

Call for Applications -- International Visiting Research Fellow Programme in Regensburg for 2026/2027

As part of the project “A small but fertile field: strengthening Southeast European Studies in Regensburg” (seeFField), funded by the Volkswagen Foundation

The project “A small but fertile field: strengthening Southeast European Studies in Regensburg” (**seeFField**) was launched in July 2022 with the goal of strengthening Southeast European Studies in Regensburg. The aim is to integrate and critically examine various forms of knowledge production and knowledge transfer related to South-Eastern Europe in academic as well as non-academic fields. The project collaborates with the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS) and other existing and emerging Area Studies initiatives at the University of Regensburg (UR), a cluster that is currently at the leading edge of Area Studies in Germany. It is supported by Volkswagen Foundation as a part of the programme "Weltwissen – Strukturelle Stärkung Kleiner Fächer" ("Global Knowledge - Structural Strengthening of Small Disciplines").

Located at the intersection of competing spheres of influence, South-Eastern Europe has multiple ‘exits’ or ‘inroads’ into alternative spaces of identification and allegiance. Our current research stresses these transnational entanglements: the region offers an excellent example of the various global and transregional connections that may compete with (or threaten) the declared European affiliation. Hence, we understand an ‘area’ not as a geographical container, but as a nodal point of trans-local connections which can be traced from concrete sites to spaces ‘elsewhere’, through multiple patterns and scales of connectivity. Therefore, we follow a multi-scalar and multidisciplinary approach with a strong emphasis on empirical research in analysing different social, cultural, historical, and linguistic developments in the region and synergies between them.

We are pleased to announce a call for applications for our 2026/2027 International Visiting Research Fellow Programme. We particularly encourage early career scholars (with PhD) from South-Eastern Europe, historians, anthropologists, linguists, and scholars of cognate disciplines, to apply. Fellows are expected to conduct research that resonates with the project’s intellectual profile, particularly developing comparative and trans-regional research perspectives.

Fellows will be offered the opportunity to spend one month in Regensburg, using the IOS library, consulting colleagues at UR and IOS, attending talks and seminars, and presenting their research in our research seminar. We also encourage and support fellows to apply for long-term stays, for example through the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation or the Marie Curie Skłodowska Programme of the EU. The one-month fellowship amounts to 4.000,00 EUR (which includes travel costs and accommodation). We will award a total of two fellowships for the academic year 2026/2027.

Please submit your application, in one PDF file, by **30 September 2026**, via the email: **fellow.see@ur.de**. The application documents must include:

- a brief description of your research in German or English (maximum three pages)
- a detailed academic Curriculum Vitae, also naming two referees
- copies of no more than three relevant articles (published or unpublished)
- a statement on the preferred starting date of your stay (January 2027 - July 2027). Please note that in the lecture-free period (5 February – 12 April 2027), our staff in Regensburg, whom you may want to consult may be away on research trips.

For more information on the project and associated scholars, visit <https://seeffield.app.uni-regensburg.de/>.

Please note: All application materials will be deleted after six months.