The German History Society has initiated an award for critical interventions in debates on gender, minorities, migration, ethnicity and equality, including research on critical race studies, LGBTQ+ and queer studies and disability studies related to any aspect of the history of Germany and the German-speaking world in its broadest global context. The award aims to provoke and promote research on more inclusive histories of the German past. The Royal Historical Society’s report on Race, Ethnicity & Equality revealed the full extent of low levels of diversity and inclusivity in UK History departments and among History students. Our award aspires to improve awareness of, and engagement with, topics relating to underrepresented communities, and to include more historians and research from scholars of colour, scholars with disabilities, and scholars from the LGBTQ+ community.

The GHS Inclusivity Award of £500 will be awarded annually in two categories: an undergraduate essay competition and an early career researcher essay competition. In each category, a runner-up will also be awarded £250. The Society will pay the cost of travel within the UK and Ireland for awardees to attend a presentation ceremony during the annual conference of the German History Society in the same year. The winning essays will also be considered for publication in German History.

Eligibility

The scheme is open to:

- Any student registered for an undergraduate or postgraduate degree (master’s or doctoral) at a university in the UK or the Republic of Ireland
- Postgraduate Researchers (full-time or part-time) registered at a UK or Irish university
- Early career scholars (defined as being within ten years of PhD viva date)
- Independent scholars and those working outside higher education institutions if within ten years of their PhD viva date
- All applicants must be members of the German History Society

The Rules

- The essay can be on any aspect of German History as specified above, including the history of German-speaking people both within and beyond Europe. Papers drawing on research in primary sources and critical, methodological, or theoretical essays are equally welcome.
- The text of an essay (exclusive of references and bibliography) must not exceed 10,000 words.
- The essay must be submitted in English.
- Manuscripts which are already in press or have been submitted for publication in another journal are not eligible.
• Applicants should submit manuscripts together with their personal details (name, address, email address, telephone number, current status/position) via email to the Chair of the German History Society, Prof Karin Friedrich, by 5pm on 29 April 2022.
• Queries or questions regarding the award scheme can be directed to the Secretary of the German History Society, Dr Helen Roche.

The essays submitted will be read by a jury of six historians. Bearing in mind the overall criterion of publishable quality, the jury will evaluate the submissions in terms of their originality, depth, scope and rigour, and the extent to which they make a new contribution to historical understanding, as well as qualities of style and presentation. The jury reserves the right not to award a prize in any particular year. The decision of the jury is final. The jury will make its decision by the end of June and inform the candidates as soon as possible after that. Please note that we cannot offer feedback on individual submissions.