



Ukrainian Research
in Switzerland

URIS Newsletter

"Ukrainian Research in Switzerland"

University of Basel

Spring 2025



As we are confronted daily with troubling news from Ukraine and around the world, often overwhelming and weighing heavily on us, we are nonetheless looking ahead to an eventful spring. As Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine enters its third year, we believe it is more important than ever to mark this day with a series of commemorative events.

Keep checking our website or social media to make sure you don't miss anything!

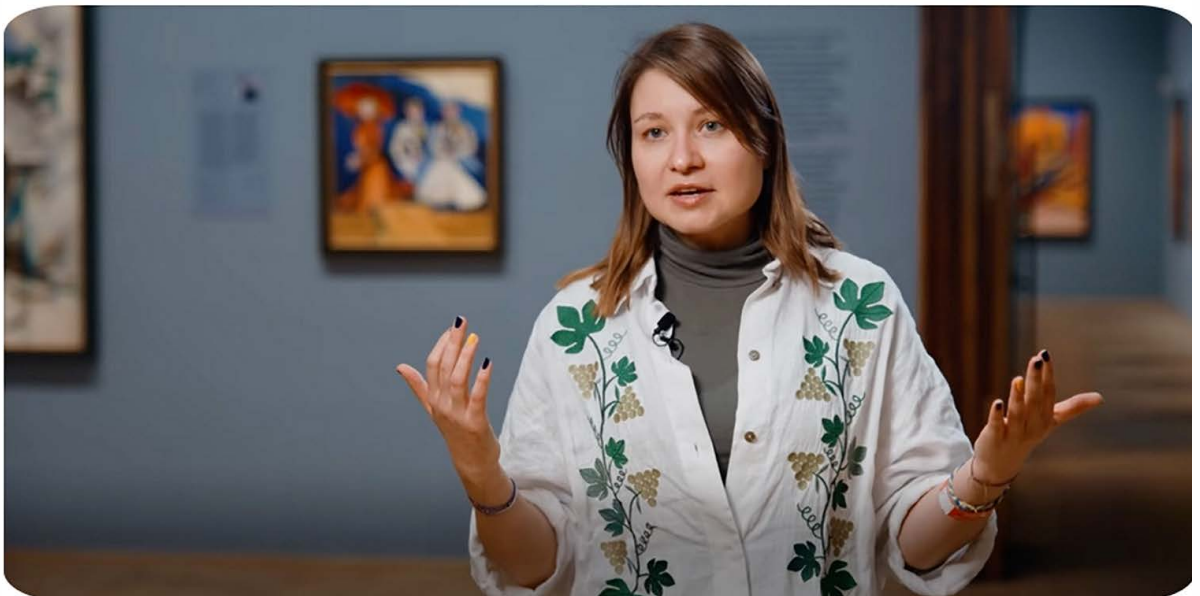
News

New URIS Fellow: Welcome, Dr. Katia Denysova!

With every farewell comes a new beginning, and we are excited to welcome our next URIS Fellow to Basel!

This semester, we are delighted to welcome Dr. Katia Denysova, the first art historian in our fellowship program. Her research sheds new light on the role of art in shaping national identities and challenges long-standing narratives about Ukrainian modernism. As a curator and scholar, she brings both academic depth and curatorial experience to Basel.

Curious to learn more? Discover her work and register for her course at the University of Basel!



[Read more](#)

Good News: URIS Secures Funding for 2025-2028

What does it mean to conduct academic research on Ukraine today, when the country is fighting for its future, identity and sovereignty?

Since 2014, the initiative "Ukrainian Research in Switzerland" (URIS) has been dedicated to this question and the fostering of Ukrainian expertise and knowledge in Switzerland. Thanks to the support of the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI), URIS will be able to continue its successful work from 2025 to 2028.

But what does it mean in detail? Find out here.

[Read more](#)

Collapsing States, Shifting Memories: Understanding Ukraine's War and Displacement

Russia's war against Ukraine did not begin in 2022. Nor did its impact stop at the frontlines. Two new publications of former URIS fellows offer essential perspectives—one on the war's origins, the other on its lasting effects on identity and memory.

📖 **Seize the City, Undo the State** - Serhiy Kudelia examines how the Ukrainian state unraveled in Donbas in 2014. Through over 100 first-hand interviews, he reveals how local actors, Russian influence, and historical tensions shaped the early phase of the war—offering a rare, granular view of state collapse.

[Read more](#)

📖 **War, Migration, Memory** - Edited by Viktoriya Sereda, this open-access volume explores how war and displacement are reshaping Ukrainian identity. Leading scholars analyze how individuals and societies reinterpret history in response to conflict and forced migration.

[Read more](#)



Events

Science in Wartime

Foyer Public, Theater Basel & Stadtkino Basel

Film Screening & Exhibition | February 24 - March 2, 2025

February 24, 2025 marks the third anniversary of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. To commemorate this occasion, we are organizing a series of events in collaboration with the University of Basel and the association "Ukrainians in Basel" under the topic "Science in Wartime"

Program

24 February 2025 | 18.00

Filmscreening & Talk: *War on Education* | Stadtkino Basel

[Tickets](#)

17 February - 2 March 2025 | Open daily from 12.00 - 17.00

Exhibition: *Unissued Diplomas* | Foyer Public, Theater Basel

2 March 2025 | 14.00

Finnissage & Reading: *In the Thunderstorm of War* | Foyer Public, Theater
Basel



[Read more](#)

Katia Denysova's Research in Focus

Lecture & Discussion | 30 April 2025, 18.15-20.00

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

Lecture on "Universal and Vernacular, Abstract and Decorative: Alexandra Exter's Colour Dynamics (1916-1918)" by our URIS fellow Dr. Katia Denysova (Tübingen/Basel) as part of the research colloquium "Eastern European History"

The session is based on preparatory reading. Are you interested? Then please send Kai Willms (kai.willms@unibas.ch) a short e-mail, he can give you access to the reading material.

[Get your access!](#)

New in Spring 2025: Two Ukrainian Language Courses!

Ready to take your Ukrainian to the next level? This spring, we're offering two courses to help you improve your skills—whether you're continuing your journey or diving deeper into the language.

- ◆ Ukrainian II - Ideal for those who have completed an introductory course or already have some basic knowledge.
- ◆ Ukrainian for Advanced Learners - Perfect for those eager to refine their skills and reach a higher level.

As always, our Ukrainian teacher, Dr. Yuliya Mayilo, will guide you through the learning process. Don't miss this opportunity!

[Sign up now!](#)

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