

What is the DGF?

The „Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung“ (German association for fortification research) was set up in 1981 and is a non-profit association, promoting the scientific research of fortresses and the practical translation of won perceptions in the range of presentation and documentation plus in the safeguard of the cultural and environmental heritage and landscape protection. Their members are historians, geographers, architects, engineers, town planners, museum experts, teachers, local politicians, committed citizens.



Activities and Objectives

Fortifications, fortresses and forts are an important part of our cultural heritage. In recent years, the interest in historic fortifications has increased, and they have become generally accepted as valuable evidence of times past. This trend is also furthered by modern development concepts.

The scientific research and transfer of knowledge not only include architectural history, but also economic as well as social history.

Over the last decades, the DGF has taken an active part in this process by:

- an annual specialist conference in one of the associated fortified towns,
- study trips to locations in Germany as well as in foreign countries
- the collection of literature, plans, maps and architectural drawings in our own archive in Juelich
- advisory services to associations and municipalities with regard to the scientific study, conservation and restoration as well as utilisation of fortifications.

Publication Series

Festungsjournal (Journal of Fortification and Military Architecture)

This journal is published several times a year and contains information on recent developments and announcements relating to the association as well as essays/scientific articles, travel accounts, reports on study trips and reviews.

Festungsforschung (Fortification Studies)

In this book series, the relevant results of the latest scientific research are published in the form of essay collections.

Deutsche Festungen (German Fortifications)

This book series introduces the most important fortifications to be visited in each Federal State of Germany.

Would like to be a member of the DGF?

If you are interested in fortifications, fortresses and military architecture, then the DGF is the perfect association for you. As a member, you will not only receive the Festungsjournal three times a year but also the latest publications by the DGF as well as other special publications.

In addition to this, you will have free access to the member's area of our website, making you a part of an extensive network.

The DGF acts as a communication platform and provides you with information and useful links such as contacts to other associations and individuals.

Moreover, you will be invited in good time to our annual conferences which always include interesting excursions.

The annual fees for membership are:

- 50 Euros for individual members and associations
- 20 Euros for pupils, students, conscripts and conscientious objectors performing compulsory community services as well as for welfare recipients
- 50 Euros for associations and societies
- 90 Euros for institutions

We are looking forward to welcoming you as a new member!