



Service pour la Science
et la Technologie
Abteilung für Wissenschaft
und Technologie



FORCHEURS PRIZE

Prize for Franco-German cooperation between young researchers

Call for applications 2025

1. The prize

The neologism *Forcheur*, formed from the German word "*Forscher*" and the French word "*chercheur*", which was adopted from the work of the same name by Gérard Fossier, describes researchers who work together on a daily basis on both sides of the Rhine. Every year, the French Embassy in Germany and the Franco-German University, in partnership with Sanofi Germany and BASF France, organize the awarding of the Forcheurs Prize to a German-French tandem of young researchers, with whom their outstanding collaborative work in the fields of chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology or at the interface between chemistry and health. This symbolic name illustrates the declared goal of promoting closer cooperation between the German and French scientific communities. The award is also under the patronage of the 1987 Nobel Prize winner for chemistry, Prof. Jean-Marie Lehn.

2. Goals

The French Embassy in Germany, in cooperation with the Franco-German University, would like to use this prize to honor and promote German-French teams of young researchers. The aim of awarding the Forcheurs Prize is to recognize the promising collaboration in the fields of chemistry and health and to encourage the teams to continue on this Franco-German path.

3. Award ceremony

There are two prizes, each worth **EUR 10,000**, i.e. EUR 10,000 per prizewinner.

The Forcheurs Prize award ceremony will take place **at the Embassy of France, during an event to be held between 23 and 26 June 2025 (the exact date has yet to be determined)**, in the presence of the French Ambassador to Germany, H. E. François Delattre, the Nobel Laureate in Chemistry Jean Marie Lehn and representatives of the Franco-German University, the partners Sanofi Germany and BASF France. **The prize winners are required to take part.**

4. Conditions of participation

Applicants for the Forcheurs Prize must meet the following conditions:

- one member of the team must be employed at a German institution and the other member at a French institution;
- they must work in a **research laboratory** affiliated with either:
 - a higher education institution
 - a research institution
 - a company
 - a funding structure (Pôle de compétitivité, cluster, competence center);
- be **under 45 years old**;
- are **currently** collaborating on a joint research project;
- conduct research in the fields of **chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology** or at the **interface between chemistry and health**.

*The duration of parental leave may be deducted from the candidate's age (on presentation of proof).

5. Submission of application and jury

By **March 10, 2025**, applicants must:

- complete an online form (only one per team: [link to online form](#));
- send the application **in English in a single PDF format** to the following e-mail address: attache-science.berlin-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr. Only one application portfolio per team must be submitted. It must contain the following documents:
 - a **CV** per applicant in pdf format and max. two A4 pages showing the excellence of his/her research work (conferences, publications, patents, awards, etc.);
 - a **presentation of the current joint research project**, with a focus on the cooperation, the excellence of the joint research work and the planned objectives and references to joint publications. The description should be understandable for a person with a scientific background in the fields of chemistry or health. The relevance of the current Franco-German cooperation should be presented, emphasizing the complementarity of the team members (max. three A4 pages);
 - a letter of recommendation per applicant from the head of the institution can optionally be attached (max. one A4 page).

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