



Faculty for Language, Literary and Cultural Studies

Institute for Slavic Studies

Freigeist Project „Light On! Queer Literatures and Cultures under Socialism“

Principal Investigator: Tatiana Klepikova

University of Regensburg Job Ad 23.032

Postdoctoral Fellowship (TVL-13 position, 100%, 3 years)

LGBTQ+ Literary Cultures in the GDR

With more than 20,000 students, the University of Regensburg is an innovative and interdisciplinary campus university with diverse and highly renowned research activities and a broad and attractive range of courses for young people from home and abroad. The Research Group „Light On! Queer Literatures and Cultures under Socialism,“ funded by the Volkswagen Foundation within the framework of the Freigeist Program in 2022–2027 at the University of Regensburg, invites applications for a position of postdoctoral researcher in LGBTQ+ literary cultures in the GDR, to start **as agreed** (due to admin timeframes, the position can start in Jun 2023 or later). The position is remunerated according to TVL E-13 scale, with 100% of work time, for the duration of 36 months. It is also possible to be employed part-time.

Who we are:

The goal of the Freigeist project “Light On! Queer Literatures and Cultures under Socialism” is to uncover yet unknown parts of queer literary histories and poetics in Soviet Russia, Soviet Ukraine, Soviet South Caucasus (Georgia, Armenia, and/or Azerbaijan), socialist Poland, and the GDR. This postdoctoral position is open to applicants with (prospective) Ph.D. degrees in German Literary Studies, Comparative Literary Studies, Cultural Studies, Gender Studies, and other relevant disciplines. It provides an opportunity for an excellent researcher at the start of their academic career to design a postdoctoral project on LGBTQ+ literatures in the GDR and carry it out within an international team of outstanding researchers.

We invite proposals on a wide range of topics including, but not limited to:

- lesbian, gay, trans, bi- and queer literatures in the GDR
- LGBTQ+ literary cultures in the GDR (literary evenings, journals, zines, apartment theaters, etc.)
- unknown poetics and narratives of queerness in prose, drama, and/or poetry in the GDR
- censorship of LGBTQ+ literary subjectivities in the GDR
- transnational networks of the GDR LGBTQ+ literatures: circulations of texts, queer self-publications and publications abroad during state socialism
- queer literary exchanges and the fall of the Berlin Wall

What we offer:

- research-focused position, remunerated according to TVL-13 scale with 100 % of work time, limited to 3 years (current salaries in this position start at over 2,500 € per month after all tax deductions (net to)). Tax deductions also include contributions to social welfare systems, like pension funds and state medical insurance.
- additional research funding for conference travel and fieldwork
- shared office space, access to library collections, and other infrastructural resources
- possibility to gain teaching experience, including training in teaching in higher education
- robust networks of doctoral and postdoctoral researchers in the Humanities and Area Studies at the University of Regensburg, connected through multiple interdisciplinary centers and graduate schools

How to apply:

Submit the following documents as one PDF file by the deadline of **March 31, 2023**, to Tatiana Klepikova (tatiana.klepikova@ur.de). All application files should be in English or German:

1. Academic CV, including your list of publications and, among others, information about your language skills: applicants should have solid foundations in German
2. Cover letter & research proposal (as one document, up to 3 pages altogether):
Your cover letter, expanding into a research proposal, should cover the following questions:
 - 1) Where do you see an unexplored niche in studies of queer literatures in the GDR and how would your postdoctoral project fill it? Think here that the focus of the research group is to go beyond the names and practices that have already been explored and open up completely new, previously untouched spaces of knowledge about LGBTQ+ literary histories in the GDR.
 - 2) What is your previous expertise in German Literary/Cultural Studies and/or Gender Studies? What is the focus of your dissertation thesis? How will it support your work on the research topic you want to pursue?
 - 3) Why would you like to carry out your postdoctoral research work within the Freigeist research group "Light On! Queer Literatures and Cultures under Socialism"?
3. Ph.D. certificate **or** a signed letter from your Ph.D. supervisor, specifying the estimated date of completion of degree
4. one letter of recommendation (emailed directly by the recommending person to Tatiana Klepikova (tatiana.klepikova@ur.de) from their institutional e-mail address by the application deadline of March 31, 2023)

Selection process:

Interviews with shortlisted candidates will be held in April via Zoom. Decisions will be announced by late April.

The University of Regensburg is committed to increasing the quota of female employees and therefore particularly welcomes applications from qualified persons identifying as women. The University also engages in creating conditions for family-work balance (see further information in German at <https://www.uni-regensburg.de/universitaet/personalentwicklung/familien-service>).

If qualifications of applicants are comparable, applicants with disabilities will be employed over other candidates. If you have a disability, please indicate it in your application.

Contact:

For any questions regarding the application process or the position, please contact Tatiana Klepikova (tatiana.klepikova@ur.de).