Dear Sir or Madam,

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) will award its Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize, the highest and most prestigious German research prize worth €2.5 million per award, for the 39th time in 2024.

I would like to invite you to nominate outstanding researchers to the DFG as candidates for the 2024 Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize and submit your nomination

until 18 January 2023

via the DFG’s electronic proposal and review system elan (elan.dfg.de). Please allow me to emphasise that nominations for female researchers are particularly welcome.

Finally, I would ask you, most emphatically, to keep your nomination and all the associated documents as confidential as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Katja Becker
2024 Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize

1. **Purpose of the programme**
   The Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Programme awards prizes to exceptional scientists and academics for their outstanding achievements in the field of research. The programme aims to improve the working conditions of outstanding scientists and academics, expand their research opportunities, relieve them of administrative tasks, and help them employ particularly qualified early career researchers. The Leibniz Programme was established in 1985, a maximum of €2.5 million is provided per award.

2. **Selection criteria**
   - The candidate has a leading or outstanding position in their field of research.
   - The candidate exerts a strong appeal to early-career and established researchers from Germany and abroad.
   - The nominee's scientific achievements to date are
     - scientifically excellent and exceptional,
     - original and pioneering, and
     - internationally leading and have advanced the development of the nominee's particular field of research.
   - It is probable that the nominee's scientific achievements will have a long-term impact on the future development of the research area.

3. **Terms and requirements**
   - The prize may be awarded to individuals or research teams working at a research institution in Germany or at a German research institution abroad.
   - The prizes are not limited to certain research areas; the scientific quality of the previous work is the sole criterion for nomination.
   - It is possible to submit more than one nomination or to resubmit a previous nomination.
   - Nominees may be put forward by: all universities and other doctorate-granting higher education institutions in Germany, all members of the DFG, the Helmholtz Association of National Research Centres, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, the elected spokespersons of the DFG's review boards, previous Leibniz prizewinners, and former members of the Leibniz Selection Committee.
   - Direct applications are not accepted.

4. **Documents and formalities to submit nominations**
   Please enclose the following documents with your nomination and
submit it via the DFG’s electronic proposal and review system elan (elan.dfg.de):

- A scientific and personal appraisal, approx. one to two pages in length, justifying the nomination
- A curriculum vitae of the researcher’s scientific career
- An up-to-date list of publications by the nominee

To extend the review possibilities preferably in English and German language.

Please do not enclose any other letters of recommendation.

Please note that you need to register in elan for submission. If you have questions in this regard, contact the elan Helpdesk (Tel.: 0228/885-2900, e-mail: elan-helpdesk@dfg.de).

Please inform the DFG of any developments that could influence the selection outcome, even after your submission.

5. Selection of Prizewinners
Prizewinners are selected by the DFG’s Joint Committee on the basis of recommendations made by the Selection Committee for the Leibniz Programme in December 2023. The award ceremony will take place in March 2024.