

Young Researchers Forum ESF Humanities Spring 2007

“Disciplines and Borders: Humanities research in an age of interdisciplinarity”

What is ESF?

The European Science Foundation (ESF) provides a platform for its Member Organisations to advance European research and explore new directions for research at the European level.

Established in 1974 as an independent non-governmental organisation, the ESF currently serves 78 Member Organisations across 30 countries.

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH). The remit of SCH covers the following traditional disciplines: anthropology, archaeology, art & art history, classical studies, history, history & philosophy of science, linguistics, literary studies, Oriental & African Studies, pedagogical and educational research, music & musicology, philosophy, psychology, religious studies & theology.

SCH is currently engaged with research in many interdisciplinary fields, which are also considered in this call, such as: area studies, cognitive sciences, cultural studies, development studies, gender studies, health & welfare research, heritage studies, Humanities computing, landscape studies, media studies, migration research, science and society, etc.

For further information see:
<http://www.esf.org>
<http://www.esf.org/human>

European Science Foundation Humanities Spring 2007

ESF offers, on a competitive basis, full-cost awards to leading young scholars to participate in the ESF Humanities Spring 2007.

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) invites the next generation of leading scholars in the Humanities (“young researchers”) to participate in a three-day “new horizons” workshop in Granada (Spain), 24-26 May 2007.

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) plays a central role in giving advice on European-level coordination and foresight regarding research activities in the Humanities. Stakeholders are national and international research funding bodies looking for new contributions to their discussions on strategic choices. With the “ESF Humanities Spring 2007”, SCH wishes to mobilise the creative potential of the next generation of leading Humanities scholars to inform these processes.

The 2007 workshop will be held under the title:

**“Disciplines and borders:
Humanities research in an age of interdisciplinarity”**

A distinguished group of 21 young scholars will debate and sketch possible and/or desired futures for Humanities research in Europe. Participants will address some of the challenges and opportunities Humanities scholarship is facing in the globalised context of research (in terms of both topics and research communities). The discussions will be animated by six more senior colleagues from different fields of the Humanities.

By way of introduction into science policy thinking in the Humanities, three of the senior colleagues will give keynote lectures presenting and interpreting national and international examples of relevant strategic documents. There will also be other opportunities to learn about international research funding programmes. The detailed workshop programme will be made available on the “ESF Humanities Spring” website shortly.

During thematically defined break-out sessions and more broadly conceived plenary sessions, participants will work towards a document (“1st ESF Humanities Spring Manifesto 2007”) that can be used as input for future Humanities policy discussions at the level of ESF, its member organisations and beyond.

Eligibility

- PhD holders, no longer than 10 years after the defence, and not older than 38 years of age (both sub-criteria will be jointly applied); there is no restriction on nationality.

- Individuals eligible under point 1 who are currently conducting research in disciplines and fields of interest to the Humanities at ESF, as described on page 1.

N.B.: applicants working in one of the wider research fields also covered by SCH will be considered, if their research and projects demonstrably brings to bear Humanities approaches to those fields;

- Affiliation with an institution of higher education and/or research in Europe (ESF membership countries plus other countries of Europe as defined by Council of Europe membership, but also including Belarus, Israel and Montenegro);

N.B.: Institution of higher education and/or research may include museums, libraries, archives and other research infrastructures, as well as Academies;

- Ability and willingness to reflect on progress and visions for the Humanities in a wider disciplinary and international context, based on a solid mastery of one's own discipline, all as demonstrated by the CV and attached documentation.

Documentation requested

- One - page presentation letter

- Full CV (max. 2 pages)

- Statement of past and current research (max. 2 pages)

- References to 3 publications (incl. self-archived / online texts)

- Statement on prospects for the Humanities in the concert of the other sciences and in society at large.

N.B.: The working language for application, selection, the event itself and follow up documents is English. Short-listed candidates are asked to indicate availability (at short notice) for a telephone interview in that language to verify their ability to actively participate in discussions (see timeline below).

Selection criteria and process

- Formal eligibility

- Scientific track record; scientific potential (solid grounding in disciplinary work)

- Originality of prospective thinking as expressed in the "Statement" and in publications

The selection will be carried out by a dedicated SCH Panel.

Timeline for application and selection

< 20. Dec 2006	Call published and circulated
15 Feb 2007	Deadline for submission of application (online) to HumSpring@esf.org
By 25 Feb 2007	Short-listing of suitable candidates
By 15 March 2007	Telephone interviews
By 25 March 2007	Notification of successful applicants
By 31 March 2007	Acceptance letter to be sent by selected applicants to ESF

The ESF award will cover travel costs, meals, accommodation.

N.B.:

No more detailed information on the event itself or the selection process than this Call text will be made available for applicants except for the programme on the upcoming "ESF Humanities Spring" website.

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