

Tartu Conference on East European and Eurasian Studies - Programme

11 June 2025 - 13 June 2025

Wednesday

11 June

10:30-19:00

REGISTRATION DESK

All

Conference registration desk open

Lossi 36, 1st Floor

10:30-11:30

Coffee break

Lossi 36, Stairwell

All

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

Transboundary Identities of Minorities in the Baltic Sea Region and Beyond: Part I

Chair: Heidi Erbsen | American Councils

Discussant: Vello Pettai | European Centre for Minority Issues

Between hopes and anxiety: Critical analysis of the discourse on Russian-speaking youth in Latvia in the aftermath of the Russian-Ukrainian war

Lena Hercberga | Copenhagen Business School

Preliminary effects of the transition to Estonian-language in schools: Evidence from multi-wave surveys and qualitative interviews

Laura Howells | Princeton University

Beyond the Threat Narrative: Estonian and Kazakhstani Russians' Identification between 1991-2022

Aigerim Nurseitova | University of Tartu

Bordering of Russian-ness in Times of Conflict: Perspectives from Cyberculture

Teemu Oivo | University of Eastern Finland

11:30-13:15

ROUNDTABLE

Room 305

Decolonising Museums: Insights from Ukraine's New Museum Guide

Chair: Tetyana Filevska | Ukrainian Institute **Presenters:** Linda Kaljundi | Estonian Academy of Arts & Tallinn University; Olena Chervonik | University of Oxford; Kristīne Milere | Latvian National Museum of Art; Lucy (Olena) Zoria | British Council in Ukraine

Decolonising Museums: Insights from Ukraine's New Museum Guide

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Transnational Perspectives on Belarusian History and Culture

Chair: Tatsiana Astrouskaya | Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe **Discussant:** Katia Glod | European Leadership Network

Anatolij Rubin and his autobiographic narratives

Uladzimir Valodzin | European University Institute

Wartime sculpture in Belarus and beyond

Pavel Voinitski | Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe

Multilingual Zawadski printing house in a transnational perspective

Ala Pihalskaya | University of Bremen

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Ruptured Lives: World War II and Its Aftermaths

Chair: Shan Huang | Tsinghua University **Discussant:** Benjamin Tromly | University of Puget Sound

Three Jewish Ghetto Policemen: Forming Lives in Kaunas, Lithuania - Reforming Lives in the Kovno Ghetto

Lisa Storer | Vytautas Magnus University

Finding your own mythological niche in the Soviet hierarchy: the case of Kazakhstan

Jerzy Rohoziński | The Pilecki Institute

Telling untold stories: Free Winds digital exhibition at Vabamu highlights the incredible journeys of Baltic refugees who fled from Sweden after World War II and sailed in tiny boats across the Atlantic to freedom.

Lisa Trei | Vabamu Museum & Tallinn University

Ede Schank Tamkivi | Vabamu Museum & NoVa

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Russia's Economic and Energy Coercion in Its Neighbouring States

Chair: Sebastian Kiecker | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Edgars Eihmanis | University of Tartu

The End of Russian Energy Coercion against the Baltic States?

Justinas Juozaitis | General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania

Energy conflictivity between Russia and Ukraine: the paradigm of their energy relations from the lenses of the “four spaces” as exemplified in their energy dispute from 2014

Eric Pardo Sauvageot | Universidad de Deusto

Rhetoric and trade: Russian influence and the former communist bloc

Raul Toomla | University of Tartu

Martin Mölder | University of Tartu

13:15-14:30

Lunch

Not provided by the organisers

All

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

Transboundary Identities of Minorities in the Baltic Sea Region and Beyond: Part II

Chair: Aigerim Nurseitova | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Olena Podolian | Södertörn University

Belarusians in the Baltics: a case study against the monolithic view on Russophone communities

Paula Domingo Pasarin | Princeton University

A New Era in the European Integration Patterns in Response to the Ukrainian Forced Migrations after 2022: Cases from Poland and Estonia

Heidi Erbsen | American Councils

Jakub Isanski | Adam Mickiewicz University

Ukrainian Artists in Estonia: Continuation of National Identity and Culture

Parker Watt | University of Tartu

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Queer Resilience in the Baltic States

Chair: Rasa Kamarauskaite | School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London

Discussant: Rebeka Põldsam | Institute of Cultural Research, University of Tartu

Obtaining and managing international money. The circulation and effects of Western financial aid in LGBT+ activism in Lithuania

Gabija Bubnyte | École normale supérieure Paris – EHESS

Same Label, Different Meanings: Variations in Sexual Orientation Self-Definition Among LGBTQ+ Lithuanians

Rasa Katinaitė | Vytautas Magnus University

Kristina Žardeckaitė-Matulaitienė | Vytautas Magnus University

Naming the Invisible: Navigating Kinship and Naming Practices in Lithuanian Same-Sex Partnerships

Ieva Bisigirskaitė | Vilnius University

14:30-16:15

ROUNDTABLE

Room 305

Chair: Mart Kuldkepp | University College London **Presenters:** Darius Staliūnas | Lithuanian Institute of History; Botakoz Kassymbekova | University of Zürich; Anton Saifullayev | University of Warsaw

Metropolitan and Imperialist Frameworks of Knowledge Production in East European Studies

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Constructing Realities: Narrative Manipulation as Political Strategy

Chair: Michael Cronin | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Ramon Loik | Estonian Academy of Security Studies

On Russian anti-soft power and its application since the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 (through the lens of narrative manipulation)

Liia Vihmand-Veebel | University of Tartu

Shaping political narratives across borders: an experiment on the effect of media exposure to authoritarian discourse on the sympathy toward an authoritarian party

Anouk van Vliet | Leiden University

Understanding and Mitigating the Ukraine-Related Disinformation Campaigns' Impact on Hungarian Society

Dorka Takacsy | Corvinus University of Budapest

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Legal Pathways to Change: Memory, Justice, and Human Rights

Chair: Yaroslav Halieiev | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Dmitry Dubrovskiy | Charles University

Ukraine and cultural resilience in wartime: potential conflict with human rights?

Marcin Marek Jędrysiak | Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich

What Explains Punishment in Historical Memory-related Court Cases? The Case of Ukraine since 2022

Andrii Nekoliak | University of Cologne

Transforming Rhetoric into Action: Decolonial Legislation as a Way for Shaping State Discourse

Mila Rossokhatska | University of Amsterdam

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 205

Post-Soviet Material Culture: How Built Environments Shape Communities

Chair: Oksana Belova-Dalton | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Marija Biret | University of Vienna

On Art of Being Neighbour: Case Study of Artists Soviet Housing Block in Tbilisi

Ketevan Gurchiani | Ilia State University

A Garage with a View. Topographies of Hiding in Eastern Estonia

Francisco Martínez | University of Murcia

Decolonising Landscapes: Spatial Memory in Post-Socialist Cities of Central and Eastern Europe

Veronika L. Sharova | independent researcher

16:45-18:45

PLENARY SESSION

All

Conference opening and plenary roundtable on "Democracy and Resilience in Eastern Europe and Eurasia"

Aula, University of Tartu Main Building, Ülikooli tn 18

Moderator: Vello Pettai | European Centre for Minority Issues Speakers: Ketevan Gurchiani | Ilia State

University; Oleksii Kolesnykov | University of Tartu; Ryhor Nizhnikau | Finnish Institute of International Affairs

19:00-21:00

EVENING EVENT

All

Welcome reception

Registered conference participants only

Thursday
12 June

08:30-16:30 REGISTRATION DESK

All

Conference registration desk open

Lossi 36, 1st Floor

09:15-11:00 ROUNDTABLE

Room 205

Chair: Catherine Gibson | University of Tartu **Presenters:** Julia Malitska | Södertörn University; Janet Laidla | University of Tartu; Teele Saar | University of Tartu; Estonian Maritime Museum

Entangled Borderlands: Intra-Imperial Mobilities in the Late Romanov Empire

09:15-11:00 PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Understanding Heteronormativity in the Baltic States

Chair: Rasa Kamarauskaitė | School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London

Discussant: Sara Barbo | School of Humanities, Tallinn University

Discourse on Sexuality in Lithuania: Analysis of Heteronormative Attitudes of Members of the Parliament of Lithuania

Vilius Mickūnas | Vilnius University

“Identity Under the Microscope”: Medicalization and Pathologization of Gender and Sexual Minorities in Interwar Estonia

Eha Emilia Oras | Tallinn University

Exploring LGBT discourses: representation in Estonian news media, 1995-2023

Aet Kuusik | University of Tartu

In Defence of Family: Understanding the Discourse and the Network of Anti-gender Movement in Lithuania

Rasa Navickaitė | Vilnius University

09:15-11:00 PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Studying Russia and Its Wars: an Academic Audit

Chair: Yulia Kurnyshova | University of Tartu & the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)

Discussant: Vanessa Ruget | Salem State University (University of Tartu, spring 2025 visiting fellow)

A New Corporeal Order: Russia between Biopower and Necropolitics

Andrey Makarychev | University of Tartu

The Rise and Fall of Innocence: Civilizational Narratives During the War

Yulia Kurnyshova | University of Tartu & the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)

A Strong Weak State, or the Central Paradox of Russian State-Building

Dinissa Duvanova | Lehigh University

09:15-11:00 PAPER SESSION

Room 307

International History of the Late Cold War and Transition Years

Chair: Juhan Saharov | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Kaarel Piirimäe | University of Tartu

Changing British Foreign and Commonwealth Office policy towards the independence of the Baltic States (1988-1991)

Jokubas Pukenas | Lithuanian Institute of History

Transformation of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the light of the personal archive of Krzysztof Skubiszewski: from Ideology to Professionalization (1989-1993)

Wojciech Łysek | Polish Academy of Sciences

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

Christofer Berglund | Malmö University

Karli Storm | University of Eastern Finland

09:15-11:00

PAPER SESSION

Room 305

Parties, Parliaments, and Political Polarization

Chair: Yurii Kondratyuk | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Rein Taagepera | University of Tartu

Same Plant, Different Soils: Ideological Differentiation in Environmental Politics

Ville Haapanen | University of Tartu

Mapping political actors' moral imagination: A case study in the Lithuanian parliament

Laimas Zakaraitė | Kaunas University of Technology

Vaidas Morkevičius | Kaunas University of Technology

Vytautas Valentinavicius | Kaunas University of Technology

09:15-11:00

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

Grassroots Activism and Mobilisation in Eurasia

Chair: Azniv Tadevosyan | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Katalin Fabian | Lafayette College

Social mobilization against Russian interference in the Romanian presidential elections (November 2024 - May 2025)

Marius Diaconescu | Romanian Centre for Russian Studies, University of Bucharest

The Flooded Steppe: How Kazakhstani Citizens Used New Media During the 2024 Flood

Yerkebulan Sairambay | SDU University (Kaskelen, Kazakhstan)

11:00-11:30

BREAK

All

Coffee Break

Lossi 36, Stairwell

11:30-13:15

ROUNDTABLE

Room 305

Chair: Heiko Pääbo | University of Tartu **Presenters:** Łukasz Mikołajewski | Research Centre for LGBT+ History and Identities, Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw; Kamil Karczewski | Research Centre for LGBT+ History and Identities, Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw; Piotr Laskowski | Research Centre for LGBT+ History and Identities, Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw; Riikka Taavetti | University of Turku

Book discussion: Queer in Poland: Autobiographies

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Russia's Politicized Intelligence and 'Intelligencized' Politics

Chair: Arnold Sinisalu | Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies **Discussant:** Sanshiro Hosaka | Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies and International Centre for Defence and Security

Agentura without Agency? Russian Military Intelligence as Actor and Instrument in Russian Foreign Policy

Mark Galeotti | University of Kent

Through a Crooked Mirror: Chekist Manufacturing of the Ukrainian Enemy Image

Julie Fedor | University of Melbourne

Russian Intelligence Failures and Successes in its War on Ukraine

Tom Røseth | Norwegian Defence University College

Provocation as Russian Technique, Rhetoric, and Mindset

Jardar Østbø | Norwegian Defence University College

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Baltic Land Reforms: Policies, Subjectivities, Memories and Representations

Chair: Linda Kaljundi | Estonian Academy of Arts & Tallinn University **Discussant:** Marju Luts-Sootak | University of Tartu

Remembering Land Reforms: Impact on Subjectivities and Collective Identities in 20th Century

Heidi Hein-Kircher | Martin Opitz Library, Herne & Ruhr-University Bochum

Tourist Experiences with “Intourist” Created Representations of Collectivisation

Marta Starostina | University of Birmingham

Legal Continuity Versus Economic Efficiency: Contexts and Policy Choices in the Restructuring of Land Relations, 1989-1991

Triinu Rennu | University of Tartu

Justice and Morality in Personal Narratives of the Post-Socialist Land Reform in Estonia

Paris Pin-Yu Chen | University of Birmingham

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Religion in Times of Adversity

Chair: Teemu Oivo | University of Eastern Finland **Discussant:** Alar Kilp | University of Tartu

Peaceful extremists: Why and how Jehovah's Witnesses are persecuted in Russia

Igor Mikeshin | University of Helsinki

Faith Diplomacy of the Russian Orthodox Church: Annexation of Crimea and War in Donbas in 2014-2016.

Andis Kudors | University of Latvia

Religion as a factor in the resilience of Ukrainian society after Russia's full-scale aggression

Andrzej Szabaciuk | The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 205

Between Tradition and Innovation: Challenges and Opportunities in Secondary and Higher Education in Kazakhstan

Chair: Una Bergmane | University of Helsinki **Discussant:** Yerkebulan Sairambay | SDU University (Kaskelen, Kazakhstan)

Critical thinking under regulation: navigating authoritarian educational constraints in Kazakhstan

Anel Kulakhmetova | Narxoz University

Aleksandra Filatova | Narxoz University

Reverse academic shock in doctoral supervision

Nazipa Ayubayeva | Narxoz University

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

European Unity or Division? Assessing the Role of the EU as a Foreign Policy Actor

Chair: Tatiana Lupacheva | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Piret Ehin | University of Tartu

Is EU Enlargement Still the Main Policy Instrument for the Unification of Europe?

Milenko Petrovic | University of Canterbury

Evaluating Motivations for Foreign Aid: Case study of East European state's Foreign Aid for Ukraine

Jarkko Hietala | Tampere University

Prospects for Cooperation Between the European Union and Central Asian Countries After 2022

Andrzej Stopczyński | University of Lodz

"Triumph of humanity" versus "Dictate of Brussels": Contested geopolitical imaginaries about the European Union produced by Germany and Czechia in response to the 2015-2016 migration crisis

Jana Urbanovská | Masaryk University

Ivana Rapoš Božič | Masaryk University

Mária Mokrá | Comenius University

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 206

Investigative media and digital practices in the Baltic States

Chair: Petr Gulenko | Charles University **Discussant:** Ragne Kõuts-Klemm | University of Tartu

Investigative media and data practices in the Baltic States

Miglė Bareikytė | European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)

Johanna Hiebl | European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)

Adapting to the conditions of war: how the Russian full-scale war against Ukraine changes journalism in Ukraine and beyond

Yaroslava Bukhta | University of Oxford

Digital Diplomacy or Disinformation? Russia, The Baltic States, & Contested Memory

Alexander Hardy | University of Liverpool

13:15-14:30

BREAK

All

Lunch

Not provided by the organisers

14:30-16:15

ROUNDTABLE

Room 205

Chair: Irina Paert | University of Tartu **Presenters:** Arko Olesk | Tallinn University; Eva-Kaia Vabamäe | University of Tartu; Mark Galeotti | University of Kent

From Peer Review to Public Influence: Communicating Research in a Digital Age

Memories of War: Barriers and Bridges between Past, Present, and Future in the Ukrainian Experience

Chair: Taisiia Ratushna | Zaporizhzhia National University/Forum Transregionale Studien (Berlin)

Discussant: Yuliia Soroka | Prisma Ukraïna, Forum Transregionale Studien / N.V. Karazin Kharkiv National University / IHEID-Graduate institute, Geneva

Tonalities in Transformation of Forcibly Displaced Ukrainians' Memories

Olha Haidamachuk | Prisma Ukraïna, Forum Transregionale Studien & National Technical University "Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute"

The dynamic of attitudes towards IDPs, refugees and people remaining on the Temporarily Occupied Territories (2014-2023)

Lidia Kuzemska | Prisma Ukraïna & Forum Transregionale Studien

The Role of Social Media in Connecting Ukrainian Forcibly Displaced Persons and Their Families in Ukraine

Taisiia Ratushna | Prisma Ukraïna, Forum Transregionale Studien & Zaporizhzhia National University

Dividing the skin of a not-yet-killed bear: mapping of Russia's collapse in social media and public space

Mykola Homanyuk | Kherson State University & Prisma Ukraïna, Forum Transregionale Studien

Resilience to Emerging Risks

Chair: Didzis Kļaviņš | University of Latvia **Discussant:** Louis Wierenga | Baltic Defence College

Catastrophic Incentives and Rethinking Readiness: A brief guide to twenty-first-century megadisasters

Jeff Schlegelmilch | Columbia University

Security, first of all, begins at home: How Finland, Latvia, and Germany prepare "ordinary people" for crises

Alexandra Friede | Helmut Schmidt University

Urban Preparedness for Emerging Risks in the Baltic Sea Region

Ieva Birka | University of Latvia

Military's role in resilience

Guna Gavrilko | University of Latvia

Political Struggles in Latvia and Lithuania in the Early 20th Century

Chair: Lelde Luika | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Darius Staliūnas | Lithuanian Institute of History

From Resilience to the Fight: The Latvian Social Democrats in Exile at the Beginning of the 20th Century

Marija Podzorova Biret | University of Vienna, Institute for East-European History

Resistance strategies to press censorship in interwar Lithuania: print media workers and censors' relations

Dominyka Tarvydaitė | Vilnius University

A threat from within: Front Organizations of the Latvian Communist party as a destabilizing factor in Latvia's domestic security in the 1920s

Guna Zariņa | University of Latvia

Screening for loyal citizens: a comparative approach of remigration policies in Lithuania and Vilnius region after the First World War

Paulius Birgiel | Lithuanian Institute of History

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Eurasia's Authoritarian Playbook: How Autocrats Use Legal Reforms to Consolidate Power

Chair: Milenko Petrovic | University of Canterbury **Discussant:** Shpend Kursani | University of Tartu

Foreign Agents Everywhere: The Harmonization of Laws in Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Russia

Olena Podolian | Södertörn University

Edward Lemon | Texas A&M University

Oleg Antonov | Södertörn University

Bo Petersson | Malmö University

Authoritarian Constitutional Reform: Elite Interventions in the Period of Anticipated Transition

Paul Fisher | University College London, School of Slavonic and East European Studies

Autocratization and “Anti-anti-corruption” in Central Europe

Yusuke Ishikawa | Institute of Geoeconomics

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Politicising the Environment in Times of Peace and War

Chair: Sandra Hagelin | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Epp Annus | Ohio State University & Tallinn University

What Shapes Environmental Attitudes? Unveiling Ethnicity’s Role in Environmental-Economic Decisions in Estonia and Latvia

Stefan Tung | University College London

From progress to disaster: the memory and legacy of the Kakhovka Dam

Tetiana Perga | TU Berlin

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Empowerment and Resistance in Multilingual Societies

Chair: Azniv Tadevosyan | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Heiko Pääbo | University of Tartu

Language Symbols of Resistance, Resilience, and Overcoming Colonial Thinking in Wartime

Natalia Kobchenko | National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

Bilingualisms and identity: Cultural challenges within Latvia’s diaspora in Sweden

Mara Simons | Latvian Academy of Culture

Anti-Woke Politics and Gender-Based Violence in Hungary: The diffusion and application of culture war concepts

Katalin Fabian | Lafayette College

16:45-18:45

PLENARY SESSION

All

Keynote lecture: Kate Brown "Tiny Gardens Everywhere: A Kaleidoscopic History of the Food Sovereignty Frontier"

Oecologicum, J. Liivi tn 2

Keynote: Kate Brown | MIT Moderator: Łukasz Mikołajewski | University of Warsaw

Five-thousand Parisian farmers grew vegetables for two million Parisians at the turn of the 19th century. Black residents of Washington, DC paid down on their homes during the Great Depression by maintaining vegetable gardens on their urban lots. Soviet citizens won the right to garden in the midst of the great famine of 1933. Soviets farmed urban peripheries to produce most of the food people ate while Soviet collective farms failed. These stories have been missed in plain sight because they do not coincide with ideas of progress or neat categorizations dividing urban from rural. Cities ran and working classes got paid by means of a vegetable-powered wealth. The history of self-provisioning cities points to stories of urban commons and mutual aid societies that undermine narratives of global capitalism.

19:00-22:00

EVENING EVENT

All

Conference dinner

Registered conference participants only

Friday
13 June

08:30-17:00 REGISTRATION DESK

All

Conference registration desk open

Lossi 36, 1st Floor

09:15-11:00 ROUNDTABLE

Room 305

Chair: Una Bergmane | University of Helsinki **Presenters:** Catherine Gibson | University of Tartu; Inta Mieriņa | University of Latvia; Laur Kanger | University of Tartu

European Research Council funding grants: mission (im)possible for scholars in the "new" member states?

09:15-11:00 PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Ethnic Minorities and Identity Dynamics in Post-Soviet Spaces: Between Internal and External Pressures

Chair: Anatoliy Kruglashov | Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University / University of Lodz **Discussant:** Stefan Tung | University College London

Transnistrian Poles, Between the Kin-State and the Patron Russia

Magdalena Dembińska | Université de Montréal

Rusyns and Their Identity Question in Transcarpathia Since the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

Tomáš Hoch | University of Ostrava

Unilateral Sovereignty Referendums in Territorial Autonomies: Motivations and the Case of Gagauzia's 2014 Referendums

Marcin Kosienkowski | The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

Between Kurdish Nationalism and Yezidi Ethno-Religious Exceptionalism: Identity Split among the Yezidis in Armenia and Georgia

Vincenc Kopeček | University of Ostrava

09:15-11:00 PAPER SESSION

Room 206

Narrating Ukraine: Cultural Politics of Representation

Chair: Yevhen Yashchuk | University of Oxford **Discussant:** Julia Malitska | Södertörn University

Tracing Cultural Resilience: Ukrainian-Polish Dynamics Through 'Kultura'

Lina Vidauskytė | Military Academy of Lithuania

Survival as Victory: Contemporary Ukrainian Cinematic Reflections on Women and Their Gender-Based Daily Practices of Resilience, Adaptation, and Survival in the Context of the Ongoing War

Yuliya V. Ladygina | The Pennsylvania State University

09:15-11:00 PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Questioning Allegiances: Loyalty, Citizenship, and Mobilisation in Russia

Chair: Bogdan Romanov | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Andrey Makarychev | University of Tartu

Formerly Deported Peoples in Russia: Resistance, Resilience or Adaptation?

Alexander Osipov | International Center for Ethnic and Linguistic Diversity Studies

Russia's weaponization of citizenship: legal and political perspectives

Vanessa Ruget | Salem State University (University of Tartu, spring 2025 visiting fellow)

Military Mobilisation and the Russian Society - Aspects, Societal Consequences, Social Reactions and Narratives of Russian Military Mobilisation during the Full-scale Invasion of Ukraine

Eszter Borissza | Eötvös Loránd University

09:15-11:00

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

Defense in the Modern Era: Cybersecurity, Hybrid Warfare, and Scenario Planning

Chair: Logan Carmichael | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Rainer Saks | University of Tartu

Adopting Corporate Practices to Upend National Defence: A Case Study of Romania's Cybersecurity Directorate

Maria Bega | National School of Political and Administrative Studies

EU-NATO Cooperation and Perspectives in Countering Hybrid Threats

Ramon Loik | Estonian Academy of Security Sciences & University of Tartu

Credibility of American security guarantees to Poland during the war in Ukraine

Łukasz Jureńczyk | Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz, Poland

09:15-11:00

PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Dialogues between IR Theory and Diplomatic Practice

Chair: Alar Streimann | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Thomas Linsenmaier | University of Tartu

The Stockholm ad hoc Group and the Baltic states' entry into the Western Society of States

Kaarel Piirimäe | University of Tartu

From a Buffer Zone to a Frontline Region? Unmapping Eastern Europe in a Multi-Order World

Emilian Kavalski | Jagiellonian University

Ukrainian Political Dialogue in the Times of Revolution, Wars and Media Digitalization

Nataliia Steblyna | Vasyl Stus Donetsk National University

09:15-11:00

PAPER SESSION

Room 205

Politics of Memory: Meanings, Myths, Monuments

Chair: Juhan Saharov | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Andrii Nekoliak | University of Cologne

For whom we memorize: The decolonial struggles around Soviet-era monuments in the Baltics

Shan Huang | Tsinghua University

Interpreting a Historical Myth Surrounding the 1968 Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia

Igor Zavorotchenko | Charles University in Prague

Fabricating Victims and Perpetrators in Occupied Ukraine: Savur-Mohyla and the 1943-2014 Parallel

Marco Simonetti | Independent Researcher

Turkish Foreign Policy Towards Armenia and Historical Memory 2003-2023

Roberto Belleri | University of Macerata

11:00-11:30

BREAK

All

Coffee Break

Lossi 36, Stairwell

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Rethinking Democracy in Times of War: Insights from Ukraine

Chair: Oleksii Kolesnykov | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Mariana Semenyshyn | GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

From Vulnerability to Sustainability: How Russian Aggression Drives Ukraine's Democracy

Anatoliy Kruglashov | Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University & University of Lodz

Democracy on Trial: Overcoming Challenges to Parlamentarism, Elections and Justice in Ukraine During the War

Olena Ovcharenko | Centre of Policy and Legal Reform & Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

Olha Ivasiuk | Centre of Policy and Legal Reform & Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University

Technology, Gender, and Crisis: Advancing Democracy Through Wartime Civic Engagement

Olga Matveieva | Dnipro University of Technology & Ruhr-University Bochum

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Across the Fences of Gardens and Zoos: About double border(s) in More-than-Human history of East Central Europe

Chair: Paris Pin-Yu Chen | University of Birmingham **Discussant:** Kate Brown | MIT

Renegotiating Memories in an Exotique Atmosphere: Japanese Gardens in German and Polish Silesia

Christian Tagsold | HHU Düsseldorf

Prague Zoo as a Global Hub in the Cold War

Barbora Menclova | Charles University Prague

Crossing the lines between humans and animals in the history of Zoos in Eastern Europe in the 20th century

Anke Hilbrenner | HHU Düsseldorf

Garden Colonies for Workers: Introduction of Allotments in the Romanov Empire, 1909-1917

Anton Kotenko | HHU Düsseldorf

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

Geopolitics in the South Caucasus

Chair: Kristel Vits | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Eiki Berg | University of Tartu

From Karabakh to Yerevan: Post-Conflict Democratization in Armenia in a context of a new ENP perspective

Carlo Busini | University for Foreigners of Perugia

Effectiveness of Dialogue Projects in Transforming Perceptions of the "Enemy"

Ibrahim Mammadli | University of Tartu

Why Have Russian Peacekeepers Left the Karabakh Region Since the Second Karabakh War?

Nigar Gurbanli | ADA University

Anar Valiyev | ADA University

11:30-13:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 305

Between Isolation and Influence: Political Alignments Inside and Outside of Russia

Chair: Elena Pavlova | University of Tartu **Discussant:** David Ilmar Beecher | University of Tartu

Left Putinverstehers in the United States

Andrei Znamenski | University of Memphis

The Émigré Origins of Russophobia as a Construct in Russian Nationalism

Benjamin Kimbrough Tromly | University of Puget Sound

Dilemma of Russian academia - between asphyxia inside the country and aphonia outside

Dmitry Dubrovskiy | Charles University

13:15-14:30

BREAK

All

Lunch Break

Not provided by the organisers

14:30-16:15

ROUNDTABLE

Room 305

Queer Studies in and on the Baltic Countries: Challenges and Opportunities

Chair: Riikka Taavetti | University of Turku **Presenters:** Rasa Kamarauskaitė | University College London; Rasa Navickaitė | Vilnius University; Rebeka Põldsam | University of Tartu; Igors Gubenko | University of Latvia

Queer Studies in and on the Baltic Countries: Challenges and Opportunities

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 306

Transnational and Global Histories of the Russian Empire in the Long 19th Century

Chair: Oliver Rowe | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Anton Kotenko | HHU Düsseldorf

The Great Eastern Crisis of 1875-1878 in Political Expressions in Kyiv and Lviv: Local Resistance, International Resonance, and Provincial Adaptations

Yevhen Yashchuk | University of Oxford

The inconspicuous epidemic: Spanish Flu Discourse in Soviet Russia National Newspapers (1918-1919)

Petr Gulenko | Charles University

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 307

Adapting to Crisis in the Spheres of Security, Governance, and Cultural Policy

Chair: Yusuke Ishikawa | Institute of Geoeconomics **Discussant:** Marta Starostina | University of Birmingham

Crisis Preparedness in Light of Changing Security Realities in the Baltic Sea Region

Sandra Hagelin | University of Tartu

Resilience and Cross-Border Cooperation in Cultural Heritage Protection: The Lublin Triangle's Response to Ukraine's Cultural Crisis

Elżbieta Olzacka | Jagiellonian University

Katarzyna Pasternak | Jagiellonian University

'Female Leadership in Times of Crisis'

Hanna Shvindina | Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS)

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 215

From Conflict to Reconstruction: Building a Resilient Ukraine

Chair: Olena Denysenko | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Oleksii Kolesnykov | University of Tartu

Reframing Recovery: Context-Sensitive Pathways to Transformative Sustainability in Post-War Ukraine

Oksana Udovik | INGENIO (CSIC-UPV)

Transparency in Action: Monitoring Recovery Spending in Wartime Ukraine

Olha Volkhina | Fiscal Policy Research Center

Viktor Maziarchuk | Fiscal Policy Research Center

Yuliia Zvierievych | Fiscal Policy Research Center

Oleksandra Konopatska | Kyiv School of Economics

Municipalities as veto players in ensuing Ukraine's democratic resilience? Critical review of the system of multi-level governance of Ukraine.

Mariana Semenyshyn | GIZ, Syracuse University

Staying Together: Social Cohesion in Hromadas During War and Its Role in Recovery

Tetiana Lukeria | Kyiv School of Economics & National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 205

Navigating Minority Identities: Language, Belonging, and Integration

Chair: Paula Domingo Parsarin | Princeton University **Discussant:** Inta Mieriņa | University of Latvia

"The Problem in Lithuania are Not the Russian Speakers, but the Polish": the Russian-speaking Community Fighting Erasure and Building Resilience in Lithuania

Cecilia Frego | Università di Pisa

Minority-Majority Cities: the Case of Narva

Vello Pettai | European Centre for Minority Issues

Exploring Identity, History, Difference: Roma Experiences of Belonging in Romania

Sydney Holt | Queen's University Belfast

14:30-16:15

PAPER SESSION

Room 214

Russia's War in Ukraine and Shifts in the International Order

Chair: Thomas Pritchard | University of Tartu **Discussant:** Eric Pardo Sauvageot | Universidad de Deusto

Instrumentalizing Ukraine's Self-Determination: The EU, Russia, and Geopolitical Otherness

Femke Klaver | Leiden University

Daniel Daineko | Leiden University

Why Zelensky Failed? Ukraine's Pacifist Policy Toward Russia and Putin's Reflexive Control, 2019-2021

Sanshiro Hosaka | University of Tartu
