

Eighth Annual Tartu Conference on East European and Eurasian Studies

Date: Wednesday, 19/June/2024

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Conference registration and info desk open for early arrivals
Venue: Lossi 36, Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Tartu

Date: Thursday, 20/June/2024

8:00am - 4:30pm

Conference registration and info desk open
Venue: Lossi 36, Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Tartu

9:15am - 11:00am

MA1: Challenges of Time: Holocaust Remembrance in Modern post-Soviet States
Discussant: Dmitry Dubrovskiy, Charles University

The Place of the Holocaust Remembrance in the Official Narrative on World War II in Modern Russia

Irina Rebrova
Technical University Berlin

New Genocide: Inclusion of the Holocaust in the Concept of Genocide of the Belarusian People

Aliaksei Lastouski
European Humanities University

Holocaust Remembrance in Kazakhstan after the Start of Russia's Full-scale Aggression Against Ukraine: History and Trends

Dmitry Panto
Museum of the Second World War in Gdańsk

9:15am - 11:00am

MA2: Roundtable

International, Transnational, and Global Estonian History

Chair(s): **Mart Kuldkepp** (University College London/University of Tartu)
Presenter(s): **Karsten Brüggemann** (University of Tallinn), **Kristo Nurmis** (University of Tallinn), **Kaarel Piirimäe** (University of Tartu), **Eret Talviste** (University of Tartu), **Liisi Veski** (University of Tartu)

9:15am - 11:00am

MA3: Justice, International Law, and Human Rights

Being a Pariah in the Soviet Society: Patterns of Victimization, Survival Strategies, and Workings of the Soviet Justice System

Oksana Ermolaeva
Complutense University

Towards an Interdisciplinary Approach in International Law: Russia and the Discourse of Democracy

Sevanna Poghosyan
University of Tartu

The Double-Edged Sword: How Authoritarian Courts Use International Law

Yulia Khalikova
University of Hamburg

Keeping a Seat at the Liberal Table. Justice Claims in Russian Foreign Policy Discourse

Alicja Curanović
University of Warsaw

Minority Rights Standards Meet Soviet Legacies: Eastern Europe as a Test Ground for Identity Post-Politics

Alexander Osipov

The Åland Islands Peace Institute

9:15am - 11:00am

MA4: Communication Campaigns During the War: Russia's Influence and Ukraine's Response

Session Chair: **Dmytro Iarovy**, Kyiv School of Economics/ Vytautas Magnus University

Discussant: **Dmytro Iarovy**, Kyiv School of Economics/ Vytautas Magnus University

Local Media in the Temporary Occupied Territories of Ukraine as a Pillar of Russian Propaganda

Oleksandra Tsekhanovska

Institute of Innovative Governance

Decentralised Media Response of Ukraine to Russia's Aggression: Structures, Cases, and Narratives

Oleksii Kolesnykov¹, **Vasil Navumau**², **Ryhor Nizhnikau**³

¹University of Tartu; ²Ruhr-University Bochum; ³Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Internet Memes and the Russia-Ukraine War: Media Use and Media Effects

Hanna Starkova

Simon Kuznets Kharkiv National University of Economics

Crowdfunding as Ukraine's Response to Russia's War: The Power of Collective Action

Dmytro Khutkyy¹, **Olga Matveieva**², **Oleksii Kolesnykov**¹

¹University of Tartu; ²Dnipro University of Technology

9:15am - 11:00am

MA5: Strategies and Limits of EU Policies Towards Its Neighbours

The Weakness of the EU Soft Power Strategy

Kristian L. Nielsen¹, **Dzenita Siljak**^{2,3}

¹Corvinus Institute for Advanced Studies; ²Hungarian Institute of International Affairs; ³Corvinus University of Budapest

Unpacking Sanctions Data

Bohdan Bernatskyi

European University Institute

The Open Balkans Initiative: An Opportunity for Peacebuilding and European Integration or a Disadvantage in the Context of Regional Relations and Security?

Edmira Cakrani

Canadian Institute of Technology

The Competitive Securitization of Foreign Policy: Contrasting Images of the European Union and the Russian Federation in Georgia (1991-2012)

David Matsaberidze

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

Polish Perspective on the Eastern Europe Seen through the Prism of the Participation in the V4 Group

Sebastian Marcin Kubas

University of Silesia

9:15am - 11:00am

MA6: Decolonial and Postcolonial Approaches to Area Studies

'Post-Colonialism' and 'De-Colonization' in the East European Setting: Elusive Concepts, (Post)Imperial Syndromes and Methodological Challenges

Andrei Cusco

A. D. Xenopol Institute of History of Romanian Academy

Complexity and Change as the Constant: De-nationalizing and De-colonizing East European Area Studies

Jessica Ruth Storey-Nagy
Indiana University Bloomington

Imperial Discourse as Denier of Colonization

Dinara Urazova
Northwestern University

The Caucasus as an Object of Area Studies: Complexity Theory as a New Research Tool

Malgorzata Abassy
Jagiellonian University

Discourse Analysis as Transformative Tool: Understanding Societal Conflicts and Dynamics of Exclusion, Discrimination and Hierarchization in Central Asia

Filipp Semyonov¹, **Alexander Ten**²
¹University of Marburg; ²Kazakh-German University

9:15am - 11:00am

MA7: New Perspectives on Soviet Collapse

Discussant: **Vladas Sirutavičius**, Lithuanian Institute of History

"A Stalin's Mistake?" Soviet Central Press and the Soviet Debate about WWII Deportations of Crimean Tatars (1985-1991)

Una Bergmane
University of Helsinki

Forecasting Sovereignty: The Role of Expert Languages during the Perestroika in Soviet Estonia (1987–88)

Juhan Saharov
University of Tartu

Reconsidering Tajikistan's 'Rastokhez': National Revival and Political Opportunism During Perestroika

Isaac Scarborough
Leiden University

9:15am - 11:00am

MA8: Civil Society and International Solidarities

Rethinking Civil Society from the Global East: Practices, Relations, Processes

Bojan Baća
University of Montenegro

Are Muslims Really More Prone to Protest?

Kamila Kovyazina
Nazarbayev University

Not All Seedlings were Grafted: Russian Civil Society and International Ties

Anna Altukhova
Humboldt University of Berlin

The Role of Location and Gender in the Production of Solidarity – Kyiv's Cultural Community at War

Alexandra Wishart
University of Ottawa

Stand with Ukraine: A Global Solidarity Movement

Oleksandr Kondrashov
Thompson Rivers University

11:00am - 11:30am **Coffee break**

11:30am - 1:15pm **MB1: Roundtable**

Challenges in Researching Transformations in Contemporary Estonian Legal History (1987-2000)

Chair(s): **Marju Luts-Sootak** (University of Tartu), **Merike Ristikivi** (University of Tartu)
Presenter(s): **Karin Sein** (University of Tartu), **Katre Luhamaa** (University of Tartu), **Paloma Krööt Tupay** (University of Tartu), **Triinu Rennu** (University of Tartu), **Marge-Reet Usk** (Estonian Academy of Sciences), **Merike Ristikivi** (University of Tartu)

11:30am - 1:15pm **MB2: Roundtable**

"Flyover Country": East-Central Europe as a Global Region

Chair(s): **James Koranyi** (University of Durham), **Jan Koura** (Charles University)
Presenter(s): **Marta Grzechnik** (University of Gdansk), **Anca Cretu** (University of Vienna), **Anka Steffen** (University of Leipzig), **Bernhard Struck** (University of St Andrews), **Adrian-Nicolae Furtuna** (Cultural and Social Research Center "Romane Rodimata")

11:30am - 1:15pm **MB3: Mass and Elite Identity Discourses**

Internal Othering in the Representation of Estonianness in Mass and Elite Identity Discourses during 1990, 1995 and 2000

Alar Kilp
University of Tartu

Discerning colours in the greyness: Defying essentialist representation of Latvian Russian speakers in surveys and public narrative.

Lena Herberga
Copenhagen Business School

Where are the borders of Russian world? Semantic analysis of Russian newspapers of Lithuania and Latvia

Nataliia Steblyna¹, **Jaroslav Dvorak**²
¹Vasyl Stus Donetsk National University; ²Klaipeda University

Caught in the Crossfire: How Russophone Youth in Latvia Negotiate Russian Strategic Narratives Amidst War in Ukraine

Emma Rönngren
Uppsala University

11:30am - 1:15pm

MB4: Information Warfare Forms in Ukraine

Session Chair: **Tetiana Klynina**, National Aviation University; University of Texas at Austin
Discussant: **Anton Liagusha**, Kyiv School of Economics

Memes in Transformations of the Ukrainian Media Landscape in the Context of War

Mariya Rohozha
Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Transformation of the Ukrainian Media Landscape in the Context of War

Olena Pavlova
Humboldt-University of Berlin

Cultural Practices of Ukrainians during the War: Informational Context

Iryna Petrova
Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts

Exposing Russian Crimes and Information War: Algorithms and Cases

Anastasiia Stepanenko

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

11:30am - 1:15pm

MB5: Consolidating Autocracy in Russia at Home and Abroad: Authoritarian Promotion and Soft Power

Tense Symbiosis of Pro-War Ultra-Nationalists and Putin's Regime: Reinforcements and Red Lines

Martin Laryš

Charles University

Bolstering Autocracy? The Role of Post-Soviet Regional Organisations

Stephen Hall

University of Bath

The 'Russian World' Heads to Global South: Exploring Russia's Soft Power Strategies in Africa

Tatiana Romashko, Saeed Mohammed

University of Jyväskylä

The Myth of 'Post-Soviet Space' Versus the Illusions of Security Studies: The Example of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation

Marcin Skladanowski

The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

Limits to Russia's Force of Attraction: "Pro-Russian" Parties in Europe after the 2022 Large-Scale Invasion of Ukraine

Jørn Holm-Hansen, Marthe Handå Myhre

Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research

11:30am - 1:15pm

MB6: Higher Education, Training, Political Activism and Career in the Soviet Baltic Republics

Session Chair: **Juozapas Paskauskas**, Lithuanian Institute of History

Discussant: **Una Bergmane**, Helsinki University

"Forge" of Party Cadres for Three Republics. Vilnius Higher Party School: From Thaw to Stagnation

Vladas Sirutavičius

Lithuanian Institute of History

The Latvian Komsomol Nomenklatura as a Training Ground for Soviet and Non-Soviet elites during the 1970s and 1980s

Daina Bleiere

University of Latvia

Soviet Baltic Republics as Part of all-Union Higher Education Area: Between Cooperation and Competition in Studies

Saulius Grybkauskas

Lithuanian Institute of History

Training Soviet Directors for Business: The Rise of Mainor and Market Economic Ideas and Practice in Estonia

Li Bennich-Björkman

Uppsala University

11:30am - 1:15pm

MB7: The Idea of the New World Order and War in the Spiritual Discourse of the 20th Century

Session Chair: **Irina Paert**, Tartu University
Discussant: **Irina Paert**, Tartu University

"The Jews and the Jesuits" run the world: historic and current narratives of conspiracy in the religious milieu

Inese Runce
University of Latvia

Secular parallels to the eschatological discourse in the Latvian periodicals in the Russian language (1920s – 1930s)

Nadezda Pazuhina
University of Latvia

Conspiritoriality of the New World Order: The confluence of political, religious, and warfare dimensions

Māra Kiope
University of Latvia

Manichaeistic World Constructions: Apocalypse, Conspiracy, and New Age Spirituality Paradigmatic parallels for alternative mythopoeic realities in the realm of social media

László-Attila Hubbes
Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania

The conspiracy mentality in Hungary: looking beyond hate

István Povedák
Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design

11:30am - 1:15pm

MB8: Rethinking Late Socialism and the Transition Years

The Polish Crisis 1980–1982 from Western Perspective

Piotr Długolecki
The Polish Institute of International Affairs

Between International Relations and Political Cultures: Gorbachev, European Socialists and the Pan-European Perspective (1987-1992).

Ferdinando Maieron
Scuola Normale Superiore

Assamalla: Legal Restorationism, Existential Politics, and the Estonian Diplomacy of Survival, 1980-1994

Kaarel Piirimäe
University of Tartu

Tracing the Lineages of Neoliberalism in East-Central Europe: The Case of Lithuania

Jokubas Salyga
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC1: Roundtable

What is to be Done, or Reflections on the Future Development of the Historiography of Eastern Europe

Chair(s): **Eva Piirimäe** (University of Tartu); eva.piirimae@ut.ee
Presenter(s): **Andrei Cusco** (A. D. Xenopol Institute of History of Romanian Academy), **Catherine Gibson** (University of Tartu), **Anton Kotenko** (University of Düsseldorf), **Darius Staliūnas** (Lithuanian Institute of History), **Ricarda Vulpius** (University of Münster)

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC2: Studying Queer Sexuality in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania: from the Soviet Period to Contemporary Times

Session Chair: **Rasa Navickaitė**, University of Vienna

Queer Agency Under Surveillance of State Authorities in the Soviet Era in the Memories of Latvian Homosexual Males

Ineta Lipša

University of Latvia

Political Homophobia in Soviet Lithuania Revisited: The Case of the Dissident Viktoras Petkus

Rasa Navickaitė

University of Vienna

Representations of Homosexuality in Soviet Estonian Print Media

Rebeka Põldsam

University of Tartu

Messy Objects: Looking for Everyday Queer Life and Queer Studies in Post-Socialist Lithuania

Artūras Tereškinas

Vytautas Magnus University

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC3: The Soviet as the Other: Navigating Memory and Identity through Film and Photography

Did I Hear Right? The Construction of the Soviet Other in the Films of Sergei Loznitsa

Daniel Schwartz

McGill University

Reimagining Soviet 'Other' in Western Eyes: Joan Fontcuberta's Sputnik and Post-Photography

Evgeniya Makarova

McGill University

The 'Shimmering Other': Exploring Guilt, Trauma, and Historical Responsibility in Ilya Khrzhanovsky's DAU

Alexandre Zaezjev

McGill University

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC4: Russia and China in the Changing World: The Twists and Turns of Alignment

Session Chair: **Bettina Renz**, University of Nottingham/Finnish National Defence University

Discussant: **Matti Puranen**, Finnish National Defense University

Unpacking Autocratic Alignment Dynamics: Sino-Russian Relations in the New Era of Great Power Competition

Mikhail A. Polianskii

Peace Research Institute Frankfurt

A Case of Strategic Culture Compatibility? The Sino-Russian Relationship in the Post-Cold War Period

Maria {Mary} Papageorgiou¹, **Lauro Borges Correia de Araujo**²

¹University of Exeter; ²University of Minho

Diverging or Converging Norms? Sovereignty, Self-Determination and Secession in Russian and Chinese Perspectives

Natasha Kuhr¹, **Marc Lanteigne**², **Marcin Kaczmarek**³

¹King's College London; ²Arctic University; ³Glasgow University

Of Saints and Traitors: Status Anxiety and Memory Politics in Russia's Relationship with China

Valentina Feklyunina

Newcastle University

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC5: The Radical Right and the War in Ukraine

Session Chair: **Piret Ehin**, University of Tartu

Discussant: **Mari-Liis Jakobson**, Tallinn University

A "Political Pariah"? Logics of Exclusion and Inclusion of Political Parties in Estonia, Finland and Latvia in the Context of the War in Ukraine

Katerina Kesa

INALCO

When Do Radical Right Parties Change? Exploring the Parliamentary Behaviour of Sweden Democrats

Pēteris Timofejevs

Umeå University

Ukraine as a Point of Convergence: An Analysis of the Russia Positions of the French New Right

Adrien Nonjon

INALCO

Patterns and Dynamics of Russian Extreme Right-Wing Patriotic Opposition to Putin's Regime during Russia's Aggression Against Ukraine

Oksana Belova-Dalton

University of Tartu

The Impact of the War in Ukraine on Far Right Parties in the Baltic Sea Region

Akbar Mammadov

University of Tartu

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC6: Societal Resilience to Hybrid Threats: Perspectives from the Baltic States

Session Chair: **Ieva Gajauskaite**, Military Academy of Lithuania

Russian Information Influence Activities During the Russian Military Invasion of Ukraine and Estonian Countermeasures Against Russian Disinformation

Vladimir Sazonov

Estonian Military Academy/University of Tartu

The Role of Mass Media and Challenge to Standards of Journalism in the Era of Hybrid Threats: Evidence from Lithuania

Viktor Denisenko

Military Academy of Lithuania

Reflections of Lithuanian Artists on the Changing Security Environment and Hybrid Threats

Irmina Matonyte, Ieva Gajauskaite

Military Academy of Lithuania

Civic Education as a Countermeasure to Hybrid Threats: The Case of Latvia

Ieva Berzina^{1,2}

¹National Defence Academy of Latvia; ²Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences

Beyond Borders: Understanding Lithuania's Total Defence Approach in the Face of Russian Threat through Securitization and Principal-Agent Dynamics

Dovydas Rogulis

General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC7: Reflections from/with the South Caucasus: Precarities, Subjectivities and Values

Organizational Behaviors in Civil Society in the South Caucasus: Precarious Professionalization and Effects on Civic Participation

Najmin Kamilsoy

Charles University

Young Left-Wing Women and Emotions in Post-War Armenia

Veronika Pfeilschifter

Friedrich Schiller University/ZOiS Berlin

The Rise of "Traditional Values" Rhetoric under the Georgian Dream Government

Tamar Tolordava

Ilia State University

Grassroots Dynamics: Rethinking Civil Society in Georgia through Social and Environmental Initiatives?

Clara Weller

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna/Sorbonne Nouvelle University

2:30pm - 4:15pm

MC8: Contemporary Challenges Facing Academia

Structural and Organisational Challenges for Gender Equality in Academia: Perspectives from Inside

Patrycja Chudzicka-Dudzik

University of Łódź

De/re/composing Authoritarian-Neoliberal Assemblages: Ethnography of Russian Universities and Beyond

Juliia Gataulina

Tampere University

Unrequited Love: Unveiling Shadows Between Autocratic Intelligence and Western Academia

Sanshiro Hosaka

University of Tartu

Untangling Field Failures: On Doing Ethnography in Shetland (Scotland) and Haapsalu (Estonia) In Troubled Times 2020-2022

Sophie Qiaoyun Peng

University of Glasgow

4:45pm - 6:45pm

PLENARY: Unbounding Central Asia: Geopolitics from Below and Global Connections

Venue: Juhan Liivi 2, Room 127

The plenary will focus on the topic of 'Unbounding Central Asia: Geopolitics from Below and Global Connections', and the keynote speakers will be Asel Doolotkeldieva, a Nonresidential Fellow at George Washington University, based in Kazakhstan, and Natalie Koch, Professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

7:00pm - 10:00pm

Conference dinner

(Registered conference participants only)

Date: Friday, 21/June/2024**8:30am - 4:15pm****Conference registration and info desk open**

Venue: Lossi 36, Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Tartu

9:15am - 11:00am**TA1: Migration and Mobility****Cross-National Perspectives: Exploring the Perception of Migration in Australia and Germany Among Ukrainian Youth**Tetiana Gorokhova^{1,2}, Olga Matveieva^{3,4}, Vasil Navumau⁴, Olga Oleinikova⁵¹Centre for Advanced Internet Studies; ²Pryazovskyi State Technical University; ³Dnipro University of Technology; ⁴Ruhr-University Bochum; ⁵University of Technology Sydney**New Destinations, Old Ties? Azerbaijanis from Georgia in Azerbaijan, Poland and Germany. A Comparative Study of Mobility and Migratory Routes in Anthropological Perspectives**Klaudia Kosicińska

Friedrich Schiller University Jena

Russian-Speaking Minorities in the European UnionCecilia Frego

University of Pisa

The 'Migrant Instrumentalisation' Paradigm Reconsidered: Accessing Asylum During the EU-Belarus Border CrisisAleksandra Jolkina

Cardiff University

9:15am - 11:00am**TA2: Communicating Knowledge in Late Socialism: Part 1**Discussant: Petr Torkanovskiy, King's College London**The Soviet Quest for Universal Medical Literacy and the New Biopolitics of Late Soviet Socialism, 1960s–1980s**Alexey Golubev

University of Houston

The Patchworked Body Multiple: Reattachment Surgery, Media Campaign, and Reaffirmation of Political Loyalty in the Summer of 1983Natalija Arlauskaitė

University of Vilnius

Justification Practices of Soviet Sociology Uniqueness in the Late-Soviet Doctoral Dissertations of Two Academies: A Reminder from the PastIvan Kislenko

Slovak Academy of Sciences

Historical imagination and reformatting of urban spaces in KazakhstanKulshat Medeuova, Assel Mukasheva

L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University

9:15am - 11:00am**TA3: Indigenous and Minority Languages: Libraries, Archival Practices, and Research Infrastructures****Russian and the Permic Languages in the Process of Building a Common Language of Communism in the Soviet Union**Svetlana Edygarova

University of Helsinki

The Tatar Language in Finland and Estonia: Sociolinguistic and Historical Perspectives on Audiovisual Archival Resources

Ainur Elmgren¹, Orsolya Sild²

¹University of Oulu; ²University of Tartu

If You Build It, Will Anyone Come? The Creation of Indigenous-Language Library Collections and the Challenges of Connecting Them to Users

Michael James Erdman

The British Library

Rethinking Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar Studies after 2022: problems, needs, perspectives.

Mariia Protsiuk, Olena Kovalenko

Ukrainian Institute

9:15am - 11:00am

TA4: Navigating War at Home: Ukraine's Domestic Challenges in Times of Conflict

Access to Official Information and National Security: Challenges of Wartime and Role of Civil Society Actors

Tetyana Oleksiyuk

Centre for Advanced Internet Studies

Intimate Partnerships During War: Virtual Interviews and Focus Groups with Women in Three Ukrainian Cities Under Russia's Full-scale Invasion

Theodore Gerber¹, Anna Popovych¹, Brienna Perelli-Harris²

¹University of Wisconsin-Madison; ²University of Southampton

Failure or Success? Regime Fragmentation and Local Resilience in the Context of Political Decentralization in Ukraine.

Oleksiy Bondarenko

City, University of London

Civilian Handgun Policy in Ukraine Before and Since Russia's Full-Scale Invasion

Matthew Light

University of Toronto

9:15am - 11:00am

TA5: Eurasian De Facto States in the Shadow of Russia's War on Ukraine

Session Chair: **Kristel Vits**, University of Tartu

Discussant: **Eiki Berg**, University of Tartu

Eurasia's De Facto States after Russia's Attack on Ukraine: Client Reactions to Patron Decline

Pål Kolstø

University of Oslo

Patron-Parent Relations in Transnistria and Abkhazia in the Context of War in Ukraine

Magdalena Dembińska

Université de Montréal

Beyond Russia: 'Us' and 'Them' in the Rhetoric of Abkhaz and South Ossetian Leaders

Tornike Zurabashvili¹, Helge Blakkisrud²

¹Tbilisi State University; ²University of Oslo

9:15am - 11:00am

TA6: Roundtable

New Approaches for Teaching East European and Eurasian Histories: Methods, Experiences, Challenges

Chair(s): **Catherine Gibson** (University of Tartu); catherine.helen.gibson@ut.ee

Presenter(s): **Bernhard Struck** (University of St Andrews), **Heiko Pääbo** (University of Tartu), **Janet Laidla** (University of Tartu), **Paris Pin-Yu Chen** (University College London)

9:15am - 11:00am

TA7: Religion, Spirituality, and Tradition in the Modern World**Modernisation of Grieving in Soviet Lithuania: Emotions and Practices to Support the Illusion of Immortality****Nerija Putinaité**

Vilnius University

Tengrism, Tradition, and Oral History as Means for Constructing Modern Kazakh Identity**Abigail Frances Scripka**

ZZF Potsdam

“The Only Thing They Can’t Control in Prison is the Soul”: Transcendence as Escape in Chechen Prisoners’ Experiences in Russia**Lili Di Puppo**

University of Helsinki

'They Hated Me Before They Hated You': Eschatological Tranquility of Jehovah's Witnesses Persecuted in Russia**Igor Mikeshin**

University of Helsinki

9:15am - 11:00am

TA8: Security Developments from the Baltic to the Black Sea**Responding to a Geopolitical Setback: Russia’s Evolving Discourses and Policies to NATO Expansion in Scandinavia****Matthew Blackburn**

Norwegian Institute for International Affairs

Risks to Democratic Consolidation in Ukraine: Strategic Stagnation by NATO and the EU, and the Cautionary Tale of Georgia**Thomas Geoffrey Law**

Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

A New Avenue of Inter-Organizational Security Actorness: EU and NATO Approaches to Countering Hybrid Threats and its Baltic Dimension**Ramon Loik**^{1,2}¹Estonian Academy of Security Sciences; ²University of Tartu**Women, Peace and Security Agenda Between Russia and the West: Regional Trends in Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus****Bénédicte Santoire**

University of Ottawa

11:00am - 11:30am

Coffee break

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB1: Politics of History and Memory**Memory Laws in Contemporary Russia: How Russian Authorities Regulate the Interpretation of the Russo-Ukraine War?****Dagmara Moskwa**

Polish Academy of Sciences

“Monuments’ War”: Eastern Europe Iconoclasm in Comparative Perspective**Andrei Znamenski**

University of Memphis

Mass Myths to Mass Violence : Memory(ies) in Russia and Genocide in Ukraine

Katerina Sviderska
Université de Montréal

Learning Belarusian History under Growing Russification. Is there still some space for national identity?

Silver Loit
University of Tartu

Memory Frames and Activism in Belarusian Diasporas

David Pergl
Charles University

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB2: Communicating Knowledge in Late Socialism: Part 2

Session Chair: **Natalija Arlauskaitė**, University of Vilnius
Discussant: **Ivan Kislenko**, Slovak Academy of Sciences

Perestroika and Empire or What the Independent Press of the Reform Period tells us about De-Colonization and/or its Limits

Juliane Fürst
Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History

Late Soviet Timber Industry: Environmental and Economic Knowledge

Anna Sokolova
University of Helsinki

Neither Provincial Nor Aboriginal Science: New Approaches to Studying Knowledge Dissemination in Area Studies

Petr Torkanovskiy
King's College London

The impact of the Soviet legacy on the institutional structure of Kazakhstan's academy

Alexander Vileykis
Almaty Management University

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB3: Identity Construction and Belonging in Multiethnic Societies

Exclusionary Identity Building: Gender and Sexuality in Estonian Russophone Discourses of the 1990s

Aigerim Nurseitova
University of Tartu

Fictionalizing the Past in Estonia: Cultural Memory in Women's Literature

Elena Pavlova, Irina Paert
University of Tartu

(Re)shaping the Identity Order: Kazakhstan's Society and the War in Ukraine

Alexander Ten¹, Filipp Semyonov²
¹Kazakh-German University; ²University of Marburg

Latvian Russian-Speakers and Willingness to Fight for One's Country Before and After the Russia's War in Ukraine

Juris Pūpcenoks¹, Maris Andzans², Jennie Schulze³
¹Marist College; ²Riga Stradins University; ³Duquesne University

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB4: Russian Imperialism, Then and Now

Great Russia or Federative Empire? Russian Radical Right and Visions of Empire, 1918-1945

Zbyněk Vydra

Univerzita Pardubice

The Baltic States in the Political and Legal Thought of Pavel N. Milyukov during The Civil War in Russia of 1917-1922

Michał Patryk Sadłowski

University of Warsaw

Kremlin's Narratives: Securitizing History and Ontological Security

İbrahim Köremezli

Eskişehir Osmangazi University

The War in Ukraine: Deterrent Effect of Weaponized Interdependence

Tatsiana Kulakevich

University of South Florida

The Russian War Against Ukraine as an Onset of the Russian Eurasian Empire

Tetiana Hranchak

Syracuse University

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB5: De Facto States in the Horizon: Between Frozen and Boiling States of Being

Session Chair: **Shpend Kursani**, University of Tartu

Mediation in a Gray-Zone Conflict: Formal and Informal International Efforts in the Russia-Ukraine War, 2014-2022

Tetyana Malyarenko^{1,2}, **Stefan Wolff**³

¹National University Odessa Law Academy; ²University of Regensburg; ³University of Birmingham

A Quest for Peace in Nagorno-Karabakh? Why There Can't be Military Solutions to Ethnoterritorial Conflicts

Vadim Romashov

Tampere Peace Research Institute

The Bicomunal Technical Committees: Helping to Resolve, or Making the Frozen Conflict more Comfortable?

Nasia Hadjigeorgiou

UCLan Cyprus

Facing Goliath: Navigating Peace across the Taiwan Strait after Taiwan's 2024 General Elections

Anne Hsiu-An Hsiao

National Chengchi University

How "Frozen Conflicts" Over Territory Defrost: A Two-Tier Analysis of Peace, War, and Status Quo Outcomes

Shpend Kursani, **Eiki Berg**

University of Tartu

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB6: Mobile Societies, Coexistence and the Unbounding of Central Asia

Discussant: **Paul Anderson**, University of Cambridge

A Comparative and Connective Analysis of Muslim and Jewish Central Asian Emigres in the Twentieth Century

Magnus Marsden

University of Sussex

Forging Interconnections between the Caucasus and the Middle East: Syrian Armenian patterns of mobility and commerce since the 1990s

Paul Anderson
University of Cambridge

Beyond Islamism: Central Asia-Afghanistan Relations as Depicted in the Akram Osman's Novel, Kuche ma

Shahla Muram
University of British Columbia

People's Diplomacy and Geopolitics from Below: Educational and Labour Migration in Global Central Asian Diaspora

Vera Skvirskaja
University of Copenhagen

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB7: Of Animals, Missionaries, and Schools: New Approaches Towards the History of the Romanov Empire

Session Chair: **Liisi Veski**, University of Tartu
Discussant: **Mark Bassin**, Center for Baltic and East European Studies, Södertörn University; Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies

Zoos that Never Were: Unsuccessful Attempts to Establish Zoological Gardens in the Romanov Empire, 1860s–1910s

Anton Kotenko
University of Düsseldorf

Imperial vs. Nationalist Elements of Nationality Policy in the Kingdom of Poland: the Case of Education Policy (1905-1914)

Darius Staliūnas
Lithuanian Institute of History

Making Space in Africa in the 1870s: A Transimperial Perspective on Finnish Missionary Cartography

Johanna Skurnik
University of Turku

11:30am - 1:15pm

TB8: Roundtable

Ethics in Practice: Hindering or Helping in the Cases of "Our Region" Excluding Russian-focused Studies

Chair(s): **Heiko Pääbo** (University of Tartu)
Presenter(s): **Elliot Napier** (University of Glasgow), **Sophie Qiaoyun Peng** (University of Glasgow), **Abigail Frances Scripka** (ZZF Potsdam), **Alexander Yeo** (University of Glasgow)

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC1: Politics of Popular Culture: Musical and Literary Responses to Russia's War against Ukraine

Music as a Soft Power Tool in Foreign Policy: Historical Contexts and Contemporary Challenges.

Renata Suchowiejko
Jagiellonian University

Ukrainian Popular Music After Russia's 2022 Full-Scale Invasion: Narrating Independence in Times of War

Anna Glew
University of Liverpool

Development of Ukrainian Literature During the Russian ongoing War against Ukraine

Olha Voznyuk

IFK Vienna

Pisat' v Stol: 'Uncensored' Self-Publishing on Russian Fanfiction Websites

Matilde Bazzano

University of Milan

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC2: Voices from the Margins: Reshaping East European and Eurasian Studies Through Women's Historical Perspectives

Discussant: **Nadezhda Beliakova**, University of Bielefeld

The Nineteenth-Century Russian Clerical Daughters as Literary Characters and Authors

Marta Łukasiewicz

University of Warsaw

Women and Musical Culture in the Urals during the early decades of the twentieth century

Julia Mannherz

University of Oxford

Forging Solidarities in Times of Crisis: Doctor Klavdia Bezhanitskaia (1889-1979) and Women's Solidarities in Imperial Russia and Independent Estonia

Irina Paert

University of Tartu

Separate Spheres within Spheres? Estonian and Baltic-German Women's Views on Emancipation before 1917

Janet Laidla¹, **Lembi Anepaio**²

¹University of Tartu; ²University of Tallinn

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC3: Revising and Reframing Central Asian Studies: Imperial Legacies, Authoritarian Control, and Decolonization

Session Chair: **Matthew Light**, University of Toronto

Central Asian Studies Between Imperial Epistemic Politics and Domestic Authoritarianism

Asel Doolotkeldieva

George Washington University

Central Asia through the Frames of Settler Colonialism and Sovietness

Assel Tutumlu

Near East University

Shifting Identities in Podcasts in Kazakhstan and Central Asia in the Aftermath of Invasion of Ukraine

Aizada Arystanbek

Rutgers University

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC4: Failure, Uncertainty, and Anxiety: the US-Russia Relationship and European Security Since 1992

Session Chair: **Natasha Clara Kuhrt**, King's College London

Transition and Policy: The Impact the Transition from the Bush to Clinton Administrations had on US-Russian Relations 1992-1993

Jeff Hawn

London School of Economics

The EU in Russia-US Relations

Maxine David

Leiden University

(In)significance, Identity, and Security in the Post-Cold War US-Russia Relationship

Ruth Margaret Deyermond

King's College London

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC5: National Identity, Self-Determination, and Kin-State Loyalties

Cause without Rebels? Rise and Fall of the Talysh-Mughan Autonomous Republic in Azerbaijan

Karli Storm¹, Christofer Berglund^{2,3}

¹University of Eastern Finland; ²Malmö University; ³Södertörn University

Living in a Country that Doesn't Exist: The National Identity, Future Hope, and Wellbeing of Young People Living in the Unrecognised State of Transnistria

Ashley Humphrey¹, Helen Forbes-Mewett²

¹Federation University; ²Monash University

Understanding (Non)nationality in Aspirant States: Limitations of International Law

Ramesh Ganohariti

Leiden University

"We Don't Feel Like Their Kin": Assessing National Minorities' Relations with Claimed Kin-States in Georgia and Ukraine

Martin Lepič

Charles University

Colonial Legacy in Russia's Peripheries: Case of Vaccine Hesitancy in Dagestan

Iwona Kaliszewska, Iwa Kołodziejska

University of Warsaw

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC6: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Border Studies: Part 1

Diverse Realities of Georgia: Exploring Multi-Ethnic Coexistence in the Tsalka Region

Viktor Heinz

University of Ostrava

Writing from the Border: Zuura Sooronbaeva's Karakol/Przhevalsk

Gulzat Egemberdieva

Humboldt University

Landscapes of Belonging that withstand Colonial Ruptures: A Case Study of Sacred Sites in Shughnan

Fiona Katherine Smith

Humboldt University

Constructing Albazino: A Comparative History of Narrating a Far Eastern Borderland Settlement

Liao Zhang

New York University Shanghai

Qush Tepa Canal: Could it be a Link or an Instrument to Further Isolate Afghanistan from Central Asia?

Rohina Kabir

University of Toronto

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC7: Roundtable**To be an early career Baltic historian: challenges and opportunities***Chair(s)*: **Una Bergmane** (University of Helsinki)*Presenter(s)*: **Kadi Kahar-Peterson** (University of Tartu), **Rasa Navickaitė** (University of Vienna), **Kārlis Silis** (European University Institute)

2:15pm - 4:00pm

TC8: Literature and Cinema across the Long Twentieth Century**Cinematic Provinces of the Empire: A Path to Revitalize the Russian Imperial Cinema Narrative?****Juozapas Paskauskas**

Lithuanian Institute of History

Early Soviet Cinema, Psychiatry and the Problem of Neurosis**Anna Toropova**

University of Copenhagen

Those Who Overcame the Passion for Russian Literature: The Case of Ukrainian Neoclassicists**Oksana Pashko**^{1,2}¹National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy"; ²Europa-Universität Viadrina**Time Displaced: The Soviet Myth and the Myth of the Soviet.****Tora Lane**

Stockholm University

4:15pm - 4:30pm

Coffee break

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD1: Rethinking Regional Cinema Studies**Considering Transnational Angles for Exploring National Cinemas****Tanya Alexandra Silverman**

University of Michigan

Cinematic Depopulation as Cultural Imperialism**Yuri I. Shevchuk**

Columbia University

Claims to Superiority in Film Reception and the Problem of Writing Cinema History**Richard Vojvoda**

Independent Scholar

Premediating Anthropocene Trauma in Eastern European Ecocinema: Generic, Canonic and Cinematic Specificities**Andrea Virginás**

Babes-Bolyai University

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD2: Estonia in the 1930s: Civil Society and Authoritarian PoliticsSession Chair: **Mart Kuldkepp**, University College London**The School for Democracy: Co-operation and the Authoritarian State in 1930s Estonia****Lisi Veski**

University of Tartu

Racial and Eugenic Thinking in the Estonian Nationalist Club**Paris Pin-Yu Chen**

University College London

Competition in History Schoolbooks Market During the 1930s

Mann Loper

University of Tartu

Estonian State Propaganda Service's Strategies of Shaping the Estonians' Historical Memory (1934–1940)

Marju Meschin

University of Tallinn

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD3: Ecologies of Power and Resistance: Waste Management, Extractivism, and Ecosocial Violence

Russia's Imperial/Colonial Violence and the Anthropogenic Climate Change: An Ecosocial Approach

Epp Annus^{1,2}

¹Tallinn University; ²Ohio State University

New Hideouts for an Old Fear. Bunkers, Nuclear Legacies, and Military Waste in Eastern Estonia

Martinez Francisco

Tampere University

Dynamics of Resistance to Hydrocarbon Extraction in the Komi Republic in 1989–2022

Alexandra Barmina

The Russia Program at The George Washington University

Europeanization of the Waste Management Policy in Georgia: Chances and Challenges

Irena Gonashvili

Friedrich Schiller University Jena

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD4: Shaping Narratives about the War in Ukraine in the Digital Age

Influencers of Conflict: Russian Military Bloggers During Prigozhin's Mutiny

Alexandra Martin Brankova

Uppsala University

Civilian War Sensing and OSINT Dynamics in Shaping Historical Narratives

Johanna Sophie Hiebl

European University Viadrina

Switching of attention as a "friendly fire": war coverage standards and the weaponization of the reporting

Yuriy Zaliznyak

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

NS/WP: The Case of Online Russian Counter-State Far-Right Network

Petr Oskolkov^{1,2}

¹Ariel University; ²Bar-Ilan University

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD5: Youth, Education, and Generational Cleavages

Harmonisation of laws and policies in youth and patriotic education in post-Soviet states

Edward Lemon¹, Oleg Antonov², Olena Podolian²

¹Texas A&M University; ²Södertörn University

Georgian Students On Democracy and Its Functioning in Georgia

Katarzyna Skiert-Andrzejuk

Collegium Civitas, Poland

Escape from the war: Russian young relocants and their civil and political values

Marina Perglová

Charles University, Czech Republic

Integration of Ukrainian Displaced Youth in the Higher Education System in Latvia

Kata Fredheim, Zane Varpina, Anastasiia Barbarenko

Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD6: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Border Studies: Part 2

The Wars Between Armenia and Azerbaijan: Analysing the Balance Between Zero and Positive Sum Logics in the Interplay of Multi-Level Interventions

Eric Pardo Sauvageot

Universidad de Deusto

"When Drnis came to the sea: Croatian Nationalism, Dalmatian Regionalism, and the Politics of Identity, 1990-2002"

John Edward Ashbrook

Midwestern State University

Disruptions and (Re)Connections in Relations of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and at Their Borderland

Ekaterina Mikhailova¹, Slavomír Horák²

¹Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research; ²Charles University

Azerbaijani-Armenian border: Victim and Trigger of the Unending Conflict

Murad Muradov

Topchubashov Center

Bordering Russian Nationality in Finland, Germany and Norway

Teemu Tapani Oivo¹, Johanne Kalsaas², Julia Kling³

¹University of Eastern Finland; ²University of Bergen; ³University of Passau

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD7: Regionalisms in the Black Sea, South Caucasus, and Central Asia

Illegitimate and Unpopular? Perceptions of the Eurasian Economic Union among the Armenian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz Publics

Zhanibek Arynov

Nazarbayev University

Parliamentary Diplomacy and Turkey's Relationship with Russia Following the Invasion of Ukraine: The Case of the Parliamentary Assembly for Black Sea Economic Co-operation (PABSEC)

Nadia Loureiro

Universidade Nova de Lisboa

How has Russia's Invasion of Ukraine Changed the Discourses of Regionalism in Central Asia?

Assylzat Karabayeva

KIMEP University

Black Sea - from Alternative to Major Energy Transit Status: Dynamics of Transformation of Perceptions in the Energy Politics in the Backdrop of Russia's Aggression War in Ukraine

Lasha Bazhunaishvili, Irakli Gorgiladze, Archil Varshalomidze
Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University

Can the War Foster Connectivity? Azerbaijan's New Regionalism after Karabakh War

Anar Valiyev, Fidan Namazova
ADA University

4:30pm - 6:15pm

TD8: Role of Actors in Governance Practices

Who is to Blame, Who is to Act? Framing Anti-Corruption in Central Asian Regimes

Anna Jordanova
Charles University

Connectivity Representation in Azerbaijan: Expert and Policy-Makers Narratives on the Middle Corridor

Elvir Mammadov
Dalian University of Foreign Languages

The Perilous Expansion of Diplomatic Statecraft: The Case of Lithuania's Relations with China and Russia

Konstantinas Andrijauskas, Raigirdas Boruta
Vilnius University

Routinising and Ritualising Multiple Emergencies: How Lithuania Dealt with Three Crises in 2020-2022

Dovile Jakniunaite
Vilnius University