

**AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN RESEARCH FUNDING  
BETWEEN THE DEUTSCHE FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT (DFG)  
AND THE FOUNDATION FOR POLISH SCIENCE (FNP)**

I. Scope of cooperation within the agreement

The scope of joint activities within this agreement will cover the entire spectrum of science and the humanities.

II. Eligibility to Apply for Funding

All researchers who are permanent members of the scientific and academic communities of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland may request support from DFG and FNP, respectively, to participate in cooperative activities listed in this agreement. In this regard, permanent membership is primarily determined by the affiliation of a scientist or scholar with an institution of research or higher education in the respecting country. On a case by case basis, however, third party nationals, scientists and scholars, may be allowed to participate, in full or in part, in envisaged cooperative activities upon this agreement.

III. Joint Seminars

1. DFG and FNP shall publish joint calls for bilateral seminars and workshops in specific fields to be held in either country. Researchers from both countries who have been cooperating or who are planning to cooperate, may apply to be invited both to the seminars and workshops. DFG and FNP each appoint a scientific coordinator of the seminar and the workshop.

2. As a rule, DFG and FNP shall cover the travel and/or accommodation costs of the participating researchers from their countries. The overheads will be covered by the host organization.

#### IV. Nicolas Copernicus Polish-German Research Award

1. The Copernicus Award is granted jointly by DFG and FNP in recognition of the outstanding achievements in German-Polish cooperation, preferably concerning the promotion of young researchers.

3. The Award sum is 50.000.- Euro. It is jointly raised by DFG and FNP in equal shares and may be used for any scientific purpose offered in the portfolios of DFG and FNP. It is desirable that the award money be used for further strengthening Polish-German cooperation and the joint promotion of young researchers.

4. DFG and FNP jointly conduct formal evaluation of applications for compliance with the principles of the contest. The final decision on the selection of Laureates is made by the Joint Committee of DFG and the Executive Board of FNP.

5 The awards ceremony shall be held alternatively in Poland and in Germany. Organizational costs shall be covered by DFG and FNP, in Germany and in Poland, respectively.

6. All other provisions are included in the Regulations of Nicolas Copernicus Polish-German Research Award as well as in the By-laws of the Jury of Copernicus Polish-German Research Award.

#### V. Starting-up Joint Research Projects

1. FNP and DFG declare their will to enhance German-Polish scientific cooperation by offering instruments to fund the preparation of joint research projects.

2. Such instruments may be, for example, exploratory and consultative visits on both sides, bilateral seminars as well as other activities designed to enable scientists and scholars to develop cooperative actions with their partner(s) .

3. Both parties agree to jointly evaluate bilateral proposals concerning such preparatory activities. The main criterion for evaluation will be the scientific potential of the proposed cooperation. Young researchers are specially encouraged to submit proposals.

4. All detailed matters are regulated by the internal rules of both parties.

## VI. Advisory Services

1. From time to time one party may wish to consult the expertise of the other, e.g. concerning the evaluation of applications or technical problems. The head offices of DFG and FNP therefore agree to provide advisory services to each other upon request, in sharing expertise available at their head offices which may be helpful for the other party to assess, for example, the potential of scientific institutions, or in assisting the other party in identifying talents and scientific expertise in the respective countries.

2. In general, the cost of such advisory services shall be taken over by the requesting party, unless it is reasonable to deal with this matter in other way.

3. If requested, one party will agree to host representatives of the second party at its head office to share its best practice in the field of research funding and management.

4. Both parties express their will to make known in public all actions of the partner organization focused on developing Polish-German scientific cooperation. Above all this will include presenting those activities on the homepages of the DFG and FNP.

VII. Network of DFG's and FNP's liaison scientists

1. The DFG and FNP agree on jointly establishing a network of scientists who act as "liaison scientists" for the two institutions. They act as contact persons for scientists in the respective countries who are interested in establishing a scientific Polish-German cooperation, advising them about the portfolios of DFG and FNP and their institutional cooperation, and sharing experiences with them regarding structural aspects of building such cooperation. At the same time, they act as contact persons for the head offices of the DFG and FNP with regard to designing joint thematic workshops, drafting new instruments/programmes to encourage cooperation, and preparing country-specific information materials.

VIII. Liaison Mechanism

1. It is recognized that periodic meetings between the responsible personnel of the DFG and the FNP and invited experts is important to assure the efficiency and efficacy of the above-envisaged cooperative activities. When funds are available, it is agreed that annual meetings of consultation will be held alternately in Germany and Poland.

VIII. Amendments and Expiration

1. The above guidelines shall become effective upon confirmation between the DFG and FNP.

2. Amendments to these guidelines may be made by mutual agreement between the DFG and FNP.

3. Either the DFG or FNP may terminate the cooperative arrangements by serving notice to the other one year prior to the intended date of termination. It is understood, however, such termination should not affect cooperative activities already established, which should be carried out to their logical conclusions.

Warsaw, December 5, 2005

For the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

For the Foundation for Polish Science

Prof. Ernst-Ludwig Winnacker

President of DFG

Prof. Maciej Żylicz

President of FNP