



Terms and conditions for participation

Geisteswissenschaften International - Translation Funding for Works in the Humanities and Social Sciences

1. Objective

Geisteswissenschaften International's objective is to support wider international dissemination of the results of academic research carried out in Germany in the social sciences and the humanities and at the same time, to uphold and support the German language as an academic language and the language of first publication. The idea is to increase the number of licenses sold in the English-speaking world and to preserve the opportunity to continue publishing academic works in the German language.

2. Types of funding

a) Funding for translation of works in the humanities and social sciences

Funding will be offered for works in the humanities and social sciences that are already slated to be published in translation by a licensee publisher. The funding is intended to finance the cost of translation. The amount of funding is determined on a case-by-case basis and generally does not exceed 0.12 € per word of the original German text. The Geisteswissenschaften International jury will determine whether the work submitted meets the prevailing academic standards. At the time of application, there should generally be at least one "letter of intent" from a potential licensee. Publishers should submit a completed license agreement at the time of application. These titles will be granted preferably. If the jury selects a title, the applicant will receive a notice of approval.

b) Award to support outstanding publications in the humanities and social sciences

Outstanding individual publications in the German humanities and social sciences that have not yet received concrete interest from a licensee publisher will be honoured with Geisteswissenschaften International's translation support award. The works nominated for this award will be judged by the jury based on their innovative content and appeal. Titles can be nominated both by German publishers and members of the jury. Each individual winning title will be granted funding to cover the cost of the translation, generally at a maximum of 0.12 € per word of the original German text. In addition, Geisteswissenschaften International and its partners will provide the support publishers need in order to negotiate an English-language license for said title.

3. Application field

a) Subject areas and types of works funded

Geisteswissenschaften International's application field covers publications in the humanities and social sciences in a broad sense. This also includes linguistics and cultural studies, the social sciences and the fine arts. Publications are primarily monographs, but also include anthologies, article collections and essays.

b) Target publication

One goal of Geisteswissenschaften International is to increase the number of licenses sold in the English-speaking world. In justified individual cases, translations into a language other than English may be requested. The applicant must then provide proof that alternative funding options were considered. The target publication should be introduced to the market by a licensee publisher, which must be financially independent of the licensor. The licensee must also provide the office of Geisteswissenschaften International with proof of its presence in the English-language market should any doubt arise.

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c) Time limit with respect to first publication of the work

One objective of Geisteswissenschaften International is to motivate active scholars to use German as the language of first publication for their academic findings in Germany. As such, more recent publications that have been published within the three years preceding the application year will be the primary recipients of funding.

d) Time limit with respect to concluding a licensing agreement

Publications for which there is already concrete interest from a licensee publisher at the time the application is submitted will be given priority. The funding commitment for the translation is contingent upon publication from this or another appropriate licensee. Thus the applicant is required to provide the office of Geisteswissenschaften International with proof of a signed, legally binding licensing agreement within 12 months of approval. Exceptions may only be made for those titles that have been honoured with Geisteswissenschaften International's award for translation support.

4. Applicant

The applicant and contractual partner is the German licensor publisher. The publisher must be based in Germany. Membership in the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels is not a prerequisite for submitting an application. The applicant is required to pay the funding to the licensee publisher in accordance with clause 12 of these terms and conditions for participation and to contractually require the licensee to include a reference to this funding in the licensed edition pursuant to clause 13 of these terms and conditions.

Publishers that are interested in publishing the English translation of a German work and that are financially independent of the licensor publisher are invited to actively encourage an application for translation funding.

5. Application materials

Applications for translation funding requests should include:

- The completed application form both electronically (www.geisteswissenschaften-international.de) and in printed form with original signature
- Five copies of the German publication (the office of Geisteswissenschaften International at the Börsenverein reserves the right to request additional copies in individual cases, e.g. for external evaluations.)
- A letter of intent from a potential licensee or a copy of the licensing agreement
- If possible, a copy of the translation contract
- Existing reviews and reader reports

Applications for an award for translation support for outstanding works should include:

- The completed application form both electronically (www.geisteswissenschaften-international.de) and in printed form with original signature
- Five copies of the German publication (the office of Geisteswissenschaften International at the Börsenverein reserves the right to request additional copies in individual cases, e.g. for external evaluations.)

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- Existing reviews and reader reports

The jury reserves the right to choose the winner of the award from all applications made.

Only titles that have been published and are available as finished publications may be submitted for consideration. All applications must be submitted both online and in writing. Printed documents should be submitted in DIN A4 format, single-sided, without staples or paperclips. Submitted documents and books cannot be returned to the applicant.

6. Application

Applications should be submitted online at www.geisteswissenschaften-international.de and in writing to the office of Geisteswissenschaften International at the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels. The office will review the documents for their thoroughness, fulfilment of all application requirements and plausibility of the estimated translation costs.

Application address for printed documents:

Geschäftsstelle Geisteswissenschaften International
c/o Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels e.V.
Braubachstraße 16
60311 Frankfurt am Main

7. Application deadlines

There are two application deadlines annually (31 January and 31 July of each year). The application periods are announced on the website of the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels at www.geisteswissenschaften-international.de.

8. Selection committee

Applications will be reviewed by an independent jury of experts, including representatives from the world of academia (primarily representatives of academic institutions), trade journalists and representatives of academic publishing houses. The jury is appointed collectively by the programme's partners: the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, VG Wort, the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels and the German Federal Foreign Office. The jury meets twice a year.

9. Decision process

The jury will make its decision independently and, to the best of its knowledge and conscience, excluding all personal interests. If a work that is up for discussion or a vote was authored by a member of the jury or published by a publisher that employs one of the jury members, this member will be excluded from the decision-making process relating to this work.

With its registration, the applying publisher acknowledges the terms of conditions of participation and the decision of the jury under exclusion of legal proceedings.

10. Amount of funding

Geisteswissenschaften International's funding of a proposed translation is determined on a case-by-case basis and based on actual translation costs. The estimated translation costs are reviewed for their appropriateness; if necessary, the amount can deviate from this calculation. Funding generally does not exceed 0.12 € per word.

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11. Announcement of recipients

At the conclusion of the jury meeting, the chairman of the jury will announce the works that have been awarded the Geisteswissenschaften International prize. German publishers that have applied will be notified immediately and will receive written notification of approval from the office of Geisteswissenschaften International.

12. Payment of funding

Translation funding applicants that have not yet lined up a licensee at the time of their application will initially receive a preliminary notice of approval. If no licensing agreement is in place within 12 months of this preliminary approval notice, the approval will be revoked. The office of Geisteswissenschaften International must be informed if a licensing agreement has been concluded within 12 months of approval.

The funds will be disbursed as soon as the licensed edition has been published and the applicant or licensee has sent the office of Geisteswissenschaften International at the Börsenverein three sample copies of the published English edition and – if they have not yet done so – one copy each of the licensing agreement and the translation contract for its records.

The payment is made to the German publisher that has applied, which will then pass on the funding to the licensee. A corresponding statement must be provided to the office within three weeks of the payment. If the statement is not provided, the office is entitled to recover the amount paid from the applicant.

Approval for funding is limited to four years from the date of notification, in which time the applicant or licensee must provide the office of Geisteswissenschaften International with the abovementioned documents, along with three copies of the translation.

13. Reference to funding

The licensee is required to include a reference to the translation funding in the information about the work. The reference should read: “The translation of this work was funded by Geisteswissenschaften International – Translation Funding for Work in the Humanities and Social Sciences from Germany, a joint initiative of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, the German Federal Foreign Office, the collecting society VG WORT and the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels (German Publishers & Booksellers Association).”

The applicant is required to arrange an agreement about this with the licensee.

If a reference to the funding is not included, the office of Geisteswissenschaften International is entitled to withhold payment of the approved funds.

Frankfurt am Main, 12 June 2017

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