

GERDA HENKEL STIFTUNG

OVERVIEW



THE GERDA HENKEL FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN JUNE 1976 BY LISA MASKELL IN MEMORY OF HER MOTHER GERDA HENKEL AS A PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT GRANT MAKING ORGANIZATION. THE FOUNDATION HAS ITS HEADQUARTERS IN DÜSSELDORF.

THE SOLE OBJECT OF THE FOUNDATION IS TO PROMOTE SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES, PRIMARILY BY SUPPORTING SPECIFIC PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF THE HUMANITIES THAT HAVE A SPECIALIST SCOPE AND ARE LIMITED IN TIME.

A SPECIAL CONCERN OF THE FOUNDATION IS THE ADVANCEMENT OF POSTGRADUATES.

THE GERDA HENKEL FOUNDATION CONCENTRATES ITS SUPPORT ON THE HISTORICAL HUMANITIES, MAINLY ON HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY, THE HISTORY OF ART AND OTHER DISCIPLINES WITH A HISTORICAL COMPONENT. IT IS ACTIVE BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE GERMANY.

PREFACE



Lisa Maskell, founder of the Gerda Henkel Foundation (1914–1998)



The Foundation's building in Düsseldorf

The Gerda Henkel Foundation has supported research in the historical humanities since its founding in 1976. In 40 years, the Foundation has supported over 6,600 research projects to the tune of about 160 million euros.

Its core activity – that of supporting research projects, awarding doctoral and research scholarships – has in recent years been extended through new initiatives and operations, with which the Gerda Henkel Foundation has established new trends in academic funding. Since 2006 the Foundation every two years has awarded the international Gerda Henkel Prize, which is endowed with 100,000 euros, for outstanding academic achievement in the disciplines promoted by the Foundation. In 2010, L.I.S.A. – The science portal of the Gerda Henkel Foundation was launched as a platform for the internet presentation of academic research findings. The special programmes “Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements” and “Security, Society and the State” round out the Foundation's core programme.

As part of the Lisa Maskell Fellowships, the Foundation has been supporting young scholars in the humanities in both Africa and Southeast Asia. Starting in 2015, the Foundation has with its “Patrimones” funding initiative focused more strongly on the preservation of cultural heritage, particularly in regions experiencing crises.

This brochure provides an overview of the range of activities supported by the Gerda Henkel Foundation, and is aimed both at academics seeking funding for their projects and at members of the public that possess an academic interest.

Julia Schulz-Dornburg
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Michael Hanssler
Chair of the Executive Board

THE FOUNDATION

PROFILE

As a private institution for the promotion of scholarship, the Foundation's statutes only allow it to provide support for certain discipline-specific research projects that are limited in time. It prioritises research projects that are of an outstanding quality given the scientific findings and therefore promise to achieve the greatest benefits with the funding made available.

In line with one of the founder's wishes, a special focus of the Gerda Henkel Foundation is support for up-and-coming scholars. Special attention is made when approving grants to enable qualified young researchers of both sexes to conduct scientific work for a limited period of time and in order to improve their academic training.

PRINCIPLES

The object of the Foundation is to promote science, primarily by supporting specific projects in the field of the humanities that have a specific specialist scope and are limited in time and the related publications, in particular

- by supporting research projects by scholars inside and outside Germany on carefully defined themes in the humanities,
- by awarding scholarships (in particular for research and PhD projects) to scholars inside and outside Germany,
- by undertaking and supporting measures on a scientific basis in the field of monument preservation as well as by undertaking and supporting all measures that are suited to further the object of the Foundation,
- by carrying out measures to enhance public awareness in the above-mentioned fields that support the Foundation's object.

APPLICATIONS

Applications may be submitted to the Gerda Henkel Foundation's head office at any time. The Foundation committees meet twice a year to consider the applications and decide on funding grants. Smaller funding amounts (max. 15,000 euros) are granted by the Foundation through a simplified procedure with a deliberation time of approximately three to four months. Recipients of PhD scholarships will be selected four times a year.

Information regarding current application deadlines, application formalities and application forms can be found on the internet:
www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/english

THE FOUNDATION

FIELDS SUPPORTED

The most important criteria when deciding if a grant should be awarded are the academic significance and the quality of the research project. Also precise planning of costs and schedule of the proposed project are absolutely essential. Research projects in the following fields are supported:

- Archaeology
- Art History
- Historical Islamic Studies
- History
- History of Law
- History of Science
- Prehistory and Early History.

For a number of years, the Foundation has also increasingly addressed issues of great relevance to contemporary life and the future, above all as part of its special “Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements” and “Security, Society and the State” programmes. As part of the Lisa Maskell Fellowships, the Foundation has been supporting young scholars in the humanities in both Africa and Southeast Asia. Starting in 2015, the Foundation has with its “Patrimonies” funding initiative focused more strongly on the preservation of cultural heritage, specifically in regions experiencing crisis.

Projects and individuals in the following areas are not supported:

- Drama or Film Studies
- Economics
- Linguistics and Literature Studies
- Medicine
- Natural and Engineering Sciences
- Psychology.

GRANT MAKING

Funds are provided for:

- specific temporary research projects by way of grants for personnel, travel and material expenses
- research and doctoral scholarships for German and foreign scholars
- publications of particularly successful projects supported by the Foundation.

Support is not provided for:

- final projects of bachelor and master students
- studies under PhD level
- positions (temporary or permanent)
- academic institutions by way of endowments
- festschriften or dictionaries
- annual meetings and academic anniversaries
- publications which are not related to projects already being supported by the Foundation
- excursions
- conferences that are not initiated by the Foundation
- individual journeys to participate in conferences
- exhibition projects which are not related to projects already supported by the Foundation.

FELLOWSHIPS

In cooperation with renowned universities, the Foundation awards fellowships to partner universities and other scholarly research facilities in Germany, in countries in Eastern and Western Europe, and in the US. An overall view of the current fellowship programmes can be found on the internet: www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/fellowships_eng.

An overall view of all projects promoted by the Gerda Henkel Foundation can be found on the internet: www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/projects

SELECTED PROJECTS OF THE FOUNDATION

01 ROYAL XIONGNU TOMBS IN THE NOIN-ULA MOUNTAINS, NORTHERN MONGOLIA

Project leadership: Prof. Natalia Polosmak, Novosibirsk
The necropolis of Noin-Ula provides crucial evidence of the sepulchral culture of the Xiongnu. A team of Russian archaeologists excavated a series of kurgans there and duly restored and documented the finds recovered. The tombs contained rare organic material, including a unique collection of textile items.

02 THE TOMB OF NEFERHOTEP, THEBES

Project leadership: Susanne Brinkmann, Birte Graue, Christina Verbeek, Cologne
Neferhotep was the most senior scribe of Amun, the Lord of Creation, and died around 1320 BC. His rock tomb near the Valley of the Kings is richly decorated with murals, reliefs and figures depicting in superb colour everyday civilisation in ancient Egypt. The aim of a research project carried out by a team of restorers was to bring the wall paintings back to life after more than 3,000 years buried beneath the soot.

03 THE SOUTHEAST NECROPOLIS AT PERGAMON

Project leadership: Prof. Felix Pirson, Istanbul
The tombs at Pergamon date back to the first and second centuries AD. Research has shown that the Southeast Necropolis is of central importance when it comes to an evaluation of the socio-historical aspects and architectural history of Roman burial rites in Pergamon. Moreover, the findings provide important information on the municipal funerary culture in Asia Minor as a whole.

04 GLOBAL HISTORY FROM BELOW

Project leadership: Prof. Marcel van der Linden, Amsterdam
The international research group *Global Collaboratory on the History of Labour Relations* is addressing the history of globalisation and is investigating how industrial relations have changed worldwide since the beginning of the Early Modern Period.

05 THE THAWS: HIGH SOCIETY, MEDIA AND FAMILY IN THE UNITED STATES

Project leadership: Prof. Margit Szöllösi-Janze, Munich
Around 1900, increasingly professional reporting on society resulted in the emergence of a new social milieu known as *high society*. The interest displayed in this phenomenon by the mass media and its recipients meant that a select number of people suddenly enjoyed an exclusive position in society. These people in turn aligned their behaviour ever more to the media coverage. The project outlines this process, taking as its example a family of American millionaires, the Thaws.

06 HISTORICAL LIBRARY OF THE GERDA HENKEL FOUNDATION

Project leadership: C. H. Beck Publishing House, Munich
The Gerda Henkel Foundation's Historical Library was established in conjunction with C.H. Beck Publishing House. It is intended to give renowned academics the opportunity to present basic issues in the historical humanities to interested members of the general public.

07 NETWORK OF NUNS – CRITICAL EDITION AND CATALOGUING OF THE COLLECTION OF LETTERS FROM LÜNE ABBEY (C. 1460–1555)

Project management: Prof. Eva Schlotheuber, Düsseldorf, Prof. Henrike Lähnemann, Oxford
Lüne Abbey was a religious, social and economic centre that shaped the Lüneburg region. As evidenced by the almost 1,800 letters documented in the abbey archive, the Benedictine nuns corresponded with clerical institutions and important political and religious powers. The collection is unique in terms of scope and focus, and is being catalogued; the oldest manuscript will be published as a critical edition.

08 REGIONAL MUSEUM IN YAZD, IRAN

Project management: Bundeskunsthalle Bonn / Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, Berlin
Iran's first regional museum is to be opened in keeping with current conceptual and conservational standards in the city of Yazd. Archaeologists, curators, conservators and additional museum staff are to be prepared for their duties in the areas of research and museum management in the context of an Iranian-German cooperative project.

09 PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN THE MANUSCRIPTS SALVAGED FROM TIMBUKTU, MALI

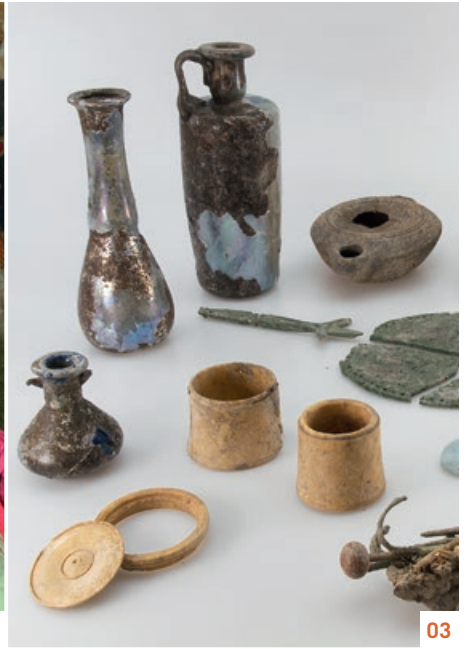
Project leadership: Prof. Michael Friedrich, Hamburg
The manuscript collections from the libraries of Timbuktu, Mali, are important sources for the cultural history of the entire region. Following the occupation of North Mali by Islamist groups in 2012, many of the publications were moved to the capital Bamako. Conducted in cooperation with the German Foreign Office and other international partners, the project seeks to preserve the manuscripts, restore them, and make them available to researchers.



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SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

SPECIAL PROGRAMME ISLAM, THE MODERN NATION STATE AND TRANSNATIONAL MOVEMENTS

The special programme “Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements” is aimed at researchers who, with an eye to current developments, are examining the emergence of political movements in the Islamic world at the national and/or transnational level. Historical studies are encouraged and supported, together with projects in the areas of religious, cultural or political science: What emancipatory, what modern elements does political Islam promise and integrate? What developments, what connections, what similarities in the key categories, interpretations and claims are to be drawn between pan-Arabism and pan-Islamism at the close of the 19th century and the movements of today? What historical self-descriptions are recognizable in the concepts? Via what specific ideas of communalisation can social radicalisation and mobilisation for violence be legitimised?

The special programme takes a look at the dynamics between Islamic teachings, Islamism, nationalism and transnational orientations and environments. Scientific discussion of the countries and regions of the Islamic world should bring together expertise possessing regional and thematic focus in order to allow the problems associated with areas of conflict to be expounded upon, particularly with regard to global influences and processes of cultural exchange.

Proposals will be supported that address the particularities and contexts of cultural and historical environments and relationships. The projects’ deliverables should be able to make a contribution to diverse and expert discussions in public and political circles.

Applications are invited for funding research scholarships and research projects. PhD scholarships are only granted in connection with a research project.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME SECURITY, SOCIETY AND THE STATE

As security-related issues, the fading role of the state and the gradual elimination of borders are central themes in both political and scholarly debates today. “Failing states” as a safe haven for terrorists, transnational organized crime, a loss of overall legitimacy, shrinking state authority in conflict-ridden regions are the relevant keywords in this context.

There is good reason for a more fine-grained perspective, however. Current security issues are multi-faceted and dynamic, ranging from military protection to efficient public infrastructure and a viable social negotiation process. As a matter of fact, the state is not irrevocably losing ground in security-sensitive areas. In some areas of national and personal security, state authority and sound governmental practice are more important than ever.

The “Security, Society and the State” research programme reflects these contradictory trends. It targets new security-related issues that are prime examples of the post-Cold-War era but have been largely neglected in mainstream research. The programme is intended to encourage junior scholars to pursue unconventional research agendas that are nonetheless crucial, while providing senior scholars with the opportunity to focus intensively on work in progress for a limited period. Moreover, the objective is to combine basic theoretical research with concepts that are applicable to present-day political issues of security policy.

The research programme addresses scholars of all disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Types of funding include grants for research scholarships and research projects. PhD scholarships are only granted in connection with a research project.

GRANTS

FURTHER FUNDING INITIATIVES

LISA MASKELL FELLOWSHIPS FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS IN AFRICA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

In the year 2014, Lisa Maskell, founder of the Gerda Henkel Foundation, would have celebrated her 100th birthday. To mark the occasion the Gerda Henkel Foundation has initiated a scholarship programme supporting young humanities scholars from Africa and Southeast Asia. It is the largest international support programme for PhD students in the history of the Foundation. Partners of the institution for the coordination of the programme in Africa are mainly the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, as well as the Graduate School of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. Doctoral candidates are granted a triennial PhD scholarship grant at one of these Graduate Schools. Candidates from all Sub-Saharan states are eligible to apply. For Southeast Asia the Foundation provides individual PhD fellowships for candidates from partner Universities in Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, East Timor, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The objective is to allure excellent young scientists to do a doctorate at a German university and to develop strong academic partnerships between the different countries of origin and Germany. Accompanying measures such as workshops and infrastructural support are part of the programme as well.

The Lisa Maskell Fellowships aim to strengthen universities in the partner countries and counter the outflow of qualified young scholars. With this initiative the Foundation is supporting the efforts of leading educational institutions in Africa and Southeast Asia to ensure their doctoral students enjoy excellent academic training. The programme is geared above all to the subjects Archaeology, History, Historical Islamic Studies, Art History, History of Law, Prehistory and Early History, and History of Science. Moreover, topics from the two “Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements” and “Security, Society and the State” special programmes will be considered. Applications are not to be sent to the foundation directly but to the local partner institutions.

PATRIMONIES

The “Patrimones” funding initiative considers projects that focus on the preservation of historical cultural heritage first and foremost in crisis regions and, in some cases, should for the first time enable scientific research in the fields of history, archaeology, and art history.

In this context, the Foundation supports measures that make a contribution to preserving cultural heritage, augmenting scientific infrastructure, educating young scientists and establishing networks in science, politics and society in the regions in question. The programme is not officially announced, but is being developed step by step in collaboration with selected partners.

The funding provided should be brought to bear primarily in the regions in question. In all projects receiving funding, partners from the countries in question must either be the applicants or closely involved in the research work as cooperation partners. This aims to ensure that all projects take into account local circumstances and concentrate on the specific requirements of the region. The Foundation can make a contribution to strengthening regional scientific structures especially by offering training and further education for academics and specialists.

The programme is international in focus and is intended to be active first and foremost in crisis regions as well as in countries which do not have the capacity to preserve their own cultural heritage themselves.

Moreover, the “Patrimones” programme is intended to have a preventive function wherever possible. The Foundation aims to be active in those countries and regions where preservation measures, owing to threatening political and armed conflict, for instance, are urgently necessary or expected to be necessary in coming years.

INITIATIVES

GERDA HENKEL FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PRIZE

The Gerda Henkel Prize was set up in 2006 and is awarded every two years to excellent and internationally acclaimed researchers who have demonstrated outstanding scholarly achievement in the disciplines and funding areas supported by the Foundation and can be expected to continue to do so. The Gerda Henkel Prize is worth 100,000 euros. The prize money may be used at the winner's discretion.

The Foundation invites scholars of universities worldwide, as well as renowned cultural and academic institutions, to nominate qualified candidates. The prize is open to scholars from all countries. Self-nominations cannot be accepted.

Prize Recipients:

- 2016 – Prof. Lyndal Roper (Oxford)
- 2014 – Prof. Stephan Seidlmayer (Cairo, Berlin)
- 2012 – Prof. Jürgen Osterhammel (Konstanz)
- 2010 – Prof. Gudrun Krämer (Berlin)
- 2008 – Prof. Richard Sennett (New York, London)
- 2006 – Prof. Martin Warnke (Hamburg)



Prof. Martin Warnke,
Prize Recipient 2006



Prof. Richard Sennett,
Prize Recipient 2008



Prof. Gudrun Krämer,
Prize Recipient 2010



Prof. Jürgen Osterhammel,
Prize Recipient 2012



Prof. Stephan Seidlmayer
Prize Recipient 2014



Prof. Lyndal Roper
Prize Recipient 2016

Information regarding the nomination process can be found on the internet: www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/prize

INITIATIVES

L.I.S.A. – THE SCIENCE PORTAL OF THE GERDA HENKEL FOUNDATION

With the launch of the L.I.S.A. interactive and multi-media science portal the Gerda Henkel Foundation offers an online platform for the exchange of ideas, collaboration, and networking in the Historical Humanities. The L.I.S.A. acronym derives from the portal's main capabilities – to read, inform, write, and exchange, or in German: Lesen, Informieren, Schreiben and Austauschen. Not least, L.I.S.A. also evokes the name of the founder of the Gerda Henkel Foundation, Lisa Maskell, who in 1976 set the Foundation up in memory of her mother, Gerda Henkel.

The initiative aims to make available contributions from all areas of the historical sciences, archaeology, and art history, so addressing the demand for interdisciplinary information on the historical humanities. L.I.S.A. – the Gerda Henkel Foundation's science portal is publicly accessible since spring 2010. Gerda Henkel Foundation scholarship holders and project partners, as well as anyone else that has an interest in the Historical Humanities, are invited to share their knowledge on the portal. Internationally renowned academics and young researchers will be able to take part via conference reporting, literary reviews, event announcements, podcasts, dossiers, expert chats and online lectures. The portal contains text, image, and video elements.

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L.I.S.A. – The science portal of the Gerda Henkel Foundation can be found on the internet:
www.lisa.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/english

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