



UNIVERSITY
OF COLOGNE

SCHOLARS AT RISK NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA

Scholars at Risk Germany Section

SCHOLARS AT RISK
GERMANY SECTION



Scholars at Risk

Germany Section

2016 kick-off for scholars at-risk Germany

Managed by the **Alexander von Humboldt** foundation

61 member institutions

5 regional sub networks (North Rhine-Westphalia, Bavaria, Northern Germany, Berlin, Baden-Wuerttemberg)

Steering group also managed by the AvH (members, DAAD, German Research Foundation, German Rectors' Conference)

Scholars at Risk

North Rhine–Westphalia



Scholars at Risk

North Rhine–Westphalia

Kick-off in **2017** as a regional network called „Regionalverbund RheinSieg“

Emerged to the NRW network in **2018**

8 member institutions

over **150** scholars hosted so far
(plus a varying number of supported guests)

Scholars at Risk

Basic Assumptions

Support programs for At-Risk Scholars typically share two basic assumptions:

- At-Risk Scholars are a particular **group of junior or experienced researchers** with **special or additional needs** compared to other international researchers because of the **unplanned shift of their career**
- Support structures for At-Risk Scholars should be based on customized **academic guidance** as well as support services in regard to **(psycho-)social challenges**

Scholars at Risk

Leading questions

- Which are the particularities of At-Risk Scholars with respect to support and service offers?
- How can we coordinate and/or jointly organize supporting activities, maximizing effect and benefit?
- How much does it cost and who is going to pay for it?

Scholars at Risk

North Rhine–Westphalia

Ongoing and Past Activities

- Regular meetings (sharing experience)
- Mailing list (short lines of communication)
- Website
- Workshop series
- Other institutional workshops
- Regular evaluations
- Career counselling through a mentoring program
- Awareness building

Planned Activities

- Strategic meeting
- Definition of career stages
 - * Onboarding
 - * Orientation
 - * Career development (outside/inside academia)
- Annual NRW support program
- Formation of cohorts (peer2peer network)
- Heterogeneous working group



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THANK YOU