

Newsletter March 2024

Dear reader,

As more people get older, cancer rates are rising. According to the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), more than 450,000 people are diagnosed with cancer each year in Germany, and the disease is the country's second most common cause of death. At the same time, considerable scientific advancements in the last decades have also led to more and more cancer patients surviving their illness.

German universities, research institutions and companies are leading actors in the fight against cancer. In 2019, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) launched the National Decade against Cancer, which brings together medicine and research, society, politics and business. This is just one of the hopeful signals we will shine a light on in this issue of our newsletter.

With this in mind, we wish you an encouraging and inspiring read!

SPOTLIGHT

Wherever you see this tag, the post connects to our monthly spotlight topic.

Current calls

SPOTLIGHT

Apply by: 19 March or 11 September 2024
PhD: oncology

Mildred Scheel Doctoral Programme
[Go to German Cancer Aid](#) (in German)

Apply by: MA students: 10 April 2024; PhD & Postdoc: any time
MA students, PhD & Postdoc: all disciplines

ERA Fellowships – Green Hydrogen
[Go to German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\)](#)

Apply by: 15 April 2024
Students & PhD: all disciplines except for medical studies; Muslims from Egypt, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Turkey

International Scholarship Program for Muslim Students and Doctoral Candidates
[Go to Avicenna-Studienwerk](#)

Apply by: 1 May or 1 November 2024
PhD: all disciplines; thematic focus on heritage conservation, architecture and urban planning

Wüstenrot Doctoral Scholarship
[Go to Wüstenrot Stiftung](#) (in German)

SPOTLIGHT

Apply by: 15 May 2024
PhD: disciplines related to cancer research

DKFZ International PhD Program
[Go to German Cancer Research Center \(DKFZ\)](#)

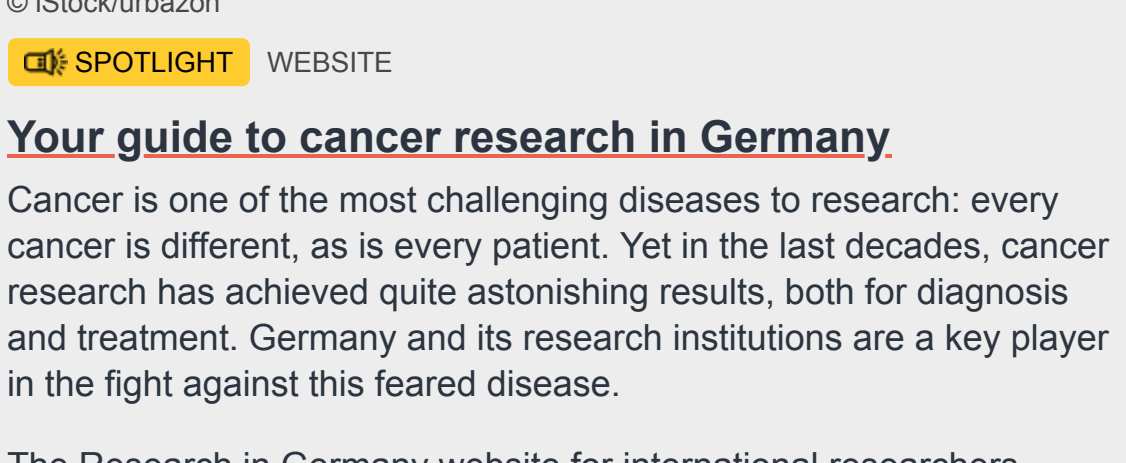
Apply by: 22 May or 22 November 2024
Postdoc: historical humanities

General Research Grants: Scholarships
[Go to Gerda Henkel Foundation](#)

Apply by: various deadlines (depending on applicant's country of origin)
PhD & Postdoc: all disciplines

DAAD Research Grants – Short-Term Grants
[Go to German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\)](#)

A spotlight on: cancer research



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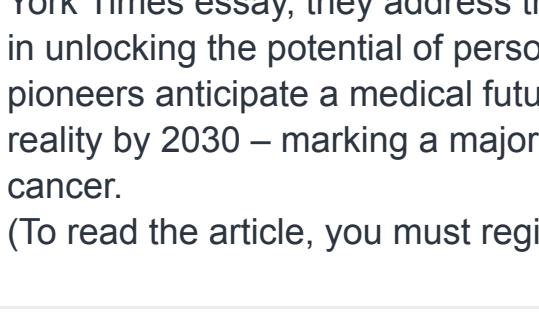
SPOTLIGHT WEBSITE

Your guide to cancer research in Germany

Cancer is one of the most challenging diseases to research: every cancer is different, as is every patient. Yet in the last decades, cancer research has achieved quite astonishing results, both for diagnosis and treatment. Germany and its research institutions are a key player in the fight against this feared disease.

The Research in Germany website for international researchers dedicates an entire page to the topic of cancer research. It offers a comprehensive overview over the German cancer research landscape: the most important players in the field; master, PhD and postdoc programmes; funding options; contacts at the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the oncology "IFIT" Cluster of Excellence; and more. If you are planning to do cancer research in Germany – this is your guide.

A closer look: work in Germany



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SPOTLIGHT ARTICLE

Personalised cancer vaccines: a look into the future with BioNTech

Join Dr Uğur Şahin and Dr Özlem Türeci, the scientific founders of Germany-based BioNTech, on a visionary journey as they share their insights into the evolving landscape of cancer treatment. In their New York Times essay, they address the pivotal role of artificial intelligence in unlocking the potential of personalised cancer vaccines. The two pioneers anticipate a medical future where these could become a reality by 2030 – marking a major turning point in the fight against cancer.

(To read the article, you must register for free with an email address.)



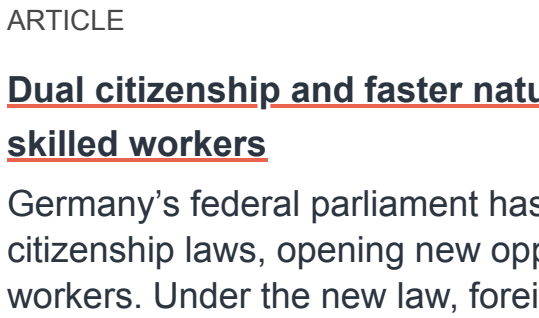
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SPOTLIGHT VIDEO

Unlocking cancer's secrets in space

How do cancer cells behave in space? This is the question José Luis Cortés Sánchez, a Mexican physicist studying for his PhD at the Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, is trying to answer. Researching the cells' interesting behaviour in microgravity takes place mostly on Earth but offers the possibility of exciting experiments during parabolic flight or on the ISS. However, José was not only drawn to Germany to work at a lab that's leading the field of space medicine, but also by the country's cultural offerings. Find out more about his mission in this video!

The bigger picture: life in Germany

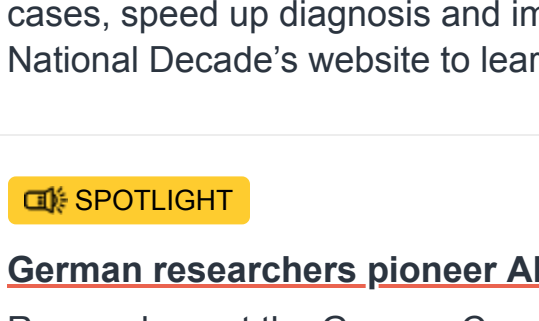


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SPOTLIGHT APP

breastcare app: your personal ally for breast health

The breastcare app by Pink Ribbon Germany is a versatile and free tool designed to educate women around the world about breast cancer. In multiple languages and with automatic localisation, the app offers essential information and interactive features – from facts and tips to a personalised menstrual calendar and a scan coach for early detection. Download the app now and take control of your health!



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ARTICLE

Dual citizenship and faster naturalisation open opportunities for skilled workers

Germany's federal parliament has approved major changes to its citizenship laws, opening new opportunities for international skilled workers. Under the new law, foreign nationals can apply for a German passport after five years – in exceptional cases even three years – of living in the country. The rules for dual citizenship are also loosened, making it possible for non-EU citizens to apply. Read the full article to explore the advantages of this landmark decision.

In case you missed it

SPOTLIGHT

A collective effort: Germany's National Decade against Cancer reaches halfway point

Germany's National Decade against Cancer, led by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), is a ten-year initiative to boost cancer research. Since 2019, key players from science, politics, society and business are joining forces to reduce the number of new cases, speed up diagnosis and improve treatment options. Visit the National Decade's website to learn more.

SPOTLIGHT

German researchers pioneer AI system for skin cancer diagnosis

Researchers at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) have developed an AI-based system for skin cancer diagnosis that explains its decisions – thus addressing dermatologists' distrust of algorithms. The system, known as Explanatory Artificial Intelligence (XAI), provides dermatological explanations based on specific lesion characteristics. The results suggest that XAI has the potential to improve diagnostic confidence and increase acceptance of AI among medical professionals.

Upcoming events

SPOTLIGHT

11. & 12.04.
APR 2024 · FRANKFURT / GERMANY & ONLINE

ICIO-24 | International Conference on Interventional Oncology

CALENDAR

17. – 21.04.
APR 2024 · RIO DE JANEIRO & SÃO PAULO / BRAZIL

Postdoc in Germany Brazil 2024

(in German)

CALENDAR

03.05.
MAY 2024 · ONLINE

How to become a Professor in Germany (online seminar)

SPOTLIGHT

28. – 30.08.
AUG 2024 · FRANKFURT / GERMANY

Frankfurt Cancer Conference

Your turn!

Are you optimistic about the potential impact of recent cancer research on improving treatment outcomes?

Yes, I am

I am not sure

No, I'm not

Let's stay in touch

Get updates about research career options and funding opportunities in Germany, the latest research news, interesting research projects and upcoming events.



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