



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

## Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

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### TransCoop Program

#### Transatlantic Cooperation in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Law, and Economics

#### Information Sheet

##### 1. The program

Within the framework of the TransCoop Program, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) provides funds for cooperative research between **German, U.S. and/or Canadian scholars in the fields of the humanities, social sciences, law, and economics**. The funds are supplied by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. The maximum duration of sponsorship is three years. Researchers working at universities or other research institutions in Germany, the USA, and Canada may apply for TransCoop funding. Scientific questions, including any from engineering or life sciences, may be considered providing the subject of the proposed research is convincingly related to the humanities and social sciences. In the selection procedure, priority is given to new research cooperation.

##### 2. Amount and duration of funding

The amount of funding varies. The German side may award up to **EUR 55,000** for each collaboration. The funds can be granted for a maximum of **three years** and may be used for – short term research stays at the partner's institute for up to three months per year

- travel expenses
- conference organization (maximum 20 % of total amount)
- material and equipment
- printing costs
- staff costs for research assistants working on the cooperative project, e.g. collecting and analysing data (maximum 20 % of total amount)

Up to 15% of the grant may be earmarked as a lump sum for administrative expenditures. The funds may be used to cover the costs of both the German and American/Canadian partner(s). It is, however, assumed that the home institutions will continue to pay the salaries of the scholars and their assistants. The lump sum for administrative expenditures can only be requested for the German partner institution. Each TransCoop grant must be matched by funds from U.S. and/or Canadian sources (**matching funds**). These matching funds should at least equal the amount awarded by the German side. Up to now, these funds have been granted by national science organizations, foundations, universities, and private sponsors. Applications for matching funds should be submitted prior to the joint TransCoop application, and the granting organization and amount of funding requested should be specified in the TransCoop application. Matching funds must be understood as a financial contribution to the research collaboration and may not be used to cover overhead costs. In order to release TransCoop funds, the Humboldt Foundation requires proof of available matching funds.

The cooperative partner in Germany will act as grant recipient for the TransCoop grant. The German partner's own institution will manage the funds. A written agreement on this matter must be submitted to the Humboldt Foundation before funds can be released.

The TransCoop funds will be transferred to a bank account held by the German partner. For the transfer of TransCoop funds, proof of matching funds is required by the AvH.

##### 3. Application requirements

The complete application material (including the required forms) may be downloaded from its website ([www.humboldt-foundation.de/transcoop](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/transcoop)).

Applications for the TransCoop Program should be submitted jointly by at least one German and one U.S. and/or Canadian scientist. The partners in the planned research cooperation must, at the very least, have completed their doctoral degrees and subsequently conducted acknowledged research work.

The following documents must be attached:

- completed **application form**;
- **time and expenses schedule** indicating when and for what purpose funds will be required (form);
- one **confidential reference letter** (form) for each partner addressing the applicant's scholarly qualifications (if a group of scholars applies, the reference letter should evaluate the head of the group). The references must be sent directly to the AvH and be available until the closing date of applications (see the deadlines below).
- a detailed **research plan** (max. 15 pages) including a comprehensive and detailed **budget plan**;
- a **publication list** from each partner covering the last five years;
- **proof of matching funds**, if already available.

#### **4. Selection procedure**

The research cooperations to receive support will be chosen by the Selection Committee on the basis of the following criteria:

- originality of the proposed research work
- scholarly qualifications of the applicants
- potential to strengthen transatlantic cooperation.

The decisions are made exclusively on the basis of the scholarly qualifications demonstrated in the application.

In case of a positive decision, the joint research work can commence 6 months after deadline at the earliest.

#### **5. Deadlines for the application**

The Selection Committee for the TransCoop Program meets bi-annually, in general in April and October. Deadlines for applications to the TransCoop Program are **April 30** for the meeting in October and **October 31** for the meeting in April.

Further information can be found at the [website](#) of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation