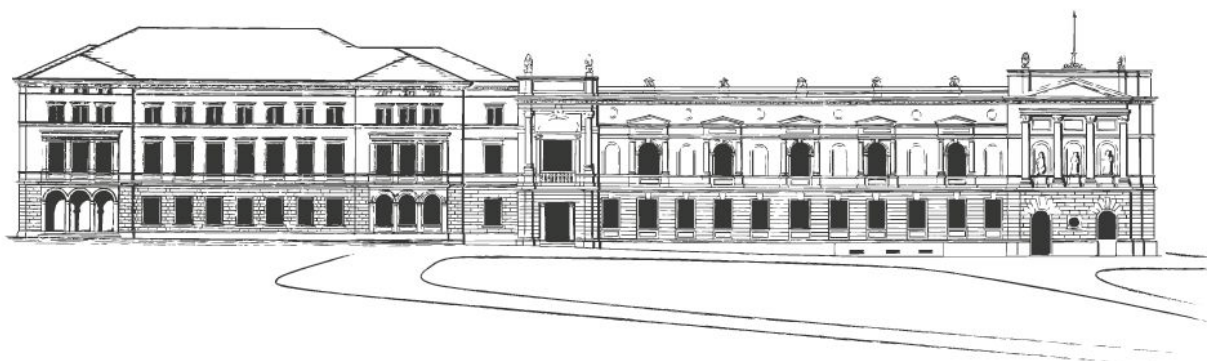


# Leopoldina Annual Conference 2025



## LEOPOLDINA JAHRESVERSAMMLUNG



## Artificial Intelligence

**25 to 26 September 2025**

Organising Committee:

Thomas Lengauer ML, Saarbrücken

Klaus-Robert Müller ML, Berlin

The German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina  
Jägerberg 1  
06108 Halle (Saale)

Phone: +49 (0) 345 472 39 – 600

Fax: +49 (0) 345 472 39 – 919

E-Mail: [jahresversammlung@leopoldina.org](mailto:jahresversammlung@leopoldina.org)  
[www.leopoldina.org](http://www.leopoldina.org)

## Board Meetings

Thursday, 25 September 2025

**10:00 – 11:30 am** | **General Assembly of Leopoldina Members**

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*(by invitation only)*

**11:30 – 12:00 am** | **Break**

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**12:00 am – 1:00 pm** | **Meeting of the Senate**

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*(by invitation only)*

# Programme

These lectures\* will be held in German and will be simultaneously translated into English.

**Thursday, 25 September 2025**

**2:00 – 3:30 pm**

**Opening Ceremony**

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## Musical Prelude

**Welcoming and Opening  
Speech**

Bettina Rockenbach ML  
*President of the Academy*

**Welcoming Addresses**

Dr. Lydia Hüsken  
*Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and  
Digital Affairs of the State of Saxony-Anhalt*

Dr. Rolf-Dieter Jungk  
*State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Research, Technology  
and Space (BMFTR)*

**Awards**

Bettina Rockenbach ML  
*President of the Academy*

- Cothenius-Medal
- ZukunftsWissen - Early Career Award of the Academy Leopoldina  
and Commerzbank-Stiftung

## Coffee break

**4:30 pm**

**Unveiling of the Portrait of former President  
Gerald Haug (2020 - 2025)**

**5:00 pm**

**Introduction**  
Thomas Lengauer ML

**Keynote Lecture**

**Artificial intelligence: Past, Present and Future\***  
*Cordelia Schmid ML, Paris/France*

## Break

**6:00 pm**

**Panel Discussion followed by a Reception**

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**Moderation:** *Christoph Drösser*  
*Journalist, San Francisco*

**Artificial Intelligence in the Services of Humans –  
(How) Can We Achieve This?\***

## Friday, 26 September 2025

9:00 – 9:30 am

| **Lecture of the Awardee “ZukunftsWissen”**

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**Moderation:** *Thomas Lengauer ML, Saarbrücken  
Member of the Presidium*

**Explainability in the Era of Foundation Models**  
*Zeynep Akata, Munich*

9:30 – 10:30 am

| **Session I - Technology**

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**Moderation:** *Klaus-Robert Müller ML, Berlin*

**Robots and the Search for Universal Intelligence: How  
Machines Learn to Move, Think, and Adapt\***  
*Sami Haddadin ML, Abu Dhabi/UAE*

**Generative AI and the Future of Intelligence\***  
*Björn Ommer, Munich*

10:30 – 11:00 am

| **Break**

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11:00 am – 12:30 pm

| **Session II – Life Sciences**

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**Moderation:** *Ulla Bonas ML, Halle (Saale)  
Member of the Presidium*

**How AlphaFold and other AI Tools Changed my Life**  
*Alex Bateman, Hinxton/UK*

**How AI Drives Advances in Biology—and How Biology  
Inspires Progress in AI**  
*Oliver Stegle, Heidelberg*

**Artificial Intelligence in Cancer Research and  
Diagnostics\***  
*Frederick Klauschen, Munich*

12:30 – 2:00 pm

| **Lunch**

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2:00 – 3:30 pm

## Session III – Further Applications

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**Moderation:** *Onno Oncken ML, Potsdam  
Member of the Presidium*

**From Revolutionizing Weather Forecasting to Better Understanding Climate Change\***

*Susanne Crewell ML, Cologne*

**Realizing Schrödinger’s Dream with AI-enabled Molecular Dynamics**

*Alexandre Tkatchenko, Luxembourg City/Luxembourg*

**Machine Learning in Gravitational-Wave Astronomy**

*Alessandra Buonanno ML, Potsdam*

3:30 – 4:00 pm

## Break

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4:00 – 5:30 pm

## Session IV - Reflection

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**Moderation:** *Regina Riphahn ML, Nuremberg  
Member of the Presidium*

**The Complex Interplay of AI, Social Media and Democracy\***

*Philipp Lorenz-Spreen, Berlin*

**Trustworthy AI? Epistemological and Ethical Aspects\***

*Judith Simon, Hamburg*

### Closing Lecture

**Neuronal Networks in the Brain: The Mutual Inspirations of Artificial and Biological Intelligence\***

*Moritz Helmstaedter, Frankfurt/M.*

5:45 pm

## Closing Remarks

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*Thomas Lengauer ML, Saarbrücken*

7:00 pm

## Dinner

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*(for members of the Leopoldina and the Leopoldina Academy Circle of Friends as well as invited guests)*

**Venue**

Restaurant „Speiseberg“, Kröllwitzer Straße 45, 06120 Halle

We would like to thank the Wilhelm and Else Heraeus Foundation for its financial support of the student program. This enables selected pupils from all over Germany to take part in the Annual General Meeting.

**WILHELM UND ELSE  
HERAEUS-STIFTUNG**



**LEOPOLDINA  
AKADEMIE  
FREUNDESKREIS**



Alfried Krupp von Bohlen  
und Halbach-Stiftung

Furthermore, the Leopoldina awards travel grants to young scientists for participation in the Annual Meeting. (Post)doctoral candidates can apply for these travel grants via [jahresversammlung@leopoldina.org](mailto:jahresversammlung@leopoldina.org). If the application is successful, a scholarship of up to € 400 (regardless of travel and accommodation costs) will be paid out. The Leopoldina would like to thank again the Leopoldina Academy Circle of Friends and the Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung as well for providing the funding.

## Registration

The event is aimed at all interested persons. Participation is free of charge. We kindly ask you to register in advance by 5 September 2025 via <https://www.leopoldina.org/iv-2025>.

You can also watch the Annual General Meeting via Leopoldina's YouTube channel.

## Hotel Reservation

The Leopoldina has provisionally reserved rooms. Participants are advised to make their individual booking under the keyword „Leopoldina“ no later than 12 August 2025. Room booking for speakers and senators will be made by the Leopoldina.

### **Dorint Hotel Charlottenhof**

Dorotheenstraße 12, 06108 Halle (Saale)

Tel. +49 (0) 345-292 36 06, Fax: +49 (0) 345-292 31 00

E-Mail: [reservierung.halle-charlottenhof@dorint.com](mailto:reservierung.halle-charlottenhof@dorint.com)

Walking distance approx. 20 minutes

Tram from Riebeckplatz – Moritzburgring (line 7) approx. 10 min. + 2 min. by foot

**A shuttle service will be provided from Dorint Hotel to the Leopoldina and back at the following times:**

Thursday, 25 September 2025

from 9:00 am; return journey after the reception

Friday, 26 September 2025

from 8:15 am; after closing remarks to the restaurant; return journey from 9 p.m. from the restaurant to Dorint Hotel

**Further accommodation options (contingent keyword “Leopoldina”):**

### **Ankerhof Hotel GmbH**

Ankerstraße 2a, 06108 Halle (Saale)

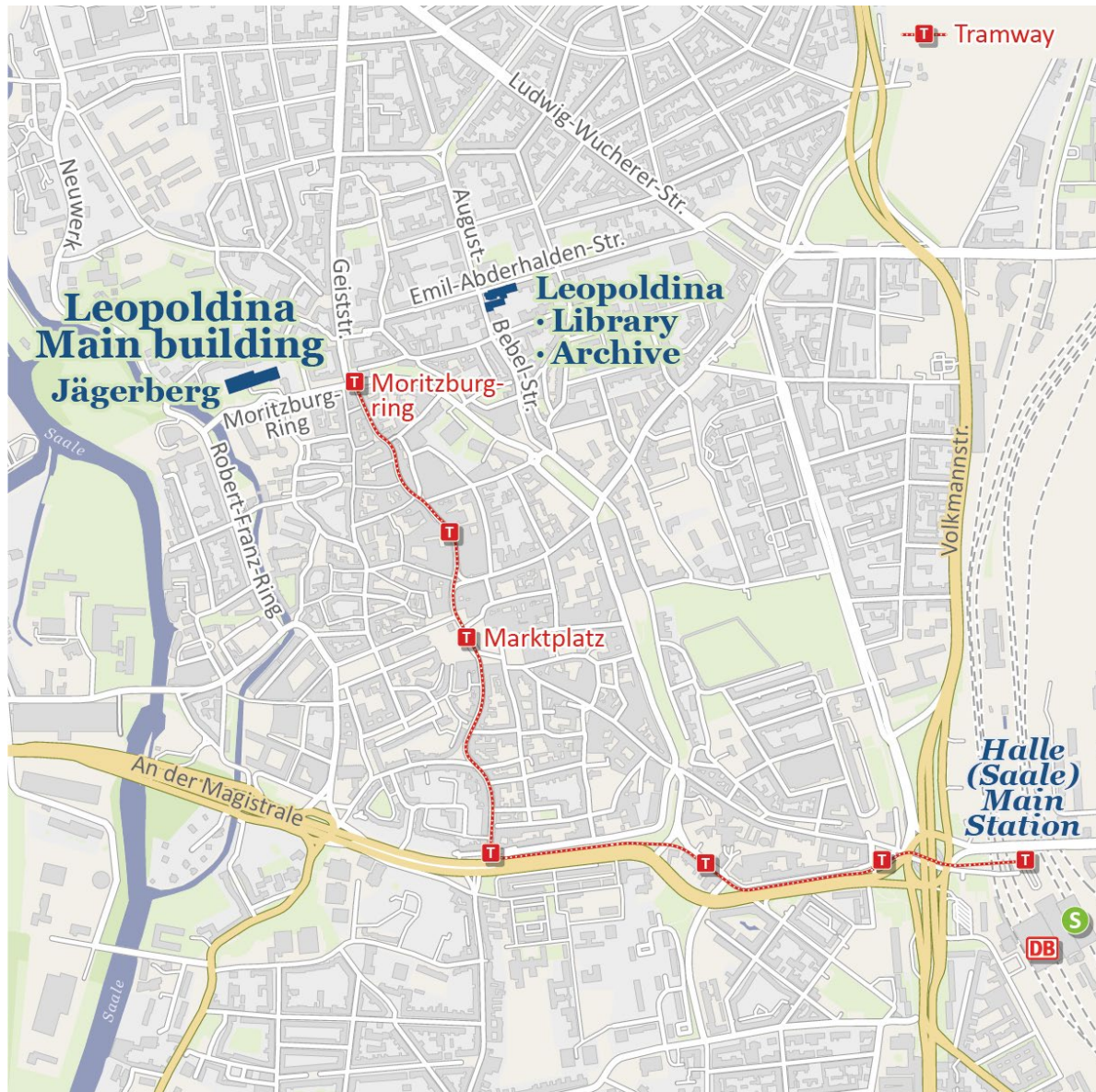
Tel. +49 (0) 345 232 32 00, Fax: +49 (0) 345 232 32 19

E-Mail: [reception@ankerkhof.de](mailto:reception@ankerkhof.de)

Walking distance approx. 10 minutes

## Venue

The German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina  
Jägerberg 1  
06108 Halle (Saale)



## Getting to the Leopoldina

### From Flughafen Leipzig/Halle airport

by taxi in 30 to 40 minutes (around 50 €) or  
with Deutsche Bahn in 15 minutes (trains run hourly)

### From Halle's main train station

by taxi in 5 to 10 minutes or  
by tram line 7 (to Kröllwitz) alighting Moritzburgring