



NewsNet

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

Kazakhstan after Nazarbayev: Changes for Researchers Sarah Cameron, University of Maryland, College Park

Kazakhstan has often been seen as an island of stability within the former Soviet space.¹ It has been ruled by one man, Nursultan Nazarbayev, a former blast furnace operator and Soviet holdover, since the Soviet collapse. Under his rule, the country became a regional economic powerhouse, a transformation fueled by rich deposits of oil, gas and uranium. It gave up its nuclear weapons, earning Nazarbayev praise on the international scene. It has pursued a “multi-vector” foreign policy, seeking good relations with Russia, China and the United States. The Soviet collapse left Kazakhstan with a multiethnic society and significant Russian minority. But Nazarbayev has sought to portray his country as a model of interethnic cooperation, one where Kazakhs (68 percent), Russians (19.3) and numerous other ethnicities coexist in supposed harmony.² Along the way, he has cracked down on dissent, generated a poor track record on human rights, and generally resisted efforts at further democratization, managing throughout to remain genuinely popular with many segments of Kazakhstani society.

But on March 19, Nazarbayev tendered his surprise resignation, handing the reins to Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, the chairman of the Senate and a Nazarbayev loyalist

who played a crucial role in the regime’s efforts to silence opposition. After three decades in power, it appeared that one of the world’s longest-serving rulers was abruptly gone from the scene. It soon became clear, however, that Nazarbayev had prepared carefully for his departure. Though no longer president, he would continue to serve as head of Kazakhstan’s Security Council and chairman of its ruling Nur Otan party, exerting considerable influence on affairs from behind the scenes. The title of *Elbasy* (Leader of the Nation), conferred in 2010, gave him lifetime immunity from prosecution.

It is not clear why Nazarbayev chose to step down from his post. But the case of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan’s rival for regional supremacy, provides an example that Nazarbayev is surely anxious to avoid. In 2016, President Islam Karimov, Nazarbayev’s contemporary, died in office after twenty-seven years in power, and his successor Shavkat Mirziyoyev has worked to dismantle many of his predecessor’s policies. A managed exit offers Nazarbayev a chance to secure his legacy. With Tokayev’s ascension to the presidency, Nazarbayev’s daughter, Dariga Nazarbayeva, became chairwoman of the Senate, putting her next in line for the presidency should Tokayev relinquish his post.

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But the image of stability that Nazarbayev has carefully cultivated has begun to evaporate since his departure. The decision to rename Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, as "Nur-Sultan" in honor of Nazarbayev was greeted with derision and protests. In the ensuing weeks, unrest continued to spread, and the authorities' heavy-handed response (even activists holding up blank signs were reportedly arrested) added further fuel to the conflict. A new opposition movement, *Oyan, Qazaqstan* (Wake Up, Kazakhstan), sprang up. Composed of young activists focused on liberal reforms, the movement took its name from a famous work of poetry by a member of Alash Orda, a Kazakh nationalist movement from the early twentieth century. On June 9, in an early presidential election that OSCE observers characterized as marred by "significant irregularities," Tokayev was elected to the presidency with 71 percent of the vote.³ According to Kazakh authorities, nearly 4,000 people were detained in protests that accompanied the election.⁴

The wave of civic activism that has greeted the Tokayev presidency has been one of the great surprises in a country usually better known for its quiescence. It has challenged conventional understandings of Kazakhstan as stable and unchanging, and called attention to the ways that society and politics in the country were shifting even before Nazarbayev sought to manage his exit. Under Tokayev—an experienced diplomat conversant in Russian, Chinese, and English who served as deputy secretary-general of the United Nations—the country's interest in international research collaboration seems likely to continue. Within former Soviet Central Asia, Kazakhstan has offered one of the most hospitable climates for foreign scholars. There is a vibrant community of local scholars eager to strengthen ties with foreign colleagues. Both the former Communist Party and State archives are open, a policy that contrasts with that of several of Kazakhstan's neighbors. In recent years, travel restrictions have loosened, and the citizens of many countries, including the United States, can now visit the country for 30 days without a visa. But the Tokayev regime will also have to manage changes that began in the Nazarbayev era that will hold important implications for researchers in the years to come.

In this essay, I highlight two such changes: first, the plans to transition the Kazakh language from the Cyrillic to the Latin script and, second, the emergence of a more critical stance towards the Soviet past among some sectors of Kazakhstani society.

Both shifts are tied to the regime's efforts to craft a national identity and reassess its relationship with Russia,

Kazakhstan's most important international partner. Since 2010, the Nazarbayev regime has ceded greater space to figures opposed to Russian cultural influence who support a more explicitly ethnic vision of Kazakh nationalism.⁵ Reverberations from the 2014 Ukraine crisis promoted further changes. In August 2014, Putin declared that "the Kazakhs never had statehood," and he credited Nazarbayev with creating a state where there had not been one before. Putin's comments enraged many Kazakhs. They also heightened speculation that a "Ukraine scenario," or a Russian land seizure, could also play out in Kazakhstan, whose large Russian population is concentrated near the Russian border. In 2015, the Nazarbayev regime launched a year-long celebration of the 550th anniversary of Kazakhstani statehood in an apparent effort to counter Putin's characterization of the country's history.⁶

In 2017, Nazarbayev announced plans to move the Kazakh alphabet to a new script based upon the Latin alphabet. The final version of the script was approved in 2018, with the transition to be completed by 2025. Proponents of the new alphabet have celebrated it as long overdue move away from the Soviet past and Russian influence. Under Soviet rule, Kazakh, a Turkic language, underwent several shifts, moving from the Arabic to the Latin script in the 1920s and then in the 1940s to the Cyrillic script, which has remained in use in Kazakhstan to the present. When he announced the new Kazakh



Photo by Ninaras: "Monument to the victims of the Akmola Labour Camp for Wives of Political Dissidents during Soviet times" Astana (now Nur-Sultan), Kazakhstan. Photo taken: July 12, 2012

alphabet, Nazarbayev promised that the move would not interfere with the rights of the country's Russian-speaking population.⁷ (Currently, the country has two official languages, Kazakh and Russian. Kazakh is known as the "state language," and a 2006 presidential decree stipulates that all official paperwork must be done in Kazakh.)⁸ But some Kazakhs, weary of the dominance of Russian in many spheres, are clearly hopeful that the new script will elevate the status of Kazakh.

The shift to a new alphabet will be a tricky issue for the new president to navigate. Kazakh is spoken widely, particularly in the south and the west of the country, but Russian is the language of commerce. It is also the language of choice for most non-Kazakh groups and for some Kazakhs. In a legacy of Soviet rule, many Kazakhs, particularly those in urban areas, are more comfortable speaking Russian than Kazakh. The new president would seem to be a case in point. Born in Soviet Kazakhstan's capital, Alma-Ata (now Almaty), in 1953 to a prominent Kazakh family, Tokayev attended the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. After graduating, he joined the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Within the Ministry, Russian, not Kazakh, would have been the way to further his diplomatic career. In his March 20 inauguration speech, Tokayev alternated between Russian and Kazakh, though he was clearly more at ease when he was speaking Russian.⁹ Given that Tokayev is not totally comfortable in Kazakh, he would seem to be an odd figurehead for the implementation of the new script.

The move to the new alphabet is still in its initial stages, and it is not clear that it will be complete by 2025 as Nazarbayev originally proposed. But the prospect of a new script raises important questions for researchers. When do we start talking about "Qazaqstan" rather than "Kazakhstan"? The former is the spelling of the country's name in the new Kazakh alphabet, while the latter is the transliteration of the country's name from the Russian. Currently, "Kazakhstan" is still used on the English version of the president's website but "Qazaqstan" is gaining traction among younger Kazakhs, particularly on social media.¹⁰ And how should we render the president's name into English? The president himself seems of two minds. On his presidential website, he is known as "Kassym-Jomart Tokayev," but on his Instagram and Twitter accounts, he is known as "Qasym-Jomart Toqayev," a spelling that hews more closely to the Kazakh.¹¹

There have also been several recent attempts to initiate further discussion of the Soviet past, challenging the Nazarbayev regime's position of limited public discussion of the crimes of the Soviet regime. The country

observes May 31 as "The Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Political Repression," but since 2000 there have been few state-sponsored discussions of who should be held responsible for Soviet crimes. In his 2018 Day of Remembrance address, his last as president, Nazarbayev mentioned several Soviet atrocities, such as the famine of the 1930s, the construction of a vast forced labor camp system, the repression of the Kazakh elite and the deportation of various nationalities. Such horrors, he argued, were "the results of a tragic experiment under the slogan of 'the bright future of communism,'" a turn of phrase that seemed designed to gloss over the thorny question of responsibility. Resisting a narrative of Kazakh victimization, Nazarbayev emphasized that many different ethnic groups, not just Kazakhs, had endured repression on the republic's territory. "Compassion and assistance from the Kazakh people," he argued, ultimately helped these different nationalities survive.¹²

Nazarbayev's emphasis on the suffering of all ethnicities and Kazakh heroism is indicative of the country's often contradictory attempts to promote a multiethnic civic identity and appeal to an explicitly ethnic vision of Kazakh nationalism. His reluctance to confront the Soviet past surely stems, at least in part, from a fear that such discussions might upend relations with Russia or reveal more about Nazarbayev's own participation in the Soviet system. While serving as Moscow's second in command in Soviet Kazakhstan, Nazarbayev played a role in the regime's brutal crackdown on protests that erupted in Almaty in December 1986. In Kazakhstan today, these riots, known as *Zheltoqsan* (Kazakh for "December"), are celebrated as a moment of anticolonial resistance, while Nazarbayev's own part in quashing the demonstrations is neglected.

But there is evidence that some Kazakhstani citizens would like to see more public discussion of the Soviet era. Over the last several years, activists have waged a heated battle over the fate of the former headquarters of the Soviet secret police, located on a leafy street in the heart of Almaty. After the Soviet collapse, the building became a museum before falling into private hands. Citizens then filed suit, asking the regime to reclaim the structure and turn it back into a museum. Though it is not clear what the current owners plan to do with the site, these activists, many of whom are descendants of those repressed by the secret police, worry that the building could be turned into a hotel or a restaurant, erasing the history of human suffering that took place within its walls.¹³ In August 2018, the issue of how to deal with the Soviet past surfaced in a more visceral sense: in a village outside of Almaty, a man digging a drainage pipe stumbled upon a mass grave

site. Researchers determined that the dead had been shot during the Stalin era, and 168 bodies were ultimately recovered. But the dead were quietly reburied with little attempt at identifying their remains, an approach that angered some citizens who argued that the occasion called for greater solemnity and public reflection.¹⁴

Yet, the single issue relating to the Soviet past that has garnered the most public attention in recent months is that of the Kazakh famine of 1930-33, in which more than 1.5 million people died. The catastrophe occurred during roughly the same time period as the better-known Ukrainian famine. The two crises share many common features, particularly the Stalinist regime's ruthless pursuit of collectivization and grain. However, in contrast to Ukraine, where the Ukrainian famine has become crucial to the creation of a national memory, the Nazarbayev government has said relatively little about the Kazakh famine, a policy, again, that is likely linked to the regime's close relationship with Russia.¹⁵ In its very title, Kazakhstan's Day of Remembrance formally honors only the republic's victims of political repression, not those who died in the famine.

YALE UNIVERSITY HIRING PROFESSOR IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Yale University's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position as Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor in Russian literature and culture, with an anticipated appointment start date of July 1, 2020. The area of specialization is open, and the successful candidate must possess native or near-native fluency in Russian.

Selected candidates must have a PhD or equivalent degree at time of hire. To ensure full consideration, please submit all application materials addressed to Professor Harvey Goldblatt, Acting Chair, by October 15, 2019 at <https://apply.interfolio.com/66725>. Applications materials must include cover letter, current CV, writing sample of no more than 25 pages prepared for anonymous review, and a minimum of three letters of recommendation from outside Yale. Review of applications will begin November 1, 2019 and continue until the position is filled.

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Public discussion of the famine in Kazakhstan has intensified in the last eighteen months. In spring 2018, an opposition movement, *Zhana Qazaqstan*, (New Kazakhstan), emerged. In a memorandum, its leaders called for the Nazarbayev government to enact a law on decommunization and urging the international community to recognize the Kazakh famine as a genocide.¹⁶ In winter 2019, the prominent artist Saule Suleimenova opened an exhibit of her work in Almaty. The show, *Ostatochnaia pamiat'* (Residual Memory), explored many of the crimes of the Soviet era, and Suleimenova—who, along with her daughter, would come to play a leading role in *Oyan, Qazaqstan*—called for the famine to be recognized as a genocide.¹⁷ Two well-known Kazakhs, the opposition journalist Zhanbolat Mamai and the political analyst Dosym Satpayev, released documentary films about the famine.¹⁸ Both films garnered large audiences, but the Mamai film, *Zülmat: Genotsid v Kazakhstane* (Disaster: Genocide in Kazakhstan), was a particularly big hit. On the date of its release, some two thousand people overwhelmed the one Almaty theater that agreed to show the film, and it has subsequently been viewed more than 450,000 times online.¹⁹

My own research also became entangled in this discussion. In November 2018, a *Wall Street Journal* op-ed that I wrote to promote my book on the Kazakh famine went viral.²⁰ Almost every major news organization in Kazakhstan republished the essay in Kazakh or in Russian. Without my permission, the op-ed, with some elaborations worked in, was made into a Facebook video that has been viewed more than 110,000 times.²¹ I sat for nearly a dozen interviews with Kazakhstani news organizations, and Kazakhs began to write me, sharing stories of the horrors that their families had endured during the famine. In February 2019, Tokayev, then chairman of the Senate, tweeted his thanks to me for the book.²² The news coverage of my work was largely positive, though some journalists with ties to Russian state media accused me of spreading “lies and propaganda” or using “famine as an instrument of geopolitics” to drive a wedge between Kazakhstan and Russia.²³

As these two issues, the new alphabet and the question of the Soviet past, reveal, Kazakhstan is not as stable or unchanging a place as it might seem. Though Nazarbayev still seeks to manage affairs from behind the scenes, his resignation has revealed and enabled a wave of civic activism, the likes of which the country has not seen for many years. Much of this engagement has been propelled by the internet and, particularly, social media. This July, in an apparent attempt to control this activism, the government began efforts to monitor secure internet traffic within the country.²⁴

There are many questions for researchers to watch in the months ahead: What will the renewed public interest in the Soviet period and particularly the tendentious issue of the famine mean for Kazakhstan's relationship with Russia? In one illustration of the tensions the subject can provoke, in February the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a communique critiquing recent "artificially inflated" discussions of the famine in the media landscape of "several Central Asian states." Clearly targeted at Kazakhstan, the statement disputed the idea that the famine could be called a genocide.²⁵ During the Soviet period, Nazarbayev worked his way up through Kazakhstan's state and party bureaucracy. Tokayev, by contrast, was a diplomat, who spent most of his career outside of the republic. Will his perspective on the Soviet period be any different than his predecessor's as a result? On the alphabet, will it serve to orient the country more towards Asia rather than Russia? And if it leads to a growth in the number of Kazakh speakers, as some of its supporters hope, should this alter the way we study the country? Most foreign researchers approach Kazakhstan through Russian. Kazakh-language materials remain underrepresented in Western scholarship, arguably skewing understandings of the country. The introduction of a new alphabet may be a moment to rethink how we approach the study of Kazakhstan.

Sarah Cameron is Associate Professor of History at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is the author of The Hungry Steppe: Famine, Violence, and the Making of Soviet Kazakhstan (Cornell, 2018).

Endnotes

- 1 The author would like to thank Maria Blackwood, Diana Kudaibergenova, Gabriel McGuire and Megan Rancier for their helpful comments on issues discussed in this article. All weblinks are current as of July 25, 2019 unless otherwise noted.
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- 15 The exception is the roughly ten-year period after independence, when the famine was widely discussed in Kazakhstan. See Sarah Cameron, *The Hungry Steppe: Famine, Violence, and the Making of Soviet Kazakhstan* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2018), 181-187.
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NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

Laurie S. Stoff, Anthony J. Heywood, Boris I. Kolonitskii, and John W. Steinberg, eds. *Military Affairs in Russia's Great War and Revolution, 1914–22, Book 1: Military Experiences*, xviii + 594 p., 2019 (ISBN 978-0-89357-431-4), \$44.95.

This collection of articles by leading historians analyzes a wide variety of military experiences in Russia's First World War and to a lesser extent the Russian Civil War. Here the notion of the "front" extends far beyond the lines of trenches and even beyond the army-controlled front-zones to include not just combatants but also closely associated non-combatants such as nurses, military chaplains, front-zone civilian workers, POWs, and disabled veterans. The book's overarching conclusion is that while Russia's Great War shared many of the features of WWI in Western Europe, it was also

characterized by a host of factors that strongly differentiated the Russian experience of the war from the Western.

Arthur Bullard. *The Russian Pendulum: Autocracy—Democracy—Bolshevism*, ed. David W. McFadden, xiv + 171 p., 2019 (ISBN 978-0-89357-484-0), \$29.95.

Arthur Bullard's *The Russian Pendulum* (1919) is a personal and political analysis of the Russian Revolution, from the Revolution of 1905 through the beginning of the Civil War in 1918. Bullard's experience as an advisor to Colonel E. M. House, Woodrow Wilson's chief aide, and as a key staffer for the Committee for Public Information in Russia strongly influence his recommendation that the United States avoid military intervention and engage the new government by providing educational opportunities for its citizens.



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Three String Books is an imprint of Slavica Publishers devoted to translations of literary works and belles-lettres from Central and Eastern Europe, including Russia and the other successor states of the former Soviet Union.

Jan Novák. *So Far So Good: The Mašín Family and the Greatest Story of the Cold War*, xvi + 453 p., 2017 (ISBN 978-089357-458-9), \$19.95.

Voted Book of the Year by the Czech Republic's Magnesia Litera when published in Czech translation in 2004, *So Far So Good: The Mašín Family and The Greatest Story of the Cold War* by Jan Novák is now published by Slavica in the original English. Although it reads like a thriller, this "novel-document" is based on the true story of three young Czech men, Radek and Ctirad Mašín and Milan Paumer, whose daring exploits of anti-Communist resistance and flight through the Iron Curtain to West

Berlin set off the *Tschechenkrieg*, a massive manhunt by 27,000 East German police and Red Army regulars.



Three String Books

Bohumil Hrabal. *Murder Ballads and Other Legends*, trans. Timothy West, viii +

109 p., 2018 (ISBN 978-089357-480-2), \$19.95.

"Some texts, after I've written them, have woken me up in the night so that I break out in a sweat and jump out of bed." With this confession legendary author Bohumil Hrabal concludes this genre-bending collection of stories published at the height of his fame in the 1960s. At the book's heart is "The Legend of Cain," an early version of the novella (and Oscar-winning film) *Closely Watched Trains*. Beautifully illustrated with woodcuts from early modern broadside ballads, *Murder Ballads and Other Legends* appears here in English for the first time, 50 years after it first appeared in Czech.

Bohumil Hrabal (1914–97) is regarded as one of the leading Czech prose stylists of the 20th century. His work has been translated into more than two dozen languages, and in 1995 *Publisher's Weekly* named him "the most revered living Czech writer."

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Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History

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2019 ASEES Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Award

Established in 1970, the Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Award honors eminent members of the profession who have made major contributions to the field through scholarship of the highest quality, mentoring, leadership, and/or service to the profession. The prize is intended to recognize diverse contributions across the Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies field. The 2019 award is presented to **David Ransel**, Professor Emeritus of History at Indiana University, Bloomington.

David Ransel's wide-ranging and innovative books on the history of family, motherhood, and village life in Russia have been enormously influential, as have his co-edited volumes on empire and everyday life. A generous mentor to young scholars, Ransel directed the Indiana University's Russian and East European Institute for fourteen years. He has served two terms on the ASEES Board of Directors and was President of the Association in 2004. For five years he was the editor-in-chief of *Slavic Review* before moving on to fulfil the same role for a decade at the *American Historical Review*, where he championed the fields of women's and cultural history.

A graduate of Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Ransel received his MA in European and African History at Northwestern and his doctorate in Russian History from Yale. After rising to the rank of Professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ransel moved in 1985 to Indiana, where he was the Robert F. Byrnes Professor of History.

Although his first book, *The Politics of Catherinian Russia: The Panin Party* (1975), was a work of political history, Ransel has been particularly influential as a pioneering scholar of women's history. His four books in this field include *Mothers of Misery: Child Abandonment in Russia* (1988), a careful study of the institution of the foundling hospitals that uses this institution as a way of exploring Russia's engagement with the enlightenment as well as the linkages between the city and the village. These foundling homes were designed as a way of fostering a new class of artisans but proved

to be factories of mortality. Ransel makes extensive use of available statistics, but his focus frequently returns to human motivations. Human motivation is at the heart of *Village Mothers: Three Generations of Change in Russia and Tartaria* (2000), the source base for which is a series of oral histories collected and recorded by

Ransel and his Russian assistants in the early 1990s. His portrait of the lives of women belonging to "the second generation," i.e. born between 1912 and 1930, is particularly striking: simultaneously compassionate and chilling. *A Russian Merchant's Tale: The Life and Adventures of Ivan Alekseevich Tolchënov* (2009) is an amazing tour-de-force; Ransel uses a diary from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to conjure up an entire hitherto unexamined world.

Ransel has served as both a dissertation director and an informal advisor to historians throughout the United States. The conferences he has organized at Indiana have led to the publication of influential scholarly anthologies that have earned wide recognition while advancing the careers of junior colleagues. His prolific work as a book reviewer has brought the contributions of scholars from both the West and Eastern Europe to international attention, building bridges between academic communities. A staunch proponent of academic freedom, Ransel remains active and is currently working on urban and environmental activism in Russia. In David Ransel the Distinguished Contributions Award recognizes a remarkable scholar whose impact on the field of Russian history continues to be profound.





3RD BIENNIAL SUMMER CONVENTION IN ZAGREB

ASEEES held its third biennial summer convention in Zagreb, Croatia, on June 14-16, 2019. Hosted by the University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the summer convention featured 136 panels and 24 roundtables. Wendy Bracewell (U College London) gave the keynote address, "Culture Wars in the 18th-Century Republic of Letters: Southeastern Europe on the Map of Civilization."

Approximately 500 scholars from 36 countries participated in the summer convention: 48% of the attendees were from Eastern Europe and Eurasia (including 6% from Croatia, 9% from Russia, 9% from Ukraine, and 6% from Poland); 27% traveled from the US. The event was a great success with lively, well-attended sessions, and everyone bore the unusually hot weather with good cheer.

We thank the program committee for its work, especially the co-chairs Mary Neuburger (U of Texas, Austin) and Maša Kolanovic (U of Zagreb). Thanks, also, to the International Association for the Humanities (MAG) for sponsoring travel grants for scholars from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine to participate. Finally, we are especially appreciative of the dean, faculty, staff, and students at the Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences for their support, assistance, and good will.

The 2021 summer convention will be held at the University of Latvia in Riga. We look forward to seeing you in Riga!





Of Revolutionaries and Realists: Russian-Armenian Relations since the Velvet Revolution

Stephen Badalyan Riegg, Texas A&M University

The change of leadership in Armenia in May 2018 resembled a revolution more in result than in method. With festive grill masters manning roadblocks and crosswalks occupied by youths lounging on ornate rugs, the “Velvet Revolution,” as it quickly became known, surprised many observers near and far. During the upheaval and in the year since its end, several important questions continue to evade clear answers. One such issue is the effect, if any, the Velvet Revolution has had on Russian-Armenian political and economic ties. Yet, despite this uncertainty, it is palpable that a new chapter has opened in the deeply entangled history of symbiosis and resistance between Russia and Armenia. How much have things between Moscow and Yerevan changed since the transition? How much have they stayed as before?

With economic links dating to Kievan Rus’ and a political partnership forged in the nineteenth century, Russia and Armenia are no strangers. In the 1990s, Yerevan emerged from the ashes of the Soviet Union as one of Moscow’s closest allies. Driven by an unequal yet mutual need for cooperation, Moscow and Yerevan fortified their economic and security bonds over the past thirty years. Armenia has relied heavily on Russian military backing against its two neighboring antagonists, Turkey and Azerbaijan. Russian border guards patrol the desolate stretch of territory that divides Armenia and Turkey. Russia is Armenia’s indispensable economic partner, provides the fuel for its lone nuclear power plant, hosts thousands of Armenian migrant workers, and continues to wield deep influence over Armenian energy, telecommunications, heavy industry, and other sectors.¹ Russia supplies not only 84 percent of Armenia’s petroleum gas but also 96 percent of its wheat. At the same time, Moscow views Yerevan as a crucial, and rare, ally in the strategically important South Caucasus. A region more and more frequently engaged by the West, Iran, and even China, the South Caucasus in general, and Armenia in particular, are vital outposts of Russia’s touted “sphere of influence.” Mainly for these reasons, the Velvet Revolution raised plenty of questions about Russian-Armenian ties.²

To our knowledge, the Kremlin, like other foreign onlookers, had no premonitions of a political shakeup in Yerevan until President Serzh Sargsyan succumbed to protesters’ pressure. Sargsyan had led Armenia for a decade with an adroit mix of Soviet-style authoritarianism

and political savvy based on friends in right places. To Sargsyan—and to most analysts abroad—his position seemed secure. However, when Sargsyan in April 2018 contradicted his 2014 pledge by announcing that he would not step down at the end of his term, popular discontent erupted.

Young Armenians led demands for new leadership that would tackle the country’s chronic economic malaise, kleptocracy, cronyism, and its decades-long impasse with Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh. In a society where political unrest is uncommon because many citizens fear that it can harm national security and lead to renewed hostilities with Azerbaijan, the crisis evolved rapidly. By May 8, the National Assembly had elected Nikol Pashinyan as prime minister and the new Armenian leader received a congratulatory phone call from Russian President Vladimir Putin. To many Armenians, Russians, and other observers, the inchoate relationship between Pashinyan and Putin was a topic of particular debate because of Pashinyan’s political background.



ICCEES
10TH WORLD Congress
Concordia University, Montréal
August 4 – 9, 2020

ASEEES SPONSORS TRAVEL GRANTS

ASEEES offers travel grants for members to present papers at the 2020 ICCEES World Congress. Applications will be judged on paper topic merit and disciplinary/regional balances.

For eligibility requirements and to apply, go to

<https://bit.ly/2JYX1oG>

ICCEES will accept panel, roundtable, & paper proposals until September 15, 2019.

<https://sites.events.concordia.ca/sites/iccees/en/iccees2020/>

Prior to his public emergence, the oppositionist Pashinyan registered on few political radars until he began a march from the city of Gyumri to Yerevan to protest Sargsyan's power grab. Pashinyan had been a seasoned journalist and political dissident who was imprisoned for most of 2010-11 for "organizing mass disorder," but he was not a household name in Armenia or Russia. Quickly galvanizing a youth protest movement known as "Take a Step," Pashinyan and his supporters demanded that Sargsyan resign immediately. The dissidents enumerated a litany of grievances against the incumbent regime that were grounded in internal politics, economics, and social ills that afflicted the population of the tiny, landlocked country with two closed borders. In contrast to the "color revolutions" of their former Soviet brethren, Armenia's revolutionaries prioritized—or claimed to prioritize—domestic reforms over the country's geopolitical reorientation. Even during the climax of the tumult, the protestors remained cognizant of the need to signal broadly their aspirations for Armenia's geopolitical future.

The protestors aimed such gestures at Moscow as much as at internal audiences. The Kremlin was their main intended recipient because it had reason to suspect Pashinyan's goals. Two factors contributed to the demonstrators' need to reassure Russia of Armenia's continued partnership with its crucial security and economic ally.

First, Pashinyan hailed from the minority Yelk ("Way Out") political bloc, which had a reputation not only

for ill-defined "liberalism," but also took its name in part from its platform of withdrawing Armenia from the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), which is Putin's answer to the single-market might of the European Union. Almost immediately upon ascending to the head of the protest movement, Pashinyan adopted a more cautious stance, insisting that any final decision about Armenia's future international economic agreements must be made through a public referendum. But with polls showing that most Armenians value close ties to Russia, this was little more than a symbolic nod toward Pashinyan's democratic bona fides.

Second, during the clamor of anti-Sargsyan demonstrations, some of Sargsyan's supporters portrayed Pashinyan as an anti-Russian zealot who was willing to abandon Armenia's only security guarantor for a long-shot chance at partnering with the West. Pro-Sargsyan parliament members grilled the prospective prime minister in front of journalists about his past anti-EEU statements. They remained unsatisfied by his assurances that he would avoid "drastic" changes to the country's foreign policy, which he said could only hurt Armenia.³

Pashinyan and his supporters moved quickly to reassure Russian and Armenian audiences of their intention to maintain the Russian-Armenian status quo. During the tense standoff with Sargsyan's government, Pashinyan asked for, and received, an audience with the Russian ambassador to Armenia. According to an interview he later gave to the Russian press, Pashinyan assured the envoy that the opposition campaign is "not



Photo by Bert Pot: "Armenian Velvet Revolution, part 3"

a movement against Russia, against the United States, against the European Union, against Iran, against Georgia; this is a movement against corruption [and] ineffective government. And this is a purely internal Armenian movement.”⁴ He added that he was “happy that the representatives of Russia have said that they do not intend to interfere in Armenia’s domestic affairs.” On May 1, just a week before his election, the opposition leader declared unequivocally: “We consider Russia as a strategic ally; our movement does not create threats for this. If I am elected [as the prime minister], Armenia will remain a member of the Eurasian Economic Union and the Collective Security Organization.”⁵ On cue, protestors in the middle of Yerevan unfurled a large banner, which proclaimed in Russian, “Armenia and Russia are brothers forever.”⁶

Russian officials responded with a mix of feigned detachment and cautious optimism. As several observers had predicted, Moscow did not try to interfere in the Velvet Revolution to prop up its erstwhile partner Sargsyan or to prevent the rise of a potentially unfriendly cabinet.⁷ Russia’s state-run media barely covered the events on Republic Square, while Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokeswoman Mariia Zakharova waxed sentimental on social media: “A people who have the strength, even in their history’s most difficult moments, to maintain their unity and respect for one another, despite categorical differences of opinion, are a great nation. Armenia, Russia is always with you.”⁸ During the upheaval and in the year since its stabilization, Nikolai

Platoshkin, the former chief of the Armenia Bureau at the Russian Foreign Ministry, has been vocal about presenting the Velvet Revolution as “not another Maidan,” referring to Ukraine’s pro-Western revolution in 2014. Platoshkin has gone as far as to lambaste Russian observers who accused Pashinyan of being a Western puppet, pointing out that under the new regime Yerevan remains the only post-Soviet country, along with Belarus, to steadfastly support Russian interests at the UN General Assembly.⁹

Indeed, since his victory, Pashinyan has reaffirmed Armenia’s role in the Kremlin’s post-Soviet political and security blocs: the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). With no hint of—or sense in—Armenia seeking NATO’s aegis against Azerbaijan as a substitute for Russian military and political support, there is no prospect of Armenia withdrawing from the CSTO. Armenia hosts a large Russian garrison, the 102nd Military Base in Gyumri, with 3,000-5,000 troops. The Armenian authorities rely in part on fighter jets from this base to secure Armenian air space. No one in the Caucasus knows how Russia’s military would react in the event of renewed hostilities within Nagorno-Karabakh or between Armenia and Azerbaijan, but the uncertainty itself helps maintain the status quo and provides a sense of security for most Armenians who believe that Baku will not gamble against Moscow.

Nevertheless, Russia’s sale of advanced weapons to both sides in the conflict leaves no one happy but the officials of Rosoboronexport (Russian state weapons export agency). If before his victory Pashinyan and his supporters questioned the adequacy of Russian military support for Armenia, especially in the context of Moscow’s supply of arms to Yerevan’s oil-rich adversary, then since his victory Pashinyan has underscored their ongoing security alliance. In fact, Pashinyan has publicly pressured Putin by declaring that Armenia “expects” additional Russian weapons that are more likely to be used in a skirmish than the powerful Iskander missile system, which it already possesses.¹⁰ Russia’s officials appear to have responded noncommittally, but Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu boasted that Armenia was the first country to answer Russia’s appeal for humanitarian aid to Syria. Overall, Armenia’s inescapable reliance on Russian military backing constitutes a key reason for its reluctance to irk the Kremlin by withdrawing from the Eurasian Economic Union.

The new Armenian government views the country’s economic alliance with Russia, including membership in the EEU, as flawed but necessary. Armenia’s residents and new authorities grumbled when Russia



Photo by Armine Aghayan: “‘Love My Nation’ poster during Armenian Velvet Revolution”

raised the price of natural gas from \$150 per thousand cubic meters in 2018 to \$165 in 2019. Perhaps motivated by Armenian prosecutors' charges of tax evasion against Armenia's subsidiary of Russian gas behemoth Gazprom, the price hike compelled Pashinyan to muse publicly about expanding gas imports from Iran.¹¹ To be sure, in the past year there have been symptoms of deteriorating economic relations between Moscow and Yerevan. In 2017, 23 percent of Armenian exports went to Russia and 29 percent of its imports originated in Russia.¹² Now, according to Vardan Bostanjyan, a former Member of Parliament and economist, "Exports and imports have reduced in the first quarter of 2019. In early 2018, there was 29% trade turnover with the Russian Federation, but now there is only 11% trade turnover."¹³ While it is too early to verify these statistics from publicly available data, Bostanjyan attributed this trade decrease to Moscow's loss of "trust" in Armenia after the Velvet Revolution. Still, while Pashinyan's cabinet has tried to maneuver delicately between the EEU and the EU, Yerevan remains more likely to negotiate adjustments to the provisions of the EEU than to secede from it in hopes of a far-fetched deal with the European Union.

The EU courts Armenian attention by gifting about 40 million euros in annual grants and, since 2014, investing quite heavily in Armenian energy, agriculture, and transportation sectors. But EU membership—if Brussels were to offer it to Yerevan—requires a cumbersome process which mandates social and political reforms resisted by many Armenians. Nevertheless, to keep its options open and perhaps to pressure Russia, in June 2019 Armenia adopted an "implementation roadmap" for the EU's Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA). The EU welcomed that step and reiterated "the importance of an independent, efficient and accountable judiciary which contributes not only to the protection of human rights but also to a business environment favorable to economic development and foreign investment."¹⁴ The bottom line remains that the EEU is the devil Armenia knows best, while the EU is the devil it knows not. Yet, there are more signs of new Russian-Armenian discord than before.

Putin, Medvedev, and Pashinyan have met several times in the past year and proclaimed the strength of the Russian-Armenian partnership.¹⁵ However, away from trite references to the "brotherly" historical ties between the two nations,¹⁶ political and perhaps even social tensions have simmered since the Velvet Revolution. In December 2018, a Russian conscript from the military base in Gyumri murdered a local Armenian woman. The incident immediately recalled an even more gruesome

atrocious from 2015, when another Russian soldier shot dead seven members of an Armenian family in Gyumri.¹⁷ While the latter soldier was sentenced to life in prison and transferred to Russia to carry out his sentence, the former killer remains under arrest inside the Russian garrison in Armenia. These incidents sparked vocal protests from Armenian civilians, human rights advocates, and even pre- and post-Sargsyan Armenian officials.¹⁸ In June 2019, the killing of a Russian special forces veteran in a street brawl outside Moscow by a group of Armenians, some of whom quickly fled to Yerevan, ratcheted up social tensions. That event compelled Pashinyan to declare that just as the Armenian side prevented the case of the massacred family in Gyumri from attaining "political context," he hoped that again cooler heads would prevail in this situation.¹⁹

Looking ahead, it is unlikely that the Russian-Armenian relationship established in the post-Soviet decades will change significantly. For the foreseeable future, Russia will want to capitalize on Armenia's reliance on its security and economic backing, while Armenia will have few tangible options to seek better allies. Pashinyan's government almost certainly will continue to push for more advantageous terms for its participation in the Eurasian Economic Union and for stronger military support from Russia, but how much the Kremlin will acquiesce to those demands is anyone's guess. As long as Armenia remains embroiled in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which contributes to its economic weakness and deep reliance on Russia, the contours of the Russian-Armenian dynamic will not evolve drastically. Pashinyan's government has few alternatives to maintaining close ties with Russia; Putin's government has few incentives to alter its policies toward Armenia. After the dust settles, even triumphant revolutionaries can wake up as pragmatic realists.

The Velvet Revolution opens several fascinating avenues of study for scholars of the post-post-Cold War order in Eastern Europe. As yet another forced, but bloodless, power transition in the broader region, this event practically screams out for contextualization among the "color revolutions" of Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, and Ukraine (in 2004 and 2014). Some of the parallels and contrasts are obvious. If, in the words of Ukrainian philosopher Denys Koryukhin, "Euromaidan solved the difficult Ukrainian dilemma of choosing between an orientation toward the European Union and staying in Russia's orbit," then the Velvet Revolution produced far hazier verdicts.²⁰ Armenia's relative ethnic homogeneity is another clear factor that distinguishes this case from post-revolutionary secessionist conflicts elsewhere.

Even more interesting insights can be gleaned from

studying this transition on its own terms while applying its lessons to wider debates. Instead of a comparative approach, analyzing Armenians' delicate—and for now successful—navigation of twenty-first-century Great Power rivalries is sure to produce novel discussions. Understanding how, and why, an emerging civil society in a small, besieged nation deposed its imperious ruler without resorting to violence, splintering the populace, or igniting a civil (or foreign) war can shake our assumptions about the sociopolitical and economic dimensions of the former Soviet space in general and the Caucasus in particular. The domestic, regional, and perhaps even global implications of Armenia's geopolitical maneuvering can yield fresh revelations for diverse scholarly agendas. And surely no researcher wants to miss Yerevan's gastronomic and wine delights.

Stephen Badalyan Riegg, Assistant Professor of History at Texas A&M University, is the author of the forthcoming Russia's Entangled Embrace: The Tsar's Empire and Armenians, 1801-1914 (Cornell, 2020).

Endnotes

- 1 <https://atlas.media.mit.edu/en/profile/country/arm/>
- 2 <https://russiancouncil.ru/en/analytcs-and-comments/analytcs/russia-armenia-relations-and-the-april-revolution/>
- 3 <https://www.azatutyun.am/a/29200910.html>
- 4 <http://tv.rbc.ru/archive/ekskluziv/5ae181af2ae59635eb7c4f1b>
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- 20 <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/the-significance-euro-maidan-for-ukraine-and-europe>

ASEEES Webinar: “How to Get your Paper Published in International Journals”

aseees.org/programs/webinars
Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 12:00pm EST

Presented by East European Politics and Societies and Cultures (EEPS) editorial staff.

EEPS receives a growing number of submissions, fueled, in part, by pressures from the bureaucracies that oversee arts and sciences in the post-communist states, but, above all, by the growing quality and diversity of research conducted by scholars across the region. However, many submitted papers do not conform to accepted international journals' conventions and standards.

Attendees will learn about the standards expected of submissions to international journals and about how to avoid typical shortcomings and misunderstandings. The aim is to improve the acceptance rate of submissions from the region by EEPS and other similar international journals.

2019 ASEES BOARD ELECTION

Below is the slate of candidates for the 2019 election for ASEES Board of Directors: Vice President/President-Elect, two Members-at-Large, and a Graduate Student Representative. For more information on the election including the candidate bios, visit our [website](#).

Candidates for Vice President / President Elect

- Sibelan Forrester, Professor of Russian, Swarthmore College
- Irina Shevelenko, Professor in German, Nordic, and Slavic Department at U of Wisconsin - Madison

Candidates for Members-at-Large

- Michael Kunichika, Associate Professor of Russian and Director of the Center for Russian Culture, Amherst College
- Karen Petrone, Professor of History and Chair of Department of History, U of Kentucky
- Kimberly St. Julian-Varnon, History Instructor, Lee College
- Emily Wang, Assistant Professor of Russian, U of Notre Dame

Candidates for Graduate Student Representative

- Mina Magda, PhD candidate in Dept of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale U
- Christina Novakov-Ritchey, Teaching Fellow in Dept of World Arts and Cultures and PhD candidate in Culture and Performance, UCLA

Ballots must be submitted by September 1, 2019



51ST ASEEES ANNUAL CONVENTION

Saturday, Nov. 23 - Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019
San Francisco Marriott Marquis
Theme: Belief

Aug 19	End of early pre-registration for the Convention (fees higher after this date)
Aug 31	Deadline for Diversity and Inclusion Travel Grant applications
Sept 9	Deadline for all Convention Program changes
Sept 15	Deadline to request invitation letters for visa purposes
Sept 30	Convention participants must register in order to appear in Index of Participants
Oct 21	End of Pre-registration
Nov 1	Last day to make hotel room reservation at discounted rate (pending availability)
Nov 15	Deadline for changes to be included in Convention Program supplement

SPECIAL EVENTS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- ASEEES Slavic Digital Humanities Pre-Conference Workshop 8:30-11:40am
- Central Asian, Russian and East European Writing Workshop 9:30-11:30am
- Involvement in Regional Affiliate Activities: Learn about New Opportunities 6:30-8:00pm
- ASEEES Opening Reception (sponsored by the Fund for European U at St Petersburg) 8-10:30pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- ASEEES Annual Meeting of the Members 6:15-6:45pm
- Various evening receptions

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- CADI-sponsored Roundtable: "Valuing Difference: Diversity, Inclusion, and the Future Direction of Slavic Studies" 8-9:45am
- Presidential Plenary: "Illuminating the Darkness: Practices of Belief and Disbelief" 12-1:30pm
- Vice-President Designated Panel: "Poland: Cultural Mechanisms of (Right-wing) Political Upheaval" 1:45-3:30pm
- ASEEES Book Awards Pre-Reception 5:30-6:30pm Exhibit Hall
- ASEEES Book Award Presentations and President's Address. 6:30-8pm
- Celebrate the Future Dance Party 8:30-11pm

FILM SERIES

- The film series will include events that mark the 50th anniversary of *The Color of Pomegranates* (1969), Sergei Parajanov's cinematic poem about the 18th-century troubadour poet and monk Sayat-Nova.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

Nov. 23 - 4-6:30pm

Nov. 24 - 9am-5pm

Nov. 25 - 9am-6:30pm

ASEEES 51st Annual Convention — San Francisco Marriott Marquis, San Francisco, CA — November 23-26, 2019
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

By filling out this form, you are giving ASEEEES permission to use the information provided for the purposes of Convention registration, and to update your profile in the ASEEEES database. We may use this information to contact you regarding future ASEEEES programs.

Please ensure that print is clear and legible when completing the form by hand.

Name: _____

Institution/Affiliation: _____

Primary e-mail address: _____
 Home Office

Preferred postal address: _____
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ASEEES plans to offer recognition of first-time attendees, and will provide a mobile-phone app for the program.
 2019 will be my first ASEEEES Convention: _____ I will use the app, and do NOT want a printed program: _____

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINES and FEES

The convention program's Index of Participants closes September 30th.

If we have not **received** your registration payment by this date, your panel will appear in the program, but your name will not appear in the index. Although your name won't appear in the index, you can continue to register after September 30th, up until **pre-registration closes on October 21**. After that date, you must register on site.

All persons attending the convention must register and pay the applicable fee.
All speakers, roundtable participants, and discussants must be members unless eligible to register as a non-member.
 See www.aseees.org/convention/rules for details.

	Fees for registering by August 19	Fees for registering by October 21	
ASEEES Members.....	\$143.....	\$163	\$ _____
ASEEES Member, retiree.....	\$81.....	\$91	\$ _____
ASEEES Member, income under \$30K.....	\$56.....	\$61	\$ _____
ASEEES Member, student.....	\$46.....	\$51	\$ _____
Non-Member.....	\$197.....	\$217	\$ _____
Non-member, income under \$30K.....	\$77.....	\$82	\$ _____
Non-member, student.....	\$62.....	\$67	\$ _____

All registrants are invited to the opening reception on Sat, Nov 23 and a closing party on Mon, Nov 25 (both with a cash bar). SUBTOTAL: _____ \$

2019 Membership Dues (see aseees.org/membership/individual to confirm current dues rates) \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

We accept most international credit and debit cards, including VISA, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. Please include the [card security code](#) as well. Checks and money orders are also accepted; please make payable in US dollars to ASEEEES and send to address below.

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Refund policy: see <http://www.aseees.org/convention/refund-policy>



ASEEES is pleased to announce the ASEEES Diversity and Inclusion Convention Travel Grant program. We will offer grants of up to \$500 USD to subsidize #ASEEES19 travel, one-year ASEEES student membership, and convention registration.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CONVENTION TRAVEL GRANT

aseees.org/convention/grants/diversity-inclusion



GOAL

This grant program aims to:

- Foster greater inclusion of underrepresented minority students in the field, and
- Provide greater understanding of the experiences of racial and ethnic minorities, members of the LGBTQ community, and people with disabilities in Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

Grant recipients will benefit from convention attendance, which makes possible a broad exchange of information and ideas, stimulating further work and sustaining the intellectual vitality of the field.



ELIGIBILITY

BA, MA, and PhD students studying the humanities or social science fields, who have demonstrated a commitment to the grant program's stated goal through their studies, research, teaching, or service to the profession, are encouraged to apply. Applicants need not be session participants in the convention program.



APPLICATION

Complete the online grant application form, which includes an essay addressing how your experience and goals align with the grant purpose and how attending the ASEEES Convention will advance these plans. Include your C.V. and e-mail address of reference. Convention session participants should include the session title and the paper title and abstract.

Deadline: August 31



FUTURE OF THE FIELD CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thanks to the outpouring of support of during the campaign, we:

- Raised nearly \$600,000 toward our goal of \$700,000
- Unlocked a \$50,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Unlocked a \$72,000 grant from the US Russia Foundation
- Doubled the funding for the Research Grant program and are distributing over \$125,000 to twenty-four grantees in 2019
- Established three new research grants programs: the LGBTQ Studies, the Women and Gender Studies, and Civil Society in Russia
- Launched the Diversity and Inclusion Convention Travel Grant program, awarded for the first time at the 50th Convention in Boston
- Doubled the funding for Graduate Student Convention Travel Grants over the next three years and increased funding for our other travel grants

Meet two of our travel grant recipients and learn what these grants mean for their research and the future of the field.

2019 GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT

"The ASEES travel grant has enabled me to attend my first conference, where I am presenting a paper examining how technology was deployed in the early Soviet context to foreground the body as the primary generator of human identity. With the help of the grant, I get to share my work for the first time and connect with other scholars pursuing similar research."

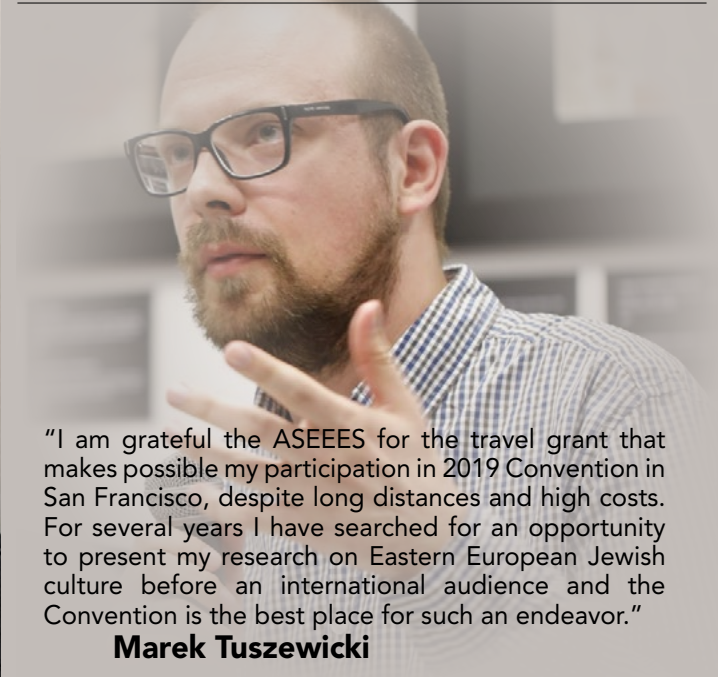
Florence Helbing



2019 REGIONAL SCHOLAR TRAVEL GRANT

"I am grateful the ASEES for the travel grant that makes possible my participation in 2019 Convention in San Francisco, despite long distances and high costs. For several years I have searched for an opportunity to present my research on Eastern European Jewish culture before an international audience and the Convention is the best place for such an endeavor."

Marek Tuszewicki



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2019 Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant Recipients

Travel grant recipients, listed below and on page 19-21 will present their research at ASEEEES 51st Annual Convention.

Gehad Abaza, UC Santa Barbara, "On Becoming Citizens of the 'Non-Existent': Syrian War-Time Migration in Abkhazia"

Anna Amramina, U of Minnesota, "'Twenty Years Behind?': American-Soviet Collaboration in the Geosciences in the 1970s-1980s"

Jasmin Dall Agnola, Oxford Brookes U (UK), "Citizens' Continues (Dis)Belief in Kazakhstan's State-Led National Identity Narratives?"

Mollie Arbuthnot, U of Manchester (UK), "Iconography of the 'Soviet East': Propaganda Posters and National Identity in Uzbekistan, 1920-1930"

Pavel Baloun, Charles U, French Research Center in Humanities and Social Sciences (Czech Republic), "Czechoslovak Civilizing Mission in the 'East of the Republic,' 1918-1938"

Barbora Bartunkova, Yale U, "Displacing the Body: Toyen's Collaborations with Annie Le Brun and Radovan Ivšić"

Nina Begus, Harvard U, "Pygmalionism as a Diagnosis in South Slavic Literatures"*

Paul Behringer, American U, "Worlds Colliding: Ethnic and National Encounters during the Russian Civil War in the Far East"

Nataliya Bezborodova, U of Alberta (Canada), "'K' for 'Confiscated': Letters from and to Ukrainian Immigrants in KGB archives (1930-1950)"*

Una Blagojevic, Central European U (Hungary), "From Praxis to Praxis (Inter)national: Humanism and Nationalism of the Yugoslav Intellectuals"

Mathieu Boivin-Chouinard, Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada), "Shooting over the Curtain – A Transnational Analysis of Soviet Hockey in the 1950s and 1960s"*

Marilyn Campeau, U of Toronto (Canada), "Witnesses, 'Liberators,' and Tourists: Red Army Artist-Combatants Making Visual Records of their Wartime Travels, 1943-1945"

Lukasz Chelminski, City U of New York, "'It Made Me Happy That They Took On These Things:' Polish 1968 Émigrés on the Road to Self-Limiting Revolution, 1968-1976"

Joe Colleyshaw, Brown U, "The Romanov's Revisited: The (Re) Imagination of the Romanovs in Moscow's Russia – My History Museum"

Felix Cowan, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "How Large Was the Late Imperial Russian Public Sphere? An Investigation into the Audience of the Penny Press"

Allyson Edwards, Swansea U (UK), "Reconstructing Russia's Militarized Past through the Mythologization of the Great Patriotic War in the Post-Soviet Era"

Adam Farkas, Eotvos Lorand U of Budapest (Hungary), "Gyula Háy and the Left-Wing Intelligentsia in Hungary after 1945"*

Maria Ferenc, U of Warsaw (Poland), "All Those Rumors... on the Relation between 'Rumors' and 'Knowledge' in the Warsaw Ghetto"

Margaret Frainier, U of Oxford (UK), "Imagining Russian History in Rimsky-Korsakov's 'Sadko'"

Jakub Galeziowski, U of Warsaw (Poland), "'Poland Wants Them – Especially Their Children': Single Mothers and Their Babies in the Postwar Polish State."

Guzel Garifullina, UNC at Chapel Hill, "Political Leaders and Risky Decisions: The Effects of Selection Institutions on Russian Mayors' Policy Choices"

Andrey Gornostaev, Georgetown U, "The Issue of Fugitive Peasants in the Reigns of Elizabeth and Catherine II"

Hasmik Grigoryan, Dublin City U (Ireland), "Strategic Behaviour of Armenian Opposition Parties on the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict: An Examination of Parliamentary Debates"

Florence Helbing, U of Pittsburgh, "The Body Soviet: Alexei Gastev's Stakhanovism and the Quantified Self"

Marco Jaimes, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "'Our Emperor is a Thief': Lèse-majesté in the Habsburg Bohemian Crownlands"

Adrienn Kacsor, Northwestern U, "Unmasking the Enemy: The Socialist Realist Vision Against Social Fascism"

Vitaly Kazakov, U of Manchester (UK), "Russian Sports Media Events and Memory Ecology: From 'Electronic Monuments' to 'Shapeshifting Digital Memory Colossi'"

Agnes Kelemen, Central European U (Hungary), "Fighting Jewish Enrollment: The Numerus Clausus in Interwar Hungary"

Olga Khometa, U of Toronto (Canada), "Between Modernism and Socialist Realism: The Formal Inventiveness in Ilya Selvinskii's 'The Syvash Battle' (1933) and Pavlo Tychyna's The Party Leads (1934)"

Liana Kirillova, Southern Illinois U at Carbondale, "Friendship Projects: The Development of the Student Construction Movement in Socialist Europe, the 1960s-1980s"

- Matthew Klopfenstein, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, “Battle for Existence and the Battle with Disease’: The Death of Vera Kommissarzhevskaja and the Limits of Russian Civilization”
- Dima Körtukov, Indiana U, “1990 Parliamentary Elections and USSR Dissolution: The Cases of Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, and Georgia”
- Mariia Koskina, Binghamton U, “‘Russia’s Power Will Grow with Siberia,’ or Will It? Hydroelectric Development in Eastern Siberia, 1960-1970s”
- Iaroslav Kovalchuk, U of Alberta (Canada), “At Home Among Strangers: Carpatho-Rusyn Russophiles in the Soviet Intelligentsia”
- Nagy Kristóf, Central European U (Hungary), “Institutionalized Hegemonies: The Socialist Origins of the Right-Wing Dominance in the Hungarian Artists’ Unions”*
- Sabina Kubekè, The Herder Institute, Justus Liebig U (Germany), “Discussing ‘Sustainability’ in Global Epistemic Communities: Polish Scientists at MAB and IIASA in 1970-1990”
- Daša Ličen, U of Ljubljana (Slovenia), “Multiple Nationalism of Habsburg Trieste’s ‘Slavic Society’ (1848–1858)”
- Adam Lieberman, U of Wisconsin-Madison, “Discovering the Exilic Experience: The Explorer Archetype in Nabokov’s Short Fiction”*
- Olena Lyubchenko, York U (Canada), “Social Policy through Credit: The Case of Maternity Capital Benefit in Russia”
- Mira Markham, UNC at Chapel Hill, “Partisan Politics in Eastern Moravia, 1945-1950”
- Emma Mateo, U of Oxford (UK), “‘Ukraine is Europe’: Protester Beliefs About Ukraine and Europe During the EuroMaidan Revolution”
- Ryan McCulloch, U of Michigan, “A Soviet Bach: The Production of Specialized Beliefs about J.S. Bach”
- Frederick Miller, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, “Expectation for Recognition: Alan Bush and the Soviet Performance of His Operas”
- Oksana Nesterenko, Stony Brook U, “Religious Revival in Music During Brezhnev Era”
- Amber Nickell, Purdue U, “‘After the Wolf, Comes the Bear’: Ethnic Germans and Jews in Southern Ukraine, 1922-1931”
- Jesse O’Dell, UCLA, “Science Fiction in the Stalin Era: Mystery of the Two Oceans as Novel, Screenplay, and Film Adaptation”
- Gheorghe Pacurar, Indiana U, “Orthodox Belief and the Making of Law in Interwar Romania”
- Danila Rygovskiy, U of Tartu (Estonia), “Mobility and Borders of Religious Group: Russian Old Believers in Siberia and North America”
- Naira Sahakyan, U of Amsterdam (Netherlands), “Divine Language for Religious State: The Debates around the Role of Arabic in the Future of Revolutionary Dagestan”
- Denis Saltykov, U of Pittsburgh, “Director versus Interpretation: Symbolic Capital in Russian Auteur Cinema”
- Zhanar Sekerbayeva, U of Tsukuba (Japan), “Understanding Actors and Processes Shaping Transgender Subjectivities: A Case Study of Kazakhstan”
- Daria Semenova, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, “Human and Non-Human as Structural and Ideological Divides in Russian- and Ukrainian-Language Soviet Adventure Prose”
- Lee Singh, UC Riverside, “Aleksi Ermolaev, the Creative Brigade, and the Ascription of Authorship for the Ballet ‘The Red Poppy’”(1949)”
- Deirdre Smith, U of Texas at Austin, “‘The Conditions of Work Were Very Difficult...’: The Yugoslav Art World as a Frame for Studying Self-Management”*
- Irina Soboleva, Columbia U, “Actions before Attitudes: The Microdynamics of Democratic Consolidation”
- Syinat Sultanalieva, U of Tsukuba (Japan), “Feminism as a Self-Colonising Practice? Analyzing Feminist Narratives on the Role of Women in Kyrgyzstan”
- Angelos Theocharis, U of Edinburgh (UK), “In Dialogue with Russia: Community Literary Practices of the Russophone Diaspora in the UK”
- Anastasia Tsylyna, Brown U, “‘The Question of the Expansion of Western Civilization’: Aleksandr Pypin on Pan-Slavism and Slavic Nationalism”
- Sasha de Vogel, U of Michigan, “Local Officials’ Response to Local Socio-Economic Protest in Authoritarian Regimes”
- Nadezhda Voronina, Ludwig Maximilian U (Germany), “The Russian Émigré Scene in Munich at the Turn of the Nineteenth Century”
- Marta Watral, Jagiellonian U (Poland), “Existing Outside Language: Literary Strategies of Expressing Lemko Identity in Postwar Poland”

*Alternates



2019 Russian Scholar Travel Grant Recipients

Ramina Abilova, State Museum of Fine Arts of the Tatarstan Republic, “The Soviet Trip with a Leica Camera: The Photographic Travelogue of American Economist Frank W. Fetter”

Bulat Akhmetkarimov, Kazan Federal U, “Competing Narratives about ‘Traditional Islam’ in Russia’s Volga-Ural Region”

Anna Altukhova, European U at St. Petersburg, “Life Trajectories of (De)institutionalized Youth with Borderline Intelligence or Development Delay in Rural Russia”

Evgeniia Anufrieva, Volgograd State Technical U, “What We Believed in to Survive and Win: Gender Aspects of Military Narratives: Analysis of Oral Histories of the Great Patriotic War Contemporaries”

Alla Aronova, State Institute for Art Studies, “New Approaches to the Visual Representations of Power during the Age of Enlightenment: Jesters, Rulers, Diplomats” (roundtable)*

Ekaterina Arutyunova, Russian Academy of Sciences, “(Post) conflict Discourses and Public Opinion: State Languages of the Republics of the Russian Federation in School Education”*

Elena Bogdanova, European U at St. Petersburg, “Establishment of a Long-Term Care System in Russia: Deinstitutionalization as Expected Result and Reason for the Reform”

Ekaterina Borisova, NRU Higher School of Economics, “Unexpected Consequences of Policymaking: Social Capital and the Housing Renovations Program in Russia”

Olga Bychkova, European U at St. Petersburg, “Russian Technopreneurs and Their Developments (Or Why Do Russian Engineers Fail to Commercialize Their Technological Ideas)”

Kirill Chunikhin, NRU Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg, “AbstraktTwist: American Music and Dance in a Picture”

Olga Digonskaya, National Museum of Music, “Shostakovich between ‘Orders’ and ‘Free Will’”

Diana Gasparyan, NRU Higher School of Economics, “‘What Is Written Here Is False’: Idealism as a Blank Area of Soviet Philosophy”

Mikhail Gribovskii, National Research Tomsk State U, “Organizational Identity vs. Professional Identity: The Loyalty Problem of European U Employees”*

Levon Hakobian, State Institute for Art Studies, “The Religious Aspect in Late-Soviet Music”

Polina Kislitsyna, European U at St. Petersburg, “Religious Experiences in Life Stories of Lesbians and Gay Men in Russia”

Anna Klepikova, European U at St. Petersburg, “Children

and Young People with Developmental Disabilities in Russia: Deinstitutionalization, Family Care and Projects of the Future”

Irina Makhalova, NRU Higher School of Economics, “Phenomenon of Collaboration in the Crimea on Materials of the Minz’s Collection”

Elena Marasinova, Russian Academy of Sciences, “Orthodox Priest as Investigator: Church Practices in the Service of a Secular Court in Russia in the Second Half of the 18th-century”

Misha Melnichenko, Foundation Prozhito, “Teaching with Digital Humanities: Primary Sources, Methods of Analysis, and Real-World Applications” (roundtable)*

Ekaterina Mikhailova, Lomonosov Moscow State U, “Energy and Co-Governance in the Paatsjoki River Basin where Russia, Norway and Finland Meet”*

Dmitriy Oparin, NRU Higher School of Economics, “New Leadership, Old Ritual: Possession and Exorcism in the Russian Muslim Migration Context”

Elizaveta Shevchenko, Russian State U for the Humanities, “Metaphor in Novel and Bakhtin’s Polyphony”*

Maria Shilina, NRU Higher School of Economics, “Interstate Economic Cooperation and Diplomacy on the Post-Soviet Space: Problems and Prospects”

Olga Shnyrova, Ivanovo Center for Gender Studies, “‘I love my daughter so much...but freedom I love even more’: War Childhood in Interdom”

Dmitry Suslov, NRU Higher School of Economics, “A Clash of World Orders: US-Russian Confrontation and the Future of International Order”

Pavel Vasilyev, NRU Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg “Urine for the New Soviet Man: Revisiting the Miracle Drug Gravidan”

Alexander Verkhovskiy, SOVA Center for Information and Analysis, “The Marginalization of Russian Nationalists in Russia”

Alexey Vdovin, NRU Higher School of Economics, “How Russian Novel Came to School: Curriculum and Literary Canon in Late Imperial Russia”

Liliia Zemnukhova, European U at St. Petersburg, “Singapore or South Korea? New Destinations of Russian ITs to Conquer the World”

*Alternates



2019 Convention Opportunity Travel Grant Recipients

Sam Casper, Hunter College, City U of New York, “Who Owns the Terror?: Contemporary Controversies in Russia over Stalinist State Violence”

Natalia Dame, USC, “A Trade Post for Brides’ or ‘A Family Textbook’? Constructing a Modern Russian Family in ‘Davai Pozhenimsia’”

Anna Förster, Independent Scholar, “Vladimír Macura between Lotman and Barthes: A West-Eastern History of Theory”

MayaLisa Holzman, Oregon State U at Cascades, “The Memory of Occupation during and after the Great Patriotic War”

Juliette Milbach, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (France), “How Laughing on Abstraction Will Enhance the Socialist Realism (1956-1968)”

James Pearce, Independent Scholar, “A Thing of the Past: The Role of Russia’s Past in the 2018 Presidential Election”

Marco Puleri, U of Bologna (Italy), “Russian, Russophone, Ukrainian: Counternarratives of ‘Displaced Transition’ in Post-Soviet Culture”

Alsu Tagirova, East China Normal U (China), “The 1985 Soviet-North Korean Border Agreement and the Improvement of China-South Korea Relations.”

Innokentij Urupin, U of Konstanz (Germany), “Pragmatics of Magic in the Technoecology of Vladimir Sorokin’s Post-significative Writing”

Maria Vinogradova, New York U and the Pratt Institute, “‘We Were Looking at Their Faces’: Soviet Travelogues as Meditations on the Self and Other”

*Alternates



2019 Regional Scholar Travel Grant Recipients

Katarzyna Glinianowicz, Jagiellonian U (Poland), “Eros and Ethnos: Ivan Franko’s (Dis)Belief”

Beka Kobakhidze, Ilia State U (Georgia), “Why Did the Social Democracy of Menshevik Type Prevail in Georgia?”

Katherina Kokinova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Bulgaria), “Gombrowicz’s Cosmos: The Excess of Reality”

Wiktoria Kudela-Świątek, Pedagogical U of Cracow (Poland), “The Lieux de Mémoire of the Holodomor in the Cultural Landscape of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Diaspora”*

Annemarie Sorescu Marinkovic, Institute for Balkan Studies (Bulgaria), “Minority Languages Gone Digital: The Case of Bayash Romanian”

Wiktoria Marzec, NRU Higher School of Economics (Russia), “From Revolution to Nation: Popular Unrest in Russian Poland, 1907-1918”

Kinga Nędzka-Sikonowska, Jagiellonian U (Poland), “Uprooted Town on Solid Foundations? Mobility, Temporariness, Fluidity in Soviet Urban Thinking on the Example of Arctic Port Town Igarka”

Teresa Obolevitch, Pontifical U of John Paul II (Poland), “The Significance of Faith in the Concept of Integral Knowledge of Vladimir Soloviev”*

Robert Parnica, Central European U (Hungary), “Philanthropy as Belief and Social Practice in Late 19th-Century Urban Croatia”

Tomasz Wicherkiewicz, Adam Mickiewicz U (Poland), “Wymysioryś: A(n) Almost Non-Slavic Microlanguage of Wilamowice in Southern Poland and Its Historical Sociolinguistic Constellation”

Alexandr Voronovici, NRU Higher School of Economics (Russia), “The Bessarabian ‘Piedmont’: Soviet Borderland Policies and the Establishment of the Moldovan ASSR”

Wojciech Sajkowski, Adam Mickiewicz U (Poland), “French Image of the Inhabitants of the Illyrian Provinces and the Emergence of the South-Slavic Nationalisms”

Marek Tuszewicki, Jagiellonian U in Kraków (Poland), “Neighbors, Intermediaries, Strangers: Old People within Jewish-Slavic Cross-Cultural Contact”

Roza Zharkynbayeva, al-Farabi Kazakh National U (Kazakhstan), “‘Your Home Is Our Home’: Reception and Placement of Evacuated and Deported People in Kazakhstan during the Great Patriotic War”

*Alternates

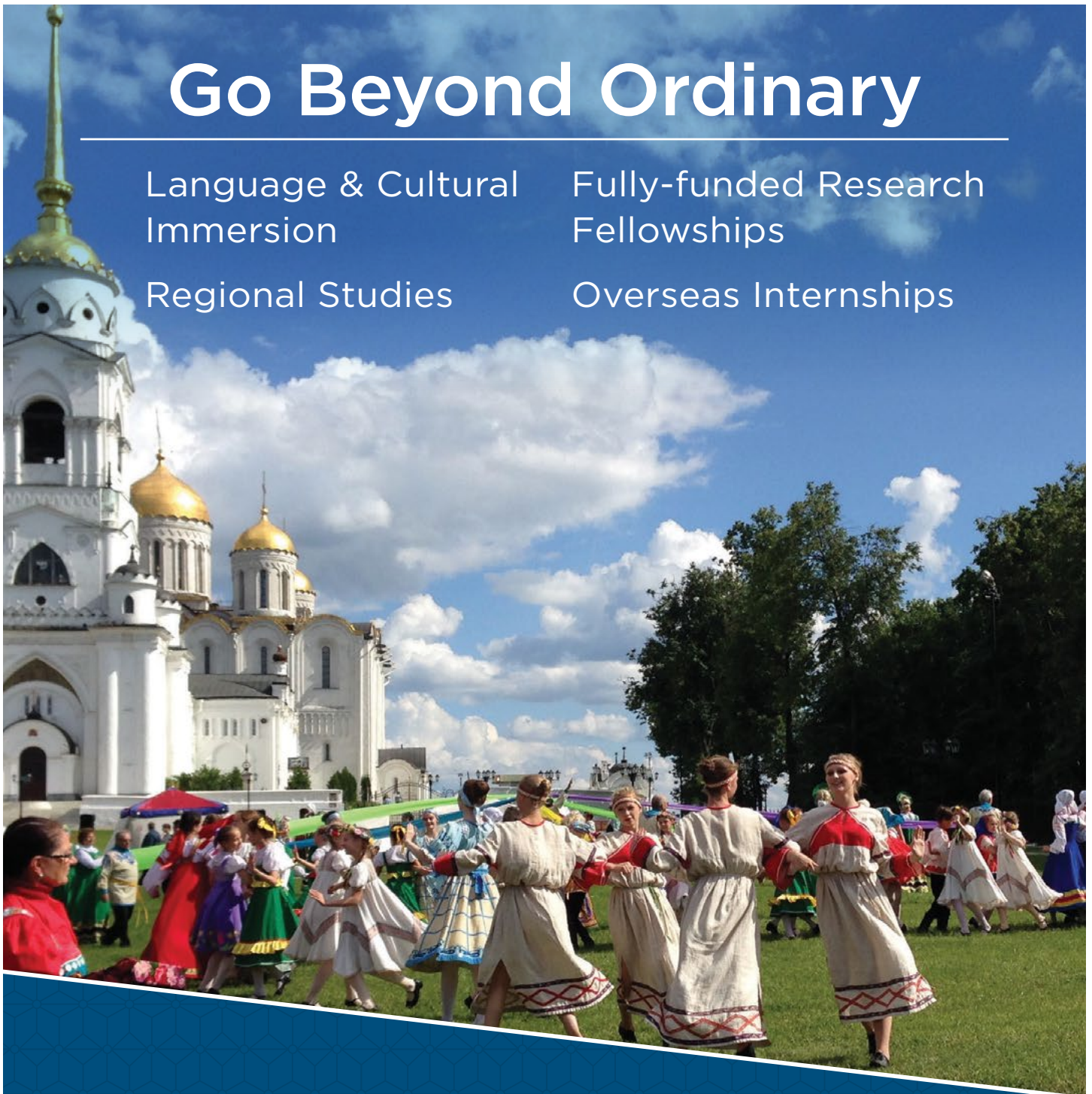
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Publications

Art and Commerce in Late Imperial Russia: The Peredvizhniki, a Partnership of Artists, by Andrey Shabanov, was published by Bloomsbury Academic in January 2019.

Shabanov's reinterpretation of the Peredvizhniki examines the organizational structure, self-representation, exhibitions, and critical reception of this 19th-century artistic partnership. Shabanov advances a more pragmatic reading of the Peredvizhniki, artists seeking professional and creative freedom in authoritarian Tsarist Russia. He likewise demonstrates and challenges how and why the group eventually came to be defined as a critically-minded Realist art movement. Rich in new primary visual and textual sources, the book also connects afresh the Russian and Western art worlds of the period.

In August 2018, University of Wisconsin Press published *Daytime Stars: A Poet's Memoir of the Revolution, the Siege of Leningrad, and the Thaw*, by Olga Berggolts. The text was translated and edited by Lisa A. Kirschenbaum with a foreword by Katharine Hodgson.

For 872 days during World War II, the city of Leningrad endured a crushing blockade at the hands of German forces. Close to one million civilians died, most from starvation. Amid the devastation, Olga Berggolts broadcast her poems on the one remaining radio station, urging listeners not to lose hope. Berggolts wrote her memoir *Daytime Stars* in the spirit of the thaw after Stalin's death. In it, she celebrated the ideals of the revolution and the heroism of the Soviet people while also criticizing censorship of writers and recording her doubts and despair. Kirschenbaum's English translation makes available a unique autobiographical work by an important author of the Soviet era. Hodgson comments on experiences of the Terror about which Berggolts was unable or unwilling to write.

French Image of the Peoples Inhabiting Illyrian Provinces, by Wojciech Sajkowski, was published in by Wydawnictwo DiG in 2018.

This book series, edited by Jolanta Sujecka, covers the French contribution to shaping the Western European image of the Balkan peoples. The French were vitally interested in the matters of that part of Europe, and even reigned the considerable part of the territory which was later named the Balkans. This time period, from the the Napoleonic occupation of Dalmatia in 1806 to the creation of the Illyrian Provinces, ended very quickly, in 1813. The ephemeral nature of the Illyrian Provinces, and the short presence of the French in the area of the eastern coast of the

Adriatic Sea, is perhaps the reason why researchers who investigated the evolution of the idea of the Balkans ignored this episode of the Napoleonic reign in Southeastern Europe. This monograph aims to fill this gap and strives to supplement more general studies on that matter. Due to their ethnic versatility, the Illyrian Provinces are an excellent subject of research on the Western depictions of the Southeastern European populations.

From Triumph to Crisis: Neoliberal Economic Reform in Postcommunist Countries, by Hilary Appel and Mitchell A. Orenstein, was published by Cambridge University Press in April 2018.

Postcommunist countries were among the most fervent and committed adopters of neoliberal economic reforms. Not only did they manage to overcome the anticipated domestic opposition to "shock therapy" and Washington Consensus reforms, but many fulfilled the membership requirements of the European Union and even adopted avant-garde neoliberal reforms like the flat tax and pension privatization. This book focuses on the imperatives of re-insertion into the international economy. Appel and Orenstein show how countries engaged in "competitive signaling", enacting reforms in order to attract foreign investment. This

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signaling process explains the endurance and intensification of neoliberal reform in these countries for almost two decades, from 1989–2008, and its decline thereafter, when inflows of capital into the region suddenly dried up.

Gendered Violence: Jewish Women in the Pogroms of 1917 to 1921, by Irina Astashkevich (Academic Studies Press, November 2018), is a study of the use of rape as a strategic weapon in the genocidal anti-Jewish violence—the pogroms—that erupted in Ukraine during the Russian Civil War, when at least 100,000 Jews died and unknown numbers of Jewish women were raped. The book is a study of survivor narratives and analyzes how the victimized Jewish communities experienced trauma, how they expressed it, the motives of the perpetrators, and the weaponization of rape.

Nicholas S. Racheotes recently completed *The Life and Thought of Filaret Drozdov, 1782-1867: The Thorny Path to Sainthood* (Lexington Books, 2018), in which he argues that Filaret was far more than a neo-patristic theologian steeped in the tradition of the Eastern fathers. Filaret was simultaneously a valued monarchical apologist and a guardian of the privileges of the Russian Orthodox Church to the point of subtly resisting the state. Preaching before three reigning tsars, writing or editing such monumental documents as Alexander I's will and Alexander II's decree emancipating the Russian serfs, leading the drive for a Russian translation of the Bible, and preparing Orthodox catechisms are but a few examples of St. Filaret's historical importance. His centrality to policy formation with respect to Old Believers and his campaigns for clerical education reform account for the enduring influence attributable to this Archbishop. Today, his pronouncements are enjoying a revival among religious historians in Russia and are often adduced by a host of contemporaries arguing for Russian exceptionalism.

Ostap Kin edited *New York Elegies: Ukrainian Poems on the City* (Academic Studies Press, February 2019), which demonstrates how descriptions and evocations of New York City are connected to various stylistic modes and topical questions urgent to Ukrainian poetry throughout its development. The collection gives readers the opportunity to view New York through various poetic and stylistic lenses. Ukrainian poets connected themselves to a powerful myth of New York, the myth of urban modernity and problematic vitality. The city of exiles and outsiders sees itself reflected in the mirror that newcomers and exiles created. By adding new voices and layers to this amalgam, it is possible to observe the expanded picture of this worldly poetic city.

Katarzyna Person's book, *Policjanci: Wizerunek Żydowskiej Służby Porządkowej w getcie warszawskim* (Policemen: An Image of the Jewish Order Service in the Warsaw Ghetto), was published by Żydowski Instytut Historyczny in 2018.

Person examines the choices, attitudes, behavior,

activities, and rationalization of Jewish Police members in the context of the gradual destruction of Jewish life, and not isolated from it. While primarily a study of the Holocaust-era Jewish Police, *Policjanci* also explains that while Polish Blue Police stationed in the ghetto trained the Jewish policemen subordinate to them, the role of Polish policemen extended beyond this connection. The prospect of bribes, extortions, and enrichment determined Polish policemen's attitude toward Jews and defined their activities in the ghetto. The lack of rotation of Polish policemen further strengthened corruption among Polish policemen. The thread of the Polish Blue Police in the Warsaw ghetto elucidates aspects of Polish-Jewish wartime relations and highlights the participation of Poles in the oppression of Jews. Person's examples paint a complex picture of individuals and groups, their responses, and webs of connections. *Policjanci* contributes to the considerable and still growing scholarship on the Warsaw ghetto.

The Politics of Disability in Interwar and Socialist Czechoslovakia: Segregating in the Name of the Nation, edited by Victoria Schmidt, was published by Amsterdam University Press in March 2019.

Focusing on the politics of disability as a pillar of Czechoslovak identity, *The Politics of Disability* reflects upon the vicissitudes of nation-building over the twentieth century that led to extreme forms of institutional violence against minorities, mainly the Roma. The authors trace the intersectionality of ethnicity and disability across diverse realms of public life, exploring the continuities and ruptures of propaganda and racial science during the interwar and post-war periods. These discourses established and reinforced the border between a healthy Czech majority and a disabled Roma minority—a border that this book revises.

ASEEES FIRST BOOK SUBVENTION PROGRAM

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Reframing Russian Modernism, edited by Irina Shevelenko, was published by University of Wisconsin Press in December 2018.

This volume presents a multifaceted portrait of Russian modernist culture between the late imperial and the early Soviet periods—and of the writers who aimed to make their work instrumental in inspiring social transformation. Contributors show how this movement engaged with politics, science, and religion, and why reevaluating these interactions matters for ongoing research on this period across the humanities and social sciences.

Reframing Russian Modernism expands beyond scholarship on this literature's aesthetic manifestations and focuses on its encounters with ideas and practices ranging from nationalism to sexual politics to Darwinism to yoga. These essays integrate the study of Russian modernism into the larger body of work on transnational modernity.

Robert F. Goeckel's *Soviet Religious Policy in Estonia and Latvia: Playing Harmony in the Singing Revolution* (Indiana University Press, August 2018), considers what impact Western religious culture had on Soviet religious policy. While Russia was a predominantly Orthodox country, Baltic states annexed after WWII featured Lutheran and Catholic churches as the state religion. Goeckel explores how Soviet religious policy accommodated differing traditions and the extent to which these churches either reflected nationalist consciousness or offered an opportunity for subversion of Soviet ideals. He argues that national cultural affinity with Christianity remained substantial despite plummeting rates of religious adherence. He makes the case that this affinity helped to provide a diffuse basis for the eventual challenge to the USSR. The Singing Revolution restored independence to Estonia and Latvia, and while Catholic and Lutheran churches may not have played a central role in this restoration, Goeckel shows how they nonetheless played harmony.

Teffi: A Life of Letters and of Laughter, by Edythe Haber, was published by IB Tauris in October 2018.

Teffi was one of twentieth-century Russia's most celebrated authors. After the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 she was exiled and lived out her days in the Russian émigré community of Paris, where she continued writing until her death in 1952. Teffi's stories shift from light humour and satire to pathos and even tragedy – ever more so when depicting the hardships she and her fellow émigrés suffered in exile. In the first biography of her in any language, Haber brings Teffi to life. Teffi's life and works afford a panoramic view of the cultural world of early twentieth-century Russia, from the debauchery of the Silver Age to the terror and euphoria of revolution, and of interwar Russian emigration. But they also offer fresh insights into the seismic events – from the 1905 Russian Revolution and World War II to life as a refugee – that she experienced first-hand and recreated in her vivid, penetrating, moving and witty writing.

Ukrainian Bishop, American Church: Constantine Bohachevsky and the Ukrainian Catholic Church, by Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak, was published by Catholic University of America Press in 2018.

This biography is based on recently opened sources from the Vatican, Ukraine, and the US. Eastern Catholic practice differs so markedly from that of the Latin Rite that Ukrainian immigrants in the US created their own churches. The death of the first bishop in 1916 and the long hiatus in naming a replacement led to unrest. Bohachevsky was ordained bishop in March 1924: he arrived in America that August to a bankrupt church and a hostile clergy. He chose to live a simple missionary life, regularly visited his scattered churches, fought for the independence of the church from outside interference, and refashioned a failing immigrant church in America into a self-sustaining institution that half a century after his death could help resurrect the underground Catholic Church in Ukraine.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE HIRING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN

The Department of German & Russian invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor of Russian (tenure-track) beginning July 1, 2020. The successful candidate will be committed to the engaged teaching and active scholarship that characterize the mission of the liberal arts. Ability to teach all levels of Russian language is essential. Teaching load is two courses per semester plus a January-term course every other year. Area of specialization is open; candidates with comparative, interdisciplinary, and/or intermedial experience are welcome. Ph.D. should be in hand by the date of appointment.

For full consideration, applications must be received by October 12, 2019. Preliminary interviews for semi-finalists will be held at the ASEES convention in San Francisco and via Skype for candidates who do not plan to attend the meeting. For initial application, please submit cover letter, CV, 2 sample syllabi (1 Russian language and 1 other course), and graduate school transcripts via <https://apply.interfolio.com/66322>. A request for 3-4 letters of recommendation will be made following the preliminary interviews. **Applicants are asked to note specific knowledge, experience, and abilities related to building a diverse educational environment in their cover letter.**

We encourage applications from historically under-represented groups as well as individuals who have experience with diverse student populations. Williams College is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through their research, teaching, mentoring and/or service. Williams College is a coeducational liberal arts institution located in the Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts. The college has built its reputation on outstanding teaching and scholarship and on the academic excellence of its approximately 2,000 students. For further information, please visit <http://www.williams.edu>. Beyond meeting fully its legal obligations for non-discrimination, Williams College is committed to building a diverse and inclusive community where members from all backgrounds can live, learn, and thrive.

All materials should be addressed to Janneke van de Stadt, Chair, Department of German & Russian, and must be submitted through [Interfolio](https://apply.interfolio.com/66322). Fax and e-mail applications will not be accepted. All queries should be directed to jvandest@williams.edu.

A Alfa Fellowship Program

Professional Development in Russia

Since 2004, the Alfa Fellowship Program has provided over 180 emerging leaders from the U.S., U.K., and Germany with the opportunity to gain professional experience in business, media, law, policy, and other related areas through an 11-month, fully-funded fellowship in Moscow.

As part of the program, fellows:

- **Work at prominent organizations in Moscow**
- **Learn about current affairs via meetings, seminars, and regional travel**
- **Build Russian language skills**

Program benefits: generous monthly stipend, program-related travel costs, housing, insurance

Eligibility: relevant professional experience, evidence of leadership potential, commitment to the region, outstanding academic achievement

Deadline to apply for the 2020–2021 program year:

November 15, 2019

Additional details can be found at:

culturalvistas.org/alfa

For more information, please contact:

alfa@culturalvistas.org or +1 212 497 3510

OJSC Alfa-Bank is incorporated, focused and based in Russia, and is not affiliated with U.S.-based Alfa Insurance.



Institutional Member News

AMERICAN COUNCILS FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

American Councils for International Education is currently accepting applications for the next cycle of U.S. Department of State Title VIII Research Fellowships in Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe. Fellowships are offered in two categories:

Title VIII Research Scholar Program provides full support for research in policy-relevant fields in Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe. Fellowships include round-trip international travel; housing and living stipends; visa support; insurance; archive access; and logistical support. Open to U.S. graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty.

Title VIII Combined Research and Language Training Program provides full support for research and individualized language instruction in Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe. Fellowships include round-trip international travel; housing and living stipends; visa support; overseas insurance; archive access; logistical support; and up to 10 academic hours per week of language instruction. Open to U.S. graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty.

All American Councils Title VIII Fellowship

Programs must take place between June 1, 2020 and August 31, 2021. Individuals interested in applying should check the program website for more information and access to the online application. The application deadline is October 1, 2019. Please direct questions to: outbound@americancouncils.org.

BARD-SMOLNY PROGRAM IN ST PETERSBURG

Bard College is pleased to announce that Hannah Tyburski, Oberlin '19 will join the Bard-Smolny program in St. Petersburg as an ESL intern for the upcoming academic year. October 1, 2019 is the new deadline for spring 2020 program and scholarship applications for Bard's premier Russian Language and academic study abroad program at the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences at St. Petersburg State University. Bard welcomes students interested in Post-Soviet studies to apply for a semester at the American University of Central Asia, in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Students may pursue academic courses and language studies together with students from throughout Central Asia. Details for each program can be found at bard.edu/bardabroad.

Harvard University Faculty of Arts and Sciences Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures hiring Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Russian Literature and Culture

Position Description: The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures seeks to appoint a tenure-track assistant professor in Russian literature and culture; the field is open. The Department seeks candidates with broad interdisciplinary interests. The appointment is expected to begin on July 1, 2020. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels, typically two courses per semester, including required and elective courses, as well as freshman seminars. We are seeking an energetic colleague who will be committed to building our program in literature and the humanities, someone who is ready to share in advising students as well as to participate fully in the intellectual life of the university.

Candidates may specialize in any area of modern Russian literature and culture, including fiction, documentary prose, poetry, film, theory, the performing arts, and visual culture. Additional expertise in cultures of the former Soviet bloc outside Russia is welcome. Demonstrated strong commitment to teaching and potential for innovative scholarship are desired.

Qualifications: Doctorate in Slavic Languages and Literatures or related discipline required by the time the appointment begins. Native or near-native Russian and fluency in English are required.

Special Instructions: Please submit the following materials through the ARies portal (<http://academicpositions.harvard.edu/postings/9148>):

- Cover letter and Curriculum Vitae
- Teaching statement describing teaching approach and philosophy, and outlining past, current, and anticipated efforts to encourage diversity and inclusion (approximately 500 words)
- Research statement (approximately 500 words)
- Names and contact information of 3 referees, who will be asked by a system-generated e-mail to upload a letter of recommendation once the candidate's application has been submitted.
- Sample of scholarship (10,000-word maximum)

Review of applications will begin on **October 10, 2019**.

Harvard is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Contact Information:

Email: Ms. Lenia Constantinou, constantinou@fas.harvard.edu

Professor Stephanie Sandler, Search Committee Chair

Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Harvard University • Cambridge, MA 02138

HARVARD
UNIVERSITY



HARVARD UNIVERSITY UKRAINIAN RESEARCH
INSTITUTE DATABASE

The Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University is building a database of experienced translators, copy editors, and indexers to assist with publications projects on an as-needed basis. To join the list of potential freelancers, applicants must submit their resume, a list of relevant experience, and one or two samples of their work at the time of application.

Roles:

- Ukrainian to English translators, preferably native English speakers
- Copy editors with intimate knowledge of Ukrainian studies
- Indexers who have prior experience preparing indices

Questions may be directed to Oleh Kotsyuba, Manager of Publications, at <mailto:kotsyuba@fas.harvard.edu>. Visit <https://huri.harvard.edu/news/news-from-huri/370> to apply.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY TO HOST TARAS SHEVCHENKO
CONFERENCE

The Ukrainian Studies Organization at Indiana University has the honor to convene the first Taras Shevchenko Conference, which will take place at Indiana University, March 6-7, 2020. This conference aims to bring scholars from all disciplines to explore the ways in which Ukrainian studies is presented and shaped in the current political and cultural contexts. The year of 2014 is a turning point in how Ukraine is discussed and positioned as a political and geographical body, as well as a topos of imagination. The conference intends to open an interdisciplinary space where scholars whose work focuses on an array of inquiries related to the Ukrainian studies (of any time period) present their findings and discuss how and what narratives are established to locate and discuss Ukraine locally and globally.

Submissions from any academic discipline are welcome, including but not limited to: history, literature, memory studies, linguistics, translation, music, film, religious studies, political science, anthropology, sociology, gender studies, mass media. Graduate students are welcome to submit proposals. We also invite professionals in nonacademic settings to submit proposals. Please include with your abstract: your full name and your academic or professional affiliation and rank (graduate student, professor, translator, artist, etc.). Abstracts should not exceed 300 words. All submissions will be peer reviewed. The deadline for submission is October 1, 2019. Please direct inquiries about the conference to Nataliya Shpylova-Saeed (nshpylov@iu.edu) and Ani Abrahamyan (aniabrah@iu.edu).

THE KENNAN INSTITUTE AT THE WILSON CENTER
George F. Kennan Fellowships

George F. Kennan Fellows will be based at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC for three-month residencies.

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Forthcoming in *Slavic Review* Fall 2019

CRITICAL DISCUSSION FORUM: 1918 / 2018

Introduction: 1918, A Sharp Rupture or a Period of Transition?

Darius Staliūnas

"Survival against the Odds: The Baltic States at 100" by Andres Kasekamp

"The Forgotten Pogroms, 1918" by Michael L. Miller

"A Century of Selective Ignorance: Poland 1918–2018" by Maciej Górny

"Post-Imperial Europe: When Comparison Threatened, Empowered, and Was Omnipresent" by Dominique Kirchner Reill

ARTICLES

"The Local Boundaries of the Nation: Borderland Guard Activists in Polish-Occupied Volhynia, 1919–1920" by Kathryn Ciancia

"Global Money and Bolshevik Authority: The NEP as the First Socialist Project" by Oscar Sanchez-Sibony

"The People and the Poster: Theorizing the Soviet Viewer, 1920–1931" by Mollie Arbuthnot

"Lessons from the Terror: Soviet Prosecutors and Police Violence in Molotov Province, 1942 to 1949" by Immo Rebitschek

"Between National Tradition and Western Modernization: Soviet Woman and Representations of Socialist Gender Equality as a 'Third Way' for Developing Countries, 1956–1964" by Christine Varga-Harris

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Please consider submitting articles to be published in future *NewsNets*. Articles are typically brief essays on contemporary issues or matters of broad professional interest. They can include discussions of new research, institutions, resources, etc. *NewsNet* is not a venue of extensive research essays; most cover articles are 2,500 words in length. We encourage members, including graduate students, who are interested in proposing a *NewsNet* article to contact the *NewsNet* Editor, Trevor Erlacher (aseees.grants@pitt.edu).

The views expressed in NewsNet articles are solely the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of ASEEEES or its staff.

Fellows will receive access to the Library of Congress, National Archives, and policy research centers in Washington, DC, as well as the opportunity to meet with key experts and officials. 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 DC, 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. There are no citizenship requirements for this grant.

Research Team Option:

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 US, Russian, and Ukrainian experts. George F. Kennan Fellowship Teams will: Produce joint paper(s) for policy-relevant publications; present work at DC, Russia, and/or Ukraine events; and conduct meetings and engage with policymakers in DC.

The next application deadline is September 1. Applicants must submit a completed application – please see the website for details: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/opportunity/george-f-kennan-fellowship>.

Title VIII Short Term Scholarships

The next competition is for Title VIII-Supported Short-Term Grants, which allow U.S. citizens whose policy-relevant research in the social sciences or humanities focused on the countries of Eurasia, to spend up to one month using the library, archival, and other specialized resources of the Washington, D.C. area, while in residence at the Kennan Institute. The deadline for these grants is September 15, 2019.

Please see the website for more details on the Title VIII Short Term Grants: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/opportunity/kennan-institute-short-term-grant>.

The Kennan Institute welcomes the following scholars:

Title VIII Research Scholars

- Tyler Kirk, PhD, Arizona State University, “Remembering the GULAG: Community, Identity and Cultural Memory in Russia’s Far North, 1987-2018”

Title VIII Short Term Research Scholars

- Justin Canfil, PhD Candidate, Columbia University, “Governing the Uncommons: Technological Contestation in International Law”
- Walter Hudson, Professor and Deputy Chair, Eisenhower School, National Defense University, “Residual Forces: Their Presence (and Absence) and US Grand Strategy During and After the Korean and Vietnam Wars”

George F. Kennan Fellows

- Emmanuel Dreyfus, PhD Scholar, Pantheon-Assas

University, “The 2008 Russian Armed Forces Reform: a Case of Military Eemulation?”

NYU AWARDED SSRC SOCIAL MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY RESEARCH GRANT

Social Science Research Council (SSRC) and Social Science One announced the inaugural recipients of the Social Media and Democracy Research Grants, the first opportunity for systematic scholarly access to privacy-protected Facebook data to study the platform’s impact on democracy worldwide.

Among the grant projects announced was a team from New York University, including ASEES member Joshua Tucker. The NYU team seeks to use access to Facebook data to better explain how political news is shared in European multiparty political systems; to understand how social events or technology platform changes influence communication behaviors such as spreading disinformation; and to deepen our knowledge of how social media platforms were used in elections. The project also seeks to provide a richer understanding of the relationship between social media platforms like Facebook and traditional news media, and how we as a society can better distinguish legitimate news sources from unverified ones.

NYU’s project explores how malevolent actors have exploited online platforms to spread misinformation and influence political processes. Though platforms are responding to these concerns, responses are rarely coordinated, and addressing issues on a single platform does not address the underlying threats. Rather, a macro view across these platforms is critical since users engage and information spreads across multiple platforms. The study examines political, polarizing, and manipulative content spread across the social media information ecosystem in the context of the 2018 US midterm election. Building on communications theory, social contagion, and complex network formation, the study tests hypotheses and research questions about how this content spreads across platforms by combining existing SMaPP lab data collections with analyses from the Social Science One Facebook URLs dataset.

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In addition to articles and news columns, NewsNet also features a limited number of advertisements from organizations presenting scholarly publications, products, services, or opportunities of interest to our readers. Please contact newsnet@pitt.edu for rates, specs and production schedule.

PUSHKIN HOUSE TO HOST CONTEMPORARY
RUSSIAN POETRY IN TRANSLATION RESIDENCY

The Contemporary Russian Poetry in Translation Residency offers a translator and a living “Russian language” poet an opportunity to meet and work together over three weeks. The Residency will take place in a different UK venue every year. This year the Residency will take place at Oxford.

The aim of the Residency is to support the translation of contemporary Russian poetry by providing a supportive environment where the translator and poet can work together. The Residency offers networking opportunities via public events and collaborations. The Residency also aims to provide international exposure for contemporary Russian poetry and there will be an opportunity to publish translated work and the originals in *Modern Poetry in Translation*.

The inaugural Residency will take place at The Queen’s College, Oxford, and St Edmund Hall. To find out more and to apply, visit: <https://www.pushkinhouse.org/residency>

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN NEWS

CREEES is proud to announce that Dr. Marina Alexandrova is featured in the new Netflix series, *The Last Czars*, as an advisor on the Romanovs.

Slavic Department Chair/CREEES Director Mary Neuburger co-chaired the 2019 ASEES Summer Convention in Croatia this June with Slavic Studies Prof. Masa Kolanovic from the University of Zagreb. The convention theme, “Culture Wars,” focused on the ways in which individuals or collectives create or construct diametrically opposed ways of understanding their societies and their place in the world.

This summer, a team of CREEES faculty and students spent five weeks in Ukraine conducting a study on youth, political engagement and social media. Led by Drs. Mary Neuburger and Oksana Lutsyshyna, the students first spent the spring semester meeting by Skype with students from six cities in Ukraine during the lead up and aftermath to the Ukrainian presidential elections.

CREEES Affiliate Prof. Emeritus Ian Hancock (Linguistics and English Departments) was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II for his contributions to understanding of creole linguistics, the Romani language and the emancipation of Romani people. Though recently retired, Hancock has remained active as an instructor of Romani for CREEES.

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

203C Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Avenue

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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.

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Subscription to NewsNet is \$31 for US subscribers and \$49 for non-U.S. subscribers. Prices include shipping. Single copies are \$7.00 each. To subscribe or order back issues, contact aseees@pitt.edu. Back issues are available up to two years only. Periodicals postage paid at Pittsburgh, PA, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: ASEES, 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. **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



Affiliate Group News

AATSEEL AWARDS

AATSEEL invites nominations for awards in the following categories: Excellence in Teaching (Secondary or Post-Secondary); Distinguished Service to AATSEEL; Outstanding Contribution to the Profession or to Scholarship.

This is the last call for nominations. The deadline has been extended to September 1.

The nomination should include the prize category; a brief statement as to why the candidate deserves the award; and the candidate's academic affiliation and email. You can check the list of past recipients and submit your nomination here: <https://www.aatseel.org/about/award-nomination-form.htm>

AWSS AWARDS

2019 AWSS Outstanding Achievement Award

- To submit a nomination, write a letter detailing what your candidate for this award has achieved in Slavic Studies in terms of scholarship, professional accomplishment, and mentoring of female students/colleagues.
- Provide a list of references with accompanying email addresses. The committee recommends that this list include both peers and students/staff.

Please email nominations to paula.michaels@monash.edu

2019 AWSS Mary Zirin Prize for Independent Scholars

The Zirin Prize Committee will accept nominations (including self-nominations) until September 1, 2019. Nominations must include: a nomination letter, no more than two pages long, double-spaced; the nominee's current C.V.; and a sample publication. The nomination letter should describe the scholar's contribution to the field, as well as work in progress. Nominations should be emailed to eliasbursac@gmail.com.

AWSS Graduate Essay Prize

2019 Graduate Essay Prize is awarded to the author of a chapter or article-length essay on any topic in any field or area of Slavic/East European/Central Asian Studies written by a woman, or on a topic in Slavic/East European/Central Asian Women's/Gender Studies written by a woman or a man. This competition is open to current doctoral students and to those who defended a doctoral dissertation in 2018-2019. If the essay is a seminar paper, it must have been written during AY 2018-19. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Previous submissions and published materials are ineligible. Essays should be no longer than 50 double-spaced pages, including reference matter, and in English (quoted text in any other language should be translated). Completed submissions must be received by September 1, 2019. Email essays and CVs as attachments to Amy Randall, arandall@scu.edu; Emily Schuckman-Matthews, ematthews@sdsu.edu; Betsy Jones Hemenway, ehemenway@luc.edu

EARLY SLAVIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION PRIZES

ESSA announces it prizes for best monograph and best article in the field of Early Slavic Studies for 2019. The prize committee

is also willing to consider a special award for best translation of primary source material in the field, to be awarded at the committee's discretion.

Books and peer-reviewed articles published between September 1, 2018 and August 31, 2019 are eligible for the award. All nominated works must be in English. The committee will accept self-nominations. Authors must be members in good standing of the ESSA. Please contact [Cynthia M. Vakareliyska](mailto:Cynthia.M.Vakareliyska), to confirm your eligibility. All nominations should be sent to the chair of the prize committee, [Olga Grinchenko](mailto:Olga.Grinchenko).

2019 MIDWEST SLAVIC ASSOCIATION STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE COMPETITION

In addition to its support of the Midwest Slavic Conference, the Midwest Slavic Association also runs student essay prize competitions each spring with support from ASEEEES. Winners for the 2019 essay competition are:

- Undergraduate: Alec Wood, Grinnell College, "Dionysian Ecstasy as Intrapsychic Narrative in Scriabin's Late Sonatas"
- Graduate: Madeline McCann, Indiana University, "The Neighborhood as a Site of Political Mobilization: Challenging Housing Renovation and Pension Reform in Moscow"

SOCIETY OF ROMANIAN STUDIES

SEEKS EDITORIAL TEAM

The Journal of Romanian Studies, the peer-reviewed periodical published by the Society for Romanian Studies in partnership with *Ibidem* and Columbia University Press, seeks to strengthen the field of Romanian Studies by gathering high-quality manuscripts on relevant themes written from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. Each *JRS* issue contains five to eight articles together with three book reviews. Special issues are put together on topics of great scholarly interest or in anniversary years by guest editors.

SRS is seeking two co-editors, one book editor, and an editorial assistant to serve a three-year term. Expressions of interest from individuals or teams are welcome. The co-editors should be Romanian Studies scholars with a record of publications in recognized, reputable venues. The co-editors will receive manuscripts, conduct the review process, inform authors of the progress of their manuscripts, and edit the texts. The book editor commissions reviews of recent publications that advance knowledge in the field significantly. PhD students can apply as editorial assistants who will advertise *JRS* and solicit manuscripts in consultation with the co-editors. These positions are non-remunerated, but are great additions to any cv.

Applicants should email a letter of interest, cv with list of refereed publications, and description of the way in which they plan to advance the *JRS* during their term, if selected to: Lavinia Stan Istan@stfx.ca, Margaret Beissinger mhbeissi@Princeton.edu, Radu Cinpoes Radu Cinpoes@kingston.ac.uk.

FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH ABROAD

Title VIII Research Scholars Program:

Fully-funded fellowships for U.S. scholars and graduate students conducting research in Russia, Eastern Europe, or Eurasia.

Combined Research and Language Training Program: Provides up to 10 hours per week of advanced language instruction to complement research.

Learn more:

acResearchAbroad.org
outbound@americancouncils.org

