



# Early Career Researchers Forum

## New Perspectives for Asian Studies in the Humanities

ESF / CCK-F  
Humanities Spring 2009 II

### What is ESF?

The European Science Foundation (ESF) provides a platform for its Member Organisations to advance European research and explore new directions for research at the European level.

Established in 1974 as an independent non-governmental organisation, the ESF currently serves 78 Member Organisations across 30 countries.

For further information see:

<http://www.esf.org>

<http://www.esf.org/human>

### What is CCK-F?

The Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Taipei, the capital of the Republic of China on Taiwan, to support and promote the understanding of Chinese culture and society overseas.

For further information see:

<http://www.cckf.org/index-e.htm>

### ESF offers, on a competitive basis, full-cost awards to leading young scholars to participate in the ESF Humanities Spring 2009 II

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) and the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation (CCK-F) invite the next generation of leading scholars in the Humanities ("early career researchers") to participate in a three-day "new horizons" workshop in Prague, Czech Republic, from 27 – 30 May 2009.

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) plays a central role in coordinating existing and emerging transnational networks of scholars and institutions in the Humanities. Stakeholders are national and international research funding bodies looking for new contributions to their discussions on strategic choices. With the "ESF Humanities Spring 2009 II", SCH wishes to mobilise the creative potential of the next generation of leading Humanities scholars to inform these processes.

The 2009 II workshop will be held under the title:

### "New Perspectives for Asian Studies in the Humanities"

A distinguished group of 21 young scholars will debate and sketch possible and/or desired futures for Asian Studies research in the Humanities. Participants will address some of the challenges and opportunities Humanities scholarship is facing in this particular field of study (in terms of both topics and research communities). The discussions will be animated by six more senior colleagues from the field.

By way of introduction, three of the senior colleagues will give keynote lectures presenting and interpreting national and international examples of relevant strategic initiatives and ongoing activities. There will also be other opportunities to learn about international research funding programmes. The detailed workshop programme will be made available on the "ESF Humanities Spring" website shortly.

During thematically defined break-out sessions and more broadly conceived plenary sessions, participants will work towards setting up a global network of scholars in Asian Studies in the Humanities. Furthermore, topics of common interest to be further developed will be identified. These will be used as input for future Humanities policy and funding discussions, as well as policy briefings at the level of ESF, its member organisations and beyond.

## ESF / CCK-F Humanities Spring 2009 II - Early Career Researchers Forum

### Eligibility

- PhD holders, no longer than 10 years after the defence, and not older than 38 years of age (both sub-criteria will be jointly applied); there is no restriction on nationality;
- Individuals eligible under point 1 who are currently conducting research in Asian Studies (regionally defined as North-East and South-East Asia, including India, and Central Asia), with a particular emphasis on the Humanities perspective, as described on page 1;
- Affiliation with an institution of higher education and/or research in Europe (ESF membership countries plus other countries of Europe as defined by Council of Europe membership, but also including Belarus, Israel and Vatican State) or in Asia, as defined above;
- Institution of higher education and/or research may include museums, libraries, archives and other research infrastructures, as well as Academies;
- Ability and willingness to reflect on progress and visions for Asian Studies in the Humanities in a **wider disciplinary and international context based on a solid mastery of one's own discipline, all as demonstrated by the CV and attached documentation.**

### Documentation requested (compiled in one document)

- One-page presentation letter
- Full CV (max. 2 pages)
- Statement of past and current research (max. 1 page)
- References to 3 publications (incl. links to self-archived / online texts)
- Statement on the theme of the call (max. 1 page).

**N.B.:** The working language for application, selection, the event itself and follow up documents is English. Short-listed candidates are asked to indicate availability (at short notice) for a telephone interview in that language to verify their ability to actively participate in discussions (see timeline below).

### Selection criteria and process

- Formal eligibility
- Scientific track record; scientific potential (solid grounding in disciplinary work)
- **Originality of prospective thinking as expressed in the "statement" and in publications**

*The selection will be carried out by a dedicated SCH Panel.*

### Timeline for application and selection

Mid-November 2008	Call published and circulated
<b>18 December 2008</b>	Deadline for submission of online application: <a href="http://www2.esf.org/WD110AWP/WD110Awp.exe/CONNECT/Humanities_Spring?id=183">http://www2.esf.org/WD110AWP/WD110Awp.exe/CONNECT/Humanities_Spring?id=183</a>
By 25 February 2009	Short-listing of suitable candidates
By 4 March 2009	Telephone interviews
By 15 March 2009	Notification of successful applicants
By 22 March 2009	Acceptance letter to be sent by selected applicants to ESF

**The ESF award will cover travel costs, meals, accommodation.**

### N.B.:

No more detailed information on the event itself or the selection process than this Call text will be made available for applicants **except for the programme on the upcoming "ESF Humanities Spring" website.**

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