Call for Applications

Within the project "Eurasian Studies and Beyond", a joint initiative of Humboldt Universitaet (Berlin) and Nazarbayev University (Astana) sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation, two PhD stipends are available at Humboldt University.

We invite young scholars holding a Masters degree at the time of application, and who are planning to do a PhD in Central Asian Studies or a related field to apply for a four-year PhD stipend, starting from April 2019 or later.

Applications should include:

- Statement of interest
- A project outline of 5 pages maximum (bibliography included)
- CV
- Copies of certificates
- 1 letter of reference

Please include all documents in one single PDF file and submit your application by email to: sekretariat-zentralasien@asa.hu-berlin.de (subject: HU-NU Stipend). Applications will be accepted until 20 March, 2019, or until positions are filled. Eligible candidates may be asked to submit additional documents.

Applicants should hold an excellent Masters degree in Central Asian Studies or a related field, and have a good working knowledge of one or more Central Asian languages. Their PhD project should relate to cultures and/or societies of Central Eurasia from the middle ages to the present. Projects that include Islamic references or transregional aspects will be given particular attention. Doctoral projects in Central Asian Studies (and some related fields) are to be carried out on an individual basis; hence, a supervisor needs to be identified (please indicate possible supervisor(s) in your application letter).

The PhD students may, upon receipt of their stipend contract, apply for admission to the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies if they wish to carry out their project within the framework of a structured doctoral program, and when their topics are in line with the program of the Graduate School.

Fellowship holders will be located at Berlin and accomplish their doctorate at Humboldt University. During their dissertation work period, they will spend one semester or more in Central Asia, preferably at Nazarbayev University.

In line with the regulations of the Volkswagen Foundation, these doctoral stipends are granted for 4 years (65% of TVL E 13/1). The grant includes some mobility funds. Stipend holders agree to accomplish their doctoral degree within the funding period, and to support the overall goals of the Eurasian Studies and Beyond initiative through part-time administration work and/or teaching/mentoring.