



EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



CSC-Tübingen PhD Scholarship Program

2026/2027 application round: prospective PhD positions at the University of Tübingen

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities

Institute / Section / Subject: Institute of Slavic Languages and Literatures / Slavic Linguistics

Supervising Professor(s): Jun.-Prof. Dr. Florian Wandl (University of Tübingen), Prof. Dr. Dieter Stern (University of Ghent), Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Behr (University of Zürich)

About the Supervisor(s): Florian Wandl (<https://uni-tuebingen.de/fakultaeten/philosophische-fakultaet/fachbereiche/neuphilologie/slavisches-seminar/institut/mitarbeitende/florian-wandl/#c2559291>) is a linguist whose research is mainly focusing on language change in Slavic languages. Recently, this especially concerns the languages of Slavic linguistic minorities whose grammar has been shaped by intense language contact. Dieter Stern (<https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/dieter.stern>) is the author of the most extensive study about a Russian pidgin language (a monograph on Taymir Pidgin Russian) and he has also contributed to the study of Chinese Russian pidgins. Wolfgang Behr (<https://www.aoi.uzh.ch/de/sinologie/persons/professoren/behr.html>) is a sinologist covering a broad range of topics related to Sinitic languages and linguistics with a focus on historic development and contact with neighboring languages.

Specification/Project title: A new language of trade? The Chinese-Russian (pre-)pidgin

Topic Description: Pidgins are new languages emerging from contact in multilingual settings. Often, they develop in the context of trade when two or more groups of speakers do not share a common language. The only Slavic language involved in the formation of pidgins is Russian. As for today, Russian-based pidgins (Russenorsk, Taymir Pidgin Russian, Kyakhta Russian) have gone out of use, but there is evidence for a new Pidgin-like language developing in the context of trade at the Chinese-Russian border. The project is concerned with describing this highly understudied phenomenon based on data collected and analyzed by the successful candidate. The main goal is to broaden our understanding of the communication at the Chinese-Russian boarder. A short research proposal can be downloaded here: <https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/301320>.

Intended Degree: Dr. phil.

Type of the PhD Study: Full-time (complete doctoral studies at the University of Tübingen)

Required Degrees and Qualifications: MA Degree in Linguistics (focus on General Linguistics, Linguistic Typology), Experience in conducting linguistic fieldwork, competence in building an electronic resources

Language Requirements: Chinese (native), Russian (B2), English (B2)