

## About JQYA

Acknowledging the role of young scientists as a driving force in the formulation of novel ideas and concepts, the Goethe University established the **Johanna Quandt Young Academy at Goethe (JQYA)** as the first interdisciplinary academy of the Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers (GRADE). The JQYA provides a platform for intellectual exchange, critical discussion, and self-guided professional development.

The *Academy Programme* offered by JQYA has been designed to help young researchers strengthen their cross-disciplinary understanding and facilitate the learning process for current developments. The Programme aims to **bring together** a diverse global group of young talent and experienced researchers from all conceivable disciplines. Each year, the *Academy Programme* formulates a different *Academy Theme* to address challenges concerning science and society.

Early career researchers are given opportunities to apply their passion towards developing academic goals. The Programme's benefits include (I) learning the research approaches of other disciplines, (II) enhanced awareness of how one's own research is embedded in a larger research continuity, and (III) gaining a better understanding of one's own research questions through scientific dialogue and cross-disciplinary debates. Thus, providing *Fellows* a dynamic environment that could **inspire creative solutions** to create a far-reaching scientific impact.

Our flexible and customised financial support facilitate further intellectual development and provide *Fellows* the necessary **scientific freedom** to pursue an academic career.

## Application

**Criteria:** Advanced postdocs, independent group leaders, assistant professors (German: Junior Professor) of the Goethe University and partner institutions.

**Procedure:**

All candidates can apply for **Fellowship Status** by sending their digital applications in English as a single PDF file to [wiederhold@em.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:wiederhold@em.uni-frankfurt.de).

**Documents:**

- CV with a list of publications and conference participations;
- Letter of motivation for participating in the JQYA, addressed to the directors of the JQYA;
- Two references, one national and one international; Alternatively, the contact data of the referees.
- If applicable, an explanation of why and how the *Academy* or *Sabbatical Fellowship* would boost the candidate's career.

**Evaluation:**

the selection of the *Fellows* is carried out by the JQYA's external board members, who are distinguished senior scientists. A maximum of 10 *Fellows* are nominated each year based on:

- accomplishment and impact of the candidate's research;
- well-stated link to the *Academy Theme*;
- strong personal motivation to participate in the program.

# TRANSFORMATIONS

"Tenets, Variations, Transformations"  
Call for Fellows to the Academy Theme

# Academy Theme 2020/2021

For 2020–2021, the JQYA has chosen to address current issues in sciences, arts, and humanities through the theme ‘Tenets, Variations, Transformations’.

As basic principles, **tenets** not only guide the practice of scientists across disciplines, but also the social and political life in our societies. Even though widely accepted, such principles are, however, subject to important **variations**. Any changes over time, that are **transformative in scope**, challenge the fundamental nature of tenets. Such paradigm shifts result in a conceptual re-thinking such as discovering of unknown natural laws, changes of institutional policies, definition of novel traditions, priorities, research fields, etc.

The three key terms of tenets, variations, and transformations offer multiple avenues for a truly interdisciplinary discussion by posing scientific questions such as:

- What are the ‘tenets’ we as a community adhere to in various contexts such as scientific practice across disciplines, or in society and politics?
- What type of ‘variations’ can we discern from these tenets, and under what conditions are these still acceptable deviations of a given norm?
- How do we define ‘transformations’, and to what extent do these deconstruct or replace pre-existing tenets and their variations?
- How are the assumptions of these concepts correlated in the different fields?

We invite applications from all early career researchers, who are interested in these aforementioned questions, and who would like to join our interdisciplinary debates.

**Applications will be accepted by 31.10.2020.**

## Fellowship Status

Young researchers can join the academy as **JQYA Fellows by applying for the Fellowship status**. Through their participation in the JQYA’s activities, Fellows shape the inner core of the *Academy Programme* for a term of **three years**. This status enables *Fellows* to integrate into the *Scientific Development* support line and qualifies them to apply for either a *Sabbatical Fellowship* or an *Academy Fellowship*.

# Academy Programme

The JQYA relies on creative and motivated personalities, as the *Fellows* experience complete freedom in shaping the academy programme and initiating lively and fruitful discussions.

- Three to four **Study days** devoted to the internal discussion of the topic and the production of the joint project. The result will be delivered as a keynote lecture at the next Award Ceremony
- **Scientific tandems** in which the *Fellows* join together to organise scientific events.
- Participation in / Organisation of a **public event**, e.g. Night of Science, Green Office etc.
- We offer at the **Director’s invitation** a series of lectures with concluding discussion rounds. Invited speakers are established senior scientists of the Goethe and partner universities.
- **Award Ceremony** welcoming new *Fellows* and *Distinguished Senior Scientists*, as well as the presentation of the joint project is temporarily scheduled to April 2021.
- A **workshop** to formulate and decide on the next *Academy Theme*.
- The **Summer school** completes the academic programme and will close the academic year 2020-2021.

**Details will be announced early in 2021, depending on the worldwide developments in the COVID-19 pandemic.**

# Support Lines

**The Scientific Development** line is accessible to any *Fellow* and is defined as:

- **Advancing professional qualification** — courses, workshops, participation in external conferences, as well as a short stay with collaboration partners, for the purpose of research.
- **Using the JQYA’s platform** to organize or participate in **conferences, workshops, etc. on topics relating to the current Academy Theme**.

We do not dedicate a fixed annual budget for each *Fellow*, but instead endeavour to fairly distribute funds to *Fellows* upon request.

**Academy Fellowship** — up to six per year — is accessible to any *Fellow* and will be for the purpose of implementing international collaborations and research activities, along with carrying out one’s own research activities as per the *Academy Theme*. The *Fellow* is awarded with €10,000, as earmarked funding.\*

**Sabbatical Fellowship** — up to three per year — is available to the *Fellows* of the Goethe University only. A sabbatical **releases the Fellow from teaching duties for one semester, allowing him/her to focus on their own research activities**. The fellowship is not transferred directly to the *Fellow* but rather covers the costs of a teaching replacement. The *Fellow* cannot be released from duties relating to administrative or departmental management.\*

\* If you wish to apply, please indicate your motivation in the application for the Fellow status.