The Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe, located in Marburg, deals with the history and culture of East Central Europe. The Institute conducts its own research based on its large collection, including projects in history, collection-based cultural studies and the conception and implementation of a multimedia knowledge portal. The Herder Institute is one of the institutions and research museums participating in the Permanent Commission for Scientific Infrastructure as well as in the research associations of the Leibniz Association, and it supports the career strategies of these organizations. The Herder Institute Research Academy (HIRA) is part of a planned Joint Lab with the Justus Liebig University Giessen. Therefore, HIRA members will be expected to cooperate with this University’s centres, i.e., the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC), the Giessen Centre for East European Studies and the Centre for Media and Interactivity. Future postdocs will have the opportunity to participate in the GCSC qualification program. The working languages of HIRA are German and English.

The Herder Institute Research Academy is pleased to announce three POSTDOC POSITIONS in East Central European digital history

The positions are fixed-term, for a period of three years, with the possibility of an extension for a further year. The decision regarding this will be made on the basis of a project report after the second year. The salary for these positions is based on 100% of Payment Category 13 of the Hessen Collective Wage Agreement (Tarifvertrag des Landes Hessen, TV-H 13). The positions should start on 1st April 2018.

In addition to scientific qualifications (such as a Habilitation), the Herder Institute would like to offer further qualification opportunities to young scholars. Therefore, the postdoctoral researchers will be expected to work in the overlapping field of research and development of digital infrastructures. We offer the chance either to develop a larger third-party funding bid, (e.g., DFG, EU or Leibniz Association), which could lead to a further professional or practical qualification, or to conduct a scientific qualification project (Habilitation) related to digital humanities during the contract term.

Therefore, you should contribute an idea relating to the construction and operation of digital research infrastructures for historical East Central European research or for a research project relating to digital humanities/digital research infrastructures as part of the Herder Institute’s research field.

Ideas may refer to:

- the development of a digital research infrastructure for the scientific description of distributed collections/stocks or for provenance and stock history
- data modelling for the documentation of cultural heritage, ontology and vocabulary development, (e.g., via FRBRoo or CIDOC-CRM, taking multilingual contexts into account)
- the development of tools for digital art history, the digital presentation of pictorial sources for the virtual reconstruction of collection stocks, museal and archival contexts and spatial dispositions (e.g., virtual exhibitions)
- the development and design of modules for the interactive, map-based presentation of collection stocks and data, development of geoinformatic procedures and tools (survey, administration, presentation and provision of historical boundaries, place name directories or gazetteers)
- digital edition projects, digital publishing
- procedures for automatic optical character recognition, processing and development in a multilingual context
- software development, Semantic Web/Linked Data
- historical network analysis.
Requirements:

- a PhD in Eastern European history, art history, media and information sciences, informatics/cultural informatics/geoinformatics or in a related subject, or comparable work experience in one of these fields
- an interest in the history or material culture of East Central Europe
- experience in constructing scientific research and information structures or in the field of digital humanities and/or software development
- knowledge of the German and English languages
- knowledge of one East Central European language or the willingness to learn an East Central European language by participating in a course at the Herder Institute.

You should develop your project idea in an outline project proposal of up to five pages, in which you should mention content, technical and organizational aspects. Please refer to how you would like to shape your project in the longer term, with respect to integration into the Herder Institute’s infrastructures as well as into overarching infrastructures.

The Herder Institute perceives itself as a family-friendly environment. Candidates with children are welcome. In cases of short-term need, we offer a parent-child room as well as flexible working hours. We aim at professional gender equality. Therefore, we especially welcome applications from suitably qualified women. Severely disabled applicants with appropriate qualifications are given preference. The Herder Institute supports dual career measures in cooperation with the Philipps University of Marburg.

For further information about the Herder Institute please consult www.herder-institut.de or contact Jana Gleich (jana.gleich@herder-institut.de, +49 6421 184-184).

Please send your electronic application with the usual documents as well as an outline project proposal of up to five pages, in a single PDF file, by 15th November 2017, to bewerbung@herder-institut.de. After examining the documents, the Herder Institute may invite you to an assessment workshop on 8th and 9th February 2018, where you will have the opportunity to present your outline project proposal. Selection will take place on the basis of the application documents, the outline project proposal and discussions taking place during the assessment workshops. The selection process will be undertaken in cooperation with Justus Liebig University.