

## The German Excellence Initiative (Promoting Research Excellence: New Approaches to Funding)

This chapter discusses the German Excellence Initiative (EI) and its three lines of funding. It considers the universities' approaches to and views on the initiative, the main features of the funding, governance structures, recruitment strategies, collaboration with other universities and with non-university research institutions, co-operation between departments and scientific disciplines, the international visibility of German research, and doctoral training. The EI has had a positive impact on a variety of measures and this has prompted federal and state governments to agree on a second five-year funding phase. More generally, the EI has triggered broad public debate about university research, priority setting and specialisation.

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