



## Guest Programme Max Planck Institute for European Legal History (MPIeR)

The Guest Programme of the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History enables scholars from Germany and abroad to use the Institute's resources. The visitors and their projects are an important part of the academic discourse at the Institute. They contribute to the Institute's four [Research Focus Areas](#) – 'Multinormativity', 'Translation', 'Legal Spaces', 'Conflict Regulation' – and ground the results of our work more solidly in international debates. The Programme offers various forms of grants and other financial support dependent on the level of qualification, the current project phase as well as the reason for and duration of the research stay.

### 1. Target Groups

#### PhD students

Three funding options are available in order for PhD students to become acquainted with the Research Focus Areas and procedures of the Institute and to further develop their own research projects.

**Orientation Scholarships** are open to all PhD students at the beginning of the dissertation process, affording them the opportunity to plan and conceptualise a dissertation project at the Institute within the context of the existing Research Fields and over a period of two to six months.

**Dialogue Scholarships** run for one to three months and are intended for all advanced PhD students seeking a close working contact with a researcher from the Institute in order to profit from his/her expertise with respect to sources, debates, methodology and theoretical approaches.

The **Max Planck Summer Academy for Legal History** welcomes all PhD candidates and other junior scholars for an annual two-week course. The theme of the summer academy rotates annually. Both members of the Institute and scholars from associated institutions will provide introductions to sources, methods and theoretical foundations of legal history.

Beyond the Guest Programme, **Support Contracts** (Fördervertrag) offer employment at the Institute for a period of three years to work on a doctoral dissertation.



### **Postdoctoral researchers**

To enable international scholars to continue their research at the Institute for an extended period after completing their dissertation, the Institute awards several **Postdoctoral Fellowships** each year for a period of three or six months. All proposed research projects must be readily compatible with existing Research Fields at the Institute. These fellowships are intended exclusively for foreign researchers.

### **External Experts**

Established foreign scholars whose doctorate was awarded at least ten years ago can apply for a **Research Fellowship**, which enables them to visit the Institute as a visiting fellow in order to pursue their own research here. These fellowships run for three or six months.

**Project-Oriented Research Fellowships** are intended to let the Research Fields at the Institute profit from the expertise of foreign researchers. The fellowships can be awarded once a year for a topic chosen by the project group leaders and run for up to two years.

### **Research Groups**

Groups of international researchers with doctoral degrees who wish to pursue a joint research project can collectively apply for a fellowship at the MPIeR. Such groups can consist of two to four researchers, ideally from different countries. The applicants for **Research Group Fellowships** may not be affiliated with the same institution nor have been affiliated with the same institution within the last two years. These fellowships run for three to six months.

## **2. Objectives**

The **graduate student scholarships** are designed to integrate highly qualified scholars into an international research environment early in their careers. Personalized **Orientation Scholarships** enable all PhD students to enrich their research projects by acquainting themselves with the Institute's Research Fields and to situate it in ongoing scholarly debates. **Dialogue Scholarships** are designed to hone ongoing doctoral projects through discussion with MPIeR specialists and targeted support. They are not, however, meant as a 'completion grant'. The **Max Planck Summer Academy for Legal History** exposes participants to new and potentially unfamiliar methodological and theoretical approaches. Participants gain familiarity with legal terms and theories as well as the ability to transfer them to other linguistic and cultural contexts, which helps them to grow and strengthen their own professional networks.

**Postdoctoral Fellowships** enable highly qualified foreign researchers holding a doctoral degree to pursue budding research projects in a stimulating environment. The overriding goal of the postdoc support programmes is to foster transnational networks of scholars and thereby contribute to a more transnational jurisprudence.

MPIeR **Research Fellowships** are designed to enrich the research projects and Research Focus Areas at the Institute with diverse perspectives by facilitating close cooperation with established foreign scholars. The goal is foremost to expand ongoing cooperative projects with foreign research institutes by developing new joint research projects. These research fellowships may not be used to extend an MPIeR postdoc fellowship.

The MPIeR supports visiting fellows **with third-party funding** provided there is sufficient capacity. Applicants should contact the [research coordinator](#) well before submitting their application.



All submitted research projects should suit the Institute's current research programme and its topics of interest. Research related to the Institute's Focus Areas (consult the [research profile](#) for details) will be given priority. Further extraordinary topics are regularly selected as being especially worthy of support.

All guests are expected to actively participate in the Institute's activities. Depending on the duration of the stay, this includes

- attending academic events at the Institute,
- presenting the project at an internal meeting or as a public lecture,
- writing a research paper, which then might appear in one of the MPIeR publication series.

### 3. Conditions, Application and Selection Process

#### Doctoral student funding

Doctoral students can apply for an **Orientation Scholarship** at any time at least six months prior to the planned stay. Applicants should indicate the intended duration of their visit (two to six months). Applications should be send via email to the [research coordinator](#) and include the applicant's CV, an exposé of the planned research project (max. 5 pages) and a reference from a qualified academic referee. All documents must be submitted in PDF format.

**Dialogue Scholarships** require a favourable evaluation by an MPIeR scholar who agrees to mentor the applicant over the course of the one- to three-month stay at the Institute. Applications for Dialogue Scholarships must include the applicant's CV, an exposé of the research project (max. 5 pages) and the signed application form and be send via email to the research coordinator at any time at least six months prior to the planned visit.

The selection committee selects applicants on a quarterly basis (January/April/July/October).

#### The Max Planck Summer Academy for Legal History

The Institute hosts a [Summer Academy for Legal History](#) once a year. Participants enjoy instruction by experts, gratis accomodation as well as the use of the library for their own research. While participants must generally cover their own travel expenses, they can also apply for a limited subsidy to help defray these costs.

The call for applications detailing the thematic focus for that year's topic is usually circulated in October of the preceding year. The deadline for applications, including a recent CV and a project expose (ca. 10 pages) is 31 January. The Summer Academy is held in English, so command of German is not required.

A selection committee consisting of the directors of the institute and the research coordinator and will evaluate the applications.



## Postdoctoral and research fellowships, research group fellowship, project-oriented research fellowship

The call for applications for the **Postdoctoral and Research Fellowships** for the subsequent year is published in February in relevant online forums and publications as well as on the Institute's website. These fellowships run for three or six months, usually starting at the beginning of January, April, July or October. The application deadline is 31 May of the year preceding the fellowship, so e.g. the deadline for **2020** fellowships is **31 May 2019**.

Applicants should submit their completed application forms, CVs and their lists of publications via the [online application system](#). Furthermore, we request PDF copies of three major publications the applicant has authored within the last five years as well as the contact details of two personal referees be submitted as well.

A key document in the selection process is the project outline (2-4 pages), which should detail the current state of the project as well as plans for its development. This summary should also explain the project's connection to the core topics currently being researched at the Institute.

All documents must be submitted via the [online application system](#).

For 2020 the main areas of research pursued at the Institute are:

### [Department I](#) – Professor Stefan Vogenauer

- Legal transfer in the common law world
- History of European Union Law
- Fundamental issues concerning legal reception

### [Department II](#) – Professor Thomas Duve

- History of legal historiography: traditions of writing legal history
- Law and diversity: legal historical perspectives
- Globalizing normativities in Iberian Imperial territories (15th – 19th century)

Only in exceptional cases will research projects not directly related to the Institute's research programme be selected.

A selection committee consisting of the two directors and the research coordinator will evaluate the applications. The committee may include further experts if an application for a **Research Group Fellowship** addresses a specialist core topic.

In exceptional cases applications will be accepted at any time, but the selection committee only meets quarterly to select them (January/April/July/October). Grants for such projects are pending currently available resources, and all applications must be submitted at least six months prior to the planned stay.

### Scholarship amounts

The amount of funding awarded depends on the recipient's qualifications. Graduate students (without doctoral degrees) receive 1365€ per month, post-docs receive 2100€ per month and recipients of research fellowships receive 2300€ per month. Applicants must obtain health insurance equivalent to that provided by German Statutory Health Care System for their entire stay. The MPIeR will subsidise 50% of these insurance costs up to a maximum of 100€ per month.



Grant recipients are required to rent one of the Institute's visitor apartments for the duration of their stay, subject to availability. For further information, please see our [website](#).

### **Guest residencies and Use-of-Facilities-Agreements**

Fellows holding doctoral degrees who are employed and/or are receiving other forms of financial support can receive compensation for their expenses at a fixed rate for the period of their stay instead of a remunerated fellowship. For further details, please contact the Research Coordinator.

This compensation can, however, only be granted for up to three months and includes 24€ per day in food allowance and 20€ per day for accommodation, assuming the grant recipient does not rent an apartment owned by the institute.

Applications for Guest Residencies and Use-of-Facilities Agreements generally have to be submitted by 31 May of the year preceding the proposed stay, which means that the deadline for **2020** fellowships is **31 May 2019**.

Status as of February 2019