



Leibniz PhD Network

SHORT GUIDE

Who we are

The Leibniz PhD Network was founded in September 2016 as an initiative of doctoral researchers from various Leibniz institutes and has been since then officially supported by the head office of the Leibniz Association. Representing 91 institutes and approximately 4,200 doctoral researchers, the Leibniz Association is one of the four big scientific non-university organizations in Germany.

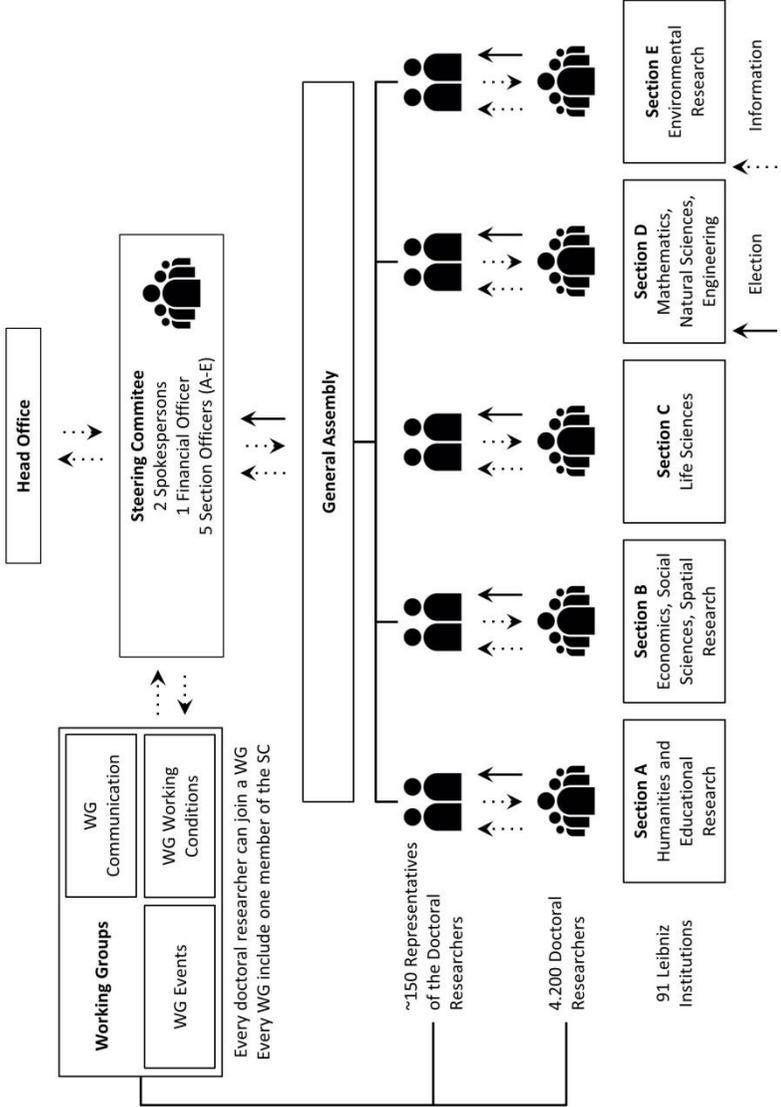
The Leibniz PhD Network is open for all doctoral researchers of the Leibniz Association. The representatives of doctoral researchers of the Leibniz institutes meet in an annual general assembly to elect a steering committee, which consists of two spokespersons, a financial officer, and five section officers (according to the sections of the Leibniz Association).

Visit our website to find out more about the structure and organization of the network at: www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en → careers → the next generation of researchers → [Leibniz PhD Network](#).

Goals

A main goal is to establish a platform to encourage and promote intra- and interdisciplinary exchange among the doctoral researchers of the Leibniz Association. Besides networking events, supervision guidelines for doctoral researchers at all institutes are developed and a survey among them evaluated to raise a voice for fair working conditions and diversity. Further relevant areas for the network are providing information about the prospects of a career in academia as well as beyond, expanding the contact to other PhD networks, and increasing the visibility and impact of the network.

Organigram



Themes and activities

The activities within the Leibniz PhD Network are carried out by working groups, which are coordinated by the steering committee. Working groups are defined at the yearly general assembly but can also be formed or restructured at any time based on current needs and demands. Working groups organize events such as the general assembly and conferences, develop common guidelines for doctoral researchers, and empower diversity within the Leibniz PhD Network. Every doctoral researcher within the Leibniz Association is encouraged to participate in a working group as well as to set up a new working group (in agreement with the steering committee).

Working groups

For questions or actively participating in a working group, contact the groups. If you are interested in starting a new working group, contact the spokespersons.

Contacts spokespersons:

Katarzyna Stoltmann

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Jan-Lucas Schanze

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Each currently active working group is shortly presented below.

Communication

The tasks of this group initially consisted of establishing structures and platforms intended for the network's online presence and visibility externally as well as among Leibniz doctoral researchers, and working towards higher inclusion and participation rates from Leibniz institutes. Currently, the communication group is in charge of tasks such as preparation of official documents as well as management of communications through Facebook, Twitter, and a monthly newsletter.

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Diversity, Equal opportunities, Working Conditions

The working group aims at establishing a culture of diversity and inclusion towards improving working conditions. The main goal is to ensure that all Leibniz doctoral researchers benefit from equal opportunities throughout their professional development, regardless of socio-economic status, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental health. It is subdivided in the *survey group* and *PhD agreement group*.

The *survey group* is evaluating the position of doctoral researchers with regard to the topics mentioned above and will use the results of a Leibniz-wide survey among all doctoral researchers to formulate recommendations for the Leibniz Association. We invite all Leibniz doctoral researchers to share their ideas and raise their concerns.

The *PhD agreement group* focuses on the creation of guidelines that will help ensure equal and rightful supervision standards for all

doctoral researchers and collaborates closely with the working group of “*Karriereförderung*” of the Leibniz Association. The current aim is to provide an agreement with minimum standards that apply to all institutes. The agreement is meant to function as a basis to establish or improve existing PhD agreements.

Contact survey group:

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Contacts PhD agreement group:

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Rosa Grote-Galvez

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Events

The Leibniz Association is very diverse in its scientific portfolio. Doctoral researchers should benefit from this diversity by gathering together in interdisciplinary conferences. The event group organizes such opportunities for doctoral researchers ranging from section-specific conferences to interdisciplinary events and joint events together with other young scientists from different research associations in Germany. Furthermore, this group is responsible for planning the network’s annual general assembly, which marks the end of a term within the Leibniz PhD Network and to which all members of the network are invited.

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Contacts General assembly:

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Cooperation

The Leibniz PhD Network collaborates with the Max Planck Phdnet and the Helmholtz Juniors. Since March 2017, this cooperation is known as **N² – N squared - or Network of networks**.

N² represents the collective interests of doctoral researchers within the non-university research organizations in Germany and aims to work closer together on the following topics:

- Working conditions and equal opportunities for doctoral researchers in non-university organizations and beyond;
- Career opportunities for doctoral researchers in Germany;
- Science policy in Germany and Europe (for instance, issuing a [political statement](#) on the future of young scientists in October 2017)
- Organising joint events for doctoral researchers ([conference on science communication](#) in November 2017 in Berlin)

The elected spokespersons of the Leibniz PhD Network, Helmholtz Juniors, and Max Planck Phdnet are the official N² representatives and belong to the N² board. All the former spokespersons of the three networks are members of the advisory board for one year.



For more information on N² you can contact:
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For updates and detailed information please subscribe to our newsletter and visit our Facebook page

Newsletter: send an email to meike.weltin@zalf.de

Facebook: find us as “Leibniz PhD Network” or click [here](#)

Twitter: find us as “Leibniz PhD Network” ([@Leibniz PhD Net](#))

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The communication working group
on behalf of the Leibniz PhD Network