Application Guidelines
Digital Labs: art critics and researchers

1. House of Europe

House of Europe is an EU-funded programme fostering professional and creative exchange between Ukrainians and their colleagues in EU*[1] countries. The programme focuses on different professional fields: culture and creative industries, education, health, social entrepreneurship, media, and youth.

This encompasses 20+ separate programme lines enabling to go for professional events, internships, and networking in the EU*, or to enrol in study tours, residencies, trainings, and other forms of support. House of Europe funds cultural coproductions and cooperations between Ukrainian and EU* organisations, along with the development of cultural infrastructure and artistic concepts for youth in Ukraine. Finally, the programme offers various youth camps and an intra-Ukrainian university exchange.

Implementation of House of Europe is led by Goethe-Institut Ukraine, with The British Council, Institut français, and Czech Centres as consortium partners.

2. Digital Labs: art critics and researchers

This Digital Lab will help you understand the role of critics and research in the contemporary art world.

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[1] Here and further in the text whenever marked with *: plus the United Kingdom. The EU countries include Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.
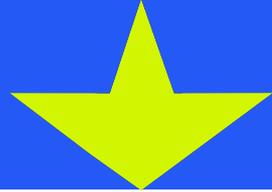
After the two-week Digital Lab, you will learn how to find and formulate an idea of the research, work on a written text and what it means to be an art critic. Consulting with experts from the EU*, USA, and Ukraine, you will develop your research project or critical text.

Five texts that the jury will find the most promising will get stipends of EUR 500 to carry out the project or translate and publish the article.

3. When will the Digital Lab take place?

The Digital Lab is scheduled for March 2022. The Lab will last for two weeks.

We will communicate the exact dates in advance for you to plan your time.

4. What project will I create during the Digital Lab?

The Digital Lab is the space where you can turn your idea of a research project or critical text into a finished product, consulting with experienced art critics, researchers and other professionals.

You can choose any topic you find thrilling. However, priority will be given to research projects and critical texts connected with the residency narrative and strengthening intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding between Ukraine and the EU*. You can study the history of art residencies, their problems, interview art residency curators etc.

You must present your project or text at the final pitching. If the jury is impressed by your idea, you will get a stipend of EUR 500 to carry out the project or translate and publish the text.

5. What is a Digital Lab?

Digital Lab is an event, bringing together intense studying in a group of fellow-minded people with individual work on your project.

You will discover effective work tools in lectures with practitioners from the EU, USA, and Ukraine, apply them while working on your project, and present the result. The experts are here to advise and provide feedback in personal mentoring sessions.
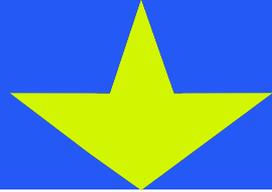
The Digital Lab has the spirit of competitiveness, as all the participants present their projects and compete for stipends of up to EUR 500 to carry out their projects.

Some of the lectures of the Digital Lab will be later on open access.

6. What is the structure of the Digital Lab?

- Reading of approachable and relatable classics, where you will study the texts by Walter Benjamin, Clement Greenberg, Susan Sontag, Arthur Danto, and Rosalind Kraus
- Discussions with experts, where you will place the texts in the art historical context and analyse ideas, vocabulary, composition tendencies, and other features
- Independent work, where you will apply the knowledge you received to draft your research project or critical text
- Mentoring sessions with up to ten experts, where you will receive advice on the research project or critical text you are working on
- Presentations of your research project or critical text to the jury, where you will get an outside view and the opportunity to compete for EUR 500

7. Who teaches at the Digital Lab?

Our speakers are art critics, researchers, curators, art managers, artists, and representatives of prominent cultural institutions from the EU*, USA, and Ukraine.

Previously we had representatives of PinchukArtCentre Research Platform, IZOLYATSIA, YermilovCentre, and other leading cultural organisations from the EU* and Ukraine.

8. How does Digital Lab work?

The Digital Lab experts are curators, art managers, artists, directors of galleries, and employees of cultural institutions from the EU* and Ukraine.
You will meet the representatives of PinchukArtCentre Research Platform, IZOLYATSIA, YermilovCentre, and other leading organisations.

9. What is the duration of the Digital Lab?
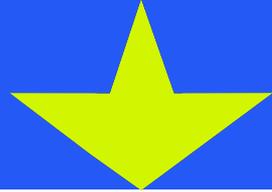
The Digital Lab runs for two weeks:
- During the first week, you will have intense lecturers from 13.00 to 18.00
- During the second week, you will work on your research project or critical text, attend personal mentoring sessions, and present a text to a jury

10. What is the working language of the Digital Lab?

During the Digital Lab, you will communicate in Ukrainian and English.

The English language will be the working language of lectures and mentoring sessions with experts from the EU* and the final presentation. You will communicate in Ukrainian with experts from Ukraine.

11. Who can participate in the Digital Lab?

- Art critics
- Researchers
- Curators
- Art managers
- Artists
- Other professionals working in the field of arts and culture

12. What are the requirements for participants?

- At least three years of experience in the field of arts and culture
- Confident English. Please make sure you can understand the lectures of EU* experts without translation and make your final project presentation in English
- Ukrainian citizenship[2]
- At least 18 years of age

Only individual applications are eligible, group applications are not.

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[2] We may exceptionally consider individual applications by stateless persons, refugees, etc. You should provide confirmation of your long-term residence in Ukraine. It is always a case-by-case decision.
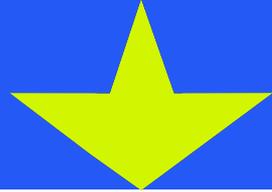
13. How to apply?

To apply for a translation grant you should submit an application along with supporting documents via our <mark>online platform</mark>.

<mark>You must submit your application using the 'Submit entry' button by Tuesday 30 November 2021, 15.00 Kyiv time</mark>. Be careful, as you will not be able to submit the application after the deadline.

Please keep in mind that on the last day before the deadline online application system will be working under significant pressure, which may cause technical problems. Try to finalise your application as early as possible to avoid those.

14. How do I register on the online platform?

You have to register on the online platform to be able to fill in an electronic application.

Your email address is required. We will use that email address as an official channel of communication with you, so register on the online platform with an email address you check regularly.

When registering, make sure to put a tick in the field: "I agree to receive notification and communication emails or SMSs from House of Europe. You may withdraw your consent at any time." You will not be able to receive important communication from us regarding the status of your application if you do not provide your consent.

15. How do I fill out the online application?

Please fill out the online application in English.

We ask you to do so to make sure you will be able to listen to lectures without translation and present your project in English. Do not worry if your English is not perfect: this is not the main selection criteria.

You need to provide the following information in the online application form:

Field 'Chapter'
Digital Labs
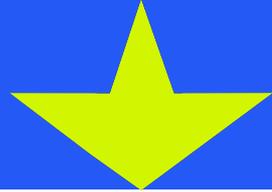
Field 'Open call'
Digital Labs: art critics and researchers

| Field 'Entry name' |
|---|
| Type in your first and last name. Please use the Latin alphabet (as in the international passport). For example, your *first* name Olga and *last* name Ivanova. |

Tab 'Details'
- First and last name   - Date of birth   - Gender   - Place of residence   - Email address   - Telephone number   - Are you an internally displaced person?   - Are you a disabled person?

Tab 'Questions'
- Information about your education   - Information about your professional background   - Do you have experience in art critical writing or research? If yes, please provide the titles and links to the three most recent publications or research projects.   - What is your current place of employment? Please provide the name and link to the website of the organisation.   - What is your role at this organisation?   - How long have you been working there?   - Please list the internships and professional courses you took. Provide a date, title of the course, country, and delivering organisation.   - Have you participated in any cultural programmes in EU* countries? If yes, please indicate a date, title of the programme, country and delivering organisation.   - Have you previously received funding or participated in programmed carried out by the House of Europe, Goethe-Institut, The British Council, Institut Français or Czech Centres?

Tab 'Motivation'
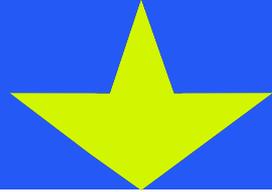
| |
|---|
| • Why is participating in the Digital Lab relevant to your current professional experience?
• Please explain how participation in the Digital Lab can contribute to your professional and career advancement?
• Please describe the idea of a critical text or research project you will be working on during the Digital Lab in 200 words maximum.
• How do you plan to use the knowledge gained during the Digital Lab at work? |
| **Tab 'Attachments'** |
| • Photocopy of the first page of a national passport
• CV
• Portfolio |
| **Tab 'Declaration'** |
| • Please confirm that you have read and understood the conditions of participation in the laboratory and related policies.
• Please confirm that you will attend all the lectures and consultations with experts and will present your project during the final pitching.
• Please confirm that your level of knowledge of English is enough to understand lectures by EU* experts without translation and pitch your project in English. |

- All tabs consist of mandatory and optional fields.
- Optional fields are marked 'optional'.
- You cannot move to the next tab and save the application if mandatory fields have not been completed.
- To submit an application, please press the 'Submit entry' button.
- Once you click 'Submit entry', the application is forwarded for review, and you will not be able to make any changes or upload any additional files.
- If after clicking 'Submit entry' you do not receive an automatic confirmation, your application has not been submitted. In such a case, please check again and/or get in touch with us via email: lina.romanukha@houseofeurope.org.ua.
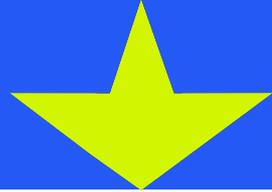
16. What documents do I need to provide?

- CV in a free form: your professional journey, education, internships, scholarships, and awards. The CV should be in English and should not exceed two pages. The file format is PDF.
- Photocopy of the first page of your national passport[3]. We will check whether you are of full age and have the citizenship of Ukraine.
- Portfolio: your research projects or publications. Please mention titles, short descriptions and, in case you of texts, links. The portfolio can be in Ukrainian and should not exceed 10 pages. The file format is PDF, 5 MB maximum.

Please note that if you do not attach the requested documents, we cannot consider your application.

17. How many applications can I submit?

- You can only submit one application. If you submit multiple applications, we will consider the first one.
- You cannot apply if you have already participated in Digital Labs: managers of art residencies or Digital Labs: curators of art residencies.

18. How will my application be evaluated?

Your application will go through two stages of assessment.

First, your application will be reviewed technically to confirm that it was submitted on time, includes answers to all questions on the application form and has the mandatory attachments.

If your application is compliant with that, our experts will evaluate it according to the following criteria:

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[3] If you are not a Ukrainian citizen, please attach any other document confirming long-term residence in Ukraine. If applicable, please also upload a refugee status etc. We might contact you for further information.
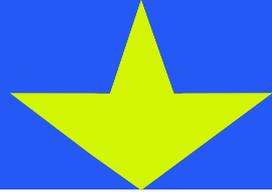
Selection criteria		
1.	Motivation	▪ Please evaluate the personal and professional motivation of the applicant. ▪ How convincing is the applicant's interest in deepening knowledge about artistic research and critical writing?

| 2. | Professional relevance | Does the Digital Lab correspond with the professional activities of the applicant? Will this Digital Lab advance the applicant's professional development? Does the applicant have relevant experience in the cultural or scientific field? Employment in or affiliation with art or cultural institution will be an asset. Does the applicant have experience in international cooperation projects? Such experience will be an asset. Does the applicant have a relevant education? A postgraduate degree in art history, cultural studies, art management, curating, or equivalent will be an asset. Is the applicant's level of English sufficient? Will the applicant be able to communicate effectively and professionally with potential partners from EU* countries? |

3.	Multiplication and sustainability	▪ Please evaluate whether the proposed research project or text idea is relevant within the Ukrainian culture field. ▪ How clear, realistic, and well-planned is the proposed research project or text idea? ▪ Can the research project or text idea be linked with the contexts of EU* countries or does it in another way promise to synergise with international input and networks?
4.	Affinity to House of Europe goals and values	▪ Does the project align with the overall House of Europe goals and values: to strengthen intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding between Ukraine and the EU* through increasing international networks, cooperation, and exchange/ debate?
Additional selection criteria		
5.	Place of residence and status	▪ Does the applicant work in a rural area, urban centre or regional centre in the periphery of the country? ▪ Does the applicant have the status of an internally displaced person?

19. What are the next steps?

▪ Your application will go through the technical review and assessment by the experts. It takes several weeks.
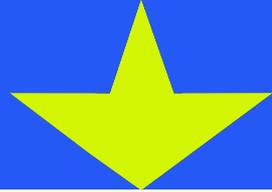
- You will receive the results of the assessment through an email sent by the end of January 2022. We will send a notification to the email address you used to register on the online platform. Due to the large volume of applications, we are not able to provide an explanation of the decision and individual feedback.
- If your application is successful, we will ask you to provide a short bio. Later we will also share an email with the date of the first session, a link to the Zoom conference, and additional materials.

20. Timeline

Launch of the open call – 20 October 2022
Deadline for application – Tuesday, 30 November 2021, 15.00 Kyiv Tim
Announcement of results – by the end of January 2022
Digital Labs: art critics and researchers – March 2022

Please keep in mind that these dates are not set in stone and may change slightly.

21. What if my application is unsuccessful?

We receive a larger number of excellent applications than we can fund, thus not all the applications will be successful.

If you do not succeed this time, you can apply for the next open call or choose another House of Europe opportunity. You can find more than 20 programmes on our website.

22. Personal data protection

By submitting an application, you agree for your personal data to be processed in compliance with GDPR requirements.

23. Contact

If you have any questions, feel free to write to lina.romanukha@houseofeurope.org.ua. We will do our best to help you.