

Call for Projects 2025

### **OFB Project Funding: "Eastern Europe in Basel"**

*The Osteuropa-Forum Basel (OFB) calls for applications for an OFB project funding (Deadline: 30 April 2025).*

The OFB project funding is aimed at students with a BA degree, preferably in the humanities, in cultural studies, or social sciences, who are interested in the manifold interconnections between the Basel region and Eastern, East Central and Southeastern Europe. Within the framework of the OFB project funding, social, cultural, historical, or political relationships that connect Basel with our eastern neighbors should be highlighted. Applicants are free to choose a research topic from the suggested topics below or to apply for the funding with an own research topic. Upon receiving the funding, a product is expected, the shape of which can be freely chosen. An important component of "[Eastern Europe in Basel](#)" is the communication of results to the public in Basel. Possible forms are: exhibitions, podcasts, interpreted source collections, contextualized translations/transcriptions, or archival findings, photostories, travelogues, interviews, written papers, panel discussions, or similar events. The product must be available to the public on a website created for this purpose (e.g. Wordpress). The OFB's board is in charge of assigning the OFB project funding.

The Osteuropa-Forum Basel is an association close to the Eastern European Studies department at the University of Basel. For 20 years, the OFB stands for publicly conveying the culture, history, and present of Eastern, East Central, and Southeastern Europe in Basel. With the project funding "**Eastern Europe in Basel**" (which includes topics from "Basel in Eastern Europe"), the Forum pursues the following goals:

- to promote the interest of young people concerning the various interconnections between Basel and the Eastern European space;
- to contribute to the interaction with this shared history;
- to make these findings accessible to a broad public.

The intermediate goal is to create a thoroughly investigated and accessible documentation concerning these topics. The products resp. websites resulting from the funded projects are promoted through the OFB website.

Further information: [www.osteuropaforumbasel.ch](http://www.osteuropaforumbasel.ch)

Contact for queries: [osteuropa-forum@unibas.ch](mailto:osteuropa-forum@unibas.ch)

### **Selection of suggested topics**

For a comprehensive list of suggested topics, see [www.osteuropaforumbasel.ch](http://www.osteuropaforumbasel.ch)

For instance:

- People from Basel as soldiers and officers in the military service under the kings of Poland
- East European Jews at Zionist congresses in Basel
- The "great Kalmyk caravan" at the ethnological exposition in the Basel zoo (1897)
- Eastern European art and artists in Basel museums and collections
- Emigrant writers from Eastern Europe in Basel
- Eastern European music in Basel
- Refugees from Hungary since 1956, from Czechoslovakia since 1968, and from Poland since 1956, 1968/70, and 1980/81 in Basel
- Basel's communists / anti-communism and political repression in Switzerland
- Basel's chemical industry in Eastern Europe
- Warlike events in South Eastern Europe since 1991 and their impact on people in Basel of South Eastern European descent
- Eastern European soccer players at the FC Basel
- Biographical research (e.g. architect Hans Schmid; theologian Fritz Lieb; Andrej Belyj, symbolist at the Goetheanum, ...)

or

- Your own research focus

or

- Refuge in Basel. Ukrainians and the war

*Since February 2022, numerous Ukrainians have found refuge in Basel due to the war started by Russia against Ukraine. It is important to the OFB board that an OFB project funding can also be used to write a paper on this current topic. This call for projects is thus also explicitly intended for refugees from Ukraine with a scholarly background. Corresponding products can also be English.*

### **Application requirements**

The OFB project funding is aimed at students with:

- BA degree, preferably in the field of social sciences, cultural studies, or humanities;
- Interest in exploring the Eastern European space content-wise;
- High ability to carry out a research project independently and ability to write a scientific text.

## Offer and conditions

- The OFB project funding is endowed with up to CHF 2'000. An amount appropriate to the product will be determined by the OFB Board in each case. It is paid in two installments at the beginning and end of the project. The starting date for the project of max. 4 months in the year 2025 can be agreed upon individually.
- During the project period, an OFB board member is available as a personal advisor and for establishing contacts with experts for content-related support.

## Application documents

- Letter of motivation (including a possible start date) and CV
- Degree certificate (BA)
- Project outline of the research project (topic and research questions, access and availability of sources/starting point; realization/form of product, max. 2 pages)
- Writing sample (e.g., seminar paper)

Please address your application to:

Osteuropa-Forum Basel (OFB)  
c/o Slavisches Seminar  
der Universität Basel  
Nadelberg 8  
CH-4051 Basel

Please submit your application documents by **30 April 2025** electronically in one pdf-file to: [osteuropa-forum@unibas.ch](mailto:osteuropa-forum@unibas.ch)