2nd Summer School
Borderlands Studies in East Central Europe and the Black Sea Regions

24 JUNE – 5 JULY 2019

Hub Rozvytok
6 Divocha str., Kharkiv, Ukraine
Organizers:

Center for Interethnic Relations Research in Eastern Europe, Kharkiv, Ukraine; Center for Governance and Culture in Europe at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland; Center for Urban History in East Central Europe, Lviv, Ukraine; The Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine at the Alberta University.

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CONTENT

1. Schedule______________________________________________________________ 4
2. Study program content___________________________________________________ 9
3. Lecturers______________________________________________________________ 20
4. Participants____________________________________________________________ 24
5. Organizing team________________________________________________________ 29
1. SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

MONDAY, 24 JUNE
10.00 – 11.00  Welcome & introduction

11.15 – 12.45 Course 1. Steven Seegel: Course Introduction: Empires and Their Consequences

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

14.00 – 15.30 Course 2. Mayhill Fowler: How should we talk about culture?

15.45 – 17.15 Guest lecture 1. Olga Filipova: Whose is Kharkiv: (de)secularization, glocalization and symbolic marking of the city’s space

17.30 Opening Reception

TUESDAY, 25 JUNE

11.15 – 12.45 Course 2. Mayhill Fowler: How should we talk about culture in borderlands?

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

14.00 – 15.30 Participants’ projects presentations
Session 1. Borders of Nation, Statehood and Identity
Rimantė Jaugaitė: Statehood Ideas in Croatian and Lithuanian Political Imagination at the Junction of the XIX and XX Centuries
James Baker: Boundary Objects and Borderland Discourses: At the Limits of Azerbaijan’s ’Visceral Cartography’
Mariia Rastvorova: Small Motherland and its borders: peculiarities of formation in the global world (with a focus on borderland)

15.45 – 17.15 Session 2. Urban and rural spaces and borders
Ihor Usatenko: Vinnytsia`s symbolic space of a "belle epoque" era: ethnocultural patchwork or monoculture of frontier?

Mykola Haievoi: Verbytsya village during the Second World War and in the early postwar years

Elsa Court: Cooperation, contention, or conflict? How rural Moscow Patriarchy parishes in Rivne Oblast negotiate social boundaries following the formation of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

**WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE**

9.30 – 11.00  **Course 1. Steven Seegel:** Nationalism and National Indifference

11.15 – 12.45  **Course 2. Mayhill Fowler:** More borders than borderlands

12.45 – 13.45  *Lunch*

14.00 – 16.00  **Study visit**

17.00 – 18.30  **Public lecture**

**Mayhill Fowler:** The Backstage Lives of Actresses: Uncovering the Stories of the Women of Berezil (in Ukrainian)

**THURSDAY, 27 JUNE**

9.30 – 11.00  **Course 1. Steven Seegel:** Mapping Triangular Contact Zones and “Trans-Empire”

11.15 – 12.45  **Course 2. Mayhill Fowler:** Does art build bridges or walls in borderland regions?

12.45 – 13.45  *Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30  **Participants’ projects presentations**

**Session 3. Internal and external boundaries of Ukrainian society**

**Hanna Protasova:** Ukrainian Bilingualism Before and After Maidan: Social and Cultural Aspects

**Mariana Senkiv:** Popularization of rural tourism resources by educational establishments on the borderland areas of Ukraine and Poland

**Anna Bondarenko:** "Foreign Citizens": features of the perception of Kharkiv by foreign students
FRIDAY, 28 JUNE
9.30 – 11.00  **Course 1. Steven Seegel:** Perpetrators, Collaborators, Bystanders: “Lands in Between” into Bloodlands?

11.15 – 12.45  **Course 2. Mayhill Fowler:** Why are borderlands creative?

12.45 – 13.45  *Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30  **Course 2. Mayhill Fowler:** Can we “practice” the borderland?

15.45 – 17.30  *Study visit*

SATURDAY, 29 JUNE
10.00 – 16.00  *Study trip*

WEEK 2

MONDAY, 1 JULY
9.30 – 11.00  **Course 3. Tomasz Zarycki:** Centers and peripheries. Concepts and practice of dependence, orientalism, post-colonialism in Central and Eastern Europe

11.15 – 12.45  **Course 1. Steven Seegel:** Invented (or Inverted?) Pasts, Contested Spaces/Places

12.45 – 13.45  *Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30  **Participants’ projects presentations**  
**Session 4. Challenges of Contemporary Borders in Eastern Europe**  
**Alina Mozolevska:** Shaping the border: duscoursive construction of borders and walls in Political discourse  
**Bradley Reynolds:** A Common European Home? Finnish and Russian Perspectives on a New Europe in the 1990’s  
**Alexandra Seidlová:** Reterritorialization of the EU’s Eastern Neighbourhood

15.45 – 17.45  **Session 5. Contested Borders**  
**Hasmik Ghazaryan:** Borderlands: Examining Turkey and Georgia
Rusudan Beridze: Post-Soviet Adjara in Borderland Context
Urban Jakša: Fostering social transformation through cross-border engagement in Abkhazia and Transnistria
Yuliya Abibok: On the debris of Donbas. Local identities in the war-torn Ukrainian Donetsk and Luhansk regions

TUESDAY, 2 JULY
9.30 – 11.00 Course 3. Tomasz Zarycki: Historical heritage and regional identities in Poland. The context of phantom borders and electoral geography in international comparative perspective

11.15 – 12.45 Course 1. Steven Seegel: Transnational Microhistory, Biography, and the Life Story

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

14.00 – 15.30 Guest Lecture 2. Annika Frieberg: Illusions and Realities of Conflict Resolution in Borderland Areas: Polish-German Relations in the Postwar Era

17.00 – 18.30 Public book discussion
Steven Seegel, Map Men: Transnational Lives and Deaths of Geographers in the Making of East Central Europe (University of Chicago Press, 2018)

WEDNESDAY, 3 JULY
9.30 – 11.00 Course 3. Tomasz Zarycki: Kresy. The Polish moving frontier or a nostalgic borderland myth?

11.15 – 12.45 Course 1. Steven Seegel: Large/Small Scales, Post-Maidan Sagas, Spatial Subjects/Agents of New Ukrainian History

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

14.00 – 17.00 City-Walk

THURSDAY, 4 JULY
9.30 – 11.00 Course 3. Tomasz Zarycki: The new borderland paradigm

11.15 – 12.45 Course 1. Steven Seegel: Critical Geography and Geopolitics, Cartography Studies
12.45 – 13.45  *Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30  **Guest lecture 3. Yana Volkova:** Diasporas in the Black Sea Region: trouble-makers or international dialog facilitators?

16.00 – 17.30  *Study visit*

**FRIDAY, 5 JULY**

9.30 – 11.00  **Course 3. Tomasz Zarycki:** The regional reform and the Eastern borderland of Poland

11.15 – 12.45  **Course 1. Steven Seegel:** Our Capstone Discussion for the Summer Course. Presentation of Your Research

12.45 – 13.45  *Lunch*

14.00 – 15.30  **Discussion and summing-up**

16.00  *Closing Reception*
2. STUDY PROGRAM CONTENT

Course 1. Mapping East European Empires

Steven Seegel

This 10-class advanced summer school course will focus on the political geography of imperial and national borders in the contact zones of the Ottoman-Russian-Habsburg triangle: how peoples of the region were transformed by lived modern and postmodern experiences of conflict and cooperation. Drawing from my research in historical geography and critical cartography, we will look at the meaning(s) of war and peace in borderlands, the devolution of multiethnic empires into imagined nation-states, and the “phantom” or fantastical qualities inherent to the act of border-making and mapping. All students are expected to read assignments in advance, bring texts each day to class, participate actively, lead two discussions on the readings for the day, and integrate scholarship into a presentation of their ongoing research by the end of our course. The presentation for our conference on the last day (July 6) should incorporate at least two of the main methods or historiographical schools we cover – so, for example, transnationalism, postcolonialism, new imperial history, comparative genocide studies, microhistory, critical geography/geopolitics, national indifference.

*** Please note: Required readings are numbered (1, 2, 3, 4), and recommended optional readings are lettered (a, b, c, d). Obviously it will be impossible to read and know everything listed here before our classes begin; the more you know, and the more versed you are in journal, book review, and monograph literature, the better informed you will be for discussion. Once we start, you will have an opportunity not only to participate in debate, but also to lead class discussions and present your research in progress, in the form you choose. The course is what you make of it.

Monday, June 24

Class 1: Empires and Their Consequences

Required readings:

Recommended optional readings:

**Tuesday, June 25**

**Class 2: Postimperial Making/Unmaking of Nations: Civic/Ethnic, Identity/Subjection, "Unmixing"**

Required readings:

Recommended optional readings:
(b) Murphy, Curtis G. *From Citizens to Subjects: City, State, and the Enlightenment in Poland, Ukraine, and Belarus* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2018).
(c) Snyder, Timothy. “The Elusive Civic Subject in Russian History,” *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 7:3 (Summer 2006): 609-617.

**Wednesday, June 26**

**Class 3: Nationalism and National Indifference**

Required readings:

Recommended optional readings:
***find your own reviews, online or in journals, of Zahra and Judson

**Thursday, June 27**

**Class 4: Mapping Triangular Contact Zones and “Trans-Empire”**

Required readings:

Recommended optional readings:


**Friday, June 28**

**Class 5: Perpetrators, Collaborators, Bystanders: “Lands in Between” into Bloodlands?**

Required readings:


Recommended optional readings:


(b) *** also very useful, a vast compilation of pieces by contributors: Omer Bartov and Eric Weitz, eds., *Shatterzone of Empires: Coexistence and Violence in the German, Habsburg, Russian, and Ottoman Borderlands*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2013. (introduction)

**Monday, July 1**

**Class 6: Invented (or Inverted?) Pasts, Contested Spaces/Places**

Required readings:


Recommended optional readings:
Tuesday, July 2

Class 7: Transnational Microhistory, Biography, and the Life Story

Required readings:


Recommended optional readings:


Wednesday, July 3

Class 8: Large/Small Scales, Post-Maidan Sagas, Spatial Subjects/Agents of New Ukrainian History

Required readings:


Recommended optional readings:

Thursday, July 4
**Class 9: Critical Geography and Geopolitics, Cartography Studies**

Required readings:


Recommended optional readings:


(b) Suslov, Mikhail, and Bassin, Mark, eds. *Eurasia 2.0: Russian Geopolitics in the Age of New Media.* Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2016. introduction


Friday, July 5
**Class 10: FINAL DAY CONFERENCE**

Our Capstone Discussion for the Summer Course
Presentation of Your Research
Course 2. Analyzing Borderland Cultures: Methods and Questions

Mayhill Fowler

Borderlands, as Omer Bartov and Eric Weitz note in *Shatterzone of Empires*, are “places of interaction.” Borders are constructed, imagined, maintained, negotiated and contested, in the practices, policies, and ideas of those interacting—whether in the halls of power in the imperial capital, or the far-flung posts of the borders themselves. Borders are imagined, and yet borders are only too real. While Bartov and Weitz focus on the violence that is so often part of these interactions, this course broadens our lens to examine borderlands as places of creativity, as well as destruction. What is it about borderlands that make them such intriguing and innovative spaces?

Questions we will explore include: what is borderland culture, or culture of the borderlands? Who creates a border, in representation, in meaning, in worldview? How do borders shape cultures, and how do cultures shape borders? Where might borders lie inside communities, and how much may gender, race, and class create borders, as much as geopolitics? How might we address these questions in the Russian, Soviet, and Ukrainian context?

To pursue these questions, we will acquire a toolbox for doing *cultural history*. Cultural history involves analyzing, articulating, and defining how people ascribe meaning to various ideas, objects, and practices—cultural historians of the borderlands are interested in how people ascribe meaning to borders, how borders emerge from social practices, and how political borders may or may not foster different worldviews, among other questions.

Cultural history will help you build a palette of methods and questions that will be useful for your further work as an academic or practitioner.

Our meetings will include intensive discussion of readings, some focused on Ukraine/Soviet Union/Russian Empire, others on other regions. While I will lecture at some points, our class is a space for you to explore writing, presenting, and thinking about these issues as a group. In this space we will do small group discussions, we may do informal in-class writing, and individual students will do short presentations. These are all skills you will use in your careers in academia and beyond. This is a summer school, and you may not read all the texts, or participate in all class activities—what you put into the class is what you will get out of it. I hope to offer intriguing readings and questions, and look forward to our discussions. Throughout the course we will develop a class bibliography you can take away with you on borderland cultures.
Monday, June 24

Class 1: How should we talk about culture?

Required:

*William H. Sewell, Jr., "The Concept(s) of Culture," in Victoria Bonnell and Lynn Hunt, eds., Beyond the Cultural Turn (Berkeley: U of California Press, 1999), 35-61. (A dense text—please read carefully and we will cover extensively in class)

Optional:

For each class I have listed optional readings. My hope is we will have one student presenting each optional reading—the presenter will read the article/chapter and present the important points to the class in a brief 5 minutes maximum presentation. That way, we'll cover lots of material without spending all our time locked in our rooms reading! I myself will present the reading below :-) Then I'll ask for volunteers for our next classes...

Peter Burke, What is Cultural History? (London: Polity, 2008), 6-19. (background reading)

Tuesday, June 25

Class 2: How should we talk about culture in borderlands?

Required:


Optional:

Philipp Ther, "The transnational Paradigm of Historiography and its Potential for Ukrainian History,” in Grigory Kasiyanov and Philipp Ther, Ukraïne: A Landscape of Transnational History (2009), 81-114. (An attempt to relate "transnational" history to our region)


Mayhill Fowler, "Mikhail Bulgakov, Mykola Kulish, and Soviet Theater: How Internal Transnationalism Remade Center and Periphery," Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History, vol. 16, no. 2 (Spring 2015), 263-290. (My attempt at transnational history in our region)

Wednesday, June 26

Class 3: More borders than borderlands

Required:


Optional:


Katarzyna Kosmala, ed. Sexting the Border: Gender, Art, and New Media in Central and Eastern Europe (Cambridge: Cambridge U Press, 2014), 1-10. (ways gender and sexuality create and challenge borders)
Thursday, June 27
Class 4: Does art build bridges or walls in borderland regions?
Required:

Optional:
Zygmunt Bauman, "Culture in a Uniting Europe" (think about this in relation to the above texts)
Christopher Balme, "The Bandmann Circuit: Theatrical Networks in the First Age of Globalization," Theatre Research International, 40/1 (2015), 19-36. (offering another option for creativity in borderland spaces, which are so often parts of empires)

Friday, June 28
Class 5: Why are borderlands creative?
Required:

Optional:
Harsha Ram, "Modernism on the periphery: Literary life in post-revolutionary Tbilisi," Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History 5/2 (Spring 2004), 367-382.

Friday, June 28
Class 6: Can we “practice” the borderland?
Required:

Optional:
Kate Brown, A Biography of No Place: From Ethnic Borderland to Soviet Heartland (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2004), 1-17.
Anna Elena Torres, “Stealing the Border: A Reflection on Teaching Yiddish Borderlands Literature,” In geveb (September 2018).
The course will offer a perspective on broadly understood borderlands in the context of regionalism and regionalization, both in national and international scale. The key case study will be Poland, both in terms of its current policies and regional structures, as well as in terms of borderlands imagined by the Polish elites. The course will start with introduction of the dependence theory and related perspectives, including the post-colonial theory and other critical approaches on which most of the proposed insights will relay. The case of Poland will be used, among others, in order to illustrate possible the uses of historical heritage in regional and international identity politics. At the same time the context of objective, historically produced differentiation will be discussed, in particular produced by the historical borders which are known for their lasting consequences in defining the structure of the Polish space. Different dimensions of dependence and differentiation including political, economic and cultural will be identified in order to analyze the making, functioning and inertia of borders and borderlands in Poland. The course will also discuss the two opposite types of what can be called borderlands discourse. First its old, traditional Polish version which functions in reference to the eastern borderland, the Kresy or Eastern Limits discourse. On the other hand the new borderlands discourse, in particular in its liberal vision of open space of flows and diversity. Finally the course will conclude with discussion of making of the identity of the Polish eastern regions, including their dilemmas and challenges in adapting the old and new borderlands discourses.

**Monday, July 1**

**Class 1: Centers and peripheries. Concepts and practice of dependence, orientalism, post-colonialism in Central and Eastern Europe**

**Required:**


CHAPTER 2: Central and Eastern Europe in a Center-Periphery Perspective, 16-31.

**Optional:**

Tuesday, July 2
Class 2: Historical heritage and regional identities in Poland. The context of phantom borders and electoral geography in international comparative perspective.
Required:
Optional:

Wednesday, July 3
Class 3: Kresy. The Polish moving frontier or a nostalgic borderland myth?
Required:
Optional:

Thursday, July 4
Class 4: The new borderland paradigm
Required:
Optional:

Friday, July 5
Class 5: The regional reform and the Eastern borderland of Poland
Required:
CHAPTER 8: Constructing New Identities for Eastern Poland, pp. 175-228.
Optional:
Guest Lectures

Monday, June 24
Guest lecture 1. Olga Filipova: Whose is Kharkiv: (de)secularization, glocalization and symbolic marking of the city's space
Required:
Optional:

Tuesday, July 2
Guest Lecture 2. Annika Frieberg: Illusions and Realities of Conflict Resolution in Borderland Areas: Polish-German Relations in the Postwar Era
Required:
- Annika Frieberg, "Forget and forgive? Central European memory cultures, models of reconciliation and Polish-German Relations in Reconciling with the Past. in Resources and Obstacles in a Global Perspective. eds. Annika Frieberg and Martin Chung, Routledge, 2017, 41-53.

Thursday, July 4
Guest lecture 3. Yana Volkova: Diasporas in the Black Sea Region: trouble-makers or international dialog facilitators?
Required:
Optional:
**3. LECTURERS**


*Olga Filippova* is Associate professor of sociology at V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University. She received a Candidate of Science degree in sociology from Kharkiv National University. She has published her works in Ukrainian, Russian and English on such topics as politics of identity, citizenship; politics of memory and social (re)construction of the past; border studies; post-socialist transformations; cyber-ethnography; and childhood issue. The geographical area of her specialization is the Former Soviet Union, with focus on Ukraine and Transnistria. Her publications appeared in Europe-Asia Studies; The Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics; Journal of American Academy of Religion; Ab Imperio; The Anthropology of East Europe Review: Central Europe, East Europe and Eurasia.

Since 2001 she participated in different international and multidisciplinary research projects, and recently as a team leader she coordinated work of the Kharkiv university’ research group in the international projects on border studies ‘Migration, Borders and Regional Stability in the EU’s
Ea


Mayhill C. Fowler (Ph.D. Princeton) is associate professor of history at Stetson University, where she also directs the program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. She teaches and researches the cultural history of Ukraine, and has published widely on Les Kurbas and the Berezil, Yiddish theater, film, and the arts in Ukraine, broadly conceived. Her first book, Beau Monde at Empire’s Edge: State and Stage in Soviet Ukraine (Toronto, 2017), tells the story of the making of culture both Soviet and Ukrainian through a collective biography of young artists and officials in the 1920s and 1930s. Her second project, The Military-Entertainment Complex in the USSR: Theater on the Frontlines of Socialism, investigates how we entertain soldiers, through the lens of the former Red Army Theater in Lviv. She also works on Soviet actresses and 19th century itinerant theater troupes. She was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard and the University of Toronto, and holds an MFA from the National Theater Conservatory. She will be a Fulbright Research Scholar in Ukraine 2019-2020.

Annika Frieberg, originally from Sweden, studied Modern and Central European History at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She teaches courses in 19th and 20th century European and East European history. Her research and teaching interests center on war and genocide, gender, conflict resolution, media, national, and transnational questions in Central Europe. She has published several articles, including “Reconciliation Remembered. Early Activists and the Polish-German Relations” in Re-Mapping Polish-German Memory, which was published by Indiana University Press in 2011. She is also the co-editor of Reconciling with the Past: Resources and Obstacles in a Global Perspective published by Routledge in 2017. Dr. Frieberg's book Peace at All Costs: Transnational Networks and Media in post-war Polish-German Relations under contract with Berghahn Books will appear in the summer of 2019.
Steven Seegel is Professor of Russian, East European, and Eurasian history at the University of Northern Colorado. He is a host at the New Books Network (NBN) series of podcasts, which now reaches a million downloads monthly. His internationally acclaimed books include Map Men: Transnational Lives and Deaths of Geographers in the Making of East Central Europe (U of Chicago Press, 2018), Ukraine under Western Eyes (Harvard U Press, 2013), and Mapping Europe's Borderlands: Russian Cartography in the Age of Empire (University of Chicago Press, 2012). He contributes to Chicago’s international history of cartography series and has translated 300+ entries from Russian and Polish for the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945. He is a former director at Harvard of its Ukrainian Research Institute’s summer school and exchange program.

Yana Volkova is an Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations of Odessa Mechnikov National University. Having obtained her Master’s degree in international relations, she worked on Turkish diaspora engagement policy during her PhD program and obtained a PhD in Political Science in 2018. Initially being interested in Turkish diaspora, her work currently focuses on diaspora and identity studies, migration, nationalism and transnationalism, specifically in the Black Sea Region. This is reflected in numerous publications in Ukrainian and international journals. She is also a member of the Horizon2020 project titled "Knowledge exchange and academic cultures in the humanities. Europe and the Black Sea Region", where she researches migration flows in the region and its role in the process of knowledge exchange and political development of the region. In her spare time, she likes painting and practicing yoga.
4. PARTICIPANTS

**Yuliya Abibok** is a freelance journalist and a PhD candidate from Donetsk, Ukraine. She lives and works in Kyiv, Ukraine. Her research interests are related to media discourses on group conflicts and identities.

**James E. Baker** is a doctoral student in Geography at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He takes a broadly cross-disciplinary view of critical human geography, approaching the study of materiality and the social lives and relationships shared between narratives of place, mobilities, and the practice of (geo)politics through spatial ethnographic and visual methods. James earned his M.A. in Geography from University of Nebraska at Omaha, where he completed his Masters’ Thesis, “The Bloodshot Gaze of the Citizen,” deploying grounded theory to explore the commemorative spaces and affective discourses of post-Soviet Azerbaijan. His present research centers on using situational analysis and visual grounded theory methodologies to unpack how constructions of victimhood and revanchist rhetoric articulate ‘standard stories’ told through maps and visual codes, and their roles in border discourses. James is a recipient of a 2013 Critical Language Scholarship (Azerbaijan University of Languages, Baku), a Title VIII Grant, and will be arriving in Kharkiv hot on the heels of a workshop on teaching the South Caucasus, hosted by University of Illinois’ Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center.

**Rusudan Beridze** holds a MA degree in Social Sciences from the University of Düsseldorf, Germany (2007), and a BA degree in International Relations from the Tbilisi State University, Georgia. Currently, she is PhD student at the Ilia State University and is active as researcher at Caucasus Civic Education and Initiatives Centre.
During her professional career, Rusudan has been working as a researcher and coordinator for different employers, among others for the Friedrich-Naumann-Foundation for Freedom, Institute for the Study of Nationalism and Conflicts as well as a free-lancer for the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development and for the Caucasus Research Resource Center in the projects related to the participation, regional dialogue and development. Her main scholarly interest is in the sphere of identity, minority and borderland studies, collective memory, and nationalism.

Anna Bondarenko has graduated with honors from School of History of V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (2010 – BA; 2011 - MA). In 2005 she defended Ph.D. thesis and received a degree in Candidate of Historical Sciences. During 2015-2016 she worked as an assistant professor at Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs. Since 2016 she works as an assistant professor at V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University.

Elsa Court study MA Conflict Studies & Human Rights at the Utrecht University. Her research focuses on social boundaries and Orthodoxy in contemporary Ukraine. After completing BA International Studies at Leiden University (with a regional specialization of Eastern Europe), she spent last summer as an intern at the Kyiv Post, Ukraine's main English-language newspaper. She then volunteered for three weeks with GoGlobal, a Ukrainian NGO that trains and sends English speakers to rural regions to assist in teaching an English summer school. She is now writing my thesis on the unification of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine and how this impacts rural Moscow Patriarchy parishes in the north-west of the country. Part-time she is also an intern at PAX, a Dutch NGO that works with local partners in conflict-affected societies around the world, including communities situated along the contact line in Donbas.
Hasmik Ghazaryan is a political scientist. She serves as Project Coordinator at CARD Foundation. Her research interests include Political Conflicts, Constitutional Reforms, Political Parties, Democratic transformations. She enjoys doing research and participating in various international projects to exchange experience and share my knowledge.

Mykola Haievoi is an independent researcher. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in history from Uzhhorod National University. Earned Master’s degree in history from Ukrainian Catholic University. Received additional specialization from public history in Ukrainian Catholic University. He also completed the course “War, Violence and Gender in the 20th Century” in the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe.

Alina Mozolevska is an Associate Professor of Institute of Philology at Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University in Mykolaiv, Ukraine. She has obtained PhD in Linguistics with a major in Romance Languages from Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv, Ukraine (2014). Her doctoral thesis was focused on a complex linguistic analysis of French media discourse.

Hanna Protasova has graduated from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (MA in Comparative Literature). Her PhD project deals with the History of Ukrainian Literature of the 1920s-1940s. Simultaneously, she has been working as journalist and editor in several Ukrainian print and online media, including "Krytyka" magazine and publishing house (Kyiv, Ukraine). She has participated in international media projects and literary festivals, and she is particularly interested in the issue of Ukrainian-Russian bilingualism, its social reception and representation in contemporary Ukrainian media, and social media.
**Bradley Reynolds** is a Doctoral student in Social Sciences at the University of Helsinki. He grew up in Colorado, USA, but has lived in Finland since 2015. Academically he strives to eventually become a historian and an area studies expert with a focus on Europe and Russia.

**Alexandra Seidlová**, after completing Bachelor's Geography and Cartography study program at the Charles University's Department of Social Geography and Regional Development, went to Finland for 5 months of Border Studies program under the Erasmus+ initiative. In 2016 she continued back at the Charles University with the Master's study program of Regional and Political Geography which she has finished in 2018. Since then she continues in the same field with PhD studies and specializes in the Eastern borders of the EU.

**Mariana Senkiv** is a Candidate of Geographical Sciences, Lecturer at the Department of Tourism (Lviv Polytechnic National University) since 2017. Author of more than 30 scientific papers. Developer of the curriculum on universal design in tourism in the framework of the United Nations Development Programme. Interested in issues of sustainable tourism, in particular, on the borderland areas. Member of public organizations in the field of science and education.

**Ihor Usatenko** holds a PhD in World history. He has been teaching history for seven years in an ordinary secondary school in Vinnysia oblast. Currently, he is working as a Head of Department for dealing with gifted children and is also a lecturer in Vinnysia Academy of Continuing Education. He has attended many workshops, training sessions and summer schools. His research interests are World-System’s analysis, history didactics, collective memory, national identities etc.
**Urban Jakša**, a native of Slovenia, is currently finishing his PhD in International Politics at the University of York. His PhD research is focused on geopolitics of ‘frozen conflicts’ and external relations of de facto states in post-Soviet space, especially Abkhazia. In 2016 Urban was a visiting research student at Higher School of Economics Moscow and in 2016-2017, a visiting Fulbright scholar at Columbia’s Harriman Institute. He also worked as a visiting expert at the Polish Institute for International Affairs (PISM) in 2017 and as Executive Assistant to the Head of Mission of the OSCE Parliamentary Election Assessment Mission in Slovenia in 2018. Before starting his doctoral studies, Urban worked as a research fellow at Caucasus Research Resource Center in Armenia, project manager for Transparency International Slovenia, and in NATO’s Political Affairs and Security Policy Division.

**Rimantė Jaugaitė** strives to get a MA in Interdisciplinary research and studies on Eastern Europe at the University of Bologna. She has already studied at and worked as trainee or volunteer at cultural and academic initiatives in Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Switzerland, Italy, Croatia and the United States. She aims to find a professional position which takes advantage of those skills as well as her expertise as a researcher, and her role as a leader in multi-tasking work environments.
Anna Chebotarova works as a research assistant at the School for Humanities and Social Sciences, University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) and the coordinator of Ukrainian Regionalism: a Research Platform initiative. She is a PhD candidate at the Graduate School for Social Research, Polish Academy of Sciences and is affiliated with the Center for Urban History in East-Central Europe (Lviv, Ukraine). She obtained her MA in Sociology and Social Anthropology from the Central European University (Budapest, Hungary) and her MA in History and Sociology from Ivan Franko Lviv National University (Lviv, Ukraine). Her research interests include collective memory studies, cultural heritage studies, qualitative methodology of sociological research.

Oleksii Chebotarov is a Doctoral candidate at the University of St. Gallen. Oleksii works as the research assistant for the Department of Russian Studies at the University of St. Gallen and managing editor of the online open access journal Euxeinos. Governance and Culture in the Black Sea Region. He is a affiliated researcher of the Urban Media Archive at the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe in Lviv. Oleksii is the co-founder and project coordinator at the Center for Interethnic Relations Research in Eastern Europe. Research interests: migration history, borderland studies, history of nationalism, Jewish history, new imperial history.

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