

## **Call for Applications: Become a Member of the Young Network TransEurope!**

We are looking for ambitious early- to mid-career scholars and artists who combine excellence in their work with a demonstrated passion for creating impact, and who strive to contribute to a closer European rapprochement.

### **The Young Network TransEurope**

In the wake of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW) has been establishing the [Young Network TransEurope](#) (YNT), together with partners such as Die Junge Akademie. The impetus for setting up the network stems from the realisation that expertise on the countries colloquially often referred to as "Eastern Europe" has been neglected and marginalised in Germany and its western neighbours for a long time.

This lack of knowledge has had dire consequences. The manifesto [Reclaiming Europe](#), published by BBAW and many partners, addresses these issues and forms the basis for YNT's work. YNT's goal is to contribute to redressing current deficits by generating a deeper understanding of Europe's multiple perspectives while integrating a global outlook. It does so through the interdisciplinary work of its members, outstanding multipliers from different academic fields and diverse regions. Their work aims at transcending borders, be they geographical, cultural or disciplinary.

YNT's first cohort of [members](#) was officially admitted during the conference "Reclaiming Europe" in Gdańsk in October 2024 and has since started collaborating on several projects.

The second membership cohort has joined at the end of 2025. Currently, members are organising the second conference of YNT, "Reimagining Europe – Hopeful Futures for the Next Century", which will be held in Varna/Bulgaria at the end of July 2026.

### **Expectations / Selection Criteria**

Apart from fulfilling the criteria for excellence in research or artistic practice, members are expected to have an outstanding track record of engagement, leadership and enthusiasm for innovation and social impact. They need to provide evidence of their vision and commitment to YNT and apply with ideas for projects operating at the research-society-policy interface. These should aim at intervening in public debates, questioning "common sense" assumptions about the so-called "East" and/or producing concrete impact "on the ground". Projects should transcend national boundaries while addressing topics related to and/or mitigating the consequences of the current war.

A central expectation is the willingness and capacity to work in a genuinely interdisciplinary and transnational setting. YNT is not primarily a platform for pursuing individual research

agendas within established disciplinary boundaries, although members' own work should of course be enriched by their participation. Members will develop common ground across fields, methods and regional perspectives, in order to jointly develop questions, formats and projects with their peers.

Applicants should be in the early to middle stages of their independent research careers, i. e. approximately 3 to 7 years after completing their doctoral degree and aged 30–40. Applicants falling outside these ranges are still invited to send their applications with a justification for why they should be considered, e. g. career breaks due to illness, care responsibilities, scholars at risk etc. Applicants must have the capacity to contribute actively to YNT during their five-year membership. Applications from all disciplines, including STEM, are welcome. Artists are encouraged to apply as well.

### **Application Process**

If you are interested in actively contributing your ideas to YNT by initiating interdisciplinary and transnational projects and actively shaping the research-society-policy interface, please apply **by the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2026** with:

1. A letter of motivation in English of no more than 7,500 characters, including spaces. This must include your initial ideas for YNT (e. g. topics, possibilities for cooperation, etc.), but no definitive project outline is necessary. To streamline the selection process, please formulate a short abstract summarising your unique contribution to the network for the cover letter (no more than 500 characters, including spaces). Please feel encouraged to include a brief description of how your ideas, personality and individual background will contribute to the diversity of YNT.
2. Your curriculum vitae (please include your date of birth and the date of your PhD/doctoral thesis defence).
3. A list of publications/works; please include copies of the three most important examples; two of them must be in English. Please provide short comments of 1–2 sentences on their significance for your overall work.
4. Your doctoral degree certificate or proof of doctoral certificate or proof of qualification (no doctoral degree needed for artists).

Applications for membership will be reviewed by YNT's members. An appropriate distribution of gender, disciplinary affiliation and countries of origin among the network members will be sought.

Candidates selected for interviews will be contacted in October.

### **Please submit your application only electronically as one PDF file to:**

Dr. Roland A. Römhildt, Officer for International Relations and Coordinator of the Young Network TransEurope | Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities ([ynt@bbaw.de](mailto:ynt@bbaw.de)).