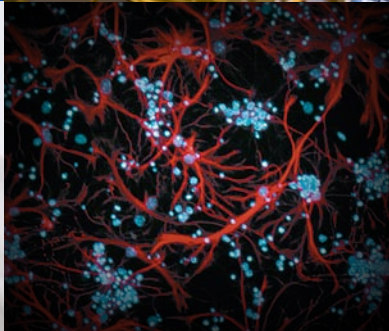
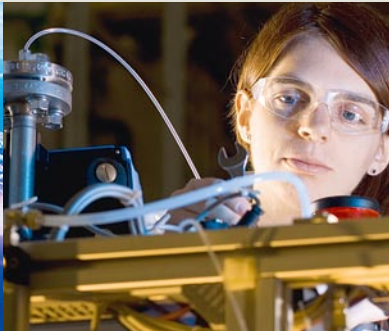




MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

Research is calling!

Promotion of junior scientists in the Max Planck Society



COME AND JOIN US!

Are you **creative, curious, focussed and enthusiastic** about basic research?

Have you **successfully completed a university degree** or even completed your doctorate and want to continue carving out a career in the sciences?

Would you like to **work in Germany** and experience an inspiring cultural setting?

Are you excited about conducting **research in an international environment**?



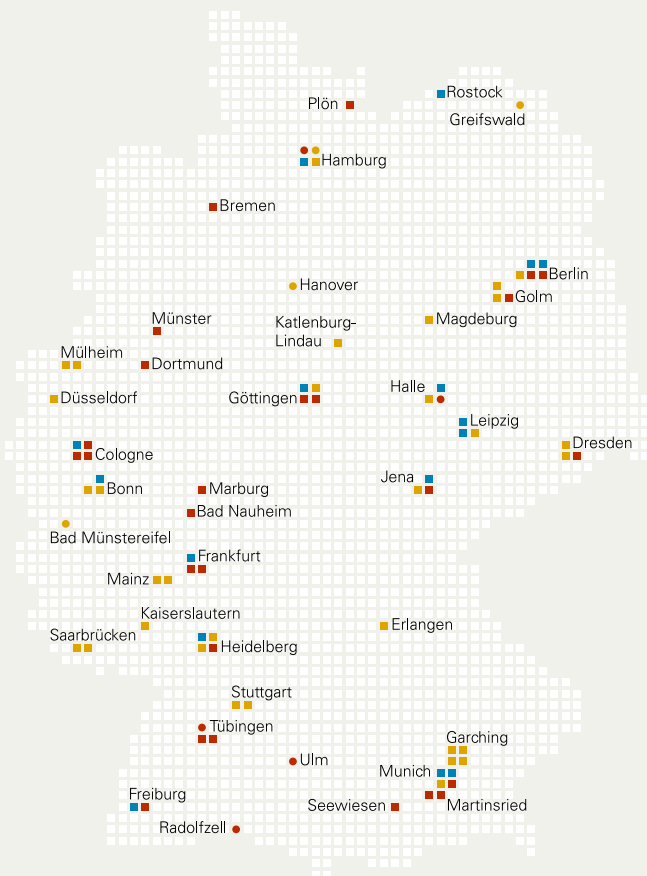
If your answer to these questions is yes, the Max Planck Society is one of the best places you could be! The Society enjoys international renown, and surveys reveal that it is the preferred employer for many students.

In our 80 Max Planck Institutes, cutting-edge scientists conduct interdisciplinary research in areas like physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, computer science, law, the social sciences, art and education.

Choosing the Max Planck Society enables you to:

- collaborate with leading scientists from Germany and abroad
- encounter the latest discoveries in basic research
- discover new concepts and ways of thinking
- exchange and discuss ideas in an interdisciplinary and international environment
- benefit from multi-disciplinary doctoral training
- take advantage of state-of-the-art research facilities

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTES IN GERMANY



- Institute / Research Center
- Subinstitute / External Branch / other Research Institution
- Biology and Medicine Section
- Chemistry, Physics and Technology Section
- Human Sciences Section

NETHERLANDS

- Nijmegen

ITALY

- Rome
- Florence

I WANT TO EARN A DOCTORATE!

Doctoral students with drive – what we offer you

The Max Planck Institutes – recognised as centres of scientific excellence – have a successful track record in supporting doctoral students from all over the world. The Max Planck Institutes are closely networked with universities that officially confer doctoral degrees at the end of the period of study.

At least 30 percent of the 3,800 or so doctoral students (as of January 1, 2010) are studying and conducting their research at an International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS). At present there are almost 60 such schools which partner with Max Planck Institutes, as well as universities and other research facilities in Germany and abroad. They offer students the opportunity to earn their doctoral degree in structured programmes with interdisciplinary curricula. Thesis committees mentor the students, of whom more than half come from outside of Germany.

What you need to know:

- To qualify for admission as a doctoral student you must have completed a degree from a recognised university at the Master's degree (M.Sc.) level.
- The Max Planck Society does not have a central procedure for admissions or for awarding scholarship to doctoral candidates. Please contact the Max Planck Institute or International Max Planck Research School of your choice directly, or visit www.max-planck.de for job offers.
- Doctoral students receive an employment contract or a scholarship ensuring sufficient financial support.
- The Max Planck Society annually awards the Otto Hahn Medal to doctoral students who demonstrate scientific excellence in their work.

EARN A
DOCTORATE

HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME A DOCTORAL STUDENT ...

... at a Max Planck Institute?

- Applications for admission may be submitted at any time throughout the year, directly to the Max Planck Institute of choice. Doctoral positions at Max Planck Institutes are not always advertised in the press or on the internet. Applicants must take the initiative and choose the Max Planck Institute in the area relevant to their academic profile. Please visit www.institutes.mpg.de.
- Research projects can be developed in consultation with a supervisor and tailored towards the student's own interests, as well as in the institute's main areas of research.
- Each individual Max Planck Institute is responsible for selecting its own candidates.

... at an International Max Planck Research School?

- Please contact an IMPRS of your choice. They cover a wide range of scientific disciplines and innovative topics: www.imprs.mpg.de.
- The IMPRS have different application deadlines and competence-based selection procedures. Each individual IMPRS selects its own candidates. Some IMPRS occasionally admit exceptionally qualified students with a Bachelor's degree (B.Sc.).
- No tuition fees, registration fee only.

Getting in touch with others

Doctoral students in the Max Planck Society are organised in a lively network. The PhDnet represents their interests and serves as a communication platform. The network's website contains information on the activities of some of the research groups and lots of news that may be of interest to students during their doctoral research. www.phdnet.mpg.de



SPRINGBOARD FOR MOVING AHEAD

Continuing on as a postdoc

After completing a PhD, junior scientists have the opportunity to conduct a research project of their own and to gather teaching experience as a postdoc at a Max Planck Institute. They receive a scholarship or a fixed term employment contract of between five and seven years. Max Planck Institutes, networked with national and international research partners, offer an excellent working environment.

These positions as PROJECT LEADERS are advertised in journals (both German and international) or on the Max Planck Society's on-line job board. Those interested in a specific research topic pursued by one of the Max Planck Institutes, can also contact the institute directly. As a project leader you will be part of the department of a Director at the Max Planck Institute. Evaluation takes place within that department.

MOVE AHEAD



Positions for Research Group Leaders

The Max Planck Society is keen to identify particularly gifted junior scientists from all over the world to lead their RESEARCH GROUPS. Research Group Leaders are responsible for a small number of employees and have their own budget, which guarantees them independence – the ideal starting point for the rest of their scientific career.

Research Group Leaders:

- Appointed by the Board of Directors of the Max Planck Institute
- Located at a certain Max Planck Institute
- No deadlines for announcement.

A top-class form of support are the MAX PLANCK RESEARCH GROUPS. They have been at the heart of the Max Planck Society's efforts for the advancement of junior scientists for more than 40 years. They offer postdocs – selected at the end of a rigorous competitive procedure – the opportunity to build a successful profile in the scientific community. All Max Planck Research Group Leaders have complete freedom in how they conduct their research.

Max Planck Research Group Leaders:

- Posts are awarded centrally by the Max Planck Society
- Negotiations are held and the appointment made by the President of the Max Planck Society
- – (1) Institutional Max Planck Research Group Leaders; located at a certain Max Planck Institute
- – (2) Free Floating Max Planck Research Group Leaders; can choose the Max Planck Institute they want to work for

All Group Leaders are independent of the Board of Directors of their respective Max Planck Institute and will be evaluated by the Institute's Scientific Advisory Board.

Special professorships for women: the Minerva Programme

The Minerva Programme symbolises the Max Planck Society's efforts to increase the proportion of highly qualified women in science: the programme makes 30 posts available to female scientists who have already proven themselves at one of the Max Planck Institutes. The women are given the opportunity to work as Group Leaders for a period of five years, thereby laying the foundations for a management post or professorship at a university or research facility. The Max Planck Institutes put forward suitable candidates, and selection takes place twice a year on the basis of reports from external assessors.

**Promotion of women through the Minerva Programme:
Elisabeth Binder, Sonja Kotz, Hannah Baader,
Ute Noppney (from left to right).**



WE CARE FOR YOU!

Career development and work-life resources

The Max Planck Society has a wealth of resources to help you to achieve a work-life balance and enhance your career development.



WE CARE

- Help with the formalities of moving to Germany
- Childcare places in day-care centres located within the institutes themselves or operated on behalf of employers in the local area
- Opportunities for part-time work
- Equal Opportunities Commissioners at the Max Planck Institutes
- For doctoral students: Courses on soft skills
- For post docs: Seminars on leadership and communication techniques and project management skills
- Minerva-FemmeNet: Mentoring and networks for female scientists
- Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard Foundation: Funding for doctoral students with children



FACTS & FIGURES

The Max Planck Society is an independent non-profit scientific organisation which operates 80 Max Planck Institutes. For more than 60 years it has embodied knowledge-oriented basic research in the life sciences, the natural sciences and the human sciences – and served as a byword for excellence: 17 Max Planck scientists have been honoured with the Nobel Prize to date.

Around 21,000 people altogether currently work and conduct research in the Max Planck Society. Each Max Planck Institute is headed by cutting-edge scientists. These top scientists work under the best of conditions; they choose their own topics and are given free reign in selecting their staff. Where our current knowledge of the world ends, that is where they search for answers – in fields that have yet to find a place in a university research setting, that require costly apparatus, large-scale equipment or specialist libraries, or that call for extensive interdisciplinary cooperation.



Some 13,000 scientists work at the Max Planck Society: around half of them are doctoral and postdoctoral students, as well as student assistants and guest scientists – in short, the next generation of scientists. Giving them the help they need to get ahead is a key concern of the Max Planck Society. They are incorporated into the institutes' research projects, which are driven forward in national and international cooperation with research facilities and universities. Besides being financed by the Max Planck Society, young scientists also receive third-party funding from sources like the German Research Foundation (DFG) and many others.

MAX PLANCK SOCIETY

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www.maxplanck.de | www.imprs.mpg.de | www.institutes.mpg.de