

NICOLAUS COPERNICUS POLISH-GERMAN RESEARCH AWARD 2026 - HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION?

Members of the Polish and German academic communities are invited to nominate candidates. Only researchers who have at least a doctoral degree and are currently working at universities and/or research institutions in Germany and Poland are eligible to nominate candidates. Self-nominations will also be considered.

To be eligible, candidates must also have at least a doctoral degree, work at a public university and/or a research institution in Germany or any entity belonging to the higher education and science system in Poland, and be engaged in ongoing research projects.

Nominations must contain the following documents in English:

- Acknowledgement of the clearly defined, joint academic achievement of the two candidates
- Curricula vitae of each candidate in tabular form (max. two pages each)
- A list of up to ten publications based on verifiable joint research in support of the achievement
- One additional independent letter of reference for each couple of researchers when the nomination is submitted by a third party, two independent letters of reference for self-nominations
(acknowledgement and independent letter(s) of reference have to come from different persons).

The jury evaluates the merit of nominations based on the academic excellence of joint achievements and the success of the cooperation, both with special relevance to the respective research field. The jury consists of eight jury members – renowned researchers from the German and Polish academic communities. In order to cover all fields of science and the humanities represented by the candidates, up to two associate jury members may additionally be appointed.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **15 July 2025**. Nominations must be submitted electronically using the DFG's submission portal [elan](#).

Registration

If you are using the elan portal for the first time, please register before **1 July 2025**. This applies also to nominations by third parties. For self-nominations, both cooperation partners must be registered in elan. Please also indicate your subject area and select the call "Copernicus Award 2026" during the registration.

Submission

To start the online form for the submission process, please select "Proposal Submission" from the navigation bar and go to "Nominations".

In order to complete the submission process, please send a scan of the signed compliance form (Quittungsdokument) in PDF format to Stephanie Lass (stephanie.lass@dfg.de).

The awardees will be announced in spring 2026, and the award ceremony will take place in Poland in June 2026.

Further Information

Please find more information about the Copernicus Award on the [DFG](#) or [FNP website](#).

Submission portal for nominations [elan](#).

For technical assistance, please contact the elan hotline:

Phone +49 228 885-2900, elan-helpdesk@dfg.de