



International Research Visits (IRVs)

About CEELBAS

The Centre for East European Language-Based Area Studies (CEELBAS) is a collaboration of universities across the Humanities and Social Sciences, supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the British Academy (BA). Comprising the universities of Bath, Birmingham, Cambridge, Kent, Manchester, Oxford, Sheffield, SOAS, UCL and Warwick, CEELBAS covers all the countries of Central, Eastern, South-Eastern Europe and the Baltic, Russia, as well as Turkey and the Black Sea sub-region, Central Asia and the Caucasus. The CEELBAS vision is to address the research and policy challenges of an interconnected and unpredictable world in historical and contemporary perspectives.

CEELBAS International Research Visits (IRVs)

The CEELBAS International Research Visits scheme is designed to build international partnerships and facilitate scholarly mobility between CEELBAS universities and international Research Organisations (ROs), both within the CEELBAS region and in other countries in Western Europe, North America and further afield. This scheme is particularly (though not exclusively) targeted at early-career scholars.¹ It is intended to support research visits with clearly identifiable aims and objectives, including – in accordance with the CEELBAS remit – the sharing of best practice in engagement with non-academic stakeholders. The visit might be held in order to build collaborations and develop joint research outputs, or to facilitate initial project planning and development of collaborative funding bids. There should be a good prospect of the collaboration becoming established for the longer term and being able to attract further future funds from other sources, including, for example, institutional or international partner funding for a reciprocal visit to the applicant's home institution by the co-applicant. **Please note that these grants are NOT intended to support conference attendance; occasional lectures; archival research or fieldwork; teaching; or postgraduate travel.**

Objectives of CEELBAS IRVs:

- to promote two-way scholarly mobility for international exchange which takes forward the strategic research agenda of CEELBAS and brings added value to CEELBAS as a whole
- to develop (initiate, strengthen, expand) research interactions between UK and overseas scholars that (i) meet a clearly specified research or training objective, (ii) promote knowledge exchange, and (iii) have a demonstrable wider collaborative dimension
- to encourage the establishment of long-term, sustainable partnerships between CEELBAS universities and international ROs

Eligibility and Timeframe:

The applicant should be a researcher based at a CEELBAS partner university. The co-applicant should be from the hosting organisation. Research visits involving Early-Career Scholars are particularly welcomed and will be prioritised. The applicant will need appropriate institutional support from their home institution (which will be responsible for managing any funding awarded, before invoicing CEELBAS at the end of the visit to recover costs) as well as from the hosting organisation (because the visits are expected to involve institutional resources including office space, meeting rooms, and access to facilities amongst other things). More importantly, the scheme aims to contribute towards building lasting inter-institutional links.

¹ For the purposes of this scheme, CEELBAS uses the AHRC's definition of an early career researcher: someone within eight years of the award of their PhD (or equivalent professional training) or within six years of their first academic appointment.

Applications must be authorised by the CEELBAS representative for the applicant's university. Applicants are therefore advised to discuss the application with this representative in the first instance. CEELBAS representatives and contact details are listed at <http://www.ceelbas.ac.uk/ceelbascontacts>.

Awards will not be made retrospectively: this means that the activity for which support is requested must not have commenced before the award is announced. Queries regarding eligibility should be addressed to the CEELBAS Administrator: ssees-ceelbas@ucl.ac.uk.

Funding is currently available to support IRVs taking place **before 24th January 2016**.

Disciplinary / Thematic Coverage

The funding is subject to the rules and conditions attached to the AHRC / BA award for CEELBAS. This means that the proposed collaboration must have a disciplinary or thematic dimension that falls within the AHRC's remit, although CEELBAS and its Funders are keen to adopt a flexible and pragmatic approach in this respect, and proposals of an interdisciplinary nature are welcomed. Applicants may be working on social science-oriented themes, but in this case the proposed exchange should demonstrate the added value of advanced language expertise and/or deep cultural or historical understanding in responding to political, economic and strategic questions.

Strategic Themes

Proposals for IRVs that advance the strategic research themes of CEELBAS will be prioritised, although all proposals which meet the disciplinary/thematic coverage requirements outlined above are welcome. For the period 2012-16, CEELBAS has developed its strategic themes as follows:

- Transnationalism and the Translation of Cultures
- Human Sciences and Cultural Contexts;
- Beyond Text? Material, Visual, Digital, Sensory and Oral Cultures
- Global Economic and Political Developments and Their Impacts on the CEELBAS Region: Problems and Opportunities
- Challenges to Health and Wellbeing in an Era of Uncertainty

These themes are elaborated at: <http://www.ceelbas.ac.uk/research>.

Eligible Costs:

Up to **£1,500** is available towards the costs of flights, local travel and maintenance, and related activities for a visit by a CEELBAS researcher to an international RO. Applicants are encouraged to secure co-funding or in kind support for the visit from their home institution, the hosting organisation or any other relevant sources of funding. Co-funding might include support for a reciprocal or follow-up visit. CEELBAS has no objection to its grants being held in conjunction with awards from other bodies, provided that there is no duplication of expenditure. Applicants are requested to keep CEELBAS informed of the outcomes of any other applications.

Application Procedure

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to the CEELBAS Administrator (ssees-ceelbas@ucl.ac.uk) and signed by the Applicant (the person making the proposed research visit) and the Co-Applicant (a researcher based at the hosting university).

The Application Form should also be authorised and signed by the CEELBAS representative for the applicant's university and a finance officer from the applicant's university. Confirmation of institutional support for visit from hosting organisation should also be provided where indicated on the Application Form. If electronic or scanned signatures cannot be obtained, the necessary authorisations may be confirmed separately by e-mail.

Application Schedule

- Deadline for applications: **4pm on Friday 4th December 2015**
- CEELBAS aims to inform applicants of funding decisions soon after the application deadline

Assessment Criteria:

- the academic excellence of the partners engaged in the exchange, the match between their interests, and the benefits to CEELBAS as a whole
- the fit to the strategic research priorities of CEELBAS and its Funders
- the appropriateness of the planned activities for developing the partnership and the potential for innovation and impact
- the degree to which the planned activities have well-defined and clearly envisaged and identifiable objectives
- the strength of provision for the sharing of best practice and knowledge exchange on both sides, and the evidence of support from institutional authorities
- the expected outcomes of the partnership, both academic and in terms of plans for continued link

Code of Practice

CEELBAS is committed to eliminating unlawful discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and good relations across and between the defined equality groups. Accordingly, no eligible funding applicant should receive less favourable treatment from the CEELBAS on the grounds of: gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, race, colour, nationality, ethnicity or national origins, religion or similar philosophical belief, spent criminal conviction, age or disability. The complete CEELBAS Code of Practice for assessing applications may be viewed on the CEELBAS web site at <http://www.ceelbas.ac.uk/codeofpractice>.

Feedback is not a feature of the scheme, and CEELBAS is regrettably unable to enter into correspondence regarding the decisions of the CEELBAS Management Committee, which are governed by the Code of Practice and the AHRC/BA rules governing the CEELBAS award. Please note that by applying under this scheme, applicants undertake to accept the terms under which applications are assessed.

Reporting Requirements and Payment

Payment of an award will be released upon submission of a final report on the exchange, using a template to be provided by CEELBAS. In addition to the report the applicant's institution must send an invoice, supported by receipts or other evidence of the expenditure incurred, in order to obtain reimbursement of the contribution committed by CEELBAS. Because the invoice is a claim for reimbursement of expenditure incurred on behalf of CEELBAS, it will not be subject to additional VAT.

Right to terminate

CEELBAS reserves the right to revise or terminate at any time the conditions of a grant if for any reason the AHRC/BA (or other governing authority) withdraws the award which funds these activities.

Contacts and Further Information

Any queries relating to the application process should be directed to the CEELBAS Administrator: ssees-ceelbas@ucl.ac.uk

For more information on CEELBAS and our Funders please visit:

www.ceelbas.ac.uk

www.ahrc.ac.uk

http://www.britac.ac.uk/policy/Skills_and_Education_Policy.cfm