



Ernst Herzfeld Award for Master Theses in Islamic Art History and Archaeology

Call for Applications
Deadline November 15, 2025

The **Ernst Herzfeld-Gesellschaft für Islamische Kunst und Archäologie** | **Ernst Herzfeld Society for Studies in Islamic Art and Archaeology** is pleased to announce the call for the 6th edition of the *Ernst Herzfeld Award for Master Theses in Islamic Art History and Archaeology*. The aim of the Award is to encourage and support emerging scholars in Europe who are working on visual and material culture of Islamic countries in the fields of Art History, Archeology, and Historical Building Research. The Ernst Herzfeld Award highlights the diversity and innovation of current research in these growing fields. The successful candidate is honored at the annual colloquium of the Ernst Herzfeld Society, offered a full travel grant to present her/his master thesis at the colloquium, and is granted publication of the presented paper in the series of the Society, *Beiträge zur Islamischen Kunst und Archäologie* (BIKA).

Eligibility:

- Master thesis (MA, Master, M.phil., and similar) on a topic situated within the research fields of History of Islamic Art and Architecture, Islamic Archeology, or Historical Building Research on Islamic Architecture.
- The thesis must have been written and supervised at a university located in the European Union (including Switzerland). Reviewing and grading the thesis must have taken place between January 1, 2023 and November 15, 2025.
- The evaluation of the thesis by the university at which it was submitted must be between good and outstanding (according to the evaluation grid of respective countries).
- Accepted languages of the thesis are German, English, French, Italian, and Spanish.
- A thesis can be submitted only once to an Award Call.

Application procedure:

- Applications can be submitted by the students themselves.
- Applications include: 1) the complete MA thesis as it was submitted to the university (PDF); 2) a summary in English (5 pages); and 3) the original official review/evaluation of the thesis for/by the university at which it was submitted.

Review Procedure:

- The review procedure is jointly organized by the Award and the Steering Committees as well as the Advisory Board of the Ernst Herzfeld Society.
- Supervisors are excluded from the review procedure and the peer-review.
- Applications fulfilling the criteria of eligibility will undergo peer-review by the Award committee.
- The shortlisted candidates will be requested to submit a recommendation letter by their supervisors.
- The shortlisted theses will be evaluated by external reviewers.

Submission:

Please send the complete application by November 15, 2025 to: award@ernst-herzfeld-gesellschaft.com