

## Call: Thyssen@KWI Fellowship

Fellowship for the duration of 6 months from 1 October 2023 until 31 March 2024.

The Thyssen@KWI Fellowship addresses excellent researchers from the humanities, cultural studies, and the social sciences. It is most generously funded by the

**Fritz Thyssen Foundation:** <https://www.fritz-thyssen-stiftung.de/en/>

International researchers are invited to apply as well as scholars of German nationality if they provide excellent international contacts and work experience. We are inviting research fellows with a completed PhD and several years of post-doctoral research expertise. The fellowship can be offered to applicants in all disciplines represented in the current [KWI research agenda](#). The KWI (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut) in Essen provides fellows with modern infrastructure, office space, technical support, and offers a library service, event and research management as well as support in all administrative and communicative regards.

Thyssen@Fellows will receive fellowship contract (not a full-employment contract) and a monthly allowance of 4,000 € (pre-tax) meant to cover rent, insurances and living expenses. We cannot provide additional allowances to cover school fees or related expenses. Travel expenses for arrival at KWI and for departure after the fellowship can be partially reimbursed.

### The KWI:

The **Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities** (KWI) in Essen is an interdisciplinary research institute for the humanities and social sciences in the tradition of institutes for advanced study. Located in the Ruhr Area, KWI offers a space for independent and innovative research in the humanities and various opportunities to engage and include the public. Currently, research at KWI focusses on the following areas: literary and cultural sociology, cultural science studies, science communication and public humanities. Further projects are concerned with cultures of communication, among others. It is one of KWI's main goals to find new ways of linking research questions, concepts, methods and theories of philology, cultural studies and the social sciences. We are dedicated to pursuing our interdisciplinary agenda through international collaboration. An important contribution to our scholarly and political work comes from the Academy in Exile, offering research space to colleagues whose academic freedom is threatened.

### Expectations:

- Candidates will have a completed PhD plus several years of postdoctoral experience. We expect applicants to work on a project that differs from their PhD research.
- International researchers are invited to apply as well as scholars of German nationality if they provide excellent international contacts and work experience.
- Candidates will have a strong scientific track record (including publications in respected international journals or other comparable publications; participation in and organization of international conferences). We welcome applications from candidates with a proven record

of third-party funding and/or with experience in science communication and/or public humanities.

- The fellowship should be dedicated to research linked to one or more of KWI's focus areas and consistent with its interdisciplinary agenda. Various project formats are possible: You might devote your time in Essen to finishing a book or a special issue, finalizing a research proposal or setting up a research group. We also welcome plans to establish or substantiate collaborations with the universities of the Ruhr Alliance.
- We expect the Thyssen@KWI Fellow to be present at the institute at least 4 days a week. The fellow will be expected to participate in entry and exit interviews.
- The Thyssen@KWI Fellow is requested to actively take part in the Colloquium, lectures, conferences, reading groups and other academic events at KWI. Moreover, we expect the fellow to contribute to the KWI Blog. We also encourage fellows to organize a workshop during their fellowship.
- The Thyssen@KWI Fellow is invited to actively take part in academic events at KWI and will have the opportunity to design outstanding discussion formats with prominent researchers.
- The Thyssen@KWI Fellow is not expected to teach, but always welcome to inspire our teaching laboratory with new ideas or participate in lecture series and seminars at surrounding universities.
- Publications deriving from the time of residence should mention KWI and the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.
- Knowledge of German is not required since the Fellowship Programme relies on a strong command of English.
- We expect successful applicants to begin their fellowship on the announced starting date (October 1). Apart from changes resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, we cannot accommodate any postponements.

### **Academic landscape:**

Fellows will have the opportunity to liaise with researchers in a rich and diversified academic landscape: The **University Alliance Ruhr** (UA Ruhr), KWI's umbrella structure, strategically links the universities of Duisburg-Essen, Bochum and Dortmund. Nearby, the universities of Duesseldorf, Cologne, Muenster and Bielefeld as well as the renowned Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen offer further possibilities for collaboration and exchange. Fellows might also profit from cross-border programmes and initiatives engendered by the close proximity of Belgium and the Netherlands to North Rhine-Westphalia. For details on 14 collaborative research centres and 13 graduate training groups within the UA Ruhr, see here: [www.uaruhr.de/index.html.en](http://www.uaruhr.de/index.html.en).

### **The Ruhr area:**

The cities of Duisburg and Essen are situated right in the middle of the Ruhr area. With more than five million inhabitants and an area of about 4,435 square kilometres, the Ruhr area is one of the largest metropolitan areas in Germany and the fifth largest in Europe. The region's cultural appeal and diverse urban landscape were recognised by the European Union in 2010, when the Ruhr metropolitan area, spearheaded by Essen, was honoured as "European Capital of Culture". After the transformation of traditional industries, great effort has gone into making the Ruhr area greener again. By now, this region in the West of Germany has developed into a cultural hub with manifold outdoor possibilities. The cities of Cologne and Duesseldorf can be reached easily, and the Netherlands and Belgium offer day-trip destinations.

**Application:**

We kindly ask you to apply in the form of one single PDF file (max. 20 MB) which must be submitted electronically to [kwi.fellowships@gmail.com](mailto:kwi.fellowships@gmail.com) with the **subject line: "Thyssen@KWI-Fellowship"**.

[Due to IT safety regulations, we cannot accept applications via links to external platforms.]

- The application must be written in English and must contain a CV, a list of publications, PhD certificate, and proposal sketching your KWI project (up to max. 5,000 characters for the proposal).
- The application deadline is **28 February 2023, 24:00 (midnight, CET)**. We will not consider applications that are incomplete or submitted after this date.
- Fellows will be selected by a committee consisting of external reviewers, the institute's director and the Fritz Thyssen foundation.
- Further information about the application process can be found in the [FAQs](#)

For further questions, please contact [kwi.fellowships@gmail.com](mailto:kwi.fellowships@gmail.com)