ifa Research Programme “Culture and Foreign Policy”

Call for Applications

ifa’s Research Programme “Culture and Foreign Policy” provides experts with an opportunity to conduct research on current topics related to international cultural relations and foreign cultural policy. Research projects normally last up to six months. During this period, the experts involved in the project provide actors in the area of international cultural relations with clear, concise summaries of the latest academic findings. They formulate recommendations for future external policy strategies, initiate expert dialogue, and organise discussion forums and events.

ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen / Institute for International Cultural Relations) invites proposals for the following research project:

Supporting Cultural Actors in Diaspora: Potential and Challenges

Political instability, economic insecurity and armed conflicts which threaten the lives of civilians (especially those with a critical voice) have led artists, journalists and academics to flee their countries and seek protection in Europe. Special protection programmes have taken in cultural workers from Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Afghanistan.

It is becoming increasingly important to delimit and/or adapt protection programmes to the needs of the larger groups of threatened cultural workers and refugees who seek for longer-term engagement and perspectives. Most of these protection programmes are focused on supporting individuals. Funding for diaspora projects is generally less known, even though it exists in various forms, such as funding for journalists.¹

- What perspectives arise from the individuals and from these protection programmes?
- What forms of sustainable cultural cooperation exist and how can these forms of cooperation strengthen the diaspora?
- What are the challenges and needs of cultural workers in diaspora?
- What cross-national and cross-group strategies can there be for this target group?
- Are there exemplary comparative projects in other countries?

Format: Study and workshop(s)
Starting period: October 2023
Location: flexible
Fee: 9,000,00 € (gross)
Application deadline: 11 September 2023

The following application requirements and procedures apply to all projects:

Application Requirements

- Postgraduate degree (minimum M.A.)
- Proven experience and sound knowledge of the topic of the particular project and of foreign cultural and educational policy
- For projects with an event format: proven experience in event organisation
- For projects involving publication: very good, proven knowledge of editorial work and of academic publications
- Good knowledge of English and the language required for the particular project

Application Procedure

Please include the following documents in your application for the Research Programme “Culture and Foreign Policy”:

1. Letter of motivation (including your contact information: i.e. address, e-mail, phone/fax/mobile numbers)
2. Description of the project:
   - Title and topic
   - Short description of the topic’s relevance and gaps in existing research
   - Brief outline of research project plan (max. 2 pages)
   - Provisional work plans showing that the project is feasible within the funding period
   - Indication of relevant sources and methods
3. Your curriculum vitae (CV).

Please send your complete application (all abovementioned documents in one attachment, max. file size: 3 MB) by 11 September 2023 via e-mail to: research@ifa.de

The selection process is foreseen to take place around the 3rd week of September.

For further information on the ifa Research Programme, please visit:
https://www.ifa.de/en/research/research-programmes/