I. OBJECTIVE
The Einstein Foundation’s Guest Researchers programme fosters academic freedom by offering persecuted researchers the opportunity to work in Berlin for up to two years. The programme is aimed at researchers from conflict zones who are personally at risk. It also offers researchers experiencing specific or subtle restrictions in their work the chance to conduct their research in Berlin free from constraints. This strengthens Berlin’s image as a tolerant and open city where researchers can work unhindered. The programme is future-oriented: The idea is for the candidates to be integrated into a productive research environment in Berlin and to be given the chance to develop their potential and advance their scientific qualifications, with the possibility of being assimilated into Germany’s science system in the future.

II. ELIGIBILITY
The following institutions are eligible to apply: Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, Universität der Künste Berlin, and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

III. FUNDING
The Einstein Foundation fosters academic freedom by funding Einstein Guest Researchers. Applications can be submitted for international researchers who have not yet spent more than four productive years in a safe third country (i.e. excluding time spent fleeing their country of origin). The programme also allows applications for follow-up funding in cases where the candidate has already received or is receiving support through the Philipp Schwartz Initiative of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, as long as the four-year productive limit in a safe research environment has not been exceeded.

Funding for the researcher can be requested either in the form of a scholarship of up to €2,100 per month, depending on the academic career stage of the individual and the host university’s regulations, with no funding provided for additional costs, or in the form of a salaried position (generally in pay grade TV-L E 13). Additional project-related funds can be requested up to a maximum of €30,000 for the entire funding period.

IV. FUNDING PERIOD
The maximum funding period is two years. It is not possible to apply for an extension.

V. APPLICATION PROCESS
Applications must be made in English using the application forms provided by the Einstein Foundation. As well as justifying the choice of the proposed candidate, the application must include a realistic assessment of the candidate’s scientific achievements [e.g. a list in the attached CV detailing internationally visible, English-language publications based on their own research, experience in international collaboration, etc.], their integration potential [how well
their expertise aligns with the focus of the institution submitting the application, their command of English or other relevant languages) and their career outlook.

Please note that candidates will need a commitment of support (academic supervision, office and/or lab space, IT and administrative support) from a potential host/mentor at one of the eligible universities in the first instance. After securing support from a host/mentor, you may then contact the relevant individuals in the university research departments for support with the application.

VI. USE OF FUNDS

The approved funds may only be drawn through the university or Charité – Universitätsmedizin in accordance with the regulations on third-party funding.

Contact:

Einstein Foundation Berlin – Head Office
Jägerstr. 22/23
10117 Berlin
T: +49 (0)30 20370-228
antrag@einsteinfoundation.de