

ميكام
مركز ميريان
للدراسات المتقدمة
في المنطقة المغاربية



MECAM

Merian Centre
For Advanced Studies
In The Maghreb

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Germany Research Visits (2026)

Extended Deadline: 30 June 2026; 24.00h CET.

The Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb (MECAM) invites applications for **three grants** within its “Germany Research Visits” programme, which allows for **maximum three-month stays** at one of its German partner institutions (Philipps-Universität Marburg, GIGA Institute for Middle East Studies in Hamburg, Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin, Leipzig University). The call allows **stays of varying lengths in 2026** within the regular working periods of the host institutions (excluding semester breaks and holiday seasons). Only **applications submitted in English** will be considered.

MECAM has been founded by a consortium of Tunisian and German research institutions to promote free academic exchange and cooperation in the Humanities and Social Sciences in and across the Maghreb and other regions of the world. Its five interrelated Interdisciplinary Research Fields (IRFs) – “Aesthetics & Cultural Practice”, “Inequality & Mobility”, “Memory & Justice”, “Resources & Sustainability”, and “Identities & Beliefs” – represent MECAM’s guiding theme “Imagining Futures: Dealing with Disparity” (more information on this can be found on www.mecam.tn).

While the regular MECAM fellowships offer scholars free space to work on their self-chosen research projects within a community of fellows at MECAM and in exchange with colleagues in Tunis, the Germany Research Visits programme offers opportunities for exchange with scholars from the institutions and networks of MECAM’s partners in Germany.

With funding from the:



UNIVERSITÄT
LEIPZIG



ELIGIBILITY & MOTIVATION

Applications are welcome if...

- you have already been a MECAM Fellow or are appointed Principal Investigator
- you present a project that is related to MECAM's guiding theme and at least one of its IRFs
- you can provide valuable academic contributions for the fellows and colleagues currently working at MECAM
- you are interested in collaborating and engaging with Philipps-Universität Marburg, GIGA Institute for Middle East Studies in Hamburg, Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin or Leipzig University
- you are motivated to expand MECAM's network
- you are prepared to enhance the visibility of MECAM at your host institution in Germany
- you are interested in contributing to academic exchange between the Maghreb and Germany

OUR OFFER

GRANT

The grant covers daily allowances as well as expenses for visa, travel and accommodation in accordance with the upper limits of the German Travel Expenses Act. During the period of their residency, which will last a maximum of three months, recipients will work at one of our German partner institutions and stay where their host institution is located. They are expected to work on the research projects or engage in the activities stated in their applications, to participate in scientific events and to present their work at least once at their host institution.

NETWORK

The primary aim of MECAM is to create a high-quality and flexible setting for peer-to-peer exchange and debate between researchers from different countries, disciplines, and in different phases of their academic career. Accordingly, guests will benefit from exchange, debate, collaboration and support of their colleagues – for example with regard to research, publications or scholarly events.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The host institution provides its guests with office workspaces as well as communication and publication facilities for open-access and peer-reviewed formats of publication through the infrastructures of MECAM and its partners. During their entire stay, guests are supported by the MECAM staff based in Marburg in logistical and organizational matters.

YOUR APPLICATION

MECAM kindly requests that applications are submitted in English. Submissions are possible until September 30, 2025. Please send your application, which should include the documents listed below, to mecam-office@uni-marburg.de. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact MECAM's coordination office via the same email address.



APPLICATION DOCUMENTS:

- **Curriculum vitae** including publications (2-3 pages)
- **Research proposal** (a short abstract of your current project; max. 1000 words)
- A **motivation letter** outlining...
 - (1) what you would like to work on or to do during your research stay in Germany
 - (2) how your work/project relates to MECAM's guiding theme and at least one of its IRFs
 - (3) MECAM's partner institution you would like to work at as well as, if possible, its activities / infrastructures you want to benefit from and the person(s) you would like to meet and collaborate with
 - (4) what kind of collaboration you expect
 - (5) how long and in which period you want to stay (starting date and end date)
 - (6) your previous connection with MECAM

The main selection criteria are the fit between the profiles / projects of the applicants and MECAM's research agenda, academic merit, thematic and regional expertise as well as linguistic proficiency: Applicants are expected to have sufficient knowledge of English.