



Leipzig / Berlin
17th – 30th September 2017



Application deadline

5th August 2017



Applications must be submitted
to the following e-mail address:

moldova@uni-leipzig.de



Project coordination:
Dr. Marina Dumbrava

Election Coverage. International Autumn Academy on Federal Elections in Germany

Organizer

The two-week international autumn academy planned and organized by Moldova-Institute Leipzig (MIL) will be held this year for the fourth time in Leipzig and Berlin. Providing an occasion for a professional exchange with colleagues and experts from Germany it offers an opportunity to journalists from Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Belarus and Russia to enhance their professional competence, critical thinking, and to extend their methodological and theoretical knowledge on the coverage of politics and elections through communication with their colleagues from Germany.

Target group

The Autumn Academy addresses professionally experienced journalists from politics desks, program producers, media managers, NGO representatives working in the field of media from the above countries, who consider the coverage of current events from the range of politics a key aspect of their work. The working language will be German. An interpretation from/into Russian will be provided.

Objectives

The objective of the autumn Academy is to foster pluralism of views and the exchange of ideas among journalists of the above countries on the basis of a prominent and highly topical matter. Up to 15 journalists will take part in the Autumn Academy, which will serve to establish ties with their German colleagues as well as with their fellow participants. The main focus will be on the work of the mass media during the general elections and on concepts of successful election coverage.

Taking place at the very time of the federal elections in Germany participants will have a chance to observe the course of events from a close distance.

The framework program offers the opportunity to meet representatives from political institutions, civil society, and the media.

A vital part of the Academy will be a professional training dealing with a number of issues such as: Exactly how can responsible quality journalism work when presenting political issues? How should political issues be presented: in an explaining, entertaining, educational or commentarial fashion?

Which is an appropriate perspective on political events? What kind of ways to deal with populists/ extremists properly are there? How can I show actual contents of party platforms rather than showcasing staged events? Which interviewing techniques can be applied to get specific answers from the politician? How can I prepare for this as a journalist? How does the development of digital technologies affect political journalism?

Funding

The project is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin. These funds will cover the cost of accommodation, including half-board (breakfasts, lunches, and several dinners), lectures, training, cultural activities, and excursions. Travel expenses will be reimbursed on arrival in Leipzig to the amount of actual expenses (not exceeding 350 € for participants from Ukraine: from Moldova: 320 €, from Georgia: 575 €, from Armenia: 700 €).

Own contribution

Participants in the Autumn Academy are required to make a co-payment of 50 €.

Application

A complete application includes the following documents:

- completed and signed application form with a motivation letter (one page) in German, Russian, or English. The form can be found via the following link: <http://home.uni-leipzig.de/mil/aktuelles.html>;
- a copy of the university degree or records of achievement;
- letter of recommendation from a university lecturer specializing in journalism (possible languages: German, English, Russian, Romanian, Ukrainian), or a letter of recommendation from the current employer.
- 2 work samples on politics/elections: articles and papers on political problems and reports on elections will be very welcome.

Please join your personal documents (this excludes the application form) together into a single PDF file. The application form shall not be converted into an image but submitted as an extra file in any given text processing format (doc, docx, odt) or be converted from these formats into a PDF file directly.