

MHRA

Modern Humanities Research Association

PUBLICATIONS FUND

The Modern Humanities Research Association invites applications for financial assistance towards the costs of publishing scholarly works in the field of the modern and medieval European literatures and languages (including English) which, by their nature, could not expect to be financially self-supporting.

Since the Association publishes, jointly with Maney Publishing, its own book series *Legenda*, the works supported by the Fund will not normally include single-author monographs, essay collections, or works of similar scope which might be considered for the series. The Fund will also not be used to support the publication subsidy required for *Legenda* titles; for this, authors are advised to approach their own university institutions which should regard such a subsidy as a research expense and will expect, in the United Kingdom, to recoup its value as research income derived from research assessment exercises.

The works supported by the Fund will normally be major volumes in multiple authorship or other projects which would not be considered suitable for the *Legenda* series. It is helpful if authors and editors who have already contacted a publisher approach the Association at as early a stage in their negotiations as possible *and before any contract has been signed*.

Publishing practice among commercial publishers and university presses varies considerably. Accordingly, these regulations are intended as guidelines rather than rules to be rigidly enforced in every case. In general, any financial assistance granted to publishers will be required to be repaid to the Association in proportion to sales, once the latter reach a specified level. It is understood that in some cases the full amount of the award may never be repaid. In making awards, the overriding consideration of the Committee will be the academic quality of the work, and the Committee will give priority to assisting individual scholars rather than institutions.

Since the works supported would not normally be viable in a commercial market, the Association will not entertain applications where the publisher allows a payment of royalties to the author.

There is no special application form. Applications must be addressed to the Honorary Secretary and be accompanied by the following, in hard copy, not electronic format:

(1) One copy of the preliminary pages including list of contents, preface, introduction, and such other material necessary to give a clear indication of the content, scope, and length of the work. (NB please do not send the whole manuscript unless specifically requested.)

(2) One copy of a summary of the content of the work not exceeding 500 words in length.

(3) One copy of any readers' or examiners' reports on the work available to the author. If these are confidential, it is the responsibility of the applicant to arrange for them to be sent to the Honorary Secretary. All documents submitted in support of an application will be treated in strict confidence by the Committee.

(4) A reasoned statement from the publisher who has agreed to undertake publication subject to the provision of a subsidy. The Committee attaches great importance to this statement, which must include (a) a detailed estimate of printing, production, distribution, and advertising costs (including paper, binding, cover, illustrations); (b) the proposed print run; (c) the intended retail price of the work and price net of agents' commission; (d) anticipated receipts for the first three years after publication; (e) the proposed date of publication.

(5) A statement of any application made for subsidy from another source, with results where known.

(6) A brief curriculum vitae of the author(s) including a list of other main publications with full bibliographical details.

(7) The Committee meets in January, March, May and October. Applicants are asked to submit their proposals before the end of February, April, September and December, in good time to be circulated for Committee meetings.

Application for a subsidy will imply acceptance *inter alia* of the following conditions, which will be incorporated in a letter of agreement between the Association and the publisher.

(1) The subsidy will normally be required to be repaid to the Association in proportion to sales, once the latter reach a specified level, as a percentage royalty on subsequent sales until the subsidy shall have been repaid. Interest will not be charged. Any royalty payments arising from a subsidized publication shall be paid to the Association, and not to the author(s), until such time as the subsidy has been repaid in full.

(2) The publisher will be required to furnish to the Association a detailed annual statement of sales and royalties, with payment due, on or before 31 August.

(3) A subsidy shall not normally be paid until the work concerned has been printed and published, and until a statement of the printing and production costs actually incurred, and of any variation in the retail and net selling price, has been received by the Association.

(4) The publisher will be required to inform the Association without delay of any subsidy from another source not disclosed (or not listed as granted) in the original application.

(5) The publisher will be required to inform the Association without delay of any substantial change in the proposed date of publication.

(6) Major changes in a work already approved for subsidy shall be made only with the agreement of the Association.

(7) Acknowledgement of the assistance of the Association shall be made by means of the imprint 'Printed and published with the assistance of the Modern Humanities Research Association' on the reverse of the title page, or elsewhere by prominent acknowledgement in the preface or preliminary pages.

(8) Three copies of each work subsidized shall be supplied to the Association free of charge.

The Modern Humanities Research Association exists to encourage and promote advanced study and research in the field of medieval and modern European languages and literatures. English and the Slavonic languages are included in this definition. History, library studies, education and pedagogical subjects, and the medical application of linguistics, are excluded.

The Honorary Secretary's address:

Professor D. C. Gillespie
Department of European Studies and Modern Languages
University of Bath
Bath BA2 7AY
UK

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