

FUNDING OFFER

PERSPECTIVES ON WEALTH:

THE (RE-)PRODUCTION OF WEALTH

Deadlines for full proposals: see website

Profile area: Societal Transformations



Fields eligible for funding:

- Humanities, cultural and social sciences (lead)
- Cooperation with natural, life, data and technical sciences possible



Funding type: (inter)national summer schools



Up to 80,000 euros.



Project duration up to 12 months



(Inter-)national research groups; interdisciplinary teams possible



Requirements: Lead applicant at German university/research institution,
(international) collaborations possible.



Additionally: funding for science and research communications.

1 GOALS

Profile area "Societal Transformations"

In the profile area "Societal Transformations," the Volkswagen Foundation supports research that addresses diverse aspects of transformation processes. It encourages cross-border and multi-perspective approaches and aims to open up new ways of contributing toward shaping societal transformations.

Call for proposals: "(Re-)Production of Wealth".

Extremely unequal distribution of income and wealth is a recurring source of conflict that presents an ongoing hindrance to human development. Scientific research into the phenomenon of wealth therefore constitutes a central element in understanding processes of societal transformation. With the funding initiative "Perspectives on Wealth", the Volkswagen Foundation aims to initiate a change of perspective involving a shift from poverty research to facets surrounding the phenomenon of wealth.

The focus of this call for proposals is on the genesis of wealth. Against the background of past, present and projected future processes of societal transformation and the existing power and domination relations, the call aims to generate conceptual, methodological and empirical findings on the "(Re-)Production of Wealth". In this context, the goal is to identify what kind of (new) conceptual and methodological approaches are needed to enable such a shift of perspective to wealth research. Since a comprehensive analysis of the phenomenon is considered an important building block for understanding processes of societal transformation, the Foundation is also interested in investigating how wealth relates to past, present and future processes of societal transformation. The aim is to critically question existing normative settings in various areas of science and society (e.g., research on capitalism, sustainability and transformation) in order to subsequently open up new insights and action potentials and to communicate these accordingly.

2 FUNDING OFFER

Scientists and scholars at all career stages after their doctorate and holding a position at a German university or research institution can apply for the funding of summer schools.

In this funding line, national and international summer schools can be applied for, in which early-career researchers (especially doctoral students, but also post-docs) acquire new theoretical and/or methodological perspectives on wealth research. The inclusion of international partners is possible. The summer school can take place worldwide - also digitally.

3 FRAMEWORK

Project design:

- The lead application must be submitted by a person from a German university or research institution holding at least a PhD; collaborations with up to 3 (inter)national partners are possible.
- The summer school can take place anywhere in the world. The Foundation is open to applications that want to establish novel formats for a summer school.
- In order to ensure efficient working conditions, the number of participants including speakers should not exceed 60 persons; depending on the topic, a smaller number may be advisable. In accordance with the orientation of the summer schools towards early-career researchers, the number of participants should clearly exceed the number of speakers. It should be ensured that all participants are actively involved in the event. The speakers should be available for exchange and discussion with the participants beyond their lectures. The duration of a summer school can vary between four days and two weeks.
- In order to promote the active participation of all participants and a comprehensive exchange of views, the programs should include varied and, above all, interactive event formats. In general, participants should not only broaden their knowledge, but also establish and expand contacts beyond national borders and individual disciplines at an early stage of their careers. The participation of (inter)national experts and non-state actors is encouraged.

Budget and project duration:

- (Inter-)national summer schools can be funded with up to 80,000 euros.
- **The following costs can be covered:** a) catering and accommodation costs, rent of premises; b) travel costs (at reasonable rates) of participants and speakers; c) funds for the preparation and implementation of the event, including the preparation of working materials, their publication on the Internet or, if applicable, their reproduction; d) budget for auxiliary staff, provided that these serve the preparation and implementation of the event; e) funds for science communication and open access publications; f) funds for childcare, during the event.

- **The following costs cannot be covered:** a) Flat-rate costs for preparing and organizing the conference; b) Costs for honoraria, assistants, and the like (in exceptional cases, an expense allowance may be requested for speakers outside the fields of academia, public administration, or business, e.g., self-employed persons); c) Travel, accommodation, and food costs for accompanying persons; d) Costs for a social program; e) Travel and accommodation costs for participants from business.
- **The following events are excluded from funding:** a) Follow-up events and regularly recurring meetings of largely closed specialist groups; b) Summer schools whose subject matter is part of the regular or special teaching program of universities; c) Conferences with a proportional funding commitment from another research funder or events that have already been applied for elsewhere or are to be applied for elsewhere.
- Funds for summer schools are granted to the German partner institution, which is also responsible for the administration of the funds.
- The project duration is up to 12 months

4 APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

Documents must be submitted in English. Applications for summer schools will be reviewed in written form.

Applications must be submitted at least eight months prior to the event date and will be reviewed based on written materials.

The following selection criteria shall apply:

- Quality of the event design: empirical, theoretical and methodological content.
- Capacity building and participation of young researchers and, where appropriate, of societal actors.
- Feasibility of the event
- Quality of the learning and teaching format
- Quality of the planned output
- Field of speakers and participants

Expected schedule



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NOTES ON APPLICATION/ APPLICATION STRUCTURE

Applications must be submitted in English via the Volkswagen Foundation's electronic application portal volkswagenstiftung.de with all the supporting documents listed below. The Foundation expects applications to be submitted jointly by all collaborating partners. Therefore, all applicants (lead applicant and co-applicant) must be registered in the electronic application system.

In addition, the following documents must be submitted as "attachments" (pdf files):

- **Title of the summer school** as well as proposed **date** and **location** with details of applicant(s), co-applicant(s) (institutions) if applicable.
 - **German and English summary of the project** (max. 250 words each)
 - **Application text** (detailed description and justification, max. 17,000 characters, incl. spaces) with explanations of how the event will be advertised and how the participants will be selected. It should also be clarified which "perspective on wealth" the summer school addresses and to what extent it supports knowledge about transformation processes.
 - **Costs projection** and justification (max. 2 pages).
 - **Short CVs of all team members** (max. 2 pages each) with up to five publications related to the research area (e.g., research data; monographs, articles; blogs, science communication).
 - **Tabular overview of the speakers and participants**, their home institutions and their field of expertise (with information on gender and status group). The overview can be supplemented or replaced by information on the announcement of the event and the planned selection procedure for the participants. To create the complete list, you can use the template under Further Information.
- (Preliminary) program of the event** with information on the respective event formats. If the event is organized by both German and foreign

colleagues, the person primarily responsible should be a scientist from a German university or research institution.

The Foundation will not process applications that have already been submitted in the same or similar form to another funding body. Applications that do not meet the formal requirements will also be excluded from the review process. No applicant may be involved in more than one application per call for proposals (national/international cooperation projects and summer schools).

The Foundation can only award funds to scientific institutions. Applicants operating outside of universities and well-known research institutions are asked to provide information on the legal form, articles of incorporation, trustees and board members, non-profit status, budgeting, and auditing of the institution to be funded. An annual report from the applicant institution should also be included.

6 CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact:

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Administrative and organizational issues:

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More information

- › [Link to the website "Perspectives on Wealth"](#)
- › [Application portal of the Volkswagen Foundation](#)
- › [FAQs about the application](#)
- › [FAQs for applicants from abroad](#)
- › [Electronic application made easy – instructions and tips](#)
- › [Personnel funding rates for \(non-\)scientific staff members](#)
- › [Additional funding for science communication: information on how to apply for funding](#)
- › [What we do NOT fund](#)

Before submitting your application, please inform yourself about the Volkswagen Foundation's electronic application portal. Information on this can be found in the document "Electronic application made easy - instructions and tips". Please also read the answers to the "Frequently Asked Questions" thoroughly, as they are part of the call for proposals.