

AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN IN HAMBURG



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Contact

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U-Bahn: U1 to Stephansplatz. **S-Bahn:** S 11, S 21 or S 31 to Dammtor.
Long-distance trains: Dammtor, or Hamburg Central Station, then continue with S 11, S 21 or S 31 to Dammtor. **Airport:** S 1 to Hamburg Central Station, then continue with S 11, S 21 or S 31 to Dammtor.

Members

The Academy has up to 80 regular members from all academic disciplines. In addition, there are emeritus members, honorary members, and corresponding members from Germany and abroad. The General Assembly of regular members elects the Executive Board and decides on all fundamental Academy matters. General Meetings are held once a month during the academic lecture periods.

Scientists and scholars from research institutions in Northern Germany, who have distinguished themselves through outstanding scientific achievements, can be appointed as full members. New members must be nominated by at least three regular members; they are appointed by the General Assembly.

Support for early career researchers

The Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg supports outstanding early career researchers working at research institutions in Northern Germany in various ways:

The programme of the Young Academy Fellows (YAF), established in 2020, provides a forum and network for interdisciplinary and inter-generational dialogue as well as active career support.

The Young Science Forum (Forum Junge Wissenschaft) supplies funding for the organisation of interdisciplinary conferences, planned and organised by early career researchers.

The Academy bi-annually awards the Joachim Jungius-Prize for outstanding research on interdisciplinary topics since 2020. The prize is endowed with € 5,000; the prize money is donated by the Joachim Jungius-Foundation.

Each year the Academy offers several interdisciplinary school laboratories for high school students (upper secondary level) on peace and conflict research, and sustainable, climate-friendly energy supply.

Combining the Strength of all Disciplines



Tasks and organisation

The Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg brings together leading scientists and scholars from Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, and Bremen. It takes up socially significant issues and debates, participating in their further development. In this way, it contributes to the national and international visibility of science and scholarship in Northern Germany. The Academy is organised into interdisciplinary working groups and supervises long-term scientific projects. Through joint projects and cooperations, it fosters collaboration between different disciplines at universities and other scientific institutions in Northern Germany.

The Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg is a public body based in Hamburg. It is headed by a president, who represents the Academy internally and externally. The managing director is responsible for day-to-day running of the Academy, advises the board and manages the budget. The Academy's basic facilities are financed by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

Science and society

The dialogue between science and society enjoys top priority at the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg.

Events

The Academy communicates the latest findings from all scientific disciplines to the general public in public discussions and lecture series, and fosters an awareness of the potential and limits of the respective disciplines. Symposia and workshops on social challenges gather scientists and scholars from a variety of disciplines and institutions. The topics range from climate research, artificial intelligence, and the discovery of gravitational waves to questions of national or ethnic identities, and global justice. Specific formats like 'The Political Breakfast' address representatives from politics and industry.

The events take place in Hamburg, Schleswig Holstein, and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania; admission is free.

Hamburg Science Award

Every two years, the Academy awards the Hamburg Science Award. With the prize money totalling € 100,000, it is the best endowed award of any German Academy. The Hamburg Science Award is funded by the Hamburg Foundation for Science, Development, and Culture Helmut and Hannelore Greve (Hamburgische Stiftung für Wissenschaften, Entwicklung und Kultur Helmut und Hannelore Greve) and supports research of preeminent social significance in areas such as energy efficiency or rare congenital diseases.

Interdisciplinary research

The activities of the Academy working groups with members from a variety of disciplines form the core of the Academy's work. Fundamental scientific problems and socially significant issues are addressed – be it peace research, infection research, or the use of hydrogen as the energy source of the future. The Academy working groups communicate the results in conferences, symposia, workshops, and in various media formats.

Long-term basic research

The Academy is currently (2020) supervising five long-term research projects within the Funding Programme of the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities, of which the Hamburg Academy is a member. This programme is unique worldwide, as it funds research projects in the humanities with a duration from 12 to 25 years. Projects at the Academy in Hamburg include for example the development of a video-based dictionary of German Sign Language, the recovery of a Christian literary tradition in Ethiopia and Eritrea by the digitalisation and detailed description of extant literary manuscripts, and the archiving of indigenous languages in danger of extinction in Russia. The Academy documents the resulting publications, dictionaries and text corpora in digital knowledge repositories in order to keep them available for academia and society in the future.



Network for leading research

The members of the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg form a network of almost all academic research institutions in Northern Germany. It provides a forum for interdisciplinary dialogue and encourages cooperation between representatives of different institutions and disciplines. The co-optation of corresponding members expands the research network and paves the way for cooperation with additional research institutions in Germany and abroad.

In 2019, cooperation agreements were signed with the National Academies in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, laying the foundations for international exchanges between the members and early career researchers of the respective academies.