

Georg Forster Research Award

Guidelines for completing the nomination

Required / enclosed documents:

- a) Fully completed nomination form
- b) Personal statement by the nominator (laudation, academic appraisal)
- c) Information on the invitation to Germany
- d) Expert reviews
- e) List of key publications
- f) List of the nominee's publications

The Selection Committee meeting will take place in autumn 2014. Nominations may be submitted until **15 May 2014**.

All nomination documents have to be written in **German or English**. Please do not use any folders, sheet protectors or staples.

Please send a single copy of all documents by post to:

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Selection Department
Jean-Paul-Strasse 12
53173 Bonn
Germany

for a) Nomination form

Please fill in the [form](#) **completely**, paying special attention to the following aspects:

- Programme eligibility: Academics of all disciplines may be nominated for a Georg Forster Research Award if they have contributed fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights that have had a lasting impact on their own research area and beyond, and who are expected to continue developing research-based solutions to the specific challenges facing transition and developing countries. Nominees must be nationals of a transition or developing country (excluding the People's Republic of China and India; cf. detailed [list of countries](#)). Furthermore, at the time of nomination, they must have had their main residence and place of work in one of these countries for at least five years. In case the nominee has been supported by the Humboldt Foundation beforehand, he/she must not have finished his/her first stay in Germany less than five years ago.

If in doubt, make contact with the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for other potential exclusion criteria.

- Nomination entitlement: An established academic employed by a university or other research institution in Germany must take the initiative to nominate a candidate for the Georg Forster Research Award. Involvement of the university or institute administration is not required. Nominations may also be initiated by award winners of the Humboldt Foundation working abroad, provided that the nomination is made jointly with a colleague working in Germany, who holds primary responsibility for the nomination and also for hosting the award

winner in Germany. **Self-nomination** for the Georg Forster Research Award **is not possible**.

- Points 6, 7 and 8: Please start with the conferral date of the doctoral degree and enter only the information that is requested on the form. It is not necessary to submit an additional, detailed curriculum vitae. Please just enter longer-term absences and only cite internationally recognised, top-level awards and memberships on merit. Information on amounts of research funding raised is not required.
- Point 9: Please indicate the nominee's area(s) of specialisation using the [research area index](#) that is available online.
- Point 10: The key terms describing the nominee's research area(s) serve to identify suitable independent peer reviewers. Please bear this fact in mind when selecting the terms.
- Point 11a: Please provide a brief description of the nominee's previous, internationally-visible, outstanding research accomplishments (maximum of 20 lines). This information will be used for quick reference by the interdisciplinary Selection Committee and does not replace the laudation. Please attach the laudation as a separate document (see section b). Please explain any abbreviations.
- Point 11b: Which contributions towards concrete improvements of the living conditions or towards developing general solutions for the specific challenges of transition and developing countries have been achieved already or can be expected in the future? (A point of reference might be the Millennium Development Goals [Millennium Development Goals](#))
- Point 11c: This includes promoting of young scientists, organising conferences, network activities, managing co-operations within and outside the university, consulting in the areas of economy, politics and society.
- Point 12a: Please provide a brief statement (maximum of 20 lines) on how you expect the award to stimulate the research area, the academic network and the nominee's own country. Please also outline how the planned cooperation and academic exchange will be devised, and specify potential research themes and their relevance to development policy, e.g. to improving living conditions in the nominee's own country.
- Point 13: In addition, award winners are invited for a research stay in Germany and they and their academic hosts are free to agree the timing of the research stay in Germany, which should last between six months and a year. As a matter of principle, a research stay can begin no earlier than two months after the selection decision. Any indication as to the potential dates for the research stays in Germany will help the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to plan and provide administrative support with regard to visas etc.
- Point 16 and Point 17: Signature of each of these two points is mandatory. As long as these signatures have not been provided, we cannot process your nomination.

for b) Personal statement by the nominator (laudation, academic appraisal)

Minimum of two pages; in the case of a joint nomination with a foreign award winner a statement should be submitted by each of the nominators. Joint nomination by a Humboldt Foundation award winner from abroad is not required to submit an application; it merely expresses the award winner's active role in initiating the nomination.

The laudation serves to illustrate the nominee's international visibility **from the nominator's point of view**. Your statement should seek to win the approval of the specialist community for your nomination. Please address the following aspects, in particular:

- The nominee's international reputation and personality in general.

- Describe the nominee's discoveries, recognised theories or insights as well as their impact on the field.
- How do you assess the nominee's publication activity, especially in the past five years?
- Explain which research projects the nominee is currently conducting.
- What future academic activities are planned?
- In your opinion, how will the research field benefit from the conferment of the research award?

for c) Information on the invitation to Germany

Up to two pages.

Please do not provide a research plan here, but give an overview of the following aspects in addition to the laudation:

- Shared research interests of nominee and nominator
- The nominee's possible research projects in collaboration with the nominator or other specialist colleagues in Germany; if the nomination is being supported by other academics from Germany this can be stated here.
- Please describe briefly the form academic cooperation could take (e.g. participation in scientific conferences, involvement of junior researchers, support for the nominee's own institute).

If the award is conferred, winners are free to select their own collaborative partners in Germany regardless of whether they were nominators. They may not even have been involved in the nomination.

for d) Expert reviews

- Please forward our list of questions to three expert reviewers of your choice and ask them to send their expert reviews **directly** to the Humboldt Foundation. You can find the programme information and the list of questions on our website.
- The Humboldt Foundation requires one expert review from an academic based in Germany and two expert reviews from academics permanently based abroad. Please understand that we cannot take into consideration any additional expert reviews that may be submitted in connection with the nomination.
- Please refrain from naming any expert reviewers who are based at the nominee's or your own institution. Please select a diverse international group of expert reviewers as proof of the nominee's international reputation. The selected expert reviewers should be internationally renowned researchers themselves.

for e) List of key publications

- Please name three to five key publications from the nominee's complete works and state why each of these key publications is of particular significance (e.g. scientific breakthrough of fundamental importance).

for f) List of nominee's publications

- You must provide a complete, chronological list of the nominee's academic publications over **the last ten years** (stating all the authors, title, publisher/journal, edition, **first and last page number**), including any relevant published conference presentations and patents. For patents please indicate the current legal status (i.e. submitted, laid-open, issued), as well as the complete title, the date of submission and the patent number. At the beginning of this list please create an electronic link to the nominee's complete publication list.

As of: 01/2014