Please use the Acrobat Reader and fill out on the screen.
This form ca be used barrier-free.

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung Schumannstraße 8 10117 Berlin T +49.30.28534-0 F-109 I www.boell.de E info@boell.de

Form for an

Expert reference for a **doctoral scholarship** application

Applicant's last name, first name

Applicant's PhD project title

Expert referee's academic title, last name, first name, subject area

Expert referee's position/job title, profession

Expert referee's e-mail address, telephone number

General remarks:

As the expert referee, we ask you to assess all of the following points and comment on them as fully as possible. If there is not enough space in the boxes provided, please add any further remarks at the end of the report.

The Scholarship Department of the Heinrich Böll Foundation supports the recipients of its doctoral scholarships in their research process, and is particularly committed to assuring the quality of supervision.

The two expert referees must be full or associate professors or lecturers with professorial qualifications (Privatdozent*in). One of the referees must be the applicant's main supervisor. If a second or associate supervisor has already been appointed, they should ideally provide the other reference.

Information on the application procedure:

Saskia Rosenmeyer, tel.: +49 (0)30 28534-400, email: studienwerk@boell.de, www.boell.de/studienwerk

1. Are you the main supervisor for this PhD thesis? Please select

Questions 2 to 6 are only for main supervisors: Skip question 2-6 >>

2. What kinds of supervision and support do you offer?

Weekly colloquiums	Please select
Formal research training group	Please select
Cross-disciplinary methodology seminars or similar	Please select
Arranging conference participation	Please select
Arranging publication opportunities	Please select

Stand: November 2025

Other kinds of supervision or support; comments:

3. Does your institution offer its doctoral students additional supervision and support as part of structured doctoral programmes? Please select

If so, what kinds of supervision and support?

4. Have you signed a learning agreement with the doctoral student? please select

If so, please enclose a copy of the agreement with this reference.

please select **Open file attachment to attach care agreement**

If not, please explain the arrangements you have agreed with your doctoral student in order to assure continuity of supervision. How do you ensure that the quality of supervision remains high (for example if the applicant does not live close to your institution)?

5. At present, how many doctoral students are assigned to you as their main supervisor?
The number is:

Comments:

6. Please confirm that the applicant has been admitted to doctoral studies by your university. Please select

If not, please comment:

The remaining questions are for main supervisors *and* second (associate) supervisors:

7. In what context did you make the applicant's acquaintance? How long have you known the applicant, and on what situations (for example participation in seminars or colloquiums) do you base the present assessment?

8. Do previous academic achievements, including written work, indicate a particular aptitude for academic work and is the applicant likely to achieve above-average academic performance? Please select

   Please comment your assessment:

9. Please briefly summarise the applicant's research topic, including the key hypotheses if possible:

10. In your opinion, is the applicant's research project likely to make an important, innovative, and original contribution to research? Please select

    If so, what will that contribution be?

11. Can the project build on specialist competence and skills (including methodological and theoretical knowledge) that the applicant has already acquired, for example through a Master's dissertation? Please select

    If no or partly: What specialist knowledge or skills are still missing and how will the candidate be able to acquire them? What support will you provide as a supervisor?

12. How do you assess the current status of the research project; where is the work already well advanced, where is the applicant possibly still at the very beginning? What immediate next steps would you suggest at this point in time?

13. Is the applicant's timetable appropriate to the topic? Are the research question and the work plan formulated and delimited in such a way that it is realistic to expect the work to be completed within the maximum funding period of three and a half years? Please select

    If no or partly: Do you think a shorter / longer period would be more appropriate? Please give reasons for your opinion:

Comments for question 13:

Questions 14-16 are only for main supervisors:

14. As a supervisor, how do you help to ensure that the thesis can be completed within the maximum funding period of 3 ½ years? And what options do you offer for final funding if the work is not completed within this period?

15. Is the doctoral project to be funded in the context of a larger research project? Please select

    If so, which ones?

16. In your opinion, will the applicant with a scholarship be able to devote their full labour to the scientific project? Please select

    If so, a) What measures will you take to ensure this?
    b) How can you ensure that the applicant does not have to take on other tasks at the chair/department that are not additionally remunerated during the period of the Heinrich Böll Foundation's scholarship?

Only for applications to participate in the Heinrich Böll Foundation research cluster 'Social-Ecological Transformation‘:

17. Explain the relevance of the doctoral topic to the research cluster “Social-Ecological Transformation".

Only for reports on projects that have been under way for longer than twelve months:

18. Has the timetable been adhered to so far? Please select skip questions 18-19 >>

    If not, what has led to delays?

19. As matters stand, do you expect the thesis to be completed within the next two years? Please select

    If not, please state the possible reasons for delay.

For all:

20. A general assessment of the personal and academic suitability of the applicant and any other remarks:

Place, date

Signature*

*A signature is not required if the reference is emailed directly by the referee from their email account. The report does not need to be sent by post.

Please send your expert report with your original signature directly to us as PDF via email to

studienwerk@boell.de

Please bear in mind that in the applicant's interest, your report should reach us before the closing date for receipt of applications (deadline: March 1 or September 1).

Thank you very much for your help on this matter, and for supporting our scholarship programme.

To check: Save and go to the beginning of the form