

Collaborating Across Borders During the Pandemic 10th German-Russian Week of the Young Researcher

December 14, 2020

The German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) under the umbrella of the German Centre for Research and Innovation (DWIH Moscow) call for participation in the 10th German-Russian Week of the Young Researcher. The main goal is to encourage wider networking and stronger partnerships among early career researchers under the current framework conditions. German-Russian research groups and scientific experts will share their experience of how to “Collaborate across borders during the pandemic”. The event is organised with support of the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR) and the Russian Science Foundation (RSF) as well as the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Moscow.

In the face of the ongoing pandemic the “2020 Week” has to be reduced to a single day event that will be held virtually on December 14th. The online meeting will be divided into two sessions conducted via WebEx. High level representatives from German and Russian research organisations have confirmed their participation in the event. With her research background in infectious diseases DFG-President Professor Dr. Katja Becker will give a keynote on the coronavirus pandemic and the importance of international cooperation. Further key notes will complete the German-Russian perspective on this global challenge. An open discussion on the pandemic and its impact on science and research with all participants will end the first session.

The second session will invite German-Russian research groups to present their projects and share their personal experience on how to carry out research between Germany and Russia during the pandemic. This panel aims at analysing the current situation: (1) Research during the Pandemic (framework conditions) and (2) Research on the Pandemic (topics and contents). Representatives from different scientific communities will exchange their ideas with the DWIH-Members and Russian research organisations. Questions to be addressed: (1) Which research topics are of special interest to German-Russian cooperation during the pandemic? (2) What are current and potential needs to carry out this bilateral research? (3) How to involve young researchers during the pandemic and which role can they play in the future?

The Weeks of the Young Researcher were launched on the occasion of the German-Russian Year of Science, Education and Innovation 2011. Since then the weeks have been held once a year in order to discuss current issues of mutual research interest. After focusing on several topics such as “Energy” (2011), “Health” (2012), „Aviation and Space“ (2013), „Global History“ (2014), “Discrete Geometry” (2015), “Urbanism” (2016), “Computational Biology” (2017), “Chemistry of Energy Storage” (2018) and „Quantum Science (2019)” this year is devoted to “Collaborating Across Borders During the Pandemic”.

The Weeks have taken place at changing locations in Moscow and St. Petersburg, but also in Kazan, Yekaterinburg and Novosibirsk in order to include the cooperation potential in the regions of Russia. Host institutions to the Weeks have been leading research universities and renowned academic institutes in the scientific centres of Russia. Due to the pandemic the format of the Week had to be changed to an online event this year. But - with RFBR and RSF - the two most important Russian funding agencies will partner this event. Both foundations are long standing partner organisations of the DFG as well as other members of the DWIH Moscow and publish regularly Joint Calls for German-Russian projects.

For more information, feel free to contact us:

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