



Ukrainian Research
in Switzerland

12 February 2026, University of Basel



Spring Edition 2026

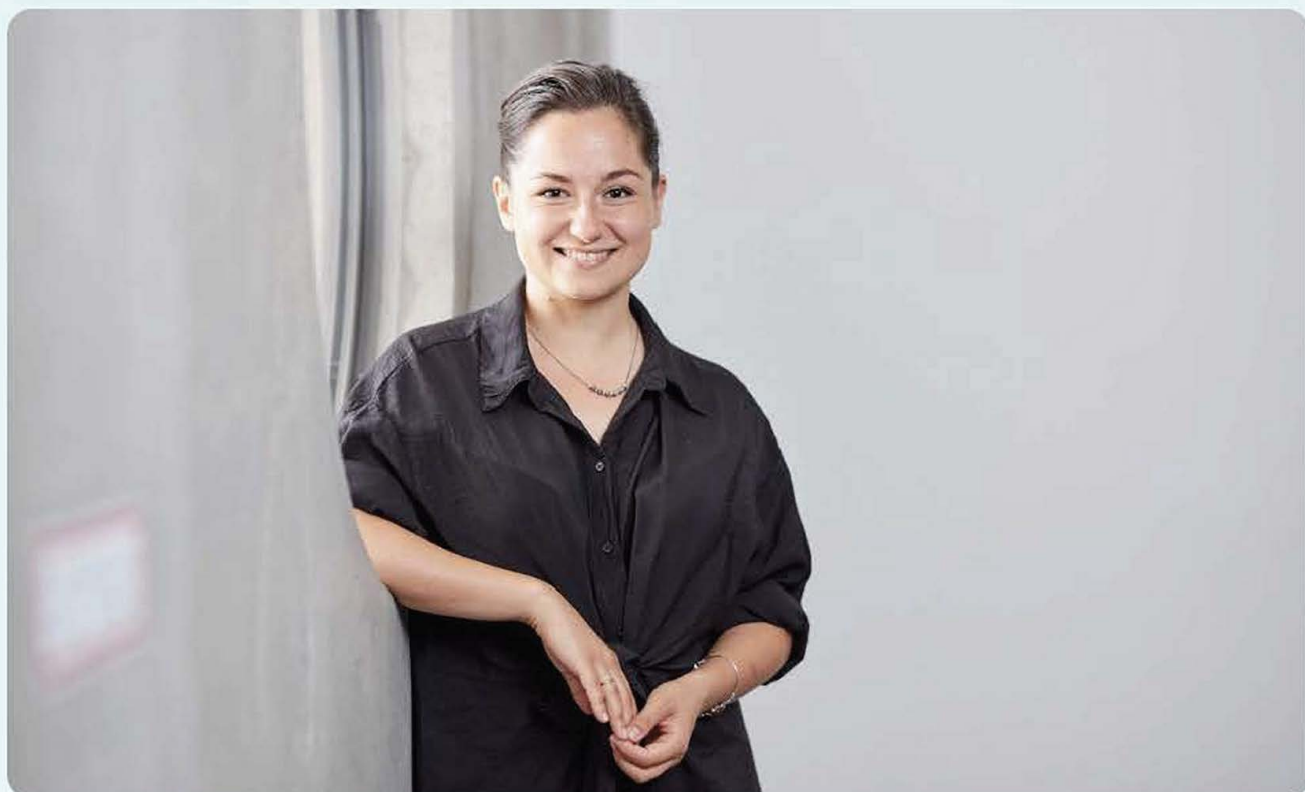
While challenges and uncertainties continue to shape our world, we also see how academic exchange, research, and public dialogue can open spaces for reflection and resilience.

At URIS, we enter the coming months with many initiatives in store – from new fellowships and lectures to public events and collaborations. To keep up with our activities and avoid missing out on exciting events, check our website for updates and follow us on social media.

There is much to discover, and we look forward to sharing it with you!

News & Highlights

Welcome, Kateryna – Goodbye Oleksandr!



We are pleased to welcome historian and media scholar [Dr Kateryna Yermieieva](#) to Basel in Spring 2026. Her research explores contested silence, media, and ethics in wartime Ukraine, and she will also teach a BA/MA-level course closely connected to her work. Curious to learn more? Discover her work and register for her course!

At the same time, we warmly thank [Dr Oleksandr Polianichev](#) for his inspiring six-month stay in Basel and wish him all the best as he continues his work in Stockholm.

[Learn more](#)

A Decade of URIS Fellows



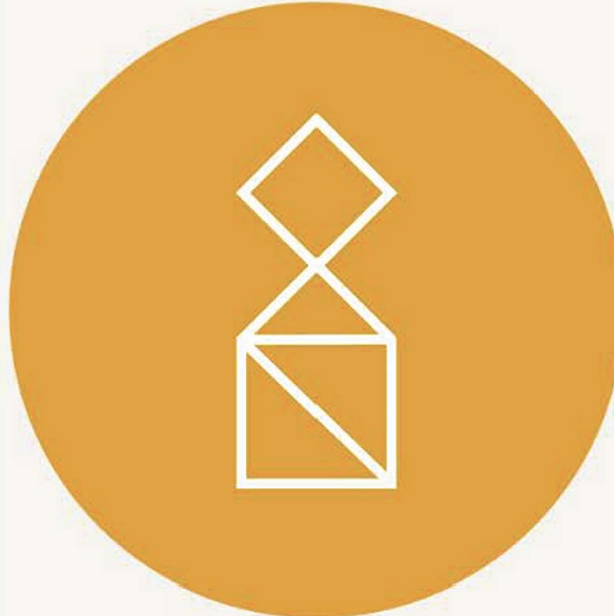
Since welcoming our first URIS Fellow in 2017, the programme has been shaped by outstanding scholars who came to Basel. Over the years, our Fellows have reached **more than 300 students** through their teaching and have been involved in **over 80 academic and public events** since 2016.

They have organised and contributed to a wide range of academic and public activities, conducted research, and strengthened our network – often while travelling across the world for their research. They also became part of everyday life in Basel: showing us new corners of the city, swimming in the Rhine and discovering local traditions & customs.

Through their expertise and experience, our Fellows have shown us why engaging with Ukraine matters. For this, we are deeply grateful!

[Learn more](#)

Call for Applications: URIS Fellowships 2027



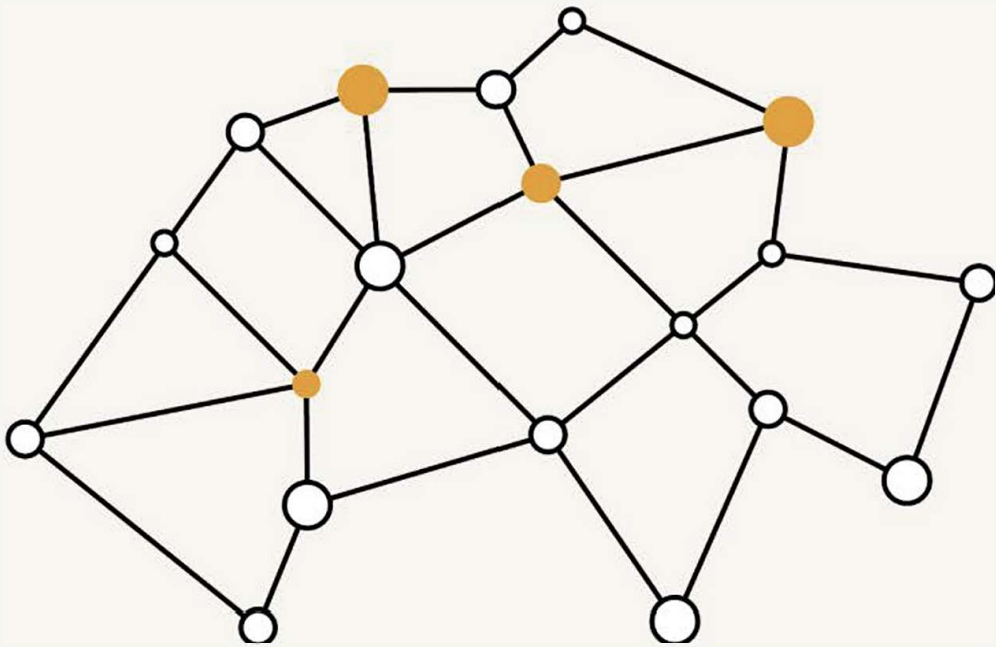
URIS is inviting applications for two URIS Fellowships, offering a six-month research and teaching stay at the University of Basel in either the spring (January–June) or autumn semester (July–December) 2027.

The fellowships are open to internationally recognised scholars in the humanities, cultural studies, or social sciences working on Ukraine-related topics and includes both research and teaching activities.

 **The application deadline is 16 March 2026.**

[Apply now!](#)

New Project or Event in Ukrainian Studies?



Have you recently launched a new project in Ukrainian Studies in Switzerland? We would be glad to learn more about it.

Our website documents and presents the research landscape on Ukraine in Switzerland, featuring dedicated pages for Ukraine-related research projects. We also share information about academic events in the field.

👉 Please get in touch if you would like your project to be included on our website or if you would like us to promote an upcoming Ukraine-related lecture, workshop, conference, or other scholarly event through our channels.

Contact us!

Ukraine in the Classroom



This spring semester, the University of Basel and URIS offer the following Ukraine-related courses:

- [Ukrainian I beginner's course](#) with Yuliya Mayilo (online) | Wednesdays, 12.15–14.00 (**only 2 places left**)

- Seminar with Kateryna Yermieieva: [Contested Silence. Communication, Ethics, and Vigilance in Eastern Europe](#) | Thursdays, 10.15–12.00

- Research Seminar with F. Benjamin Schenk: [Forschungsseminar: Genozid? Massenverbrechen im östlichen Europa im 20. Jahrhundert als Gegenstand politischer und juristischer Debatten](#) | Wednesday, 9.00–12.00

- Seminar with Olena Palko: [Living In-Between: Borders, Identities, and Nation-Making in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe](#) | Monday, 10.15–12.00

Register now!

Upcoming Events

Der Krieg nahm mir mein Zuhause. Zerstörte Städte, Flucht und die psychologischen Folgen in der Ukraine seit 2022



Öffentliches Podium mit der Journalistin Luzia Tschirky

17. März 2026, 19-21 Uhr, kHaus, Saal, Kasernenhof, Basel

Im Rahmen der Basler Geschichtstage spricht die Journalistin und ehemalige SRF-Korrespondentin in der Ukraine [Luzia Tschirky](#) über Flucht, Heimatverlust und die menschlichen Folgen des russischen Angriffskrieges gegen die Ukraine.

[Tickets & Infos](#)

Where Silence Speaks: (In)audibility in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe



URIS Study Day, 27 March 2026, 13.00–20.00

Slavisches Seminar | Nadelberg 8, 4051 Basel

Who doesn't speak – and why?

This study day explores silence as a cultural phenomenon and scholarly challenge in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. Through short workshops and case studies, we examine how voices are marginalized, silenced, and reclaimed – and what responsibilities researchers bear when making silence audible.

Registration required (Deadline: 13 March 2026)

Flyer & Program

Kateryna Yermieieva's Research in Focus

Short Lecture & Discussion | 4 March 2026, 18.15–20.00

Alte Universität | Rheinsprung 9, 4051 Basel | Seminar room –201

Lecture & discussion on "Contested Silence in Wartime: Digital Vigilance and Communicational Double Binds" by our URIS fellow Dr. Kateryna Yermieieva (Munich/Basel) as part of the research colloquium "Eastern European History" The session is based on preparatory reading.

If you are interested in attending, please e-mail Kai

Willms (kai.willms@unibas.ch) for access to the reading material.

Get your access!

Denken in einer neuen Raumzeit: Zur Lage der ukrainischen Künstler:innen und Intellektuellen im Krieg



Conflict & Cooperation

Lecture by Kateryna Mishchenko | 13 April 2026, 18.15–19.45

Hörsaal 102, Kollegienhaus, University of Basel, Petersplatz 1

As part of the 2026 Forum Basiliense public lecture series “**Conflict & Cooperation**”, Kateryna Mishchenko will speak on “*Thinking in a New Spacetime: The Situation of Ukrainian Artists and Intellectuals in War.*” The lecture will be moderated by Benjamin Schenk and takes place at the University of Basel. It contributes a perspective on the current situation of Ukrainian artists and intellectuals in the context of war.

The event forms part of the Forum Basiliense series, which brings together speakers from academia, politics, and public life to discuss contemporary issues related to conflict and cooperation.

[Learn more](#)

Understanding Ukraine. Rethinking Europe

International Conference | 14–17 June 2026

Monte Verità, Congressi Stefano, Ascona, Switzerland

In 2024, an ambitious international scholarly project was launched: the first-ever comprehensive *Handbook of Ukrainian History*, to be published by Oxford University Press in 2028. Organized at Monte Verità by Benjamin Schenk, Olena Palko (University of Basel / URIS), Fabian Baumann (Heidelberg University), and Bőrries Kuzmany (University of Vienna), this landmark conference brings together leading scholars from across Europe and Ukraine to shape this major publication.

At a time when Ukraine has moved to the center of global attention yet remains insufficiently understood, the conference marks a decisive step in rethinking how Ukrainian history is researched, written, and taught. By fostering dialogue across academic traditions, it will help redefine Ukraine's place in European and global history and set new standards for the field.

[Learn more](#)

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