

## **Press Release**

### **Launch of the second round of the Gottfried Böhm Scholarship: Call for applications has started**

**Cologne, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025** - After its successful start, the Gottfried Böhm Scholarship is entering its second round. Architects in the post-graduate phase from all over the world are now invited to apply for the one-year residency scholarship in Cologne. With a monthly funding of 2,500 euros, free accommodation and individual professional support, the programme offers ideal conditions for the development of innovative projects that combine architecture and urban planning. The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

#### **From Italy to Iran: A worldwide interest in the Gottfried Böhm Scholarship**

The premiere of the scholarship in 2023 received great international interest: a total of 41 applications from 23 countries - including France, Italy, Algeria, Iran and Lebanon - reflect the worldwide appreciation for the work and legacy of Gottfried Böhm. The work of the first scholarship holder, Ermelinda Di Chiara from Italy, was particularly impressive. Her project 'Developing empty spaces for a sustainable city' provided exciting impulses for Cologne's urban development.

'The Gottfried Böhm Fellowship was a transformative experience for me. It allowed me to deepen my research at the intersection of architecture and urban planning. The vibrant atmosphere of Cologne, the creative working environment and the great support - all the way from accommodation to organisation - made this year exceptionally enriching, both professionally and personally. I strongly recommend this scholarship to anyone who is passionate about urban development,' Di Chiara says about her time in Cologne.



Image line: The first scholarship holder Dr Ermelinda Di Chiara from Italy presents the results of her project at her reception in the Cologne town hall.

‘Our aim is to promote young talents who address urban challenges with creative and sustainable solutions. Simultaneously, an external view - coming from different cultural and professional perspectives - provides new impulses for the development of our cities. My father would have loved to see how his vision of the city would be further developed by the next generation,’ explains Prof Paul Böhm, the son of the scholarship's namesake who is also a jury member.

### **Course of the scholarship and public presentation**

The scholarship begins in October 2025 and runs until September 2026. During the funding year, the scholarship holder will be actively involved in the activities of TH Köln and will receive intensive support from renowned experts in architecture and urban planning.

At the end of the scholarship year, the scholarship holder will present the results of their work at a ceremony in Cologne City Hall, opened by the Mayor of the City of Cologne. The work is then exhibited for a two-week period in the Spanish Building with the possibility of the project to be published in specialist publications in order to make it accessible to a broader public.

For further information on the application requirements and documents, please visit [www.gb-stipendium.de/scholarship](http://www.gb-stipendium.de/scholarship).

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## About the Gottfried Böhm Scholarship

The Gottfried Böhm Scholarship aims to support architects in the post-graduate phase who are particularly interested in the interface between architecture and urban planning. The one-year residency scholarship takes place in the metropolis of Cologne under the patronage of Cologne's Mayor Henriette Reker. The scholarship holder is given the opportunity to work for a year on creative and visionary architectural and urban development projects for Cologne and its periphery. During this period, he or she will receive free accommodation, a workplace in a creative environment in the heart of the city as well as a monthly funding amount of 2,500 euros in total. The scholarship is awarded and supervised by the Verein der Freunde und Förderer der Technischen Hochschule Köln e.V. Through the scholarship, the City of Cologne and the sponsors of the scholarship wish to honour the Pritzker Prize winner, who died in 2021.