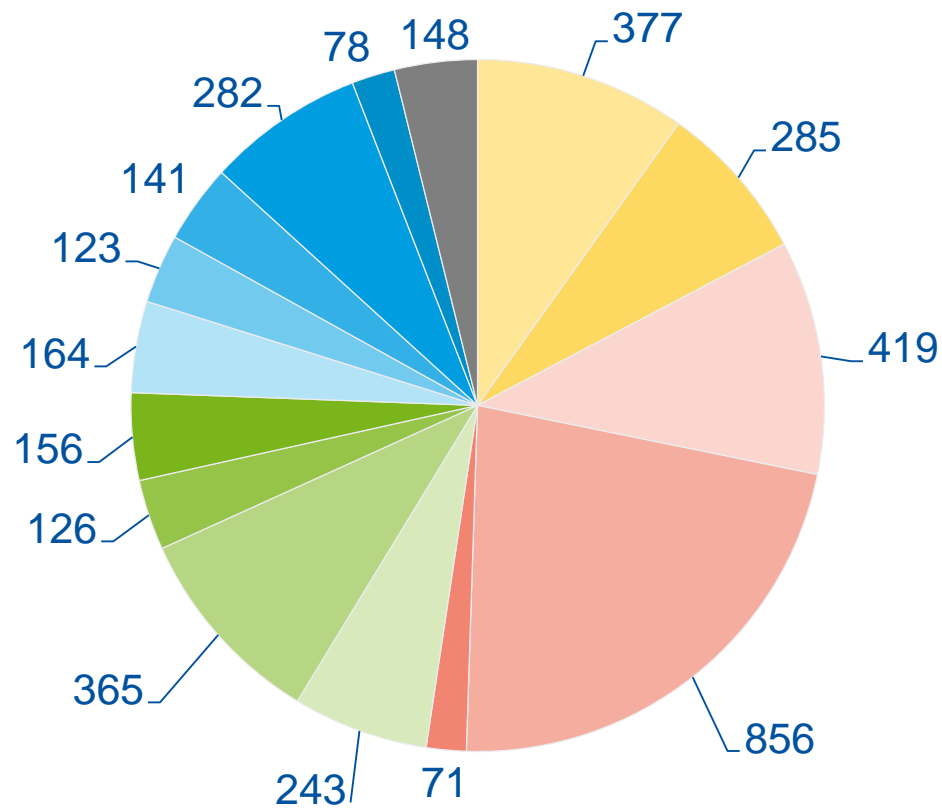
## Research funding by programme for 2025 (in Mio. € und %)



- Individual Grants: 1.373,0 Mio. €
- Research Units: 235,0 Mio. €
- Priority Programmes: 200,9 Mio. €
- Collaborative Research Centers: 897,1 Mio. €
- Research Training Groups: 298,2 Mio. €
- Research Impulses: 12,9 Mio. €
- DFG Research Centers: 5,0 Mio. €
- Excellence Strategy: 413,3 Mio. €
- Infrastructure funds: 342,9 Mio. €
- Prizes, Other: 57,7 Mio. €

## DFG Funding

by Subject Area (in €m) in 2025





## DFG Funding for Early Career Researchers

## Tailored funding programmes for every career phase



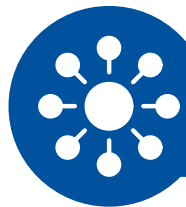
Walter Benjamin  
Programme



Emmy Noether  
Programme



Heisenberg  
Programme



Individual Research Grant  
with Temporary Position for PI

R1	R2	R3	R4
first-stage, PhD researcher	recognised, not yet independent postdoc	established, independent researcher	leading researcher, professor

# Emmy Noether Programme



## Emmy Noether Programme

Path to early academic independence

Qualification for a university teaching career

Eligibility for professorial appointment by leading one's own independent junior research group

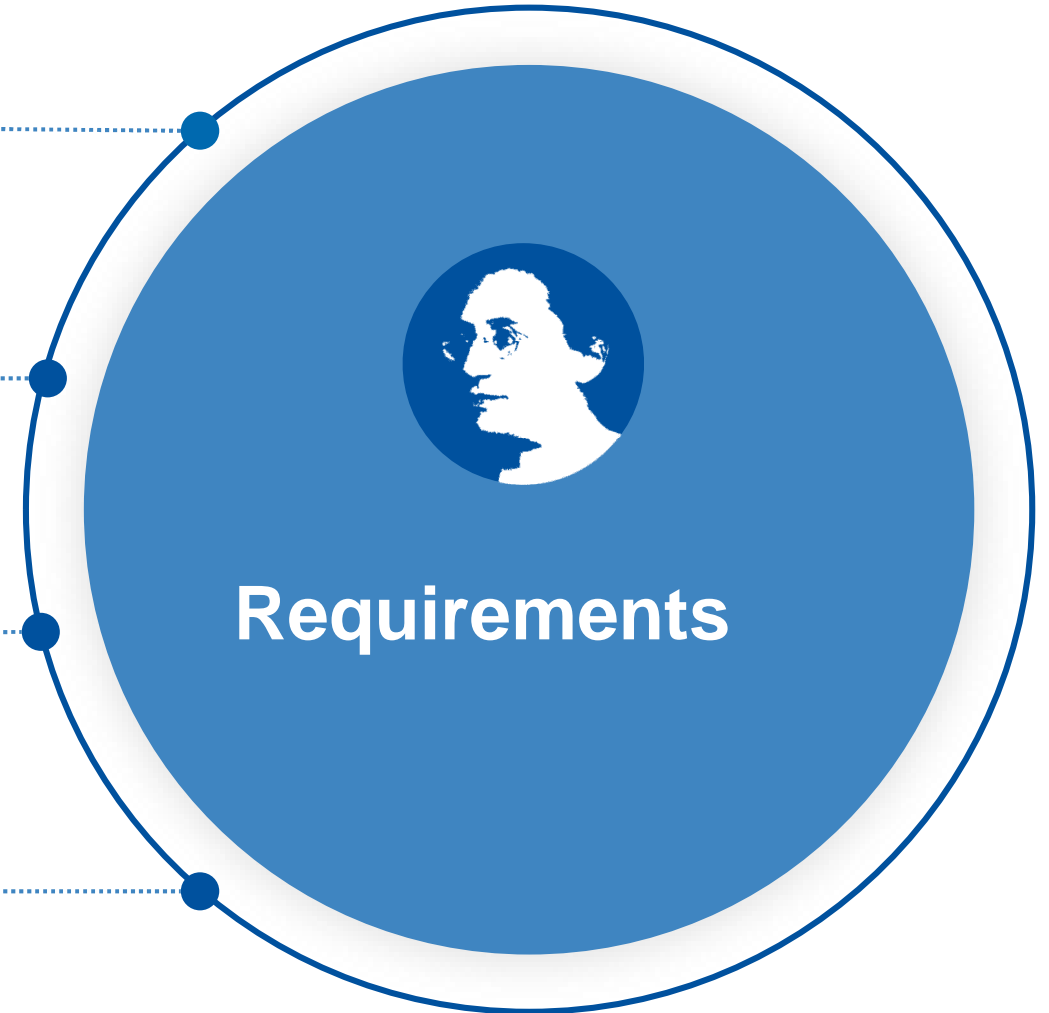


Outstanding research profile

2-4 years of postdoctoral experience

Excellent research project

Substantial international research experience



## Substantial International Research Experience:

Longer or several shorter research stays abroad



International research cooperation



International working environment



International publications



## **4 year\* submission deadline**

Depends on your individual  
doctorate:

Date on your diploma or date of  
the oral defense

Extension for parents

\*Medicine: 6 years

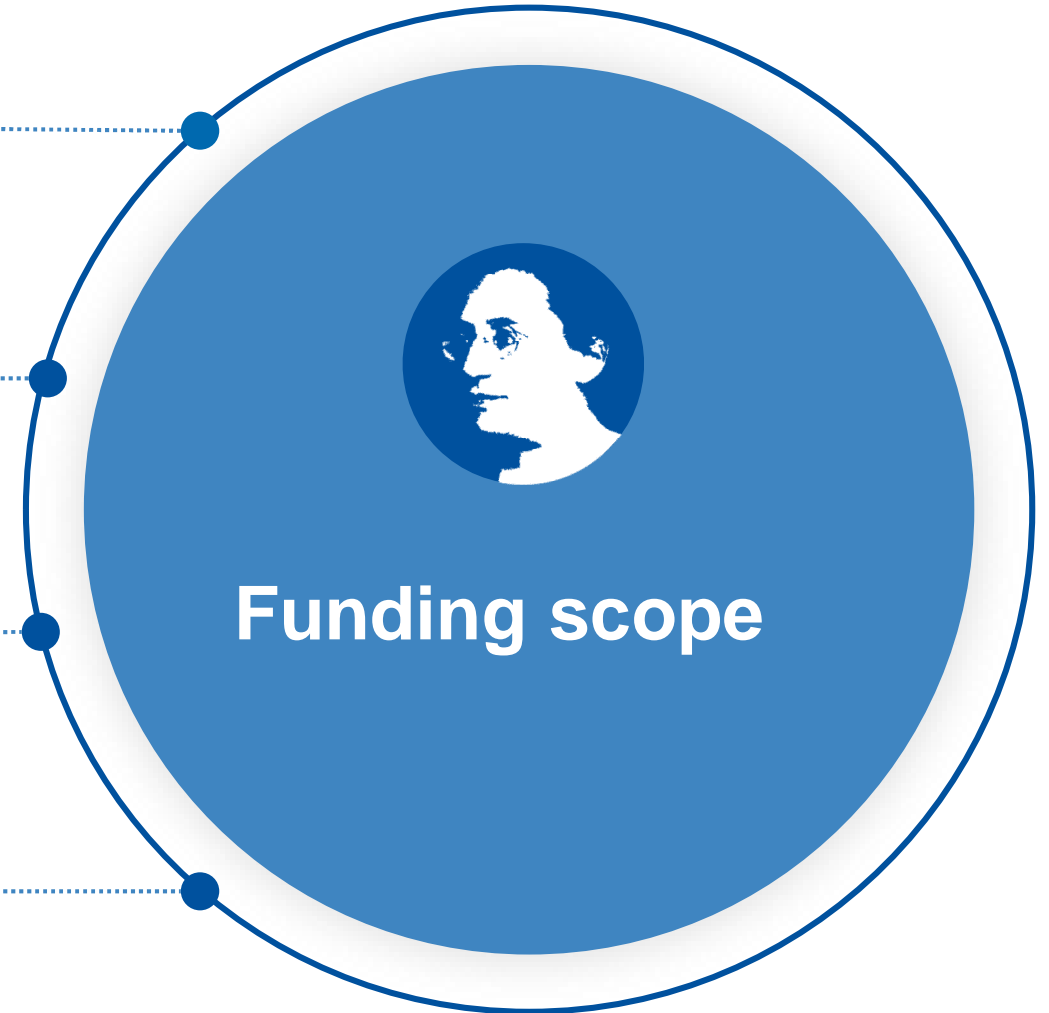


Funding for six years

Your own position as group leader

Project funds

Family allowance possible



## Environment of your Emmy Noether Group



Your host institution in  
Germany will be your employer



more than one potential host  
institution in your proposal  
possible

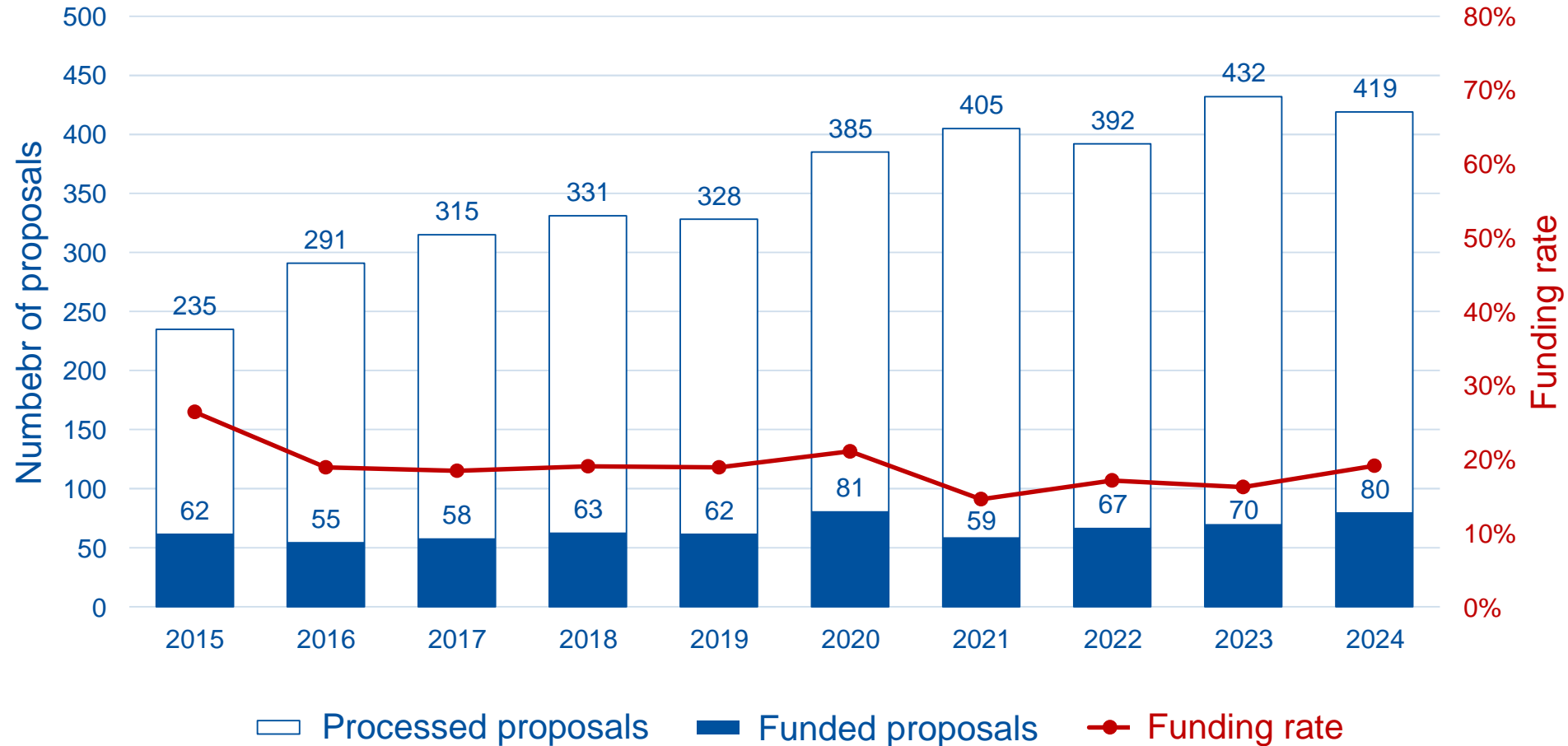


Returning to Alma Mater:  
good scientific reasons!



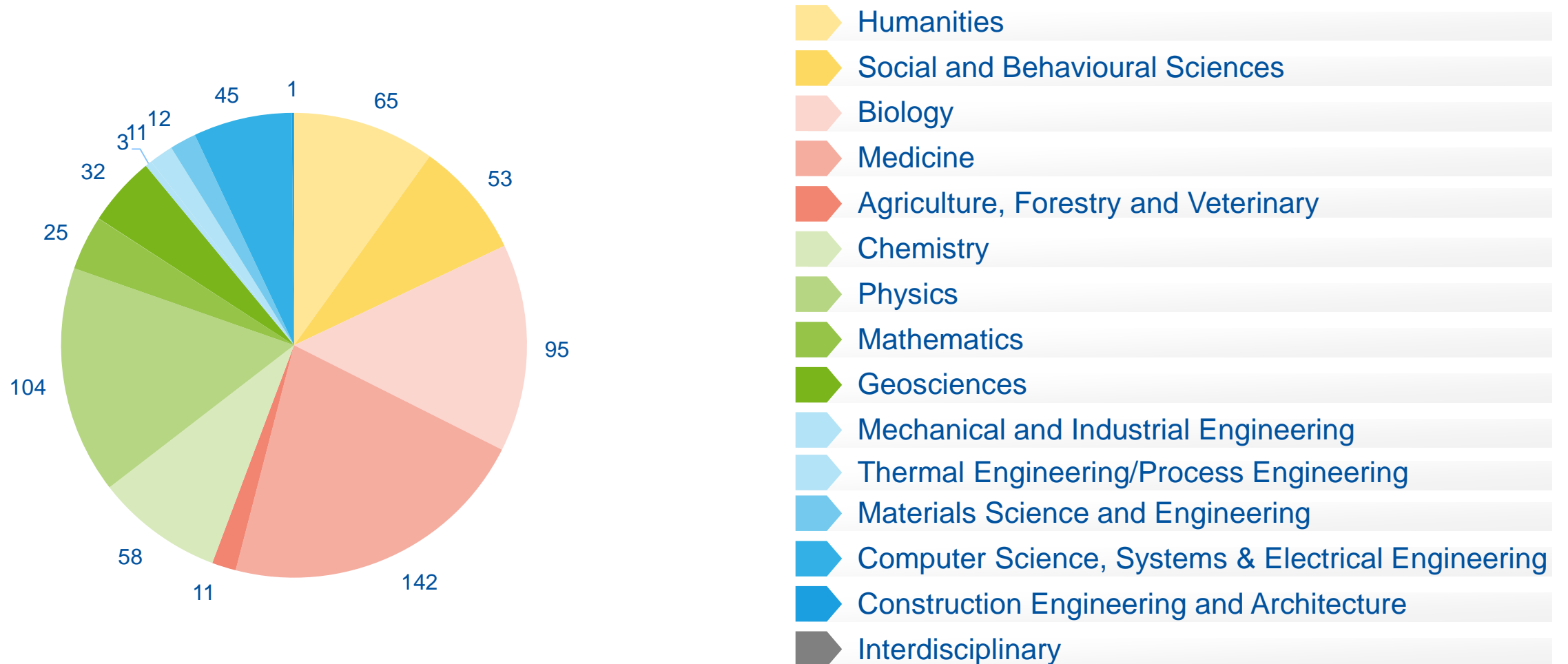
Scientific independence  
→ new scientific environment

## Number of proposals and funding rate in the Emmy Noether Programme from 2015 to 2024



Basis: Neuanträge.

## Number of funded proposals 2015 - 2024 by discipline



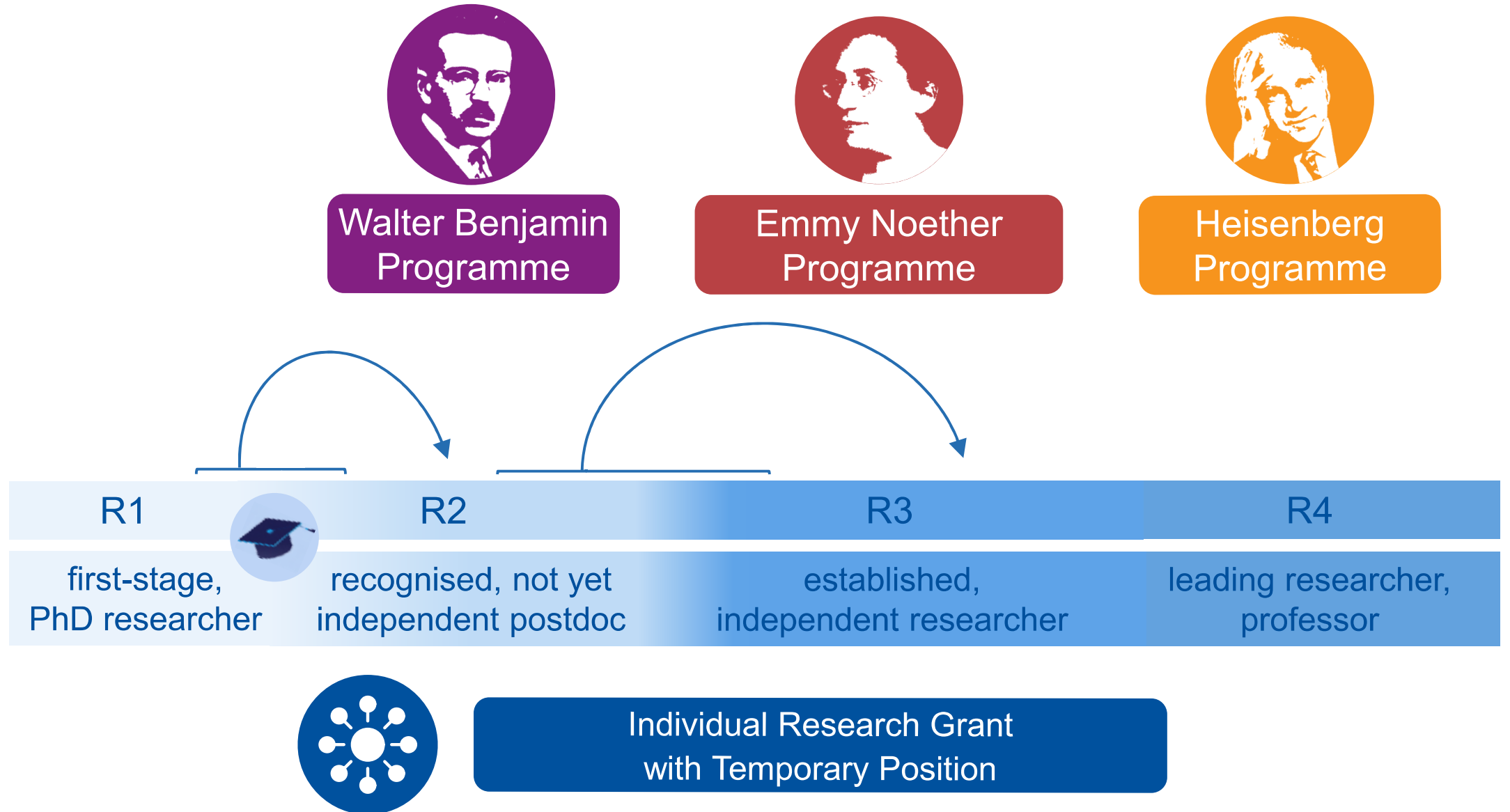
Base: New Proposals.

emmy  
noether  
Jahrestreffen 25



## Emmy Noether Jahrestreffen

Yearly Meeting of  
Grantees & Alumni  
in Potsdam



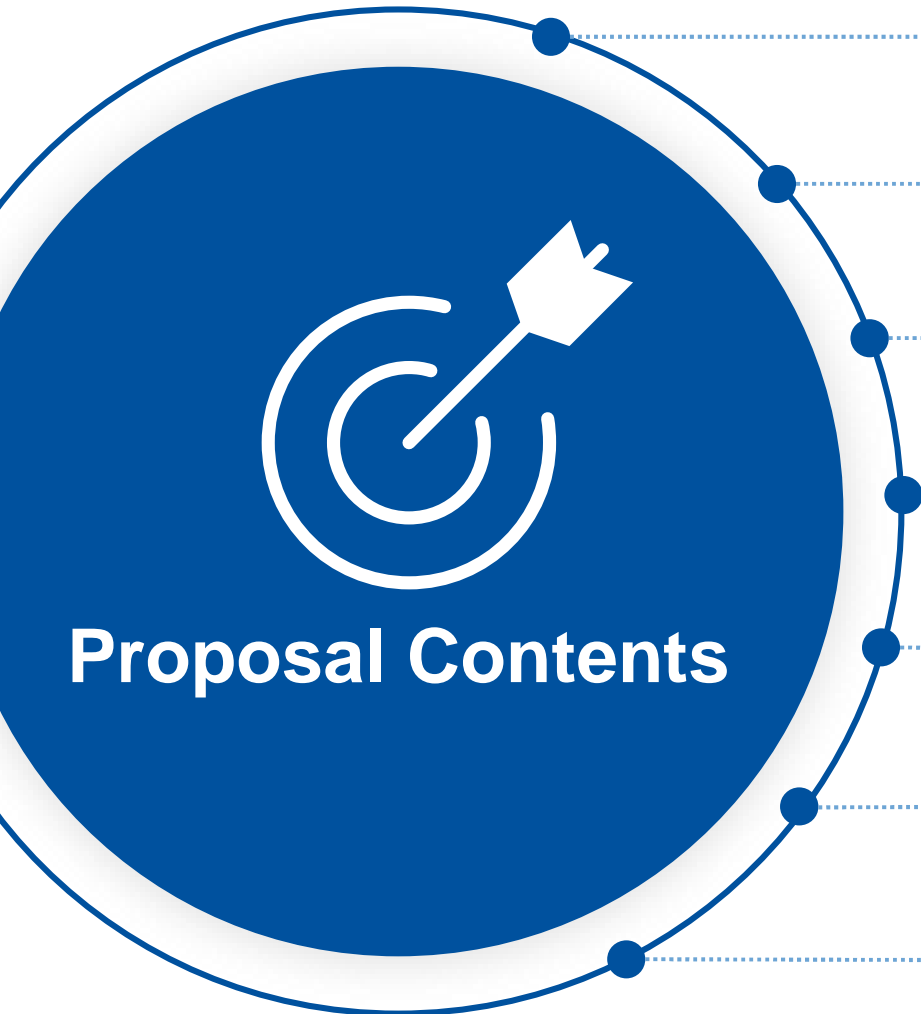


???

**Questions**



## From Submission to Decision



What is the **knowledge gap** you would like to fill?

Why are the expected results **novel and relevant**?

**Who is going to do what?** Why?

What's your **concrete, realistic and feasible plan** to answer your research question?

How are you going to manage setbacks? What's your **plan b**?

**Why are you the right person** to successfully manage this project?

Why is the **host institution** ideal for your project?

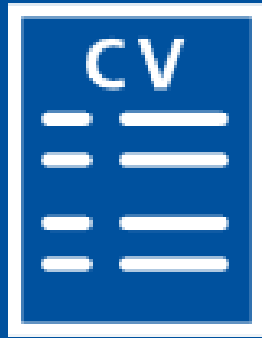
Carefully read and follow the **guidelines and proposal instructions**

Decide on the proposal **language**:  
English or German

Necessary information can be found  
on the **DFG website**

**Questions?** Ask for help





## Preparing your CV



Follow the [DFG CV Template](#)



**Include qualifications, engagement & awards**

also: organization of scientific meetings, review activities etc.



**Mention time away from research**

Relating e.g. to family, illness or dependent care; no details required



**List your most important scientific contributions**

Comment on your own contribution to a publication / study / database / software



No **upper limits**

Needs to be **realistic and justified** by the project

DFG funds **only supplemental, project-specific needs** (vs. existing resources at your host institution)

Seek **advice** from other grant applicants, recipients, institutions

Average **personnel rates** on DFG website



## Questions? Ask for help



### **On Eligibility**

[procedures-researchcareers@dfg.de](mailto:procedures-researchcareers@dfg.de)

### **On General Topics**

[info-researchcareers@dfg.de](mailto:info-researchcareers@dfg.de)

### **On Equity & Diversity**

[chancengleichheit@dfg.de](mailto:chancengleichheit@dfg.de)

### **With a Subject-Specific Focus**

<https://www.dfg.de/en/about-us/head-office/programme-contacts>

## AI in proposal preparation

- Generally permitted
- But: you have to disclose this fact
- Questions? AI Mailbox [KI@dfg.de](mailto:KI@dfg.de)



## AI in the review process

- Guideline on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Review Process
- Principles: confidentiality; transparency, quality assurance and responsibility

## Before submission



### Put yourself in the reviewers shoes

Consult the [“General Guidelines for the Written Review”](#) for reviewers



### Seek honest criticism from colleagues



### Plan on a feasible timeline

on average, the time to decision is approx. nine months



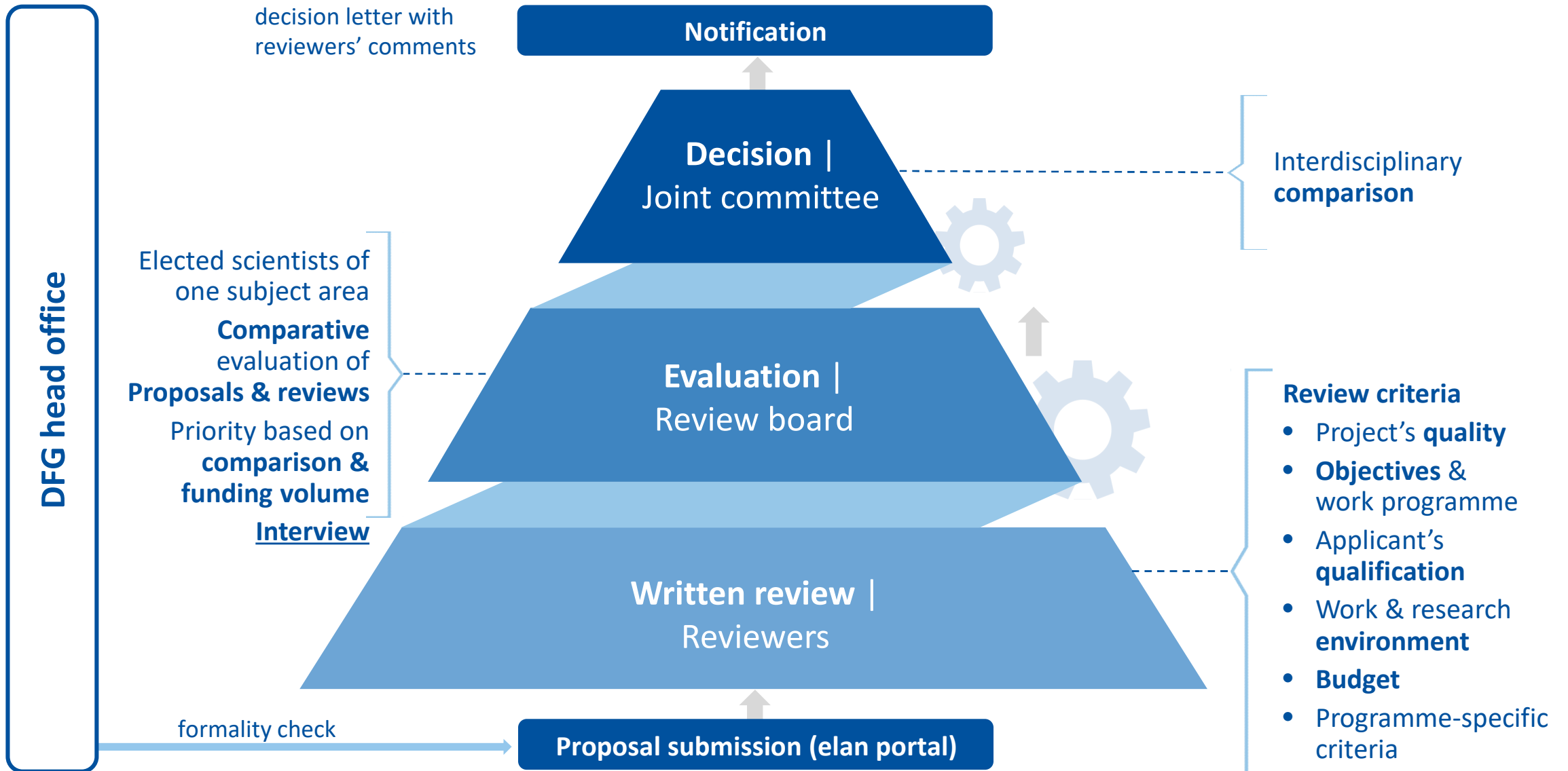
### Inform DFG Head Office

in case a conflict of interest or competitive scenario exists

## Submitting your proposal via *elan*

The screenshot shows the login interface for the DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) system. At the top left is the DFG logo and the text "Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft". Below this is a decorative blue bar. The main heading is "Anmeldung / Login". The form contains four rows: 1) "E-Mail Adresse / Email address:" with a text input field. 2) "Kennwort / Password:" with a password input field. 3) "Sprache wählen / Select language:" with radio buttons for "Deutsch" (selected) and "English". 4) "E-Mail Adresse speichern / Save email address:" with an unchecked checkbox. To the right of the checkbox is a red button labeled "→ Anmelden / Login".







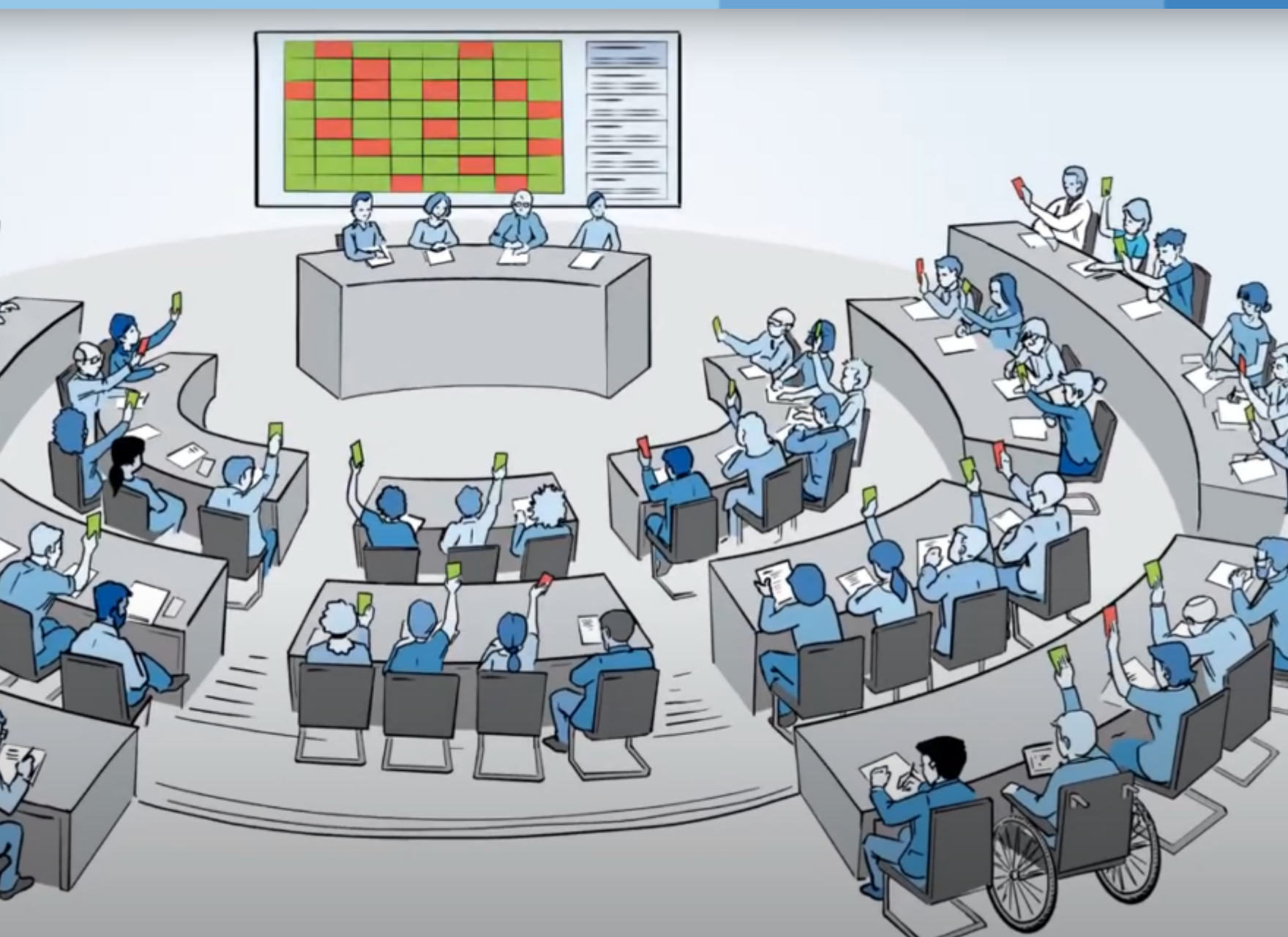
## **49 Review Boards**

Elections every four years  
by the community of  
~ 150,000 researchers in  
Germany



**FACHKOLLEGIENWAHL  
2027**

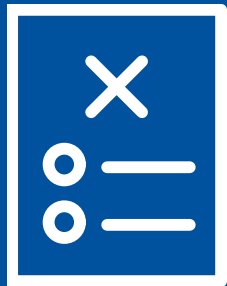
**DFG**



## Joint Committee

- Interdisciplinary committee
- Final decision on all DFG grants

In case your proposal is not successful...



## Don't be discouraged

Unfortunately, the majority of proposals cannot be funded.



## Take the reviewers's comments seriously, but not personally



## Consider the reviewers's comments

They might give you some pointers for reworking and resubmitting your proposal



## Consult the DFG Head Office

If you need advice or feel treated unfairly

**In case your proposal is successful...**



### **Congratulations!**

Download the decision letter; project starts with first request for funds (within 6 months after decision)



### **Contact us at an early stage**

For setting the start date, relocation, part time work, etc.



### **Final report**

Due three months after project ends. Obligation to submit a report.



**More questions?**  
[info-researchcareers@dfg.de](mailto:info-researchcareers@dfg.de)

**Orientation for early-career researchers:**  
[www.dfg.de/research\\_careers](http://www.dfg.de/research_careers)

**Proposal Submission – A How-To Guide:**  
[www.dfg.de/en/research\\_funding/individual\\_grants\\_programmes](http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/individual_grants_programmes)

**GEPRIS – database with all DFG-funded projects:**  
[gepris.dfg.de/en](http://gepris.dfg.de/en)

**Profiles of 25,000 German research institutes:**  
[www.gerit.org](http://www.gerit.org)

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft



[www.dfg.de](http://www.dfg.de)



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(DFG) – German Research Foundation