

# Leibniz Chairs

Aim, appointment criteria, procedure  
and agreement

## **The Leibniz Chairs instrument**

### **Aim, criteria and appointment procedure**

**(adopted by the Executive Board's 2-2025 meeting on 2–3 June 2025)**

#### **1. Aim**

The aim of making honorary appointments to Leibniz Chairs as a means of connecting outstanding international visiting academics with Leibniz institutes is to support the internationalisation of the Leibniz institutes and increase the international visibility of the 'Leibniz Association brand'.

#### **2. Criteria for honorary appointments to a Leibniz Chair**

2.1 The researcher should have a high international reputation and should come from outside Germany and/or be based at an institution outside Germany.

2.2 They should be involved with the nominating Leibniz institute in active academic collaboration that offers long-term prospects, based on more than just a one-off project.

2.3 They should have rendered, or offer the prospect of, outstanding service to the Leibniz institute.

2.4 They must not be an active board or committee member of the Leibniz institute making the appointment.

#### **3. Procedure**

3.1 The management team of a Leibniz institute notifies the Leibniz Association of its intention to make an honorary appointment to a Leibniz Chair and submits a proposal with:

- the curriculum vitae of the nominated individual,
- a robust statement of reasons
- at least one external reference from abroad.

3.2 The President of the Leibniz Association entrusts the relevant section spokesperson and up to two other members of the Executive Board with the task of carrying out an ad hoc assessment of the proposal.

3.3 The Leibniz institute's proposal is presented to the Executive Board of the Leibniz Association, together with the result of the ad hoc assessment, for a decision

3.4 If the Executive Board approves the proposal, the honorary appointment is made by the institute's foundation board/board of trustees. Appointments are generally for a term of five years.

3.5 After five years, the nominating institute can extend the appointment for a further five years by writing to the President. If this does not occur, the appointee will be listed on the website as a former Leibniz Chair.

3.6 The Leibniz Association draws up an official document for the honorary appointment and presents the appointee on the Leibniz website.

3.7 The resources provided for the Leibniz Chair (especially finance/personnel/premises) are at the discretion of the institute. This shall not give rise to any claims.

#### **4. Agreement**

In addition, it is recommended that an individual agreement be signed to clarify the reciprocal rights and obligations of the holder of the Leibniz Chair and the appointing Leibniz institute (for example, the right to use the institute's resources and the resulting obligation to mention the institute in relevant publications (dual affiliation, acknowledgement, or similar).