



ReIReS

Research Infrastructure
on Religious Studies



Scholarships in Europe for Historical Religious Studies

SCHOLARS from any academic discipline are invited to spend typically two weeks in one of 14 outstanding European research centres, libraries and archives in Leuven, Paris, Mainz, Hamburg, Sofia, and Bologna to carry out their **RESEARCH PROJECT** IN HISTORICAL RELIGIOUS STUDIES.

Who can apply?

Scholars, docs, postdocs, senior scholars, librarians and curators from Europe and from countries associated to Horizon2020 can apply for a scholarship in one of the partner institutions excluding those belonging to the applicant's country.



RelReS Scholarships Include Financial, Practical and Scientific Support

- Research in relevant collections for the history of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Ancient and non European Religions.
- Full access to physical and virtual sources, analytical and technical data, tools and instruments of the providing institution.
- Constant tutorial of experts in the relevant field of research who assist and guide the use and interpretation of the data.
- Assistance in library use and search for literature and sources.
- Coverage of travel costs and accommodation for the duration of the stay.

What is RelReS?

The EU funded project “Research Infrastructure on Religious Studies” (RelReS) is a starting community of twelve European institutions that are building a unique and highly qualified infrastructure on religious studies. RelReS brings knowledge into the field of religious pluralism in Europe, thus contributing to a stable society. It explains and implements the idea that “Knowledge Creates Understanding”.

“During my visit I had discussions with several specialists in the area of my studies, I had meetings and writing discussions and I had advice concerning the methodology of my research.” (RelReS grantholder from Ukraine)

“The scholarship helped me to implement the proposed methodology relying on critical enquiry as well as historical criticism of primary sources.” (RelReS grantholder from Romania)



Research Possibilities at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

The following facilities offer access to ReIReS grantholders:

Bereichsbibliothek Theologie (University library) with Jewish Library

The extensive holdings of the University Library comprise 3.5 million print media, 30,000 e-journals and 85,600 e-books, and the newly arranged Theology Faculty Library (Protestant and Catholic; Bereichsbibliothek Theologie). The Theology Faculty Library also hosts the remains of the libraries of the former Jewish congregations of Mainz and is one of the very few libraries saved from the persecutions in Germany. Most interesting is the reconstruction of the ownership of the books, or of Jewish reading culture in medieval and modern Mainz.

Hymnbook Archive

In the Hymnbook Archive (Gesangbucharchiv) Mainz, you'll find perhaps the world's most important collection of utilitarian Christian literature with more than 7000 German hymnbooks and breviaries that reflect the changeful history of religion in a unique way since they were constantly adjusted to the zeitgeist of the time.

Diocesan Library Mainz

Another part of the project is based in the Academic and Regional Library of the Diocese of Mainz (Martinus-Bibliothek), with a large stock of medieval manuscripts, fragments of manuscripts from ancient book bindings, and incunabula. They allow for instance the study of reading interests of the Jesuits in the Mainz college and novitiate, the scholasticism of Counterreformation Catholicism, or the neo-scholasticism in Mainz in the 19th century.



Municipal Library

The Municipal Library (Wissenschaftliche Stadtbibliothek Mainz) owns 670,000 media units, among them the holdings of the secularized convents of Mainz and of the old University library from 1477. Especially the 1300 medieval manuscripts and the printed holdings from the former Carthusian and Carmelite libraries are unique and mirror the active religious reflection in the convents between the late middle ages and the Enlightenment.

Other Scholarship Locations in Europe

RelReS offers scholarships in a total of fourteen outstanding European research centres, libraries and archives in **Leuven, Paris, Mainz, Hamburg, Sofia, and Bologna**.



All these institutions hold relevant collections for the history of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and also of Ancient and non-European Religions. These collections of manuscripts, rare books, documents and digital materials allow research concerning religious studies as well as interreligious and interconfessional dialogue throughout history.



Mainz as Research Location

Mainz is one of the most attractive cities in Germany and popular as a former Roman city, cradle of printing, home of Johannes Gutenberg and famous for good food and local wine.

Culturally, Mainz has a lot to offer with the more than 1000 year old Mainz Cathedral in the Old Town, with the theatre and festivals. The Gutenberg Museum is one of the oldest museums of the history of book and printing in the world, with testimonies from the beginning of printing in this city. Impressive is the new synagogue of 2008; with its eloquent architecture the building is a symbol of commemoration, reconciliation and Jewish life returning to Mainz.

The ReIReS scholars are accommodated in the cozy old town and enjoy free access to the book and digital collections as well as the support of experts in their field of research.

In the new theology building, a workplace with many research and working facilities is provided.





How and When Do I Apply?

The call for applications for the scholarships in Leuven, Paris, Mainz, Hamburg, Sofia, and Bologna will be open from June 15 until August 30, 2020; for detailed information about research opportunities and the online application procedure see <https://reires.eu/call-for-proposals-tasc-and-taad/>

Contact

For questions concerning the holdings and services apply to the point of contact of the relevant facility, see <https://reires.eu/call-for-proposals-tasc-and-taad/>

For questions concerning the technicality of the submission procedure apply to
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Photos

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