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Decided by the Presidium of the Leopoldina, March 21<sup>st</sup> 2018

## Profile of the scientific publications of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

**The Nova Acta Leopoldina series NAL-conference and NAL-historica reflect the scientific profile of the Leopoldina. Therefore, they mainly include articles reflecting the research and science carried out by the Leopoldina.**

**The following criteria apply to the profiles of both journals.**

### 1. Scientific profile

The journals publish scientific articles resulting from the Academy's activities and reflecting its interdisciplinary scientific character. The journals' aim is to facilitate the dialogue between scientists and the (scientific but not limited to specific science) public.

Therefore, the Academy journals do not compete with scientific journals. They do not focus on mere research findings for the scientific community of a specific field; this focus should be reserved to relevant journals (*Nature* etc.). The Academy journals support scientific publications that present an interdisciplinary perspective or a perspective beyond a specific field; different perspectives are compared, or discussed on the basis of philosophy and history. In doing so, the common scientific knowledge forms the basis of the Academy journals. Therefore, the articles are also readable and comprehensible for non-specialists. Reflexive articles that not only show data and experimental methods are also included.

### 2. Topical priorities

The NAL-conference series is based on the wide range of fields represented by the Leopoldina classes. The series includes articles on topics discussing findings of the Academy's specific fields – in particular interdisciplinary topics beyond the Leopoldina classes or beyond the Leopoldina subjects. This can be achieved by compiling articles from various disciplines bound together by an interdisciplinary topic. The priority is not the Academy's interest to document its activities, but to publish articles to encourage a public scientific discourse. For this reason, the NAL-conference includes overviews, illustrations focusing on interdisciplinary approaches, methods and aspects, broad perspectives and comprehensive benchmarking.

The journal NAL-historica focuses on approaches and research in the field of the humanities and selected cultural sciences. It mainly includes articles on the history of science, epistemology, science studies and cultural sciences.

### 3. Scientific quality

The scientific quality of the journals corresponds to the Leopoldina, the German National Academy of Science, as a place for providing findings of outstanding experts. The journals do not only discuss interdisciplinary scientific topics, but also discuss topics that are of societal importance. In doing so, the Academy journals integrate the results of the Academy's scientific commissions and work groups into the intellectual discourse of society. Outstanding experts in their fields – in particular Academy members – ensure the quality of the Journals. In addition, a transparent external peer-review process has been established.

Non-scientific topics (e.g. Commemorative publications, volumes produced in honor of Academy members, on anniversary events, postdoctoral research fellows etc.) are published as NAL-miscellanea.