

# NewsNet

News of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

## War, Escalating Vulnerabilities, and Service Delivery in Ukraine Sarah D. Phillips, Indiana U and Jill Owczarzak, Johns Hopkins U

Before the war in Ukraine began in mid-April 2014, considerable headway was being made in the development of programs and initiatives to protect the rights of—and provide social and health services and employment opportunities to—Ukraine’s vulnerable populations, including people with disabilities, people who use drugs, and people living with HIV/AIDS and/or other chronic illnesses (tuberculosis, Hepatitis C). As anthropologists interested in health and society, we have been tracking these initiatives in a series of research projects on disability issues since 2006<sup>1</sup> and HIV prevention since 2012<sup>2</sup>. Now we find ourselves documenting how the war in Ukraine has not only disrupted existing services for already-vulnerable populations; it has created new forms and new crises of vulnerability.<sup>3</sup>

Approximately 7,000 people have been killed and over 17,000 injured in Ukraine during the war. The war has displaced more than 2.3 million people. As of July 31, 925,500 persons had sought asylum, residence permits or other forms of legal stay in neighboring countries, mostly Russia. By September 7, 1,460,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were registered by the Ministry of Social Policy across Ukraine in the government-controlled areas

(GCAs).<sup>4</sup> The true number of IDPs is likely much higher, since centralized registration for IDPs was launched only in October 2014; some IDPs may not have proper documentation required to register; unaccompanied children cannot register; and IDPs within non-government controlled areas have not been counted.<sup>5</sup> It is not known how many people are living in non-government-controlled areas (NGCAs, areas under separatist control) in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.<sup>6</sup> According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, people living in these areas lack access to public services previously provided by central authorities, and the situation is exacerbated by the restrictions to the movement of people and goods.<sup>7</sup>

According to the Ukrainian Ministry of Social Policy, 12.6% of IDPs in Ukraine are children, 4.2% are people with disabilities (PWD), and 59.1% receive some sort of social pension. Women and children comprise the majority of the IDP population, as men stayed behind to protect property, to fight in the conflict, or were prevented from leaving by armed groups.<sup>8</sup> International organizations such as the UNHCR, UNICEF, and others are helping Ukrainian state institutions coordinate relief efforts for war-affected populations in Ukraine. They are joined by a

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robust cadre of civic activists and associated non-governmental organizations that, since the EuroMaidan protests, have engaged in fundraising and service efforts to assist IDPs and supply the Ukrainian army with equipment and provisions. These citizens' initiatives are locally referred to as a "state within a state," a formulation that highlights the extent to which private citizens are stepping in to fill the gaps in the Ukrainian state's safety and security net. At the same time, IDPs are not always welcomed by host communities; as often happens, local populations may see IDPs as competitors for jobs and scarce resources, and blame them for bringing social and health problems with them.

These challenges are exacerbated by Ukraine's attendant economic down-spiral—Ukraine's currency (the hryvnia, UAH) crashed in February 2015, GDP fell by 18% during the first quarter of 2015, and inflation topped 60% in April 2015.<sup>10</sup> The Ukrainian government was woefully unprepared for the humanitarian crisis, and international and local organizations are struggling to cope as well. In this context of economic decline, sharpened marginalization of vulnerable groups, and an IDP crisis, already over-burdened health and social service agencies—many of them non-governmental organizations with very limited resources—must rapidly adapt to serve new populations and provide new services. Here we highlight a few cases that illustrate some of the vulnerability crises produced or exacerbated by the war in Ukraine.

### Acute vulnerabilities in non-government-controlled areas

People living in NGCAs—including those with disabilities who may have chronic medical conditions that require medicines, therapy, and other special care—face

acute shortages of medicines, personal hygiene products, safe drinking water, and food, including infant formula and baby food. Food security is a serious concern, due to shortages and high inflation in the NGCAs.<sup>11</sup> The existing permit system for crossing the "contact line" from GCA to NGCA includes no provisions that would allow people with disabilities, the elderly, and those with acute health crises and health care needs to quickly leave the conflict

zone, and the restrictions on freedom of movement impede people in NGCAs from accessing social entitlements and healthcare.<sup>12</sup> The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and NGOs report difficulties in carrying out humanitarian work due to regulations on the free movement of civilians and goods imposed by Government authorities. Notary services have been discontinued in the NGCAs, which impedes some pensioners (including people with disabilities) from accessing their social benefits. Disability rights activists who left the NGCAs are struggling to provide aid to people with disabilities still living in the separatist-controlled territories, either by periodically undertaking risky travel there, or by sending aid through couriers.

It is unknown how many people with disabilities (PWD) are still living in the NGCAs. For instance, although the pre-war population of PWD in Luhansk oblast was estimated at 250,000, as of mid-July only 24,000 PWD from Luhansk oblast were registered as IDPs living in GCAs. It is not known

how many PWD have requested asylum or permanent residence in neighboring countries, but disability rights activists estimate that at least 22,000 PWD are still living in the city of Luhansk, with thousands more throughout the NGCAs.



Myrne. Donetsk region. Mother and son both have congenital cerebral palsy. Their house in the town of Granitne was destroyed during the first shelling, and they now reside in the town of Myrne ("Peaceful"), in the Ukrainian-controlled territory, in a makeshift nursing home (the building was previously a school) for PWD and the elderly. The nursing home is staffed entirely by volunteers.



Opytne. Donetsk region. Opytne is in the GCA, just a few miles from the destroyed Donetsk airport. This woman, like many of her neighbors, is living in a basement. When there is no shelling, her neighbors help her to the front door of the building for a moment of fresh air and sunlight.

## IDPs with disabilities—doubly vulnerable

Although there are no reliable statistics available, it is estimated that of the approximately 1.4 million IDPs registered in the GCAs, almost 60,000 are PWD. Although it is widely recognized among those involved in humanitarian efforts that IDP populations are comprised of many PWD and elderly persons, very few targeted programs to assist PWD and the elderly have been developed. Although in recent years significant strides had been made in accessibility and social integration of PWD, the post-Soviet social safety net for those with disabilities was always severely inadequate. The situation has only gotten worse with the influx of IDPs with special needs. According to a prominent disability rights activist and PWD from Luhansk, herself an IDP, “the state budget doesn’t even cover the local PWD, not to mention the IDPs with special needs now.”

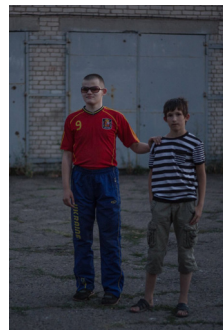
PWD receive an average monthly disability pension of 1,200 UAH (\$60), and IDP PWD are entitled to additional assistance of 1,000 UAH (\$50). Unemployment rates are extremely high for IDPs, and IDP PWD find it nearly impossible to get work. PWD are often excluded from trips and programs arranged for IDPs; organizers find it too difficult to accommodate their special needs (transportation, communication, etc.). Unable to afford the customary 4,000 UAH (\$200) monthly apartment rent, PWD displaced by the war face housing insecurity. Many PWD IDPs are being housed collectively in repurposed buildings (sanatoria, schools, dormitories, hospital wards). These buildings are not handicapped accessible and many are in need of repairs. A UNDP official in the GCA of Donetsk oblast reports that these collective centers for IDPs have become “dumping

grounds” for the disabled and elderly by family members unable or unwilling to care for them.<sup>13</sup> Food insecurity is also a mounting problem for PWD and other vulnerable populations displaced by the war.<sup>14</sup>

### Case management overload

Since 2012 we have worked closely with eight HIV service agencies in eight Ukrainian cities that use harm reduction strategies to reduce HIV risk and improve health and social outcomes for at-risk populations, especially people who use drugs (PWUD) and commercial sex workers (CSWs). In the context of the IDP crisis these agencies are compelled to absorb new target groups, provide new services, and adapt existing services to the needs of IDPs. In Poltava, for example, the agency Light of Hope (Svitlo Nadiyi) has opened their small shelter to people they call “transit refugees” (temporarily homeless, most of them IDPs). They identify “transit refugees” as a new target group for their services, as well as the elderly and the chronically ill. Light of Hope is adapting its already-existing model of case management for PWUD to evaluate the needs of and deliver services to new client groups. They have received very little financial support to do so, however, causing a “case management overload” for the agency. The agency also has incorporated IDPs into its small job training-apprenticeship program. Light of Hope has been compelled to create new services as well: to better serve the very ill and elderly, the agency is developing hospice services, for example.

The HIV service agency Our Help (Nasha Dopomoha) in Slavyansk is also extending its services to IDPs, especially the elderly, who, it is reported, are being “dumped” in temporary IDP housing facilities by family members eager to move on and seek work.<sup>15</sup> These elderly



Internally displaced persons with disabilities in Ukraine

IDPs have chronic and acute health conditions that Our Help—as one of the most organized, respected, and agile NGOs in the city—is struggling to address. As a formerly separatist-occupied city just outside the NGCA, Slavyansk hosts a large number of Ukrainian troops. Our Help is extending its services to offer Hepatitis C testing to troops, and so far reports a 4.27% prevalence rate. Our partner agency in Dnipropetrovsk faces a different adjustment due to the war: the agency’s long-standing director has been serving in the Ukrainian National Guard since February 2014 and is fighting in the war, resulting in significantly scaled-back programs and services.

### **The drug treatment void in Russia-controlled Crimea**

Historically, the HIV epidemic in Ukraine has been most acute in the country’s eastern and southern regions and concentrated among people who inject drugs and their sex partners. While the Ukrainian government’s response to the epidemic has been criticized by advocates within nongovernmental organizations, one success has been the introduction of opioid substitution treatment (OST). OST is recognized as an effective HIV prevention strategy for opioid-dependent drug users because it reduces injection risk behaviors and increases quality of life<sup>16</sup>. While there have been ideological and practical challenges to OST access and provision in Ukraine<sup>17</sup> its continuous implementation since 2004 contrasts with Russia, where OST is banned. Russian addiction specialists widely believe that OST is ineffective in treating addiction and increases mortality among drug users. When Russia annexed Crimea in March 2014, OST became illegal there as well. Stocks of methadone and buprenorphine on the Crimean peninsula were quickly depleted. As a result, in May 2014 eleven OST sites in Crimea shut down, leaving hundreds of patients without this addiction treatment option<sup>18</sup>. In addition, OST clinics often provide a way to engage marginalized populations in other medical and social services. Without OST, these patients face the difficult decision of whether to travel to mainland Ukraine in order to continue receiving OST or remain in Russian-controlled Crimea and face their addiction without this treatment and its attendant support services. The results are devastating: UN officials report that about 10 percent of the 800 Crimean OST patients have died, likely of overdoses. Nongovernmental organizations have also helped OST patients to leave Crimea (and Ukrainian regions still engaged in conflict)<sup>19</sup> for other regions of Ukraine where they can continue to receive OST. Unfortunately, fewer than 100 patients were able to relocate, leaving hundreds of OST patients and thousands of drug users without access to evidence-based treatment. Instead, drug users in

Russia must navigate of patchwork of treatment options that lack strong evidence of effectiveness, such as 12-step programs, or detoxification treatment within state-run narcology centers (sometimes within inhumane treatment that includes shackling and cells) that lack adequate rehabilitation support.

For the agencies that work with drug users, the transfer of Crimea from Ukrainian to Russian control has been devastating as well. We had been working with one agency in Simferopol for several years when the conflict began. This agency provided harm reduction services to PWUD and CSWs (many of whom also use drugs), and connected them with addiction treatment services, including OST. Like most other HIV-related NGOs in Ukraine, this agency supported its programs with money from the Global Fund that was distributed through the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine. This and other agencies are no longer certain about their programmatic or financial future. The programs they had developed over many years are no longer acceptable in the new HIV prevention landscape; harm reduction approaches including needle exchange are no longer tolerated. They are unsure how long the Global Fund will continue to support their work, and they have been unable to receive funds from Russian sources.

### **Discussion**

Displacement of large numbers of people as the result of conflict or natural disasters has the effect of exposing the inadequacies of already weak social safety nets, the true extent to which vulnerable populations live in precarious situations, and how quickly new categories of vulnerability can be created. Prior to the current conflict in Ukraine, people with disabilities, drug users, and people living with HIV/AIDS were already precarious subjects. These exacerbated and new vulnerabilities present challenges for institutional actors involved in service delivery. There is commonly a proliferation of IDP-specific NGOs immediately following a crisis, which may lead to redundancy in services, duplication of existing services, and competition between agencies for clients and funding. In cases where each organization is specialized and provides a single type of service (e.g. legal aid, medical care, rights advocacy, social services) there is often a fragmentation of the service landscape, as well as breakdowns in communication, that hinders IDPs’ reliable access to services. In other cases, the immediate food, shelter, and clothing needs of IDPs are the primary focus of aid organizations and existing, non-IDP serving agencies that address other issues (e.g. HIV prevention and interpersonal violence) do not work with IDPs. Indeed, crises often generate an

abundance of short-term services for provision of basic needs; less attention is focused on longer-term problems or the problems faced by particular vulnerable groups. This situation calls for new models of assistance, moving away from service-delivery to facilitating IDPs' access to existing services. In the case of populations that have very specific needs, such as people with disabilities (whose numbers continue to increase in a context of war) and drug users, partnering with organizations with histories of working with and advocating for these groups is even more important. This approach will require new strategies to identify systems of collaboration, coordination, and referral between different types of providers; identify ways to deliver services that would increase clients' comfort and sense of confidentiality; and identify organizations with strong and shared interests in working with IDPs.

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*Jill Owczarzak is an Assistant Professor of Health, Behavior and Society at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University.*

*Photos by Sergii Morgunov.*

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**THE ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES  
THE WINNERS OF THE 2015 ASEES PRIZES**

**Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Award:**

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**Alexander Rabinowitch**, Professor Emeritus of History, Indiana University

**Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize** for the most important contribution to Russian, Eurasian, and East European studies in any discipline of the humanities or social sciences

**Ekaterina Pravilova**, *A Public Empire: Property and the Quest for the Common Good in Imperial Russia* (Princeton University Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Alan Barenberg**, *Gulag Town, Company Town: Forced Labor and its Legacy in Vorkuta* (Yale University Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Karen Dawisha**, *Putin's Kleptocracy: Who Owns Russia?* (Simon and Schuster)

**University of Southern California Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies** for outstanding monograph published on Russia, Eastern Europe or Eurasia in the fields of literary and cultural studies

**Rachel Feldhay Brenner**, *The Ethics of Witnessing: The Holocaust in Polish Writers' Diaries from Warsaw, 1939-1945* (Northwestern University Press)

**Friederike Kind-Kovács**, *Written Here, Published There: How Underground Literature Crossed the Iron Curtain* (Central European University Press)

**Reginald Zelnik Book Prize in History** for outstanding monograph published on Russia, Eastern Europe or Eurasia in the field of history

**Agnes Nilufer Kefeli**, *Becoming Muslim in Imperial Russia* (Cornell University Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Willard Sunderland**, *The Baron's Cloak* (Cornell University Press)

**Davis Center Book Prize in Political and Social Studies** for outstanding monograph on Russia, Eurasia, or Eastern Europe in anthropology, political science, sociology or geography

**Valerie Sperling**, *Sex, Politics, and Putin: Political Legitimacy in Russia* (Oxford University Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Yanni Kotsonis**, *States of Obligation: Taxes and Citizenship in the Russian Empire and Early Soviet Republic* (University of Toronto Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Samuel A. Greene**, *Moscow in Movement: Power and Opposition in Putin's Russia* (Stanford University Press)

**Ed A Hewett Book Prize** for outstanding publication on the political economy of Russia, Eurasia and/or Eastern Europe

**Yanni Kotsonis**, *States of Obligation: Taxes and Citizenship in the Russian Empire and Early Soviet Republic* (University of Toronto Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Kelly M. McMann**, *Corruption as a Last Resort: Adapting to the Market in Central Asia* (Cornell University Press)

**Barbara Jelavich Book Prize** for a distinguished monograph published on any aspect of Southeast European or Habsburg studies since 1600, or nineteenth- and twentieth-century Ottoman or Russian diplomatic history

**Julia Phillips Cohen**, *Becoming Ottomans: Sephardi Jews and Imperial Citizenship in the Modern Era* (Oxford University Press)

**Marshall Shulman Book Prize** for an outstanding monograph dealing with the international relations, foreign policy, or foreign-policy decision-making of any of the states of the former Soviet Union or Eastern Europe

**Oscar Sanchez-Sibony**, *Red Globalization: The Political Economy of the Soviet Cold War from Stalin to Khrushchev* (Cambridge University Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Austin Jersild**, *The Sino-Soviet Alliance: An International History* (UNC Press)

**The Kulczycki Book Prize in Polish Studies** for the best book in any discipline, on any aspect of Polish affairs.

**Michael Fleming**, *Auschwitz, the Allies and Censorship of the Holocaust* (Cambridge University Press)

**Per Anders Rudling**, *The Rise and Fall of Belarusian Nationalism 1906-1931* (University of Pittsburgh Press)

**Honorable Mention:** **Glenn Kurtz**, *Three Minutes in Poland* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

**The ASEEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize** for an outstanding essay by a graduate student in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

**Adrienne K. Jacobs**, "An Edible Empire: Soviet National Cuisines between Tradition and Modernity, 1965-85," University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**The Robert C. Tucker/Stephen F. Cohen Dissertation Prize** for an outstanding English-language doctoral dissertation in Soviet or Post-Soviet politics and history in the tradition practiced by Robert C. Tucker and Stephen F. Cohen, defended at an American or Canadian university

**Masha Kirasirova**, "The Eastern International: 'The Domestic East' and the 'Foreign East' in Soviet-Arab Relations, 1917-68," New York University

The prize winners will be recognized during the ASEEEES Annual Convention award ceremony on Saturday, November 21, 7:00pm, in Philadelphia. The event is open to the public. The prize citations will be printed in the convention program.



## COHEN-TUCKER DISSERTATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Stephen F. Cohen–Robert C. Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship (CTDRF) Program for Russian Historical Studies supports the next generation of US scholars to conduct their doctoral dissertation research in Russia. The CTDRF Program is sponsored by the KAT Charitable Foundation.

The application period is now open; applications will be accepted until December 11, 2015. To learn more, visit <http://www.aseees.org/programs/ctdrf>

# ASEEES 47th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA November 19-22, 2015

Beyond 446 panels and 134 roundtables, the Convention offers special events:

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- Opening Reception and Exhibit Hall Tour, 6:30pm

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- Presidential Plenary: Fact, Fiction, Fabrication, 12pm
- Vice President-designated Roundtable: Careers beyond Academia, 3:45pm
- Annual Meeting of ASEEES Members, 5:45pm

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- Vice President-designated Roundtable: Get the Word Out! How to Bring Your Expertise to the Public, 10am
- Presidential Plenary on Ukraine, 12pm
- Pre-Award Buffet, 5:30pm [ticket required]
- Awards Ceremony and Presidents' Address, 7pm [Open to the public. No ticket required]

ASEEES President Catriona Kelly (Oxford) will present her President's Address, "On Truth, Politics and Authenticity: Culture in Beleaguered Times," following the ASEEES Awards Presentation.

Please check the convention program for the final schedule.

## We are most grateful to our sponsors for their generous support:

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## On *Slavic Review*: Report from the Editor Harriet Murav, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

ASEEES members are, of course, familiar with *Slavic Review*. However, a few facts about the journal may be of interest to its readership. Libraries around the world subscribe to *Slavic Review*, including institutions in Costa Rica, South Korea, Japan, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, and the Vatican, in addition to libraries in the United States and Canada as well as those in western, central, southern, and eastern Europe.

*Slavic Review* publishes, on average, twenty-four articles a year. We received 189 new submissions in 2014. The criteria for acceptance combine a desire for representation across disciplines and geographic regions with the quality and significance of the article (including ways in which it reaches conceptually beyond particular topics of study). The language used in correspondence with both readers and authors indicates these criteria: “originality, interpretive significance, and breadth,” and the article should raise “significant interpretive questions within fields of study and interpretive and analytical themes with resonance across fields and disciplines.”

Most articles published in the journal undergo three rounds of revision. Nearly all articles sent out for review are read by two independent peer reviewers, whose anonymous service is invaluable; revised submissions are typically sent to at least one of the original referees, in the interests of seeking a fresh perspective in conjunction with an informed evaluation of an article’s progress. Patience is a desirable quality for authors interested in publishing their work in *Slavic Review*, but even for authors whose work is eventually rejected, the rigorous peer review process can be productive and edifying. Not all articles submitted go out for peer review. The reasons may include a significant problem in length, a topic that falls outside our disciplines, or a discussion too narrowly focused on one particular aspect of an historical or cultural phenomenon or text—in other words, the manuscript lacks in conceptual reach.

The normative length for articles published in the journal is 9,000 words of text and 3,000 words of notes, for a total of 12,000 words. We still ask for hard copies of manuscript submissions, because the editor and a fair number of reviewers prefer not to read on the screen. Since we have a strictly limited budget for printing, and receive nearly two hundred articles a year, we require authors to provide us with paper copies. Our editorial assistants,

three Illinois graduate students in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies hired for each academic year, process each submission in electronic and paper form and, when an article has been accepted for publication, they check the bibliographic information of all cited references. This form of submission and processing means that many pairs of eyes read, skim, check, and verify many aspects of each submission on its path to publication, ensuring the finished product is of the highest quality possible.

Most manuscripts receive a decision within six months. I read incoming manuscripts within two to four weeks of receiving the paper copies and I ask referees to return reports in six to seven weeks (this is a shortened turnaround time from the previous two-month deadline). Concerning time to print, depending on where we are in the production cycle at the time of acceptance, production time after acceptance is approximately six months.

I anticipate a higher number of submissions in 2015 in comparison to 2014, including an increase in the number of manuscripts from Russia and southern



### KESTON INSTITUTE SEEKS ARCHIVIST

The Keston Institute was founded in 1969 to study the religious situation in communist countries. From its inception it collected documents, both unofficial and official, and covered the press in these countries. Over the years it has built up one of the main archives in the world for researchers on this subject. This is housed at Baylor University, Texas, in the Keston Center for Religion Politics and Society, and is cared for by a Russian speaking archivist, Larisa Seago. The collection includes many documents in Polish.

The archivist would welcome help from Polish speakers who have an interest in Keston’s area of expertise and could identify and describe documents for an electronic catalogue, which is being created. The cost of a four-week stay at Baylor University, including travel costs, would be funded by Keston Institute, [www.keston.org.uk](http://www.keston.org.uk). Applicants should apply to the Administrator, [administrator@keston.org.uk](mailto:administrator@keston.org.uk), and include a CV, evidence of their expertise in the Polish language and two references.

and eastern Europe. Potential contributors may submit articles in Russian, but the responsibility for providing English versions of accepted articles falls to authors. We continue to receive the highest number of submissions in the field of history, although we've seen significant increases in submission in anthropology and political science. We are currently considering clusters of articles on a wide range of topics in history, literature, and cultural studies. A cluster is a group of articles united by a clear conceptual anchor, with an introduction and/or afterword by the cluster organizers or another scholar. Each article in a cluster must be capable of being published as a stand-alone piece. This necessarily adds to the time to decision, as each article must be reviewed on its own merits and as a constituent part of a thematic whole, but these featured sections showcase active discussions within and across our field's disciplines. We feature no more than a single cluster in any issue, published as a "special section" preceding the regular articles. Recent special sections have focused on various dimensions and redefinitions of "community" in the late Soviet period and current media discourse on Balkan identity.

Out of roughly five hundred books submitted for review, *Slavic Review* publishes around two hundred book reviews a year, in addition to featured reviews, critical review essays, and film reviews. A new feature of the book review section will be reviews of literary translations in

the Slavic field. Translation is an increasingly important dimension of new publication in our field, and goes hand in hand with scholarship. I also hope to increase the number of film reviews and to include more commentaries on feature films in addition to documentaries.

*Slavic Review* is a quarterly print journal, which has implications for the time an article or a book review takes to get published. We work six months ahead of schedule, which means that, for example, in mid-August, the finishing touches are being put on articles slated to be published in the Winter issue, which comes out in mid-December. The limitations of the publication schedule mean that we cannot keep up with the 24-hour news cycle; scholarship must take first place over timeliness. However, as readers of the journal will see, we have a "Critical Discussion Forum" coming up in Winter 2015 on the Ukraine crisis. These short essays are not subject to peer review, hence the time to publication is significantly shorter. I hope to continue this feature in order to focus on other current issues; for example, the ongoing migrant crisis in southern and central Europe would be an apt topic for another discussion forum. I welcome suggestions and proposals from prospective authors.

*Harriet Murav is a Professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is the Editor of Slavic Review.*

## FORTHCOMING IN SLAVIC REVIEW WINTER 2015

### CRITICAL FORUM ON UKRAINE

"Integration and Disintegration: Europe, Ukraine, and the World," by Timothy Snyder

"On Public Intellectuals and Their Conceptual Frameworks," by Maria Todorova

"Deconstructing Integration: Ukraine's Postcolonial Subjectivity," by Ilya Gerasimov and Marina Mogilner

"Post-Maidan Europe and the New Ukrainian Studies," by Andrii Portnov

"The Postcolonial Is Not Enough," by Yaroslav Hrytsak

### ARTICLES

"Heroes, Victims, Role Models: Representing the Child Soldiers of the Warsaw Uprising," by Ewa Stańczyk

"Tandeta (Trash): Bruno Schulz and the Micropolitics of Everyday Life," by George Gasyna

"I Know What Motivation Is': The Politics of Emotion and Viktor Shklovskii's Sentimental Rhetoric," by Rad Borislavov

"The Sacralization of Violence: Bolshevik Justifications for Violence and Terror during the Civil War," by James Ryan

"Where Was the Conscience of the Revolution? The Military Opposition at the Eighth Party Congress (March 1919)," by Gayle Lonergan

"Imperial Incarcerations: Ekaterina Breshko-Breshkovskaia, Vinayak Savarkar, and the Original Sins of Modernity," by Choi Chatterjee

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# The American Research Institute of the South Caucasus

## Talin Lindsay, ARISC Executive Director

The Caucasian Albanian written language was used by the Gargareans in parts of Azerbaijan and Dagestan from the 5th to 12th centuries. Even though the Udi language currently spoken in northern Azerbaijan is a descendent of the ancient Caucasian Albanian, the Caucasian Albanian written language was indecipherable for decades after a 15th century Armenian language manual was discovered by the Georgian scholar Ilia Abuladze in 1937. Later, fragments of stone inscriptions were uncovered during archaeological excavations in Mingachevir, Azerbaijan, in the 1940s and '50s. However, written Caucasian Albanian was unreadable until 2011, after the surprise discovery of a palimpsest in St. Catherine's Monastery in Mount Sinai, Egypt by Zaza Aleksidze, Director of the Institute of Manuscripts in Tbilisi, Georgia: great effort was made to tease out the script using ultraviolet light and photography so that Aleksidze was able to decipher the language.

As enthralling as it is to see the interconnectedness of the South Caucasus' countries of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia, even more amazing are the continuing research implications of the decipherment – from linguistics, to history, archaeology, and biblical studies.

In the last few decades, research conducted in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia has illustrated the region's dynamism and complexity. After the fall of the Soviet Union, many scholars have been able to investigate new sources in this previously difficult-to-access region, yielding innovative research. The American Research Institute of the South Caucasus (ARISC) was founded to promote and encourage the research of American academics exploring this captivating landscape. "Since its founding, ARISC has been a leader in cultivating a new generation of student research in the Caucasus and fostering ties between American scholars and their peers in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia," said Adam Smith of Cornell University, one of ARISC's founding members.

### Funding Opportunities

ARISC began its endeavors in 2009, by applying income generated from membership fees to fund opportunities for scholars, starting with a \$1500 ARISC Gradu-

ate Fellowship in 2009. In the first year of ARISC Graduate Fellowships, ARISC received applications to fund research projects in anthropology, archaeology, history, political science, and sociology. Over the past six years, ARISC has funded 18 graduate student research projects through this program.

In subsequent years, ARISC added the Collaborative Heritage Management (CHM) Grant and the Junior Research Fellowships. The CHM Grant in Armenia, funded by Project Discovery!, awards collaborative teams up to \$4,000 in support of the preservation and conservation of the Republic of Armenia's archaeological and historical heritage. Over the five years of this grant, ARISC has funded six team projects, including the development of a website that catalogs historical locations within Yerevan, the creation of a botanical reference collection, as well as the preservation of artifacts and bio-archaeological materials.

ARISC Fellow Alan Greene pointed out that ARISC support makes possible crucial projects that expand communication and bridge paradigms, enabling American-led research to grow and flourish in the South Caucasus. He added, "These kinds of projects are turning the

relationships constructed between American researchers and local scholars over the past 25 years into permanent and generation-crossing institutions for knowledge production and learning."

With funding from a four-year grant from the US Department of Education, ARISC has been offering new Junior Research Fellowships of up to \$5500 to support US scholars' research in the region. The funding additionally carries a requirement that fellows mentor an undergraduate or graduate student in the South Caucasus, which will both develop the academic skills of the mentee and strengthen ties between the US and host country.

Jeanene Mitchell, a graduate student at the University of Washington in Seattle, and ARISC Junior Research Fellow, was able to complete a key part of her dissertation work on trans-boundary water management in the South Caucasus. "One feature of the fellowship which I especially appreciated was its requirement to work with



a local graduate student: [it] offered me invaluable access to local knowledge in the field of water and flood management. It also allowed for a fruitful exchange of social science and natural science methods, as well as new colleagues and networks for both of us.”

Because ARISC is a member in developing status with the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, scholars interested in working in the region are also able to take advantage of their funding opportunities as well. For example, the Multi-Country Fellowship awards up to \$10,500 to support advanced regional or trans-regional research in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences. While approximately nine awards are given out each year for research at 26 possible American Overseas Research Centers, in just the past three years, ARISC has hosted three scholars awarded with this fellowship.

### Local Assistance

Funding from the US Department of Education has allowed ARISC to open branches in Armenia and Georgia, and to have a representative in Azerbaijan. The Resident Directors in these offices offer a wide range of free services to visiting scholars. They assist scholars with the logistics of their research, including information on using local libraries, archives, and museums. They help establish contacts with local institutions and scholars, and they find translators for researchers. For those visiting the region for the first time, ARISC Resident Directors are available to assist with the basics of getting around: how to get local ground transportation; how to coordinate travel to remote research sites; and how to obtain mobile phone and internet service. In addition, ARISC has helped US and local scholars find supporting institutions so that they may apply for the Fulbright-Hays and Fulbright grants. “Armenian bureaucracy can be difficult for a researcher new to the country,” wrote Mitchell Rothman, Chair of Anthropology at Widener University. “ARISC helped me navigate this maze, and we now are looking at a successful completion of our project.”

### Programming

ARISC organizes lectures and workshops, many co-sponsored with local organizations in the South Caucasus. Resident Directors coordinate reading groups, and film studies groups, which bring together local and visiting

scholars from different backgrounds for academic discussions. “ARISC...creates a platform and a space for communication between the three South Caucasian countries. I do believe that it is a good opportunity for me, and for all of us to fill this gap,” said Diana Lezhava, ARISC’s Resident Director in Tbilisi, Georgia.

In 2014, with co-sponsorship by the grant from the US Department of Education and the Sinor Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies, ARISC organized its first conference, *Caucasus Connections* at Indiana University, Bloomington. The interdisciplinary and international conference, with 19 presenters from around the world, focused on the institutions, languages, cultures and histories that connect (as well as divide) the places and peoples of the South Caucasus. Presentations are available on the ARISC website [www.arisc.org](http://www.arisc.org). In the fall of this year, ARISC will have curricular materials available on their website for those who wish to teach about the region.

At the interdisciplinary symposium, *Education in the South Caucasus: Modernization, Innovation and Future Trends*, held in Tbilisi in June 2015, scholars and representatives from the South Caucasian Ministries of Education examined challenges, new directions and trends in educational reform in the South Caucasus. The forum opened discussions among members of all three South

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Caucasus countries on issues regarding higher education, strengthening the regional network of researchers.

### Membership

With several different types of membership, scholars of the South Caucasus are encouraged to join. Membership provides several benefits. Opportunities are available to hold a seat on various committees, or on the ARISC Board of Directors, through which members can help shape the organization's activities. Access to a discussion group gives members immediate news on the latest scholarly developments and opportunities in the region. An annual newsletter and member directory are invaluable resources for following ARISC's work and networking with a wider community of scholars. ARISC also works to publicize university events, publications or news by scholars that are pertinent to the South Caucasus, and offers modest funds for cosponsoring members' events. ARISC is increasingly being seen as a way for different agencies to reach specialists working in the South Caucasus, and membership would provide inclusion in this network. ARISC's programs and opportunities have been created to help scholars succeed in their academic careers through funding, networking, and research support opportunities.

Hulya Sakarya, a long-time member, declared: "... [ARISC] has a special service to offer Americans across

the three South Caucasian nations. It understands the area has a similar history and strives not to underline the differences but rather the similarities. By embracing scholars and students across these three [states], they not only provide a valuable service but one that emphasizes unity across geographical space."

Founding member and former ARISC President Karen Rubinson added, "As one of the twenty who attended the [very first] organizational meeting, where we began with nothing but an idea and enthusiasm, I am pleased to see how much ARISC has already accomplished in its mission to support American scholars studying in and about the South Caucasus, bringing knowledge of the South Caucasus to a broader American audience, and building cross-border scholarly connections."

ARISC's website, [www.arisc.org](http://www.arisc.org), features a wealth of online resources for anyone interested in working in the region. Not only does it list events and job opportunities pertaining to the South Caucasus, but also where to go for language instruction for Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Georgian in the US and abroad. They welcome your questions and comments at [info@arisc.org](mailto:info@arisc.org).

*Talin Lindsay is Executive Director at the American Research Institute of the South Caucasus. ARISC is on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [GreatNonProfits.org](#).*

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# 2016 ASEEES Convention Theme and General Rules

**ASEEES 48th Annual Convention, November 17–20, 2016  
Marriott Wardman Park, Washington DC**

Convention Theme: Global Conversations  
by Padraic Kenney

What does it mean to speak of the global? How do we do so within a regional/area studies framework? As we maintain and deepen our knowledge of the cultures and societies we are trained to study, how do we take part in conversations that call themselves global? How can a global framework help us make the case that study of our region contributes to larger empirical and theoretical debates in many disciplines?

Conversations about “the global” are familiar to scholars of the Slavic, East European and Eurasian world because our field was present at its creation: the dramatic end to the Cold War amid democratic revolutionary movements alerted scholars to the possibility of new kinds of global transformations, in which participants in distant and disparate parts of the world could communicate with one another, sharing and comparing their experiences. Economic crises and authoritarian resurgences in the quarter-century since have also taken place on a global stage. Social movements, corporations, and political leaders speak about global phenomena no less assiduously than do scholars.

Invocations of the global, however, are often something less than dialogue. We note similarities or echoes in other places, but do these amount to conversations about common and divergent experiences or simply parallel monologues? Scholars considering contemporary phenomena ranging from migration to austerity policies to protest patterns can benefit from learning about parallel – or perpendicular – examples. Historians and those who study culture can highlight what is unique about their subjects while making the case for its pertinence, indeed centrality to key arguments in and outside of disciplines.

We may aspire toward a story that encapsulates contemporaneous human experience, or we can simply use this knowledge to uncover unexpected approaches to our own subjects. Either way, the study of our region becomes accessible and valuable to colleagues and to our interlocutors (readers, students, and publics) who may know little about the places we devote our attention to.

The conference theme “Global Conversations” invites papers and panels rooted in deep local or regional knowledge while investigating what our region brings to global study, and what we can learn from those who study other places and other cultures. Scholars of literature and culture might consider the canonical (or marginalized) positions of works in different cultures, following the lead of recent articles in *Slavic Review*. Historians could reexamine moments in which dramatic events have occurred in quite distant places, for example the wars of the 1860s or the transformations of the 1980s. Anthropologists and geographers interested in processes of globalization can investigate whether and how local experiences of religion, place, or social organization intersect with experiences in distant locales. Political scientists and sociologists might reconsider familiar comparative methods in their disciplines to uncover broader patterns of power and resistance – or to demonstrate divergence. Scholars in any discipline can consider what global conversations are, looking at forms of communication and transferral of ideas and behaviors. Papers might introduce less familiar cases alongside those central to our research, or even focus primarily on how cases outside our region can inform our field of study; we encourage proposals that broach ideas and approaches from outside our region. Generating our own global conversations, we allow others to see our region with new eyes, and gain fresh perspective ourselves.

## General Rules for Participation

**TWO-SESSION/ONE-PAPER RULE:** A convention participant **may appear on the program in no more than two sessions (panels or roundtables) and may present only one paper** during the convention. There are no exceptions to this rule. *Please Note: if you submit an Individual Paper proposal, it constitutes your one presentation.*

**MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION RULE:** All individual paper submitters and session organizers **in the U.S. and abroad must be current members of ASEEEES in order to submit a proposal** for the 2016 Convention. All participants who are in Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies **in the U.S. or abroad must** be ASEEEES members by the time of proposal acceptance notification. Scholars and professionals outside the field of Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies do not need to join ASEEEES. All participants on panels/roundtables *must* preregister for the Convention by the deadline and pay the registration fee. Organizers are responsible for letting panelists know about registration fees and membership rules.

**SCHEDULING:** If you agree to participate in the ASEEEES Convention, you agree to be scheduled during any of the planned sessions.

### Rules for Individual Paper Submission

Deadline for Submissions: **February 5, 2016**

The Program Committee will consider proposals for individual papers *that are not associated with a panel*. Paper proposal will be reviewed and accepted for the conference **only if** it can be fit into a coherent panel, and if that panel is then approved by the Program Committee. Space constraints may also preclude our being able to accommodate all individual papers proposed. Acceptance rate for individual paper submissions is much lower than for panel submissions. The Program Committee strongly *urges* all scholars to use the ASEEEES website, SEELANGS, H-Russia, and other means of networking to form a full panel rather than submit an individual paper proposal. Individual paper submitter must be a current member of ASEEEES at the time of submission. No exceptions.

**NEW:** If you submitted an individual paper proposal for the 2015 Convention and it was accepted, you cannot submit another individual paper proposal for the 2016 Convention. Please consider organizing a panel

**DO NOT SUBMIT AN INDIVIDUAL PAPER PROPOSAL FOR A PAPER THAT IS ALREADY PART OF AN ORGANIZED PANEL, AND DO NOT SUBMIT A PROPOSAL IF YOU ARE PRESENTING ANY PAPER ON ANY OTHER PROPOSED PANEL.**

### Rules for Panel/Roundtable Proposal Submission

Deadline for Submissions: **February 15, 2016**

**Panels** entail presentation of prepared papers (distributed in advance to a discussant) on a related topic or theme, followed by structured discussion of those papers. A panel **must** have a chair, 3 paper presentations, and at least one discussant (maximum two discussants). A paper can be co-authored.

**While one role per participant is strongly preferred, the chair may serve also as a discussant or a paper presenter, if necessary. However, a paper presenter cannot be a discussant on the same panel.**

**Roundtables** entail structured discussion of a topic/theme, without the presentation of papers. Proposals for roundtables should be submitted only when the topic clearly justifies this format. A roundtable **must** have a chair and 3-5 roundtable presenters. **While one role per participant is strongly preferred, the chair may serve also as a roundtable presenter, if necessary, but in such a situation, there must be at least 4 roundtable presenters.**

- Special consideration will be given to panels reporting on recent field or archival research, especially those that include presentations by junior faculty and/or advanced graduate students. Sessions with more than one disciplinary representation are encouraged.
- As a rule of thumb, graduate student participants generally should be at the research-stage in their programs, and panels composed primarily of graduate students should include at least one member who has completed their terminal degree. A session made up only of students will most likely be rejected.
- Panel discussants should ideally be at the post-doctoral level. If a graduate student is designated as discussant on a panel, a second discussant at the post-doctoral level should be added to the panel. Professors may not serve as discussants for graduate students from their own departments.
- A panel/roundtable should not be made up of participants from only one institution. The presenters on a panel/roundtable must be from at least two different institutions.

**To see the complete rules go to: [www.aseees.org/convention/rules](http://www.aseees.org/convention/rules)**

The ASEEEES 2016 Convention Proposal will open in early December 2015, when the proposal forms and online proposal site will become available on the ASEEEES website. Please check our Web site, [www.ASEEEES.org](http://www.ASEEEES.org), for the latest information and instructions. With any questions, please contact: ASEEEES Convention Coordinator at [aseees.convention@pitt.edu](mailto:aseees.convention@pitt.edu) or (412) 648-9911.



Vol. 16, no. 3 (Summer 2015)

## The Soviet Gulag New Research and New Interpretations

### Articles

OLEG KHEVNIUK

The Gulag and the Non-Gulag as One Interrelated Whole

GOLFO ALEXOPOULOS

Destructive-Labor Camps

DAN HEALEY

Lives in the Balance

ASIF SIDDIQI

Scientists and Specialists in the Gulag

EMILIA KOUSTOVA

(Un)Returned from the Gulag

DANIEL BEER

Penal Deportation to Siberia and the Limits of State Power, 1801–81

AIDAN FORTH

Britain's Archipelago of Camps

JUDITH PALLOT

The Gulag as the Crucible of Russia's 21st-Century System of Punishment

Reaction by DAVID R. SHEARER

*Kritika* is dedicated to critical inquiry into the history of Russia and Eurasia. The quarterly journal features research articles as well as analytical review essays and extensive book reviews, especially of works in languages other than English. Subscriptions and previously published volumes available from Slavica—including, as of 16, no. 1, e-book editions (ePub, MOBI). Contact our business manager at [slavica@indiana.com](mailto:slavica@indiana.com) for all questions regarding subscriptions and eligibility for discounts.

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## NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

Deborah Pearl. *Creating a Culture of Revolution: Workers and the Revolutionary Movement in Late Imperial Russia*, c. 300 p., 2015 (ISBN 978-0-89357-422-2), \$31.95.

*Creating a Culture of Revolution* offers a reading of the workers' movement that places circle activity and propaganda literature at the center of a developing "culture of revolution." Focusing on 4 genres of propaganda literature—revolutionary tales, expositions of political economy, poetry and song, and foreign novels in translation—Pearl's analysis of the grassroots revolutionary subculture of radical workers contributes to a re-evaluation of the broader history of the Russian revolutionary movement.

Tore Nessel. *How Russian Came to Be the Way It Is: A Student's Guide to the History of the Russian Language*, 386 p., 2015 (ISBN 978-0-89357-443-7), \$34.95.

This book takes the reader 2,000 years back in time and explains how the Russian language came to be the way it is by reviewing all major changes in the grammar and sound system. In addition to chapters on syntax, morphology and phonology, there are brief introductions to Russian history, medieval writing and literature, the theory of historical lin-

guistics, and the Old Novgorod dialect. Appendices with morphological tables and chronologies of sound laws make the book useful as a reference tool.

Michael Beizer. *Relief in Time of Need: Russian Jewry and the Joint, 1914–24*, c. 260 p., 2015 (ISBN 978-0-89357-420-8), \$29.95.

*Relief in Time of Need* is the first monograph to chronicle the efforts of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the world's leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organization, to aid victims of pogroms, World War I, and the violence of revolution and civil war in Russia and the new Soviet state (1914–24). The story of the JDC in revolutionary Russia is not only a tale of bravery, ingenuity, tragedy, and success in the face of overwhelming odds but a case study with broad implications for other philanthropic organizations.



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## Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

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Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), established in 1948, is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, scholarly society and is the leading private organization dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about Russia, Central Eurasia, and Eastern & Central Europe.

### ASEEES Staff

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NewsNet (ISSN 1074-3057) is published five times a year (January, March, June, August, and October; however, the June edition is only available online.) ASEEES members receive *Slavic Review* (the ASEEES quarterly of Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies), and *NewsNet*. Affiliates receive only *NewsNet*. Institutional members receive one copy of each publication, while premium members receive two copies. Membership is on a calendar year basis. Individual membership is open to all individuals interested in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies. Institutional membership is open to all education-related organizations in the field of Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies. ASEEES' office is located at 203C Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6424.

Subscription to *NewsNet* is \$28.00 for U.S. subscribers and \$44 for non-U.S. subscribers. Prices include shipping. Single copies are \$7.00 each. To subscribe or order back issues, contact Jonathon Swiderski. Back issues are available up to two years only. Periodicals postage paid at Pittsburgh, PA, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: ASEEES, 203C Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6424.

Membership: If you are interested in becoming an individual or institutional member, visit: <http://aseees.org/membership>

Announcements submitted to all regular columns are published free of charge. *NewsNet* frequently publishes unsolicited material. All submissions should be e-mailed to: [newsnet@pitt.edu](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu). **Deadlines for submissions (ads, articles, announcements)**

January issue—1 Dec;

March issue—1 Feb;

June issue—1 May;

Aug issue—5 July;

October issue—1 Sept



## Member Spotlight: David Hoffmann

David Hoffmann is Professor of History, Ohio State University

*When did you first develop an interest in Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies?*

I began college as a math major, but after taking a course on European history, I became fascinated with the Russian Revolution. I wondered how an event that seemed to promise liberation and equality resulted instead in a Stalinist dictatorship. In graduate school, I continued to view Soviet history as the “Great Socialist Experiment,” and sought to understand where it went wrong. What was to blame for Stalinism—socialist ideology, Russian authoritarian traditions, Stalin’s personality? None of these explanations seemed satisfactory, and for my dissertation I chose a social history topic, the massive migration of peasants to Soviet cities in the 1930s. Was it possible that peasant patriarchy provided a social basis for Stalinism? My research contradicted this supposition. As I described in my book, *Peasant Metropolis: Social Identities in Moscow, 1929-1941* (Cornell University Press, 1994), new urban dwellers repeatedly frustrated Soviet authorities’ efforts to mold and control them.

*How have your interests changed since then?*

Eventually I concluded that, “What went wrong with the Great Socialist Experiment?” was a Cold-War era question best left behind. While the Soviet system can be considered one variant of socialism, it contained many elements common to other modern political systems. When working on my book, *Stalinist Values: The Cultural Norms of Soviet Modernity, 1917-1941* (Cornell University Press, 2003), I was struck by the similarities between Stalinist reproductive policies and those in other countries during the interwar period. I began to see Soviet pronatalism as one particular manifestation of an international trend toward state attempts to manage reproduction.

In *Cultivating the Masses: Modern State Practices and Soviet Socialism, 1914-1939* (Cornell University Press, 2011), I placed not only reproductive policies but Soviet welfare provision, public health, surveillance, and state violence in an international context. While I did not argue that the Soviet case was typical, or even a logical extreme, of the more general phenomenon of state interventionism, I came to see it as an integral part of world history. Through such an approach I sought to understand Soviet history not as a cautionary tale about socialism. Instead I argued that the Soviet system represented one particular response to the modern era – especially the challenges of mobi-

lizing the population for industrial labor and mass warfare.

*What is your current research project?*

I am writing a book entitled *The Stalinist Era* for the Cambridge University Press series, “New Approaches to European History.”  
*What do you value about your ASEEES membership?*

Above all, I value the annual conference put on by the ASEEES. It provides an opportunity to present research and to learn about exciting new work in the field. I spend most of my time at the conference going from one panel to another, and I always learn things that help both my teaching and my research. The conference also gives me a chance to meet people in the field. There are many scholars whose written work I have admired but whom I never would have met were it not for the conference. Perhaps most importantly, the annual meeting lets me see friends from graduate school and from the IREX exchange. These friends are now scattered across the country, so the ASEEES conference is my only opportunity to see them regularly.

*Besides your professional work, what other interests and/or hobbies do you enjoy?*

I spend all my free time with my daughter and son. I have always loved to travel, not only to Russia and Eastern Europe but to other parts of the world as well. When my children were very young, it was too difficult to travel. Now that they are old enough, I have begun taking them on international trips each summer.



### ASEEES announces the results of the 2015 Board of Directors elections

Vice-President/President-Elect

**Anna Grzymala-Busse** (University of Michigan)

Members-at-large:

**Adrienne Edgar** (UC Santa Barbara) and  
**Eric Naiman** (UC Berkeley)

Graduate Student Representative

**Michael Polczynski** (Georgetown University)



## Publications

*Architecture at the End of the Earth: Photographing the Russian North*, by William Craft Brumfield, was published by Duke University Press in July 2015.

The architectural masterpieces Brumfield photographed are diverse: Included are onion-domed wooden churches such as the Church of the Dormition, built in 1674 in Varzuga; the massive walled Transfiguration Monastery on Great Solovetsky Island, which dates to the mid-1550s; the Ferapontov-Nativity Monastery's frescoes, painted in 1502 by Dionisy; nineteenth-century log houses, both rustic and ornate; and the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Vologda, which was commissioned by Ivan the Terrible in the 1560s. The text that introduces the photographs outlines the region's significance to Russian history and culture.

The buildings Brumfield photographed, some of which lie in near ruin, are at constant risk due to local indifference and vandalism, a lack of maintenance funds, clumsy restorations, or changes in local and national priorities. Brumfield is concerned with their futures and hopes that the region's beautiful and vulnerable achievements of master Russian carpenters will be preserved. *Architecture at the End of the Earth* is at once an art book, a travel guide, and a personal document about the discovery of this bleak but beautiful region of Russia that most readers will see here for the first time.

Timothy Snyder's *Black Earth: The Holocaust as History and Warning* (Crown, September, 2015) draws on original Jewish, German, and Slavic sources as well as multiple and usually distinct historiographies to offer an original account of the Holocaust, and to suggest parallels between then and now.

*Coming of Age under Martial Law: The Initiation Novels of Poland's Last Communist Generation*, by Svetlana Vassileva-Karagyozyova (Rochester University Press, August 2015), is a study of approximately thirty coming-of-age Polish novels written by the so-called '89ers -- the generation who became adults just as Communist rule was ending. Narrating fictionalized childhoods in Poland in the 1970s and '80s and the transition to adulthood in the late '80s and early '90s, these novels depict the consequences of the fall of Communism for their protagonists' maturation process. Vassileva-Karagyozyova argues that the liminal aspects of these narratives, in which the protagonists' rites of passage remain suspended in important ways, reflect the effects of the cataclysmic events of the late 1980s as well as the ways in which, for the Polish '89ers, the clash with their predecessors did not produce the anticipated generational change in leadership. Instead, the elders refused to give up their leadership positions, while the young were stifled in their development and occupied marginal social spaces. In Vassileva-Karagyozyova's account, these novels illuminate the authors' attempts to define themselves as a generation as well as to narrate the sociocultural

shift in democratic Poland from collectivism to Western-style individualism.

*Creating a Culture of Revolution: Workers and the Revolutionary Movement in Late Imperial Russia*, authored by Deborah Pearl and published by Slavica Publishers (September 2015), offers an alternative reading of the revolutionary workers' movement, with circle activity and propaganda literature at the center of a developing "culture of revolution." Pearl focuses on four popular genres of propaganda literature: revolutionary *skazki* or tales, expositions of political economy, poetry and song, and foreign novels in translation. Her analysis of the grassroots revolutionary subculture of radical workers contributes to a re-evaluation of the broader history of the Russian revolutionary movement.

*Economies of Violence: Transnational Feminism, Postsocialism, and the Politics of Sex Trafficking*, by Jennifer Suchland, is new from Duke University Press.

Recent human rights campaigns against sex trafficking have focused on individual victims, treating trafficking as a criminal aberration in an otherwise just economic order. In *Economies of Violence* Jennifer Suchland critiques these explanations and approaches, as they obscure the reality that trafficking is symptomatic of complex economic and social dynamics and the economies of violence that sustain them.

The introduction is available: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/268867588/Economies-of-Violence-by-Jennifer-Suchland>

Slava Yastremski and Michael Naydan have published their translations of Marina Tsvetaeva's poetry under the title *The Essential Poetry* with Glagoslav Publishers. Besides translations of lyric poetry from all periods of Tsvetaeva's life, the volume includes translations of Tsvetaeva's long poems "Poem of the Mountain" and "Poem of the End," a translator's introduction, and an introduction by poet Tess Gallagher.

Tamar Makharoblidze published two books in May 2015: *GESL (Georgian Sign Language) Dictionary* and *GESL Election Dictionary*. These are the first books in the field.

Lisa A. Kirschenbaum announces the publication of *International Communism and the Spanish Civil War: Solidarity and Suspicion* by Cambridge University Press. Exploring the transnational exchanges that occurred in Soviet-structured spaces -- from clandestine schools for training international revolutionaries in Moscow to the International Brigades in Spain -- the book uncovers complex webs of interaction, at once personal and political, that linked international communists to one another and the Soviet Union.

Ambassador Thomas W. Simons, Jr. edited *Islam in Eurasia: A*

*Policy Volume* (Harvard University Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, July 2015). It summarizes the proceedings of June 2013 conference on the issues facing U.S. policy in Central Asia and Azerbaijan that brought together top academics, government officials and NGO activists at the Kennan Institute in Washington, DC, and also includes four commissioned scholarly papers defining the trajectory and parameters of U.S. policy in the region since 1991, all updated to 2015. One of the articles, by ASEEES member Noah Tucker, is entitled “Domestic Shapers of Eurasia’s Islamic Futures: Sheikh, Scholar, Society, and the State.”

The papers and the discussion record provide the most up-to-date analysis of the elements U.S. policymakers will need in order to make good policy now that our combat role in Afghanistan has ended and we have become energy exporters.

The volume was produced in conjunction with the Project on Islam in Eurasia, a multiyear research endeavor undertaken with grant support from CCNY.

William Benton Whisenhunt and Norman E. Saul are pleased to announce the publication of their new volume by Routledge Press. *New Perspectives on Russian-American Relations* includes articles on Russian-American relations from an international roster of leading historians. Covering topics such as trade, diplomacy, art, war, public opinion, race, culture, and more, the essays show how the two nations related to one another across time from their first interactions as nations in the eighteenth century to now. Instead of being dominated by the narrative of the Cold War, *New Perspectives on Russian-American Relations* models new scholarship that covers more than the political and diplomatic worlds of the later twentieth century and provides scholars with a wide array of the newest research in the field.

Vladimir Solonari’s book, *Purifying the Nation: Population Exchange and Ethnic Cleansing in Nazi-Allied Romania*, (Woodrow Wilson Center Press and Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010) has been published in Romania by POLIROM as *Purificarea natiunii. Dislocari fortate de populatie si epurari etnice in Romania lui Ion Antonescu, 1940-1944* (Iasi, 2015). <http://www.polirom.ro/catalog/carte/purificarea-natiunii-dislocari-fortate-de-populatie-si-epurari-etnice-in-romania-lui-ion-antonescu-1940-194-5824/>

Arolda Elbasai authored *The Revival of Islam in the Balkans: From Identity to Religiosity* (Palgrave), part of a broader project at the Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies, which explores the relationship between state, religion and public sphere in Western societies.

The book highlights the diverse actors and conditions that shape new Islamic religiosities in the Post-Communist Balkans. Specifically, it challenges top-down analytical frameworks that view Islam in the Balkans as a repository of ethno-national identities and/or a potential “depot” of conflict between and among nations. Instead, it outlines a new conceptual framework in which believers are endowed with the capacity to choose and

resist broad classifications amidst the competitive market of religion following the fall of communism. Combining a fresh analytical perspective with rich empirical analysis, *The Revival of Islam in the Balkans* furthers the understanding of Islam particularly with regard to the relation between state and religion, the role of foreign influences, the diversity of actors who speak for Islam, the processes of individualization of faith, and the evolution and traits of Islam in the European context.

Lucien Frary’s book, *Russia and the Making of Modern Greek Identity, 1821-1844* (Oxford University Press), concerns itself with the birth of the Greek nation, a pivotal event in modern European history and in the history of nation-building in general. Drawing on previously fallow archival material, the book explores the tension between tradition and modernity in the making of Greek nationhood. It deals specifically with the role of Eastern Orthodoxy in the transformation of the collective identity of the Greeks from the Ottoman religious community into the new Hellenic-Christian synthesis. The book contributes to the current understanding of secular nationalism, state-building, and religious identity, as well as Russian foreign policy in the region.



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*The Translator's Doubts: Vladimir Nabokov and the Ambiguity of Translation* by Julia Trubikhina has recently been published by Academic Studies Press.

Using Nabokov as its “case study,” this volume approaches translation as a crucial avenue into literary history and theory, philosophy and interpretation. It attempts to bring together issues in translation and the shift in Nabokov studies from its earlier emphasis on the “metaliterary” to the more recent “metaphysical” approach. Addressing specific texts (both literary and cinematic), the book investigates Nabokov’s deeply ambivalent relationship to translation as a hermeneutic oscillation on his part between the relative stability of meaning, which expresses itself philosophically as a faith in the beyond, and deep metaphysical uncertainty. While Nabokov’s practice of translation changed profoundly over the course of his career, his adherence to the Romantic notion of a “true” but ultimately elusive metaphysical language remained paradoxically constant.

Michael Bernhard edited two collections in the last year. Along with Jan Kubik, he published an edited book *Twenty Years After Communism: The Politics of Memory and Commemoration* (Oxford University Press). The book includes contributions by Laura Ardava, David Art, Kevin Deegan-Krause, Venelin Ganey, Aida Hozic, Daina Iglitis, Carol Leff, Conor O’Dwyer, Grigore Pop-Eleches, Anna Seleny, Oxana Shevel, and Sharon Wolchik. Bernhard and Krzysztof Jasiewicz coedited a special edition of *East European Politics and Societies, and Cultures*

entitled “Whither Eastern Europe? Changing Approaches and Perspectives on the Region in Political Science.” It includes contributions from Grzegorz Ekiert, Venelin Ganey, Magda Gicurcanu, Anna Grzymala-Busse, Aida Hozic, Ellie Knott, Jeffrey Kopstein, Petia Kostadinova, Jan Kubik, Mitchell Orenstein, Tsveta Petrova, Grigore Pop-Eleches, Jelena Subotic, Joshua Tucker, Milada Vachudova, and Jason Wittenberg.

*The Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s*, by Catherine Baker, was published by Palgrave Macmillan, August 2015.

The Yugoslav wars of the 1990s involved the violent destruction of a society in the midst of the collapse of state socialism. The moment war broke out, academic and public debates began, concerning the long- and short-term causes of the wars and where responsibility should lie. Not only do these controversies continue - even coming up against each other in courts of law - but fresh areas of debate have emerged, which historians must take into account.

Baker brings together the major arguments of the most up-to-date scholarship on the Yugoslav wars. This book provides a clear introduction to the topic and demonstrates how debates have evolved, and where more research is required. Alongside this, Baker also exposes the politics and complexities of narrating and interpreting the very recent past.

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# Institutional Member News

## HARVARD UKRAINIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

HURI's fellowship program enables scholars to carry out independent research on topics in Ukrainian studies. HURI is thankful to the Eugene and Daymel Shklar Foundation, the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation, the Ukrainian Studies Fund, and Dr. Jaroslaw and Nadia Mihaychuk whose gifts and endowment support have made such research opportunities possible.

Eugene and Daymel Shklar/Ukrainian Studies Fund Research Fellowships in Ukrainian Studies for Fall 2015 were provided to two ASEES members:

Anton Kotenko is a Postdoctoral Fellow National Research University "Higher School of Economics" (St. Petersburg, Russia). During his stay at HURI Kotenko will revise his dissertation, "The Ukrainian Project in Search of National Space, 1861-1914," and prepare it for publication.

Sophia Wilson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Wilson's research project will be "The Ukrainian Revolution," wherein she will analyze the causes of Ukraine's revolution of 2013-14, and the interactions between state and society during the uprising.

Additionally, Oleh Kotsyuba and Natalya Lazar were recipients of Jaroslaw and Nadia Mihaychuk Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Ukrainian Studies, Spring 2016.

Oleh Kotsyuba is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, specializing in Ukrainian and Russian 20th century literature, while also working on Polish 20th century literature. While at HURI Kotsyuba will research "Collapsing Borders: Cultural Mobility and Self-Projection in the Works of Andrei Kurkov and Sergei Loznitsa.

Natalya Lazar is a PhD candidate at Clark University. Lazar's proposed research project will be "Jews, Romanians, and Ukrainians in Chernivtsi: Violence, Survival, and Interethnic Relations in a Borderland City, 1940-1946."

## THE KENNAN INSTITUTE AT THE WILSON CENTER

The Kennan Institute is pleased to announce that it has been awarded Title VIII funding for the coming program year. As in the past, the Kennan Institute will be offering research fellowships for post-doctoral, early-stage scholars. KI will also offer two-month summer research fellowships and one-month short-term grants. We anticipate the first deadline for the next round of competitions to be in January 2016. Please check the Kennan Institute website for the most updated news on our Title VIII-supported fellowship program: <https://www.wilson-center.org/fellowship-opportunities-and-internships>. For more information, please contact [Liz.Malinkin@wilsoncenter.org](mailto:Liz.Malinkin@wilsoncenter.org)

## Other Fellowship Opportunities

George F. Kennan Fellows will be based at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. for three-month residencies. Fellows will receive access to the Library of Congress, National Archives,

and policy research centers in Washington, D.C., as well as the opportunity to meet with key experts and officials at the State Department, USAID, Department of Defense, and Congress. While conducting research, the George F. Kennan Fellows are expected to actively participate in discussions with the policy and academic communities, including speaking engagements at the Wilson Center as well as potentially outside of Washington D.C., and attending meetings, conferences, and other activities organized by the Kennan Institute and Wilson Center. Upon completion of the fellowships, the grantees become alumni, for whom Kennan will continue to offer opportunities for collaboration and engagement.

U.S., Russian, and Ukrainian citizens are eligible.

## Research Team Option:

Please note applicants have an option to apply for the fellowship as individuals or as part of a team. If applying as a team of two (or three) applicants, the applicants must be citizens of at least two different countries. The goal of such joint fellowships is to promote collaborative research projects among U.S., Russian, and Ukrainian experts.

George F. Kennan Fellowship Teams will:

- Produce joint paper(s) for policy-relevant publications.
- Present work at D.C., Russia, and/or Ukraine events.
- Conduct meetings and engage with policymakers in DC

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[www.LearnRussianInEU.com](http://www.LearnRussianInEU.com)  
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Competitions for the fellowships will be held twice yearly with the following application deadlines: March 1 and September 1.

Applicants must submit a completed application – please see our website for more details: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/grant-opportunities-and-internships-0>

The George F. Kennan Fellowship offers a monthly stipend of \$3,200, research facilities, and computer access. Fellows are required to be in residence at the Kennan Institute, Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. for the duration of the grant. Awardees are expected to commence their three-month appointments within one year of accepting the fellowship.

#### Scholars in Residence

The Kennan Institute welcomes the following scholars:

#### Title VIII Short-term Scholar

Nicholas Rutter, Junior Fellow, Central European University Institute for Advanced Study, “Popular Front, Part Two: Soviet World Federations and the Origins of the Cold War.”

#### Galina Starovoitova Fellow on Human Rights and Conflict Resolution

Elena Racheva, Special Correspondent, Novaya Gazeta. “The Collective Memory of Stalin’s Repressions in the USSR as a Reflection of Contemporary Russian Politics.”

#### George F. Kennan Fellows

Anna Arutunyan, Independent Journalist, “Only Connect: Social Incohesion, Atomization, and Individualism in Russian Civil Society.”

Sergey Parkhomenko, Journalist, “Echo of Moscow” Radio. “Creating an Independent Media Platform.”

#### CFP: LUDWIG MAXIMILIAN UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH WORKSHOP: SEVENTY YEARS TO THE END OF THE WAR IN ASIA

January 29-30, 2016

In a seventy-year hindsight, August 1945 emerges as an epoch-making month and by far the most crucial turning point in the twentieth-century history of East Asia. But how exactly has Japan’s surrender affected the various processes that came to an end or began in that date? Is it possible to construct a meta-narrative of the various events and processes that occurred in 1945 and the subsequent decade? In this symposium we intend to examine these and other questions by offering a broad international perspective and relying on new materials and approaches. We are looking in particular for novel (and unconventional) perspectives representing either one or more of the powers involved (i.e., China, Japan, the two Koreas, Soviet Union/Russia, and the United States) but which transcend national historiographies.

The symposium will be held at the Graduate School for East and South East European Studies in Munich. It is open to the public and participation is free of charge. Graduate students and seasoned scholars are encouraged to apply. In special cases, the organizers will be able to offer limited financial support for the participants.

#### CFP: TRANSLATING ARMENIANS, ARMENIANS TRANSLATED: RETHINKING METHODOLOGIES FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES

The Seventh Annual International Graduate Student Workshop will be held April 22-23, 2016 at University of Michigan. Deadline for submission of abstracts: November 15, 2015

In recent years, the notion of translation has acquired a new currency while becoming invested with a new urgency, in particular for “marginal” programs within area studies, such as Armenian studies, which are often called to engage with translation in their efforts to position themselves within broader critical conversations that extend beyond their disciplinary scope. In an effort to expand on such conversations, a workshop, which will take place in April 2016, will focus on this topic with a two-day event entitled “Translating Armenians, Armenians Translated: Rethinking Methodologies for Armenian Studies.”

A full call and instructions on how to apply: [http://ii.umich.edu/asp/events/workshops/translatingarmeniansarmenianstranslated\\_ci](http://ii.umich.edu/asp/events/workshops/translatingarmeniansarmenianstranslated_ci)

#### **Carnegie Mellon University Assistant Professor of Russian Studies**

The Department of Modern Languages invites applications for an assistant professor, tenure-track position in Russian Studies beginning in August 2016. Successful candidates must have an earned Ph.D., demonstrated excellence in interdisciplinary research and teaching, and expertise in one or more of the following areas: technology-enhanced learning, learning sciences, digital humanities, language assessment, translation studies, literary and cultural studies, global studies, transnational studies. Candidates should have advanced-level proficiency in Russian, interest in teaching a full range of courses in the curriculum, and experience in culture-driven, content-based, communicatively-oriented instruction. Teaching load is 2+2.

Applications will be accepted online through Interfolio and should arrive not later than October 30, 2015. Applicants should use the link below to submit a letter of application (indicating, among other things, any professional conferences they plan to attend between November 2015 and January 2016), resume, statements of teaching, research, and curricular interests, and three (3) letters of recommendation. Representative publications, not to be returned, may also be included. Carnegie Mellon University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Application Deadline: 30-Oct-2015

Application URL: <https://secure.interfolio.com/apply/30302>

Contact Information: Elisabeth Kaske, Associate Professor of Chinese Studies, Russian Studies Search Committee, [ekaske@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:ekaske@andrew.cmu.edu)



## In Memoriam

**Svetlana Boym**, Curt Hugo Reisinger Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature at Harvard University, passed away August 5, 2015. She was, to all who knew her, always was brimming with vitality, brilliance, and wit. Her warm yet fiercely independent personality together with her influential scholarship attracted students and colleagues from around the world.

Svetlana Boym was born in Leningrad and held degrees from the Herzen Institute, Boston University (in Spanish), and Harvard (her PhD in Comparative Literature). She taught at Harvard, first in History and Literature and Comparative Literature, and she joined the Slavic Department upon her promotion to Professor in 1995. She was awarded many prizes during her career, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Bunting Fellowship, and an Edward Mendelsohn award for her mentoring of graduate students at Harvard.

A prolific scholar, her academic publications include: *Death in Quotation Marks: Cultural Myths of the Modern Poet*, *Common Places: Mythologies of Everyday Life in Russia*, *The Future of Nostalgia*, and *Another Freedom: The Alternative History of an Idea*. She wrote a play, *The Woman Who Shot Lenin*, and a novel, *Ninotchka*. She gave scholarly talks around the world, and curated art exhibits including exhibits of her own work, particularly her photographs. Her personal website, [www.svetlanaboym.com](http://www.svetlanaboym.com), reflects the great diversity of her interests.

Svetlana Boym was a treasured colleague, mentor, and teacher. She spoke passionately to students about writers and thinkers such as Viktor Shklovsky, Vladimir Nabokov, and Hannah Arendt. A formidable and incisive presence in Departmental meetings, she frequently championed the causes of graduate students. (Excerpted from text provided by Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University.)

**Robert Conquest**, leading scholar of the Stalinist purges and the Ukrainian famine of the 1930s, died July 27, 2015, at the age of 98. Conquest began his study of the Soviet Union while on a research fellowship at the London School of Economics, resulting in his first book on the subject, *Power and Politics in the USSR* (1960). This was followed by *The Great Terror: Stalin's Purge of the Thirties* (1968) and *The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-Famine* (1986).

Known as a poet before becoming a historian, Conquest was the author of *Between Mars and Venus* (1962) and *Arias From a Love Opera* (1969). With his fellow Movement poet, Kingsley Amis, he also edited volumes of the poetry anthology *New Lines*, which showcased work by Movement poets. (Excerpted from [The New York Times](#))

Director general of the Russian State Library for Foreign Literature **Ekaterina Genieva** died July 9, 2015. Born in Moscow, Genieva joined the Library for Foreign Literature in 1971 as a senior editor after earning a degree in Literature at Moscow State

University. Appointed deputy director general of the library in 1991, she became its director general in 1993.

A leader of cultural reform after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Genieva served on the Council for Culture and Arts and as president of the Open Society Institute (the Soros Fund) in Russia from 1995 to 2004. She published numerous papers and bibliographies and edited works. Among other initiatives and reforms, Genieva organized conferences and founded cultural, educational and research programs which drew together Russian and foreign experts and researchers as well as young Russians looking to rediscover previously censored literary classics and the religious roots of their culture, and establish contacts with the outside world.

Genieva was awarded honors by countries around the world including, in 2007, an OBE. She also earned the distinction of being the first woman to be proposed for membership of the Athenaeum. (Excerpted from [The Telegraph](#))

**Danica Bacanović Jekić** (Dana Jekich) passed away in July 2014, in Serbia. From 1968 to 1992 Jekić was a library specialist for Southeast European collections at the University of Michigan Hatcher Graduate Library which became one of the richest centers for Yugoslav studies, attracting American and Yugoslav researchers. She graduated with a B.A. in art history from the University of Belgrade and with Masters degrees in art history and in library science from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. After her retirement in 1992, she moved to Washington, D.C. where she lived before returning to Serbia. A loyal and generous friend, she is remembered for her zest for art, culture, politics, and cats; vibrant Serbian hospitality and her abiding love for Nadia Fenerli (1962-1971). (Excerpted from text provided by Marysia Ostafin and Maria Złotkowska Kontak)

Hunter College Professor Emeritus of International Relations **Gregory James Massell** died on June 4, 2015. Massell is the author of the landmark study, *The Surrogate Proletariat: Muslim Women and Revolutionary Strategies in Soviet Central Asia: 1919-1929* (1974). During his career, he was a Senior Fellow at the Harriman Institute and at the Kennan Institute. He also travelled widely, including to the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Massell emigrated to the US in January 1949 after serving in a Displaced Person's Camp in Ulm, Germany.

There, he earned an undergraduate degree at Columbia University, an M.A. Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in Government and Politics in 1966. With Ph.D. in hand, Massell joined the faculty at Hunter College of the City University of New York City where he served as Professor of Political Science until his retirement in 1993; he also served as Director of the Russian Area Studies Graduate Program. (Excerpted from text provided by David Massell)



# Affiliate News

## CFP: AATSEEL-WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

October 9-10, 2015

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Abstracts for 20-minute papers on any aspect of Slavic literatures, cultures (including film, music, and the visual arts), linguistics (theoretical or applied, including pedagogy), and history are invited for the annual conference of the Wisconsin chapter of AATSEEL. Comparative topics and interdisciplinary approaches are welcome and encouraged. The conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on Friday and Saturday, October 9 – 10, 2015. Recent conference programs are available on the AATSEEL-WI website at [http://slavic.lss.wisc.edu/new\\_web/?q=node/7](http://slavic.lss.wisc.edu/new_web/?q=node/7). This year's keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Jonathan Bolton (Harvard University).

## ASSOCIATION FOR DIVERSITY IN SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES NEWS

The Association for Students and Teachers of Color in Slavic Studies has changed its name to Association for Diversity in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ADSEEEES).

Its mission statement has likewise been changed: The Association for Diversity in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ADSEEEES) is dedicated to better connecting and expanding the network of underrepresented minority students, scholars, and professionals working in the field. ADSEEEES is committed to improving general understanding of the unique experiences of racial, ethnic, and religious minorities, members of the LGBTQ community, and trans and gender/queer individuals who study, teach, and/or conduct research in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. ADSEEEES also seeks to serve as a platform for academic discussions of minoritarian cultures in the region both historically and in the present day.

## CARPATHIAN INSTITUTE AND LEMKO ASSOCIATION NEWS

On August 1, 2015, the Carpathian Institute and the Lemko Association held a Thalerhof Day commemoration, in remembrance of the World War One concentration camp at Thalerhof, near Graz, Austria in which thousands of Carpatho-Rusyns/Russians perished. Also remembered were all those who lost their lives or suffered in military operations in and around the Carpathian region, 1912-1951.

A moleben (prayer service) and panachida (service for the dead) were held, as well as a fellowship picnic with music and food. The site of the commemoration was at the Thalerhof Memorial on the grounds of the Carpathian Institute, 184 Old County Road, Higganum, Connecticut 06441-4446.

## CFP: CENTRAL SLAVIC CONFERENCE

October 23-25, 2015

Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri

The Central Slavic Conference is pleased to invite

scholars of all disciplines working in Slavic, Eurasian, and East European studies to attend its annual meeting to be held on the campus of Saint Louis University October 23-25, 2015.

Founded in 1962 as the Bi-State Slavic Conference, the Central Slavic Conference now encompasses seven states and is the oldest of the regional affiliates of ASEEEES (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies). Scholars from outside the region and from around the world are welcome.

## Charles Timberlake Memorial Symposium

Now a regular part of the CSC program, the symposium is dedicated to the scholarly concerns of longtime CSC member Charles Timberlake. Those interested in participating should contact symposium coordinator Dr. Nicole Monnier at [monniern@missouri.edu](mailto:monniern@missouri.edu).

## Timberlake Memorial Graduate Paper Prize

Students who present at the CSC Annual Meeting are invited to participate in the Charles Timberlake Graduate Paper Prize competition. Dedicated to the memory of Professor Timberlake as teacher and mentor, the prize carries a cash award. CSC registration and hotel reservation information can be found on the CSC website: <http://www.slu.edu/international-studies-program/central-slavic-conference>. Additional information regarding at the conference hotel, SLU's Water Tower Inn, may be found at <http://www.slu.edu/wti/>.

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## CHILDHOOD IN EASTERN EUROPE AND RUSSIA NEWS

The ASEES Working Group on the Study of Russian Children's Literature and Culture (WGRCLC) has changed its name to Childhood in Eastern Europe and Russia (ChEER) in order to reflect the broader national profile and interdisciplinary scope of the organization. ChEER is a scholarly nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering closer communication among scholars interested in Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European children's literature, history, and culture. We welcome new members to attend the annual meeting of the group, which will be held at the ASEES Convention in Philadelphia on November 19th, 2015 at 3pm in Meeting Room 310.

## CFP: SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON SLAVIC STUDIES TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA, MARCH 17-19, 2016

Scholars in all disciplines related to Slavic, Eurasian, and East European studies are encouraged to submit panel or paper proposals to Alice Pate at Kennesaw University (apate9@kennesaw.edu). Please include email addresses for all panel members.

SCSS has a special rate at the Embassy Suites in downtown Tuscaloosa for \$149.00 per night. The rate includes a free breakfast and a free wine and cheese reception each night. Each room is a suite, with a living room and kitchen. The panels and keynote banquet will happen in the hotel. There are also lots of great pubs and restaurants within walking distance. On Saturday after the formal conference concludes there will be an excursion to Moundville (the second largest city in America from the 11th-16th centuries). More events are in the works, and at the appropriate time there will be an online registration portal making all of this easier for all. For additional information about Tuscaloosa, contact local arrangements chair Margaret Peacock (mepeacock@as.ua.edu).

## WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SLAVIC STUDIES NEWS

The Western Association for Slavic Studies (WASS) conference will be held, jointly with the Western Social Science Association, April 13-16, 2016, Reno, NV.

The Slavic Section of the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) invites proposals for panels, single papers, and workshops in ALL fields, regions and periods of history related to Slavic studies. The Slavic Section of the WSSA seeks to encourage a diverse array of scholars to attend and present work at our next annual conference. We welcome graduate students and academics of all ranks to share their work from any academic discipline covering the range of Slavic studies.

Submission guidelines are available on <http://www.wssaweb.com/sections>. The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2015. Questions

can be directed to Slavic Section Coordinator: Robert Niebuhr, [robert.niebuhr@asu.edu](mailto:robert.niebuhr@asu.edu).

## ZIMMERLI ART MUSEUM PRESENTS RADICAL SOVIET CONCEPTUAL ARTIST BAKHCHANYAN

From October 17 through March 6, 2016, the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers will present the first US retrospective on the groundbreaking work of Soviet conceptual artist Vagrich Bakhchanyan (1938-2009), whose incisive critiques of Soviet propaganda led to unlikely success and an embrace in Soviet popular culture that remains relevant to this day. "Accidental Absurdity" will feature approximately 80 works from the artist's multidisciplinary oeuvre, including prints, collages, literary compositions, and conceptual performances, all of which highlight the humor that guided Bakhchanyan's artistic experiments.

Using image transference and manipulation, wordplay, and parody to challenge the government mandated Socialist Realist style, Bakhchanyan played a crucial role in many major Russian art movements. The exhibition traces the full arc of Bakhchanyan's career, from the early work that led him to flee his hometown of Kharkov, in Soviet Ukraine, in the mid-1960s, to the years spent in Moscow, when he came to prominence and notoriety for upending artistic expectations, and through to his practice in New York, where he moved to find the personal and artistic freedom he had long sought.

The majority of the material on view will be drawn from the Zimmerli's Norton and Nancy Dodge Collection of Nonconformist Art from the Soviet Union—the largest and most comprehensive collection of dissident Soviet art in the world, "Accidental Absurdity" is organized around three areas of Bakhchanyan's diverse practice: drawings and collages, presented chronologically; three-dimensional objects and writings; and work addressing the artist's fascination with the book.



The **Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies (WCED) at the University of Michigan** invites postdoctoral scholars to apply for the Emerging Democracies Postdoctoral Fellowship. The fellowship supports research on the broad historical, political, economic, and societal conditions under which democracies emerge—and autocracies endure.

Visit [ii.umich.edu/wced](http://ii.umich.edu/wced) for more information  
Application deadline: **January 15, 2016**

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[wced.postdoc@umich.edu](mailto:wced.postdoc@umich.edu)  
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## Personages

**Nanci Adler** has recently been appointed Professor of Memory, History, and Transitional Justice, a Chair established by the University of Amsterdam and the NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

**Karel Berkhoff**, Senior Researcher, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Amsterdam, prepared the unit on the Holocaust in Ukraine for the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure's online course (<http://training.ehri-project.eu/>).

**Yana Hashamova** stepped down as director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at Ohio State. **Joseph Brandesky** has been appointed the new director.

**Maria Bucur**, at Indiana University, received the 2014-2015 Mellon Innovation International Research, Teaching and Collaboration award for her workshop "Gender Regimes and Property Practices in Post-Communist Europe."

**Linda J. Cook**, Professor of Political Science at Brown University, was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Russia for 2015-16 to do research for her book project, "Political Economies of Health Care in Russia's Fragmented Welfare State"

**Sara Feldman** is now a Hebrew and Yiddish lecturer at the Program in Jewish Culture and Society at the University of Illinois.

As of July 1, 2015, the Director of CEERES at the University of Chicago is **Susan Gal**.

On July 22, 2015, **Thaddeus V. Gromada**, donated nearly 200 issues of *The Tatra Eagle/Tatrzański Orzeł*, a quarterly publication that he founded and presently co-edits, to UNC-Chapel Hill Library. The bi-lingual periodical, published continuously from 1947 to the present, is devoted to the folk culture of the Tatra Mountain Region in Poland (Podhale) and to the Polish highlander (góral) diaspora in America. The donated issues from 1949 to 2015, nearly a full run, were accepted by **Kirill Tolpygo**, Chief librarian of the Slavic, East European Division.

**Kristy Ironside** has been appointed Lecturer in Russian, East European and Eurasian history at the University of Manchester.

**Padriac Kenney** was named Chair of the Department of International Studies at Indiana University as of July, 2015.

**Allison Leigh** has been offered a second year as the Postdoctoral Fellow in Art History for 2015-16 in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York where she will be completing a book manuscript currently titled, *Superfluous Man: Modernity and Malaise in Nineteenth-Century Europe*.

**Tatjana Lorković** retired on January 3, 2015 after a distinguished 25 year career in the Yale University Library.

In January of 1968 Lorković began her career as a Slavic Librarian at the University of Iowa Libraries. In 1973 she was promoted to Head of the Cataloging Department. Lorković oversaw the development of the Slavic Collection, from humble beginnings to a collection that supported graduate studies in Russian literature and history. Lorković arrived at Yale in 1989 to take charge of the Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Collection. She navigated the chaotic world of post-Soviet and post-Communist publishing, helping to set up a network of vendors to maintain one of the premier Slavic collections in North America. In subsequent years, she expanded and deepened the collection, relying on an extensive network of institutions, colleagues, and exchange libraries to secure materials.

Lorković published many articles and translations in the field of Slavic and International librarianship, including publications in SOLANUS and Slavic and East European Information Resources.

**Biljana D. Obradović**, a transnational poet, translator, critic and Professor of English at Xavier University of Louisiana, has won the 2015 Norman C. Francis Research Award in Excellence.

**Mitchell Orenstein** is now a Professor of Slavic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

The scholarly monograph *Voiceless Vanguard: The Infantalist Aesthetic of the Russian Avant-Garde*, written by **Sara Panke-nier Weld** (Northwestern University Press, 2014), received the International Research Society for Children's Literature Book Award for 2015. [http://www.irsl.com/award\\_winners.html](http://www.irsl.com/award_winners.html)

The winner of the 2015 Found in Translation Award is **Ursula Phillips** for her translation of Zofia Nalkowska's *Choucas: An International Novel* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2014). The award was presented on October 2, 2015, during the International Translation Day at the British Library in London.

**Sarah D. Phillips** is now the Director of Indiana University's Russian and East European Institute.

**Alex Rabinowitch** has been awarded a retired faculty grant-in-aid of research from the Indiana University Office of the Vice Provost for Research.

Award-winning director Mark Rosovsky's "Harbin-34," a play based on *The Russian Fascists: Tragedy and Farce in Exile* (Harper & Row, 1978) by **John Stephan**, opened on September 19, 2014 at Moscow's Nikitskikh Vorot Theater.

**Jeffrey Veidlinger** was elected associate chair of the Center for Jewish History's Academic Advisory Council.





The summer convention's theme is "Images of the Other" - instrumental use and abuse of the 'Other' in politics, cultural and social practices; the role of ethnic, cultural, social and gender stereotypes; representations of the 'Other' in memory politics, art, public discourse and media; and scholarship regarding the 'Other' as a social construct. ASEEES and MAG invite papers and panel proposals, related to the theme, understood in the broadest possible sense.

The ASEEES-MAG Summer Convention will take place at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine.

The Call for Papers is now open and can be found here: <http://aseees.org/summer-convention/cfp>

**Upcoming ASEEES Webinar:  
"Resources for Eastern European Jewish  
Studies: Repositories, Collections,  
Databases"**

Thursday, October 15, 2-3pm, ET

Zachary Baker (Stanford University Libraries) will present an overview of online resources relating to Eastern European Jewish Studies: Religion, History, Culture, Demography. The periods covered range from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, before the Partitions, to the post-Soviet era; the geographical scope encompasses the domains of Eastern Ashkenaz: Poland, the Baltics, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Moldova, Slovakia, and Hungary. Most of the resources covered have English-language home pages. To register, <http://aseees.org/programs/webinars>

This webinar is cosponsored by ASEEES and the Association for Jewish Studies

