



UNIVERSITY
OF TARTU



Estonian
Research Council

7–8 December 2024
Exploratory workshop

MANIFESTO
To All The Peoples of Estonia
[...]

E s t o n i a ! You stand on the threshold of a hopeful future in which you shall be free and independent in determining and directing your destiny. Begin building a home of your own, ruled by law and order in order to be a worthy member within the family of civilized nations. Sons and daughters of our homeland, let us unite as one man in the sacred task of building our homeland. The sweat and blood shed by our ancestors for this country oblige us to do it, and we must do it for the sake of our future generations.

May God watch over Thee
And amply bless
Whatever thou undertake
My dear homeland!

Long live the independent democratic Republic of Estonia!

Long live peace among nations!

The Council of Elders
Estonian National Council
February 24, 1918

Photo: Pärnu Museum 1610:5 F 3120

This workshop is funded by the Estonian Research Council's project 'Self-Determination of Peoples in Historical Perspective' (PRG 942). For more information on the project, see sisu.ut.ee/selfdetermination



Varieties of Self-Determination
Conceptualising the Nation-State,
Democracy, and Political Community
in the Baltic Region

sisu.ut.ee/selfdetermination

10:00–10:15 **Eva Piirimäe** (University of Tartu),
Welcome and introductory remarks

Chair: Hent Kalmo

10:15–11:15 **Eva Piirimäe** (University of Tartu),
*Self-Determination of Peoples in Historical Perspective:
Project Highlights*

11:30–13:00 **Joanna Innes** (Oxford University), *Re-imagining
Democracy? The Long View*

Chair: David Ilmar Lepasaar Beecher

15:00–16:00 **Ilkka Liikanen** (Karelian Institute, University of
Eastern Finland), *Grand Duchy of Finland: Princely Power
and National Statehood*

16:00–17:00 **Wiktor Marzec** (NEC Bucharest / University of
Warsaw), *Borderland Pathways and Regime Outcomes in
the Successor States of the Russian Empire*

Chair: Liisi Veski

17:15–18:15 **Balázs Trencsényi** (Central European University),
Crisis Discourses in the Interwar Period (online)

Chair: Kaarel Piirimäe

10:30–11:15 **Hent Kalmo** (University of Tartu),
Estonia as a Paradigmatic and Idiosyncratic Case

11:15–12:00 **Marina Germane** (University of Glasgow), *Latvia
as a 'State of Democratic Fairness': Pursuing the Nation-State
Ideal during the Interwar Period*

Chair: Juhana Saharov

12:15–13:00 **Eva Piirimäe** (University of Tartu), *The Crisis of the
Nation-State and 'True Self-Determination' in Baltic German
Political Thought, 1918–1934*

13:00–13:45 **Liisi Veski** (University of Tartu), *Corporatism,
Democracy, and Nation-Statehood in interwar Estonia*

Chair: Pärtel Piirimäe

15:00–15:45 **Panel 1: Self-Government, Autonomy, and
Representation** (Joanna Innes, Oliver Rowe, Balázs Trencsényi)
15:45–16:30 **Panel 2: Links between International and
Domestic Politics** (Ilkka Liikanen, Kaarel Piirimäe, Wiktor Marzec)

16:45–17:30 **Panel 3: Nationalising States, Ethnodemocracy,
and their Alternatives** (Wiktor Marzec, Marina Germane,
Hent Kalmo)

17:30–18:15 Concluding discussion