The Krupp Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship (DRF) funds doctoral students in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University and in the social sciences at MIT who plan to spend significant time in Europe conducting dissertation research. The research period must be a minimum of five months for a half-year DRF and a minimum of nine months for a full-year DRF. The Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES) considers applications by doctoral students in law, design, government, and in exceptional circumstances in education. These proposals must have the support of a CES-affiliated faculty member. The fellowship supports dissertation topics that focus on political, historical, economic, social, cultural, and intellectual trends, or public policy issues in modern or contemporary Europe (roughly 1750–present). Eligible applicants must have completed two years of graduate school and have passed their general examinations. There are no specific requirements for the stage of their research.

Funding levels are determined each spring in conjunction with our annual budgeting process. In the academic year 2023-2024, stipend rates were $34,000 for a full year and $17,000 for a half year (one semester). The rates for the 2024-2025 academic year may increase but will not be lower than those of the 2023-2024 academic year. The DRF also covers the Harvard Active File Fee (AFF) and the Harvard University Student Health Insurance Program (SHIP) at the amounts set by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. MIT students will be issued the equivalent funds and may apply them to their institutional fees and health insurance. The fellowship cannot be deferred and must be used within the twelve-month period for which it is awarded (July 2024–June 2025). This grant is made possible thanks to a generous endowment provided by the Alfried Krupp von Bohlen and Halbach-Foundation, which established the Krupp Foundation Fellowships at CES in 1979.

Graduate students are encouraged to consult the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences’ online resource Scholarly Pursuits for advice on writing a proposal and samples of winning proposals. Students should also consult Przeworski and Salomon’s On the Art of Writing Proposals, available online from the Social Science Research Council.

Application Components:

All application materials must be uploaded to CARAT. Paper copies and/or other electronic file formats will not be accepted.

1. CARAT-generated Krupp Dissertation Research Fellowship Standard Application
2. Résumé/CV (max. two pages)
3. Grade report (a grade report from the Registrar or an original transcript)
4. Grant proposal (max. 7 pages, double-spaced). The proposal should include a succinct statement of the research question; a comprehensive analysis of current state of the field of knowledge; description of methodology; discussion of contribution to the field of proposed research; selected bibliography of sources cited in proposal plus other key works (max. two pages); and optional supplemental materials (i.e., list of archives to be consulted, list of potential interviewees, multimedia materials).
5. Two confidential letters of recommendation, one of which must be written by the dissertation advisor. The second letter can be written by any committee member or CES Resident Faculty as well as Faculty Associate. Once you start the application process and enter the names of your recommenders, the system will generate an email to the recommender and prompt them to submit the letter.

All materials, including letters of recommendation, must arrive by the February 9 deadline. For questions, please contact CES Program Manager Albana Shehaj.