GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE LONDON

German Historical Institute London Scholarship Guidelines

The German Historical Institute in London (GHIL) is a research institute that forms part of the Max Weber Foundation, a German federal foundation under public law. The Max Weber Foundation is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Scholarship Aims

An important function of the GHIL is to support the work of researchers at various stages in their careers. GHIL scholarships are designed to support projects that require research trips to the UK or Ireland in order to consult sources or literature. The GHIL supports projects that are affiliated with German universities or research institutes, and which are intended to qualify the researcher for an academic career (i.e. PhD or habilitation projects).

Scholarship Terms and Conditions

Scholarships are awarded to applicants affiliated with German universities for research trips of up to three months. Applications are assessed on a comparative basis by the GHIL (together with partner organisations in the case of joint scholarships).

Applicants are not automatically entitled to receive a scholarship. Awards are made subject to the availability of funds.

Recipients of other, concurrently running scholarships and those who are employed and cannot be granted leave of absence are not eligible for a scholarship from the GHIL. As proof of having obtained a leave of absence, employed applicants must complete a self-declaration of their existing employment before beginning the scholarship.

Applying

Applications should be **submitted via our application form**, in German or in English. Applications need to reach us by 31st March for research stays beginning in July of the same year, and by 30th September for research stays beginning the following January.

In case of any questions please contact stipendium@ghil.ac.uk

The following documents and information are required:

- CV (max. 4–5 pages)
- Project description (max. 5 pages in length), containing an outline of the topic; key questions; the methodological approach pursued; the current status of the work; a work timetable, i.e. a schedule specifically outlining the work to be undertaken in archives and libraries during the period of the scholarship applied for; the particular sources and literature to be consulted that justify a stay in Britain / Ireland
- the planned start date and the expected duration of the scholarship
- a copy of your degree or PhD certificate

- a reference from an academic supervisor detailing the applicant's status and reporting on the progress of the work
- where appropriate, a list of publications

Incomplete applications will not be accepted. The GHIL aims to make a decision on the award of the scholarship within 6 weeks of the application deadline.

Scholarship Amounts and Payments

Scholarships are worth €2,200 per month for PhD students and €2,600 per month for postdocs. An allowance in the form of a monthly lump sum is paid for children under 18 years of age: €300 per month is payable for the first child, and €100 per month for each additional child. Birth certificates must be provided in order to prove eligibility.

Payments are made at the beginning of each month to an SEPA bank account.

Visas and Health Insurance

Scholarship holders from the EU, the EEA and Switzerland can enter the UK with an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA), as long as they do not stay in the UK for longer than 6 months. In case of any questions upon entry, you should carry a return flight ticket or a train ticket for your return journey, as well as proof of your accommodation booking. Entry is only permitted with a passport that is valid for the entire duration of the stay. The ETA must always be applied for in advance. The fee is currently £20.00 and must be paid by the applicant. The GHI will issue a confirmation of the awarded scholarship, which may be presented upon entry if required.

Should it be necessary to apply for a Visa to enter the UK, the related costs of up to €200.00 may be reimbursed upon presentation of the relevant supporting documents. Costs for other entry permits, such as the ETA (Electronic Travel Authorisation) mentioned above, are not eligible for reimbursement.

You can find more information about the Standard Visitor visa on https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor

and about the ETA on Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) factsheet – April 2026 – Home Office in the media.

Before you begin your scholarship, we recommend you take out health insurance for the duration of your stay in Britain.

Commencement, Temporary Suspension and Termination

Scholarships can only be postponed in exceptional cases and after prior agreement with the GHIL. If this applies to you, please get in touch with the coordinator of the scholarship programme as soon as possible. The same applies if you wish to temporarily suspend or terminate your scholarship.

If a scholarship is temporarily suspended, it will be extended by the number of days of the suspension. In the event of termination for reasons that are the responsibility of the scholarship holder, the scholarship holder is obliged to repay any overpayments to the GHIL. The amount to be repaid will be calculated based on a daily rate.

It is possible to stagger the scholarship over several shorter visits, provided that your employer can grant you leave for this, or the remuneration connected with your employment can be suspended accordingly. Please indicate in your application if this applies to you.

Obligations

By accepting a scholarship, the holder acknowledges and agrees to uphold the Max Weber Foundation's Guidelines for Safeguarding Good Research Practice.

Scholarship holders are required to regularly attend GHIL colloquia and to present their own project. They are also expected to take part in the Institute's public evening lectures. Only scholarship holders conducting research outside London are exempt from this requirement.

By accepting a scholarship, the scholarship holder agrees to the publication of general information about the scholarship (i.e. the holder's name and project title) during the course of the GHIL's publicity work.

If the dissertation or habilitation is published, the GHIL scholarship must be mentioned in the foreword and a copy must be given to the institute library.

Scholarship holders are required to write a blog post for the GHIL Blog (https://ghil.hypotheses.org/), which must be submitted one month at the latest after the end of the scholarship. We advise you to get in touch with the Blog Team at an early stage (blogs@ghil.ac.uk).

Important Information

The acceptance of a scholarship does not establish an employment relationship with the GHIL or the Max Weber Foundation.

Scholarship holders do not represent either the GHIL or the Max Weber Foundation externally.

Internal information about the Institute may not be disclosed to the public. Personal data may not be given to third parties without permission, unless the use of such data is permitted by law.

Data Protection

In accordance with articles 13, 14, and 21 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we refer you to the Data Protection Policy on our website.

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PD Dr. Michael Schaich, Deputy Director

London, August 2026