

THE ERNST LUDWIG EHRLICH SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Scholarships for gifted Jewish Students – History with a Future.



The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GIFTED JEWISH STUDENTS – HISTORY WITH A FUTURE



Democracy lives from plurality, commitment and open minds. Democracy needs leaders, willing and ready to take on responsibility. The Federal Republic of Germany has taken the initiative in supporting just those young students and doctorate candidates who will be needed for a pluralist society in the present and in the future. The thirteen foundations for outstanding students supported by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) constitute the fulfilment of this initiative. They provide educational support and financial sponsorship to gifted qualified students and doctorate candidates in Germany, the EU and Switzerland.

Since it was founded, the Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund (ELES) has been a strong representative of a pluralistic, open and confident Judaism aware of its traditions. The scholarship fund combines engagement and commitment with academic excellence for the good of the Jewish community and for society as a whole. Jewish identity, global peoplehood, pluralism, contemporary Jewish intellectualism and Israel education are the pillars of ELES' educational program. By means of sponsorship of over 500 gifted Jewish students and PhD candidates, the scholarship fund has made and continually makes an important contribution to the creation of a new Jewish intellectualism in Europe.

ELES acknowledges its debt to the life work of the historian and religious researcher, Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich ז"ר (1921–2007), after whom the fund is named.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

In face of the challenges of a globalizing world, ELES attaches great importance to the international focus of its programs and projects and, for this reason, has steadily been increasing its cooperation with partners in other EU countries, the USA and Israel. It is the goal of ELES to create and shape space for Jewish life in Germany and Europe and to have a formative influence on the discourse of the Jewish community in the Diaspora.

ELES is proud to be able to encourage its fellows to study and carry out research abroad. We support our fellows expressly in absolving internships, visiting conferences, and participating in traineeships in foreign countries. ELES places particular value on its fellows entering into contact with the Jewish communities of the respective countries they visit during their sponsored trips abroad.



BENNO-JACOB- // BERTHA-PAPPENHEIM-SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The avowal of an open and pluralistic Judaism is an important pillar of our work. This is exactly what the *Benno Jacob Scholarship Program* // *Bertha Pappenheim Scholarship Program* stands for. The goals of this unique scholarship program include bringing Jewish academics and knowledge to Germany. The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund makes a contribution to this development with its scholarships and with the Visiting Scholar Program, and invites potential leadership candidates of Jewish communities from all over the world to study in Germany.



The program is made possible with the support of the German Academic Exchange Service and is further financed with means from the Department for Foreign Affairs.



ELES Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich
Scholarship Fund

DAAD

ELES' EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The goals of ELES are realized primarily in its educational program. That is the core of our work. The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund pursues the goal of promoting and strengthening Jewish identity, responsibility consciousness, and the dialogue skills of its fellows through its educational program. ELES offers a multi-faceted and varied program on an annual basis to achieve these goals. While we could only offer five events in the first year of our work, this number has now grown to over 50 events a year – a development that does justice to the desire of our fellows to build a community during their scholarship period. The interdisciplinary events offer our fellows the possibility to enter into exchange on a comprehensive range of contemporary themes and to reflect on topics of their religious traditions.

The ELES program committee uses the occasion of its annual meeting to determine the topic of its lecture series for the educational program of the scholarship fund. This makes it possible to work with a great diversity of fellows on a total of four lecture series for a span of two years, addressing topics of central importance to the Jewish community, thus helping to shape the discourse on each topic. The participants are then brought together for a concluding conference or exhibition. There, they present their results to a broader audience. Previous topics have been „remembrance“ and „migration“.



Overview of the Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund

TOTAL OF SPONSORED FELLOWS: 581 (SINCE 2010)

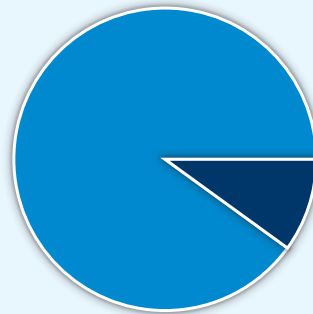
TYPE OF SUPPORT

Student scholarships: **423**
Doctorate scholarships: **158**



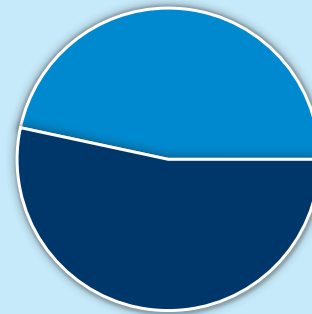
JEWISH/NON-JEWISH

Jewish: **523**
Non-Jewish: **58**



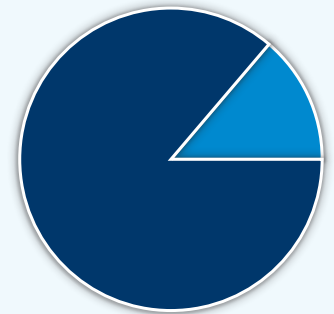
GENDER

male: **271**
female: **310**



FOREIGN BACKGROUND

no: **80**
yes: **501**



REGIONAL GROUPS

North: **31**
West NRW: **59**
Mid-West: **100**
East: **273**
South-West: **40**
South: **78**

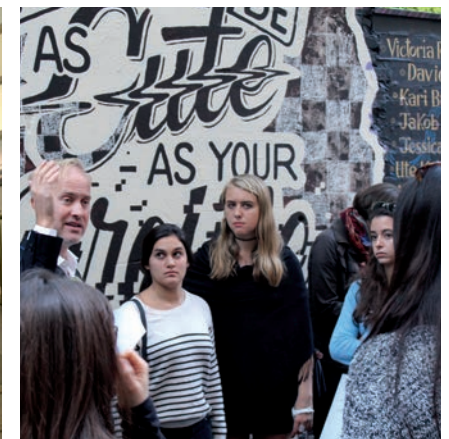


HILLEL GERMANY

On a regional level, over the past years, ELES has managed to establish young Jewish life throughout Germany, aided by the valuable cooperation with Hillel International, the largest Jewish student organization in the world. Here, one particular success is the fact that the fellows themselves, encouraged and sponsored by ELES, plan and implement Hillel programs.

The result is overwhelming: Although there were only very few offers for Jewish students and doctorate candidates a few years ago, ELES fellows have built up a lively range of events in 16 so-called *Hillel Hubs*. This includes regular Shabbat events, celebrating Jewish holidays and scientific lectures and events, at which exchange with fellows from other foundations is of primary importance.

Highly committed, ELES fellows accept the challenges of influencing Jewish life in Germany while they are still studying. The fellows are not only the people on whose shoulders responsibility will rest in the future. They are taking on that responsibility today.





DIALOG UE/PERS PECTIVES

Discussing
Religions and
World Views

Since its existence, ELES has placed its main emphasis on interreligious dialogue and, over the past years, has continually developed new and innovative event formats to further encourage this – for example in planning and leading the first inter-religious student academies in Germany, in initiating the interreligious fellows' forum Avi, and in continuous cooperation with other foundations for outstanding students with religion at their heart.

In 2015, the program *Dialogue/Perspectives – Religion and World Views in Dialogue*, which was made possible by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF), took this tradition a step further: *Dialogue/Perspectives* is a program to establish dialogue on inter-religious and world views. With *Dialogue/Perspectives*, we wish to enter into dialogue with fellows of diverse religious beliefs, world views and backgrounds, not to mention renowned researchers and experts, to discuss one of the most important topics of our time: the role of religion and world perspectives for the individual and for society.

The program addresses fellows from all 13 of the foundations for outstanding students which are sponsored by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) – those who will carry responsibility in the future are to be trained in interreligious dialogue.

DAGESH. KunstLAB ELES

Art is communication as well as confrontation with traditions, societies, identities – the emphasis *DAGESH. KunstLAB ELES* questions Jewish aspects of art and culture without anchoring “Jewish Art” within the program.

DAGESH establishes creative openings: to pluralist religious traditions and secular stories, to exciting collaborations of Jewish and non-Jewish facets of individual and collective identity, and to diverse practices of societal and political positioning. It involves creative experimentation and orchestration of something new.

DAGESH bundles existing projects and initiatives at ELES and creates new structures and platforms. At *DAGESH*, renowned Jewish artists and scientists get involved in the *DAGESH* curatorship and the Associated Board of the program.



ELES Initiative to Support Refugees

Since summer 2015, the so-called „refugee crisis“ has been a much-discussed topic in German public discourse. The arrival of people, mostly from Syria, seeking protection elicited a range of diverging reactions here: controversial political debates, a strengthening of right-wing populism, but also a far-reaching culture of welcome and a desire by many to get involved. At the initiative of the fellows of the regional group east, the Initiative to Support Refugees was founded in September 2015. The initiative's stated goal is to first create a network of volunteer fellows who would like to concertedly and sustainably help refugees. The fellows are then to be provided, via a program of workshops, supervision, and presentations, with a continuing platform for exchange, professional continuing education, advice, and supervision. Four workshops have taken place thus far.

The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund has taken on the aim of supporting the integration process, thus taking on a responsibility to the whole of society. The scholarship fund has a considerable pool of fellows already devoting their time and skills to volunteer work with refugees. The ELES Initiative to Support Refugees should help to further support, coordinate, and expand the fellows' engagement. ELES will continue the Initiative to Support Refugees and offer a range of workshops.



Paideia – The European Institute for Jewish Studies

The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund, the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg, and Paideia – The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden have been in cooperation since the winter semester 2016/17 to provide targeted support to the students of the Jewish Civilizations master's program.

The participants first spend a year studying in Stockholm, and then spend two further semesters in Heidelberg. Six new Paideia students began receiving ELES support in October 2016.

ELES fellows not enrolled in the Paideia master's program are also able to participate in selected Paideia events. These include, first, the Project Incubator Program, a ten-day summer workshop that provides the participants with the techniques and knowledge necessary to build and oversee concrete, local projects. The program brings together numerous projects on Jewish life and culture from across Europe and seeks to provide inspiration and to create a large network.

Fellows can also take part in the Paradigm Program. The goal of this innovative program is to develop new points of entry to understanding Jewish identity. It seeks answers to important questions on philosophy, society, and identity within a plural whole.

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Scholarship Fund

PAIDEIA
The European Institute
for Jewish Studies in Sweden

HOCHSCHULE FÜR
JÜDISCHE STUDIEN
HEIDELBERG



The Scholarship Fund //

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Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Scholarship Fund
is supported by the German Federal Ministry
of Education and Research.



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