



# The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation - Connecting excellent researchers worldwide

Dr. Anne Kremer, Program Director





## Core activity of the Humboldt Foundation

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- We annually grant about 600 research fellowships and 100 research awards to highly qualified researchers (PhD-holders) from all over the world
- We enable them to spend extended research stays (6-24 months) in Germany and to work with German colleagues
- We offer life long sponsorship options for our Alumni (“Once a Humboldtian, always a Humboldtian”)
- **Sponsorship of people, not projects**





# History of the Humboldt Foundation

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- 1953: establishment of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
- Namesake: **Alexander von Humboldt (1769 - 1859)**: discoverer, universal scholar, cosmopolitan, humanist and patron of excellent scientific talent
- Role model for our work:  
**connecting excellent researchers worldwide at eye level**
- 28.000 Humboldtians worldwide
- 55 Nobel Prize Winners





# Principles of the Foundation

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- sole selection criterion: academic **excellence**
- **no quotas** for countries or disciplines, **equal opportunities** for female academics
- sponsorship of **people, not projects**
- **free choice** of academic host/collaborative partner in Germany and independent scientific research, not stipulated by the Foundation

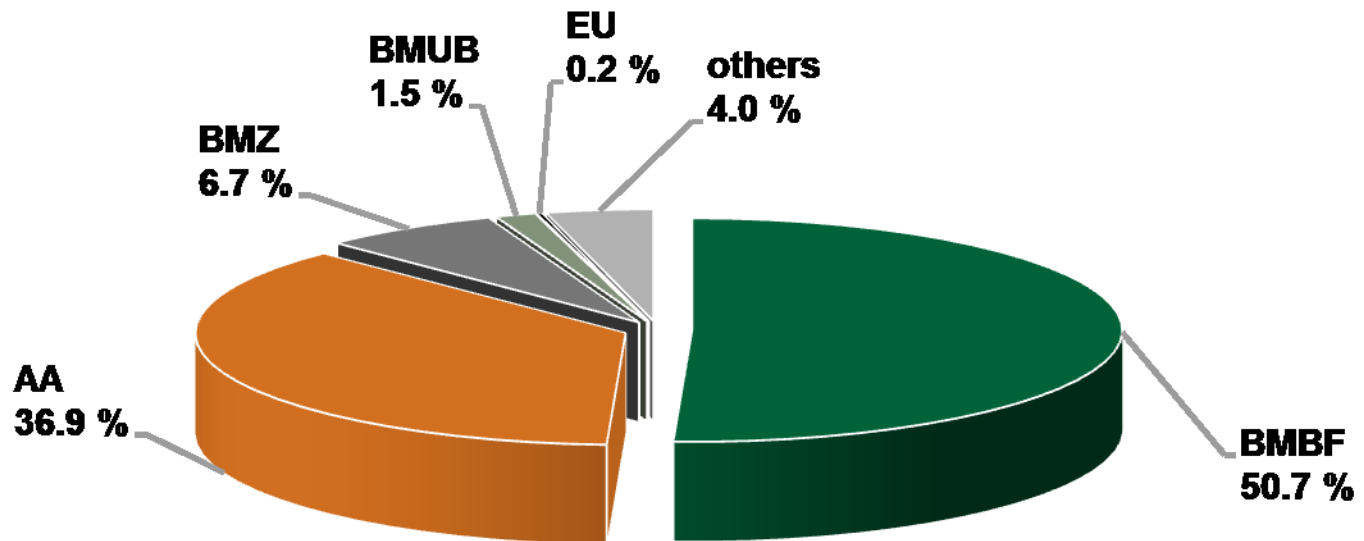




# The Humboldt Foundation's funding

Budget for 2018\*: approx. €129.9 million

Financed by federal funds and the European Union: approx. 96%



and Nuclear Safety

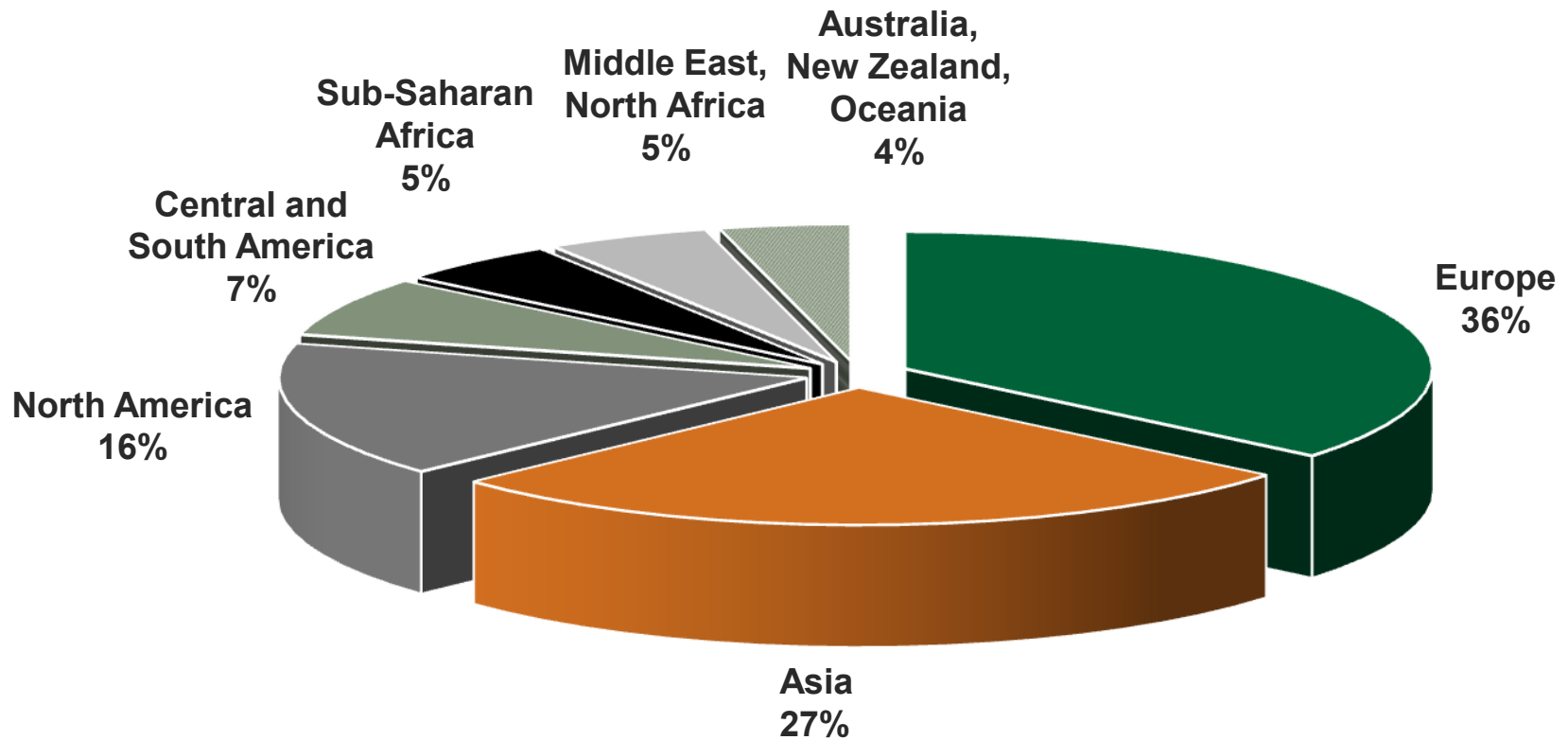
\* according to first draft of 2018 Budget of 7.4.2017



## Origin of guest researchers

2012–2016:

2,830 research fellowships granted to academics from abroad

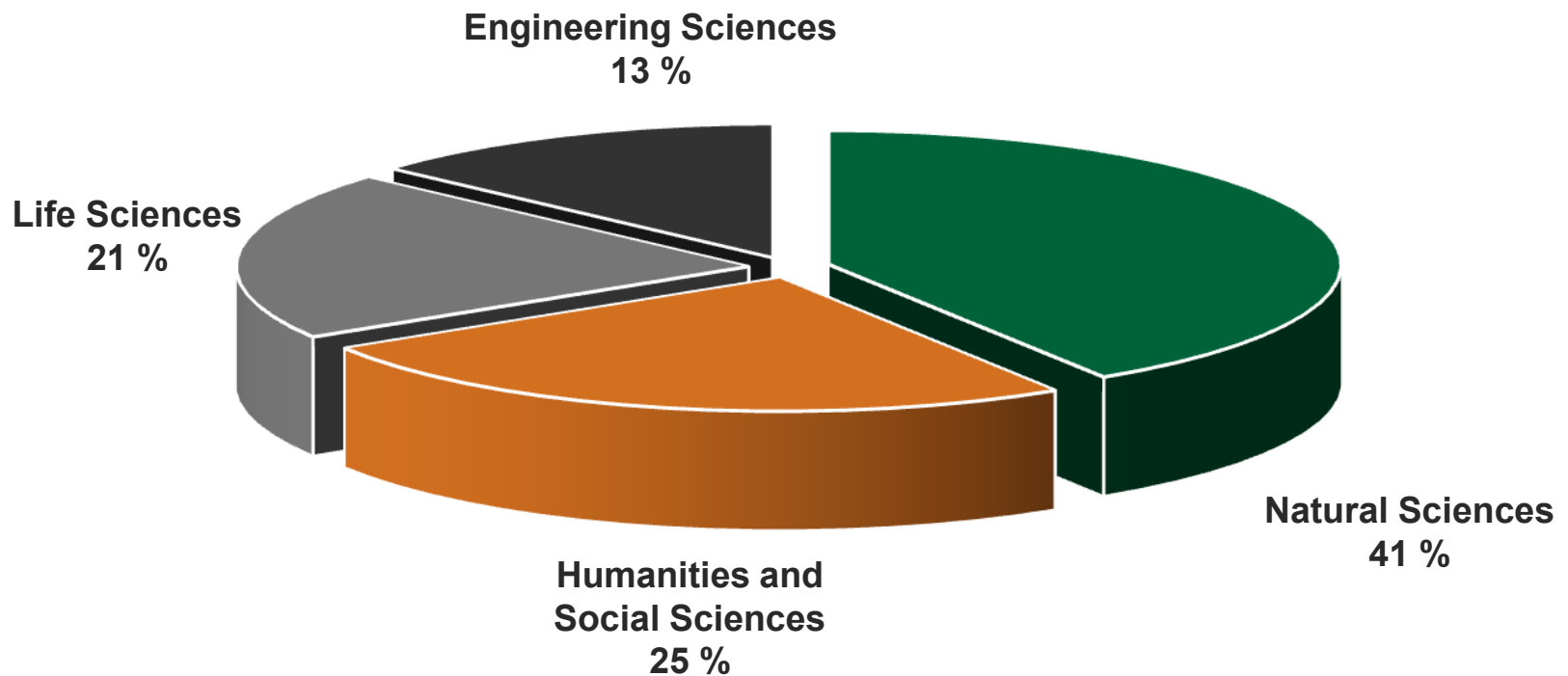




## Disciplines of guest researchers

2012–2016:

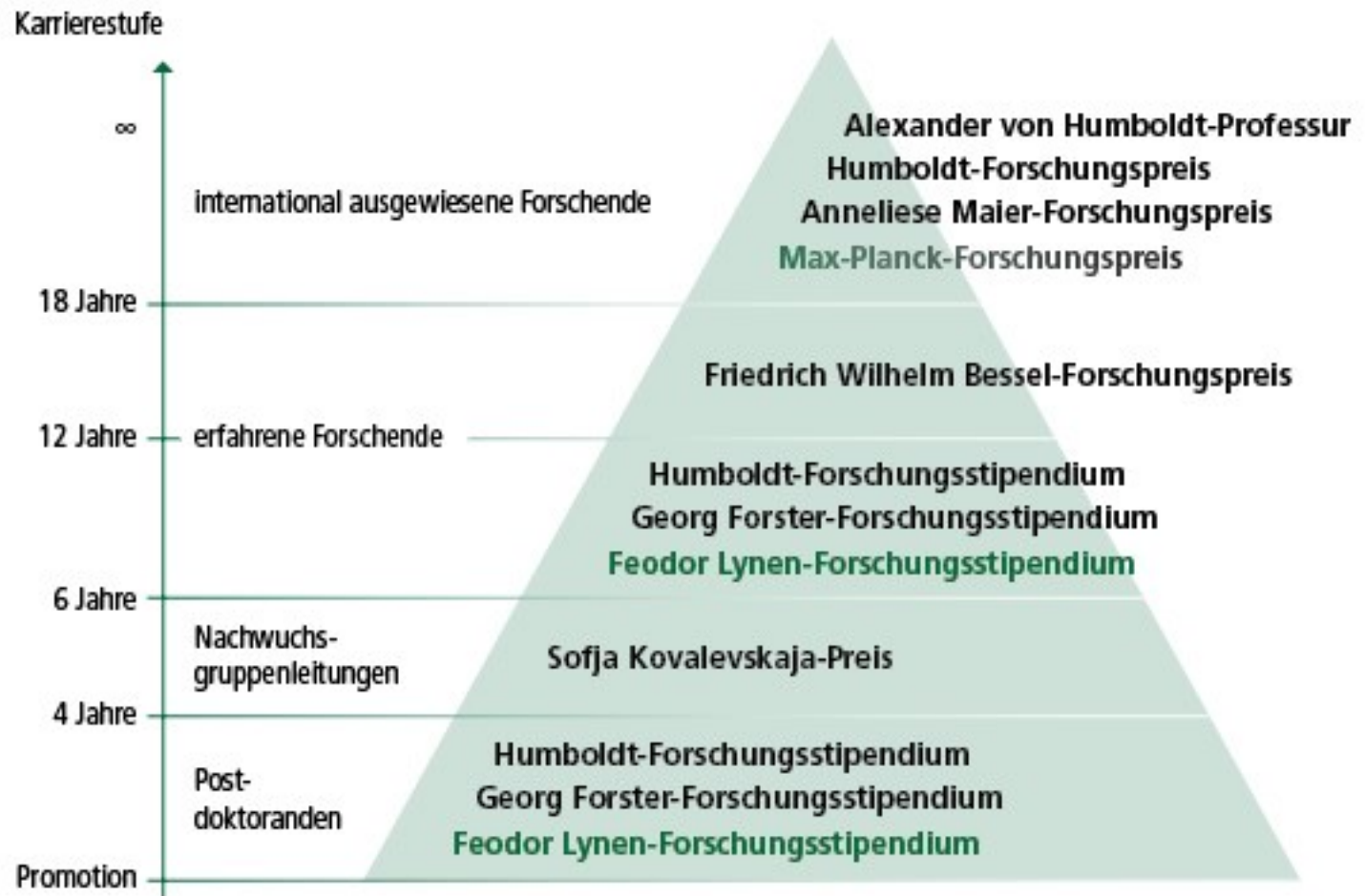
2,830 research fellowships granted to academics from abroad







# Key sponsorship programmes at a glance





# Research fellowships for research stays in Germany

## Humboldt Research Fellowship / Georg Forster Research Fellowship

	Postdoctoral researchers	Experienced researchers
<b>Duration of sponsorship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 6 to 24 months</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 6 to 18 months, may be divided up into 3 stays</li></ul>
<b>Application period</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● applications at any time, doctorates completed less than 4 years ago</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● applications at any time, doctorates completed less than 12 years ago</li></ul>
<b>Fellowship amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 2,650 EUR per month (plus additional benefits)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 3,150 EUR per month (plus additional benefits)</li></ul>



# Application requirements

## Postdoctoral researchers

- above average doctorate
- academic publications reviewed according to international standards

## Experienced researchers

- independent academic activity, e.g. as an assistant professor
- comprehensive list of academic publications with own, clearly defined academic profile

- agreement by scientific host in Germany
- Expert reviews from the doctoral supervisor and one other academic
- independent research project
- knowledge of English and/or German
- **Georg Forster Research Fellowship:** relevance to further development of country/region of origin

# Alumni sponsorship and international networking

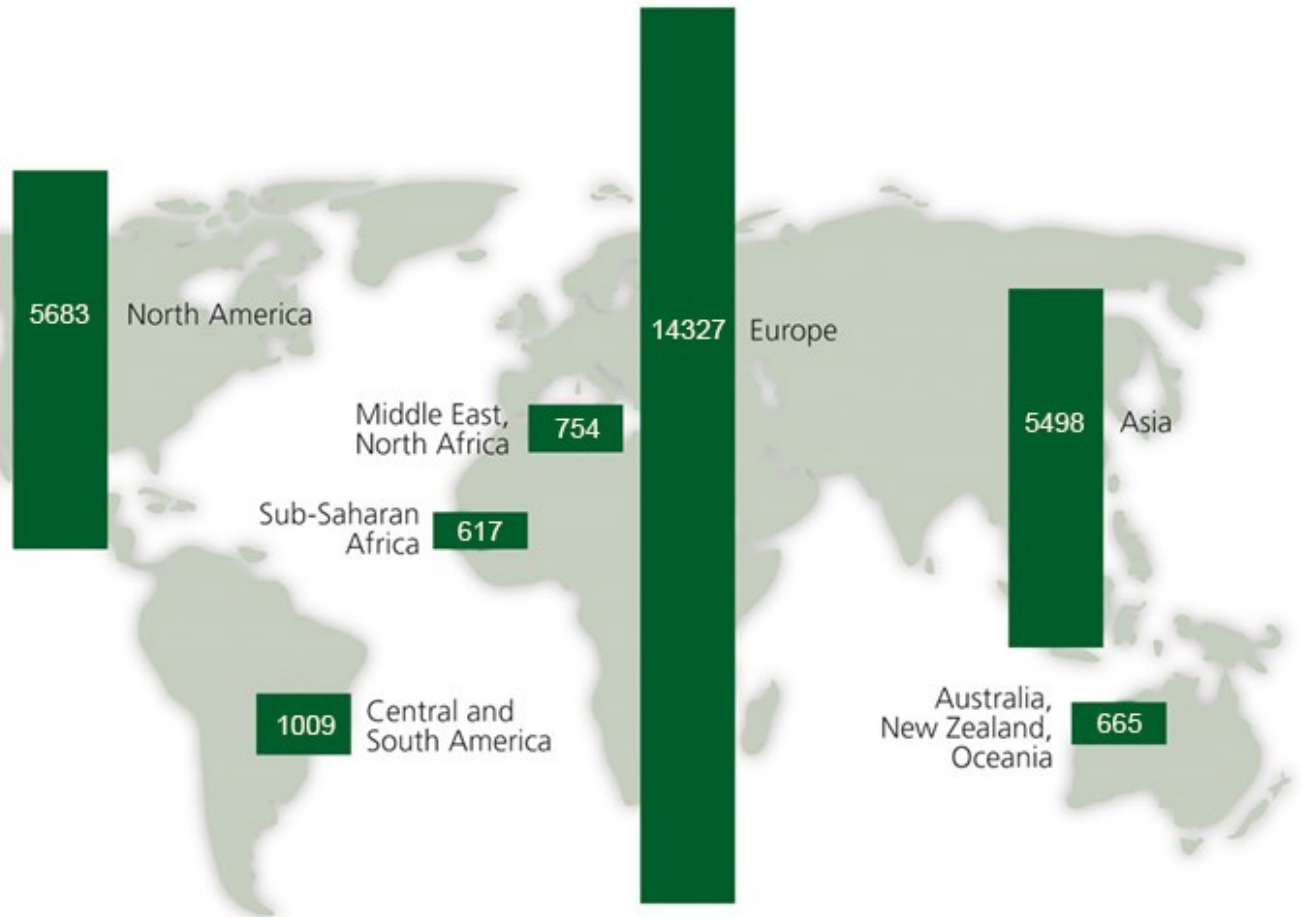
- more than 28,000 Humboldtians in over 140 countries:  
“Once a Humboldtian – always a Humboldtian“
- **alumni sponsorship and international networking** through e.g.
  - further research stays
  - Research Group Linkage Programme
  - Humboldt Colloquia and Kollegs
  - Humboldt Alumni Associations
  - Humboldt Alumni Award



# The Humboldt Network – more than 28,000 Humboldtians worldwide

## Result of a representative survey within the Humboldt Network (2014):

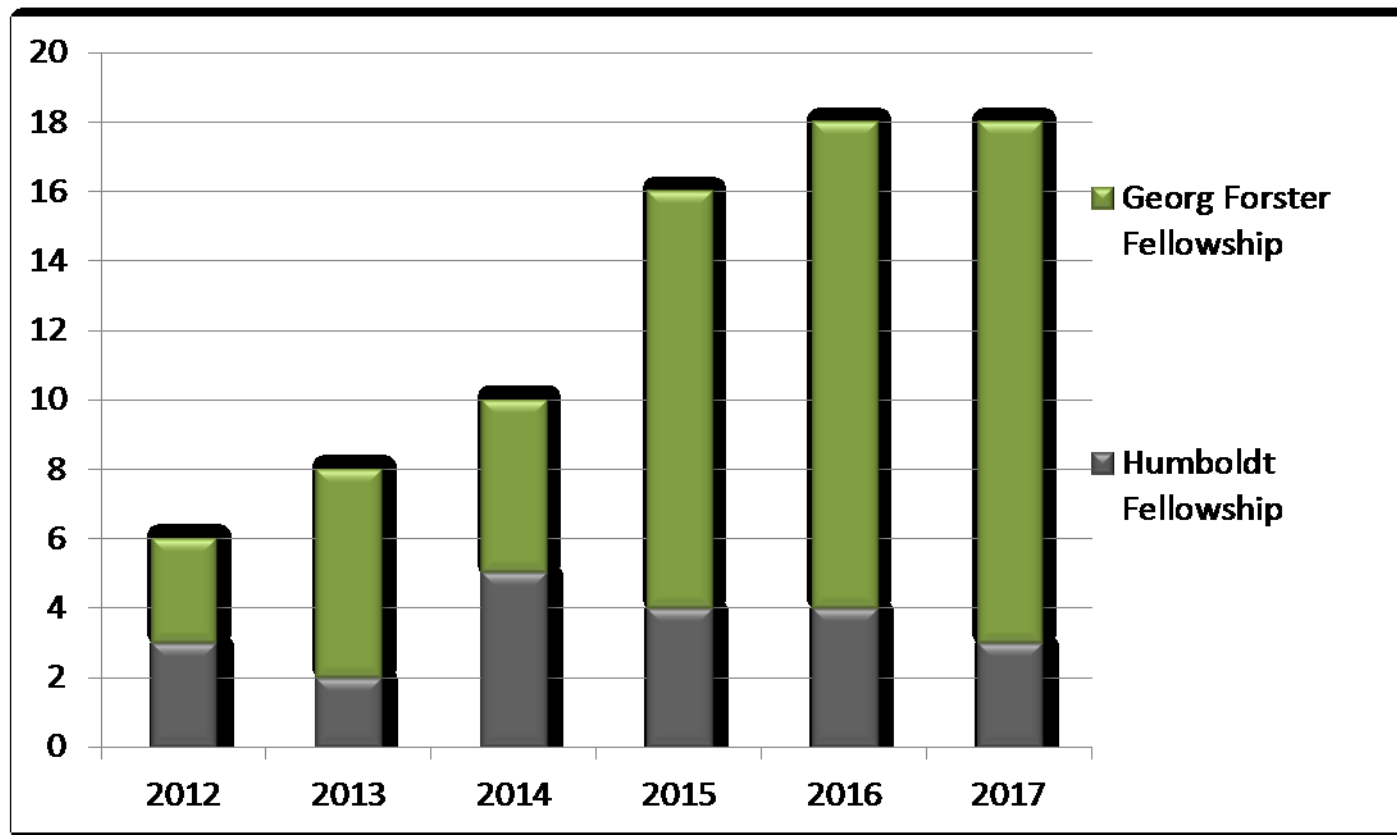
- 78% of Humboldtians have scientific contacts with at least one other Humboldtian
- 66% have scientific contacts with two or more other Humboldtians



As of Febr. 2017



## Iran: Granted Fellowships 2012-2017



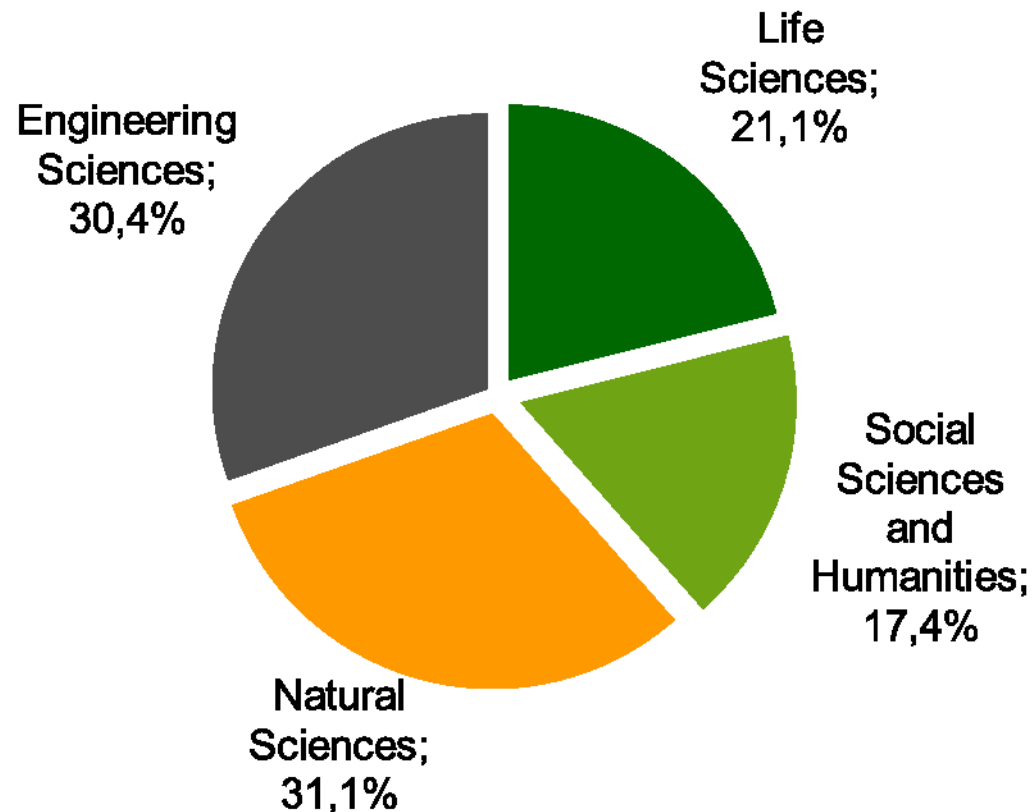


## Iran : Humboldt-Network

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1953–2017: **171** research fellowships and 1 prize award granted to academics from Iran; 1 Feodor Lynen fellow to Iran

Currently (as of 2017): **77** AvH Alumni at Institutions in Iran





## Contact

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# Finding a scientific host in Germany

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- Search interesting publications
- Ask colleagues with contacts in Germany (e.g. Humboldtians at your institute)
- Search the Humboldt Foundation's Network Online
  - Network Online can be used to locate Humboldtians' host institutes
  - searches can be filtered by subject area, location or keyword  
humboldt-foundation.de -> Humboldt Network -> Searching the network
- Search via the DAAD and DFG "Research Explorer"
  - The Research Explorer contains over 23,000 institutes at German universities and non-university research institutions, searchable by geographic location, subject and other structural criteria.  
[www.research-explorer.de](http://www.research-explorer.de)