

ALEKSANTERI NEWS

22 October, 2012 ■ Issue 3



Photo: Sari Autio-Sarasma

The "Choices of Russian Modernisation" Centre of Excellence took 20 international graduate students to a summer school in Åland to discuss Russian modernisation with leading scholars in the field. Read more about CoE activities on page 10.

WELCOME TO THE ALEKSANTERI CONFERENCE!

The conference Competition and Good Society - The Eastern Model aims to generate new understanding of competition. The focus is on the challenges that the Eastern model provides to theoretical debates. The Eastern model also reminds us of the interactive link between the past and the present in terms of change and continuity. The panels will discuss the kind of impact that competition has on economic growth, welfare, social justice, civil society, equality and diversification of culture. The keynote speakers will deliberate on the various aspects of competition from a range of disciplinary points of view, including economic history, political sociology, gender studies, media research and political science.

Conference programme on pages 4-7



NEW FIDIPRO PROFESSORSHIP

The Academy of Finland has granted the Aleksanteri Institute five-year funding for a Finland Distinguished Professor (FiDiPro) project. With the FiDiPro programme, the Academy of Finland aims to further develop the Finnish research environment and invites top-level scholars to work in Finland for this purpose.

One of the world's leading analysts of Russia's politics, **Vladimir Gel'man** from the European University at St. Petersburg, will work at the University of Helsinki during 2012-2017.

FiDiPro Professor Gel'man's project focuses on continuity and change in Russia's political regime and the formation of its institutions with an ambitious comparative and theoretical approach. The project is entitled Regimes, Institutions and Change: Politics and Governance in Russia in a Comparative Perspective.

Read more on page 2!

FIDIPRO
Finland Distinguished Professor Programme

FACE OF THE MONTH: VLADIMIR GEL'MAN

A well-known Soviet joke distinguished between optimists, pessimists and realists. Optimists were learning English since they expected a war with the United States. Pessimists were learning Chinese. And realists? Well, they were learning how to use a Kalashnikov gun. Likewise, scholars on Russian politics can be classified as optimists, pessimists and realists. So argues **Finland Distinguished Professor Vladimir Gel'man**, one of the most cited Russian political scientists in the world.

Professor Gel'man's recent work focuses on subversive institutions. He defines these as the rules, norms and practices that at first sight resemble institutions of modern democracy, good governance and rule of law – but in reality inhibit them. An illuminating example of subversive institutions is Russia's notorious practice of unfair elections.

"Pessimists" are those scholars who stress the importance of historical or cultural legacies, says Professor Gel'man. The problem is that legacies too often serve as explanatory models for lazy scholars, who will then not consider alternative explanations or look for the tools needed to overcome such legacies. Moreover, legacies poorly explain variation or changes.

Then there are the "optimists", who focus on post-Soviet state-building. In their view, subversive institutions fill the gap left by the decline of the state and the great transformations of the 1990s. Gel'man himself is a "realist". Realists stress the meaning of actors, interests, incentives, strategies and resources in their analysis of contemporary Russia.

"I have never believed in any kind of determinism", says Professor Gel'man. "Looking at Russian politics now, I don't think we should be too positive. But I do think that things have begun to change." A learning effect is taking place. "Russia will probably make new mistakes but it will not repeat the ones already made." A generational change has occurred as well. "The protesters were mainly young people. What the protests show is that people are no longer indifferent. We cannot speak of Russian politics as

just games of elites anymore. What seems most important to me is that if we want things to change, a rise in mass political activism is necessary."

As a new Finland distinguished professor, Gel'man will devote his time in Helsinki to an analysis of political continuity and changes from a comparative perspective. Entitled *Regimes, Institutions and Change: Politics and Governance in Russia in a Comparative Perspective*, the project will seek to find out why democracy, good governance and rule of law have not been rooted in Russia. To avoid the idea that Russia is unique, a broad scope is needed, one that will place Russian politics onto the world map, both in contemporary times as well as historically.

Professor Gel'man feels that Finland provides a perfect setting for such research, not only as a stimulating scholarly environment but also as a well-functioning and comfortable society.

Anna-Maria Salmi



Photo: Niina Into

Finland Distinguished Professor Vladimir Gel'man's inaugural lecture entitled "Regimes and Institutions in Contemporary Russian Politics" will take place on Tuesday 20 November at 2 pm (University Main Building, Small Hall, Fabianinkatu 33). Welcome!

Registrations:

<https://elomake.helsinki.fi/lomakkeet/38099/lomake.html>

FACTS ABOUT VLADIMIR GEL'MAN:

- Finland Distinguished Professor at the Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki and Professor of Political Science at the European University at St. Petersburg
- Cluster Leader in the Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies – Choices of Russian Modernisation
- Served as a visiting professor at the Central European University, Budapest, the University of Texas at Austin, and the New Economic School, Moscow
- Expertise: Russian and post-Soviet politics in theoretical and comparative perspective, regime changes, political institutions, electoral and party politics, federalism and regionalism

- Recent publications:
 - *The Politics of Sub-National Authoritarianism in Russia* (Ashgate, 2010, co-edited with C.Ross);
 - *Resource Curse and Post-Soviet Eurasia: Oil, Gas, and Modernization* (Lexington Books, 2010; co-edited with O.Marganiya);
 - Institution Building and 'Institutional Traps' in Russian Politics, in: M.Lipman and N.Petrov (eds.). *Russia in 2020: Scenarios for the Future*. Washington, DC: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2011.
 - *Subversive Institutions, Informal Governance, and Contemporary Russian Politics. Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 2012, vol.45 (in print).

INCREASING WORKING-LIFE SKILLS ON A BUSINESS PROJECT COURSE

The Aleksanteri Institute's study programmes have a strong multidisciplinary structure, which provides a great basis for cooperation with companies. In the autumn of 2011, the students of the Aleksanteri Institute had the opportunity to participate in a business project course pilot facilitated by OVET and VALOA projects.

As a result of the pilot, the OVET and VALOA projects have produced a handbook for business project course providers. The handbook aims to encourage university staff to more actively take the opportunity to collaborate with businesses. The handbook also provides help with instructing international and multidisciplinary groups.

The business project course offers a valuable opportunity for university staff and students as well as employers. The project course allows staff to strengthen contacts with companies and to explore new teaching methods. Students have the opportunity to develop their project management and team working skills. At the same time, many students can gain their first work experience in their own field, not to mention a valuable addition to their CV. For employers, collaboration brings a new, fresh insight, and an opportunity to connect with the experts of the future.

You can find the *Step to Expertise – Handbook for Business Project Course Providers* in both English and Finnish on www.ovethanke.fi.

The next business project course will be organised in the spring of 2013 in cooperation with the Aleksanteri Institute and the Tampere University of Applied Sciences (TAMK). For more information about the course, please contact Laura Quist, laura.quist@helsinki.fi.

Iiris Virtasalo



NARRATIVES OF SUFFERING IN POST-COLD WAR EUROPE

The Memory at War team at the Aleksanteri Institute organised a symposium dedicated to narratives of suffering in post-Cold War Europe. Held in Helsinki on 3–4 September, the symposium gathered researchers from Finland, Russia, Ukraine, the UK and Poland to discuss topics ranging from Karelian war memorials to various victimhood strategies in Poland and the Balkans.

Philipp Chapkovski from the European University presented different explanatory models for the popularity of pro-Stalinist literature in contemporary Russia, which include the phantom pain of the dissolved Soviet Empire and the end of ideology. **Jussi Lassila** and **Markku Kangaspuro** from the host university provided an overview of the narratives of suffering in the **Putin**-era public discussion on **Stalin** and the Great Patriotic War. They highlighted various narrative strategies that embrace Stalin and the Great Patriotic War in current political discourse.

In addition to Stalin discourses, two lectures concentrated on post-Soviet Ukraine's historical memory. **Tatiana Zhurzhenko**, also from the MAW Helsinki team, argued that the interpretation of the Second World War in the post-Soviet world has turned from triumph to trauma, and the rise of the victimhood narratives has developed in the post-Soviet space. In Ukraine, the official state narratives of WWII are part of history politics, which is reflected through educational policy. **Lina Klymenko** argued that Ukraine's culture of remembrance needs critical reflection if the country wants to join the European democratic historical awareness, as victimhood narratives or claims are part of a political process.

The symposium concluded that historical memory, especially of the Second World War, is a rich field that requires critical research from multiple perspectives.

Susanna Pirmes

UPCOMING SEMINAR:

ELECTING THE FUTURE - PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN UKRAINE 2012

On the threshold of the Ukrainian parliamentary elections, experts from both Ukraine and Finland will discuss the political situation in Ukraine and shed light on the possible paths that the country could take depending on the outcome. Keynote lecture by Deputy Director General, Director of Political and Legal Programmes **Yuriy Yakymenko**, Razumkov Centre is entitled "Ukraine's Elections 2012: towards European future or back in the USSR?"

The seminar is organised by the Aleksanteri Institute and will take place in the Konsistori room, University of Helsinki Main building on Oct 23rd at 9.30-11.45.

UPCOMING SEMINAR:

THE SOUTH CAUCASUS BEYOND BORDERS, BOUNDARIES AND DIVISION LINES: CONFLICTS, COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This seminar is organised at the Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki on Wednesday 31 October. More information coming soon.

You can also contact **Mikko Palonkorpi** (firstname.lastname@helsinki.fi)

ALEKSANTERI CONFERENCE 2012:

COMPETITION AND GOOD SOCIETY - THE EASTERN MODEL



DEAR COLLEAGUES,

I warmly welcome you to the 12th Aleksanteri Conference! This conference on the subject of competition is timely indeed, since competitiveness has been mentioned frequently due to the current financial crisis. However, the overwhelming economic discourse has generally overshadowed the broader aspects of the wellbeing of society. With this conference, we would like to direct attention away from the dominant explanatory patterns towards a more diversified understanding, and shed light on the impact of competition on societal development.

The idea of the conference originated in a Finnish research project, Competition in Socialist Society. The results of that project indicated that competition appeared in all sectors of state socialism. Therefore, the conference considers the significance of change and continuity regarding competition in the post-communist era. Accordingly, we could debate whether there exists a distinct 'Eastern model' that offers a different perception of competition than the Western one. In the context of transition, several important interlinked questions deserve to be deliberated further, including the role of competition in the democratization process, in the construction of identity, in welfare and economic growth or in the diversification of culture. The conference call received wide interest from all over the world, with participants coming from 29 countries; this presents us with a great opportunity to exchange ideas and discover novel approaches.

On the behalf of the organizers, I hope that we can provide a forum for fruitful interdisciplinary discussions and to generate perhaps new lines of questioning on competition.

Katalin Miklóssy

Head of the organizing committee
Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki



WEDNESDAY 24TH OCTOBER

10:00-12:00 Registration (Info desk, entrance hall in front of the Small Hall, 4th floor in the University of Helsinki Main Building, address: Unioninkatu 34 / Fabianinkatu 33). All conference sessions will take place in the Main Building.

12:00-12:30 Opening Ceremony (Small Hall) Chair: Markku Kivinen, Director, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki, Finland

Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland 2000-2012

12:30-14:00 Plenary Session I (Small Hall) Chair: **Katalin Miklóssy**, Aleksanteri Institute/ Department of Political and Economic Studies, University of Helsinki, Finland

Iván Szelényi

William Garam Sumner Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Political Science, Yale University and NYUAD, USA
Pathways from and Crises after Communism

Iván Berend

Distinguished Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, USA
Change and Continuity in Central and Eastern Europe

14:00-14:30 Coffee

14:30-16:30 Panels I

1 CERES-panel 1: Competing Modernities: East-West Interaction during the Cold War (Auditorium II)

Chair and discussant: **Katalin Miklóssy** (Aleksanteri Institute/ Department of Political and Economic Studies, Finland)

Sari Autio-Sarasmo (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland): *Following the Western Model: Soviet Economic Modernisation during the Cold War*

Helene Carlbäck (Södertörn University, Sweden): *The Woman Question and Competing Modernities during the Cold War*

Suvi Kansikas (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland): *Western Models for Eastern Integration. The CMEA Analyses of the EC at the Turn of the 1970s*

Rósa Magnúsdóttir (Aarhus University, Denmark): *Soviet Modernity and the American Enemy during the Cold War*

2 Regulation, Education and Economic Competition (Hall 14)

Chair: **Melanie Feakins** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland and UC Berkeley, USA)

Faragat Karimova (Medical State University, Uzbekistan): *System of Antimonopolistic Mechanisms in Governmental Institutions*

Maxim Markin (National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia): *Trying to Restore the Competition: Conflicting Results of the State Regulation in Russian Retail Industry*

Svetlana Tulaeva (University of Eastern Finland): *Regulatory Competition: A Case of Russian Forestry Sector*

Maria Pitukhina and Svetlana Sigova (Petrozavodsk State University, Russia): *Competence-Based Approach as a Tool for Society*

Discussant: **Anna-Liisa Heusala** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

3 Competition and Democracy I (Hall 15)

Chair: **Vladimir Gel'man** (European University at St. Petersburg, Russia and Finland Distinguished Professor, Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Jan Holzer (Masaryk University, Czech Republic): *Opposition in Contemporary Russian Politics. Notes on Specific Actor in Authoritarian/ Hybrid Regime*

Elena Maslovskaya (Nizhny Novgorod State University, Russia): *Competition in the Juridical Field: The Case of Russia*

Catherine Owen (University of Exeter, UK): *Human Rights Activists and Advisory Bodies in Russia: Working for State or Civil Society?*

Andrey Zaostrovsev (European University at St Petersburg, Russia): *Russian Authoritarianism: "Natural State" against Fair Competition*

Discussants: **Tapani Kaakkuriniemi** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland) and **Vladimir Gel'man** (European University at St. Petersburg, Russia)

16:45-18:45 Panels II**4 Between East and West during the Cold War (Auditorium II)**

Chair: **Suvi Kansikas** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Elena Kochetkova (European University at St. Petersburg): *East-West Competition and Forestry Cooperation in 1953-1964*

Simo Mikkonen (University of Jyväskylä, Finland): *Transnational Turn in the Soviet Society during the Late Socialism*

Markus Kari (University of Helsinki, Finland): *Pilot to the West – Bank of Finland as a Westernizer of the Economic Policies of the 1980's*

Nikola Samardžić (University of Belgrade, Serbia): *Soviet Heart and Western Greed: the Yugoslav Cold-War Paradigm*

Haris Dajč (University of Belgrade, Serbia): *Balkan Pact 1953 and Yugoslavia*

Discussant: **Sari Autio-Sarasmo** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

5 Problems of Healthy Economic Competition (Hall 14)

Chair: **Arseniy Svynarenko** (University of Tampere, Finland)

Oksana Nezhvenko (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine): *Competition and Corruption: the Idea of Shadow-Free Economy*

Larissa Volodina (Saint-Petersburg Institute of Foreign Economic Affairs, Economics and Law, Russia): *The Basic Tendencies of Social Policy of the Russian Business*

Alexander Gurkov (Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia and Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki, Finland): *Arbitrating Competition Law Disputes in Russia*

Seyed Behzad Akhlaghi (Editor of Diplomacy Group, Iqna News Agency, Iran): *Improvement, Innovation and Expansion of Competition in Central Asia*

Discussant: **Laura Solanko** (Bank of Finland, Finland)

6 Competition and Democracy II (Hall 15)

Chair: **Anna-Liisa Heusala** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Sergey Zaverskiy (Moscow State University, Russia): *Spatial Distribution of Government Authorities and Regional Development*

Nadir Kinossian (University of Tromsø, Norway): *The Image of a Competitive City: the Gap between Aspiration and Reality*

Discussant: **Veli-Pekka Tynkkynen** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

18:45 Welcome Drink (University of Helsinki Main Building lobby on the Senate Square side, Unioninkatu 34)

THURSDAY 25TH OCTOBER**08:30-10:00 Panels III****7 Popular Culture in the Cold War Competition (Hall 7)**

Chair: **Dragana Cvetanovic** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Rhiannon Dowling Fredericks (University of California, Berkeley, USA): *Communism, Consumerism and the Competition over the "Good Life": the Making of Ninotchka, and the Russian Question and the Early Cold War*

Riikka Nisonen (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland): *A Mole Hole in the Iron Curtain*

Discussant: **Tuomas Laine-Frigren** (University of Jyväskylä, Finland)

8 Competing Identities and Education (Hall 8)

Chair: **Ivan Tchalakov** (University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria)

Irina Gvelesiani (Tbilisi State University, Georgia): *Regional, National and International Languages: Competition and Hegemony (on the Example of Georgia)*

Rumiya Tangalycheva (Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia): *Intercultural Training Program as a Tool of Raising the Individual Level of Competition*

Sergiy Kurbatov (University of Uppsala, Sweden): *University Rankings and the Problem of Competitiveness of National Universities of Post-Soviet Countries in Global Educational Space: the Case of Ukraine*

Oksana Shmulyar Gréen (Gothenburg University, Sweden): *Business Education in Russia as an Instrument of Economic Development*

Discussant: **Sari Eriksson** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

10:15-12:15 Panels IV**9 Cold War Competition in the Sphere of Culture (Hall 14)**

Chair: **Rósa Magnúsdóttir** (Aarhus University, Denmark)

Mateja Habinc (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia): *Eliminating State Holidays as a Part of Saving Measures: a Slovenian Case Study*

Pia Koivunen (University of Tampere, Finland): *The World Youth Festival as a Forum for Demonstrating the Soviet Cultural Supremacy*

Takehiro Okabe (University of Helsinki, Finland): *Competing with another Kalevala: O.W. Kuusinen, Soviet Intellectuals and the Making of the Soviet Kalevala in 1949*

Discussant: **Simo Mikkonen** (University of Jyväskylä, Finland)

10 Social Welfare and Civil Society in Transformation (Hall 7)

Chair: **Freek van der Vet** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Elena Maltseva (Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan): *Kazakhstan's Social Welfare Reform: Understanding the Role of Informal Institutions and Discourse in Public Policy Process*

Alima Bissenova (Max Planck Institute, Germany): *The Boom, the Bust, and the Mediating State: Housing Bailouts and the Discourse of Fairness in the Wake of Financial Crisis in Kazakhstan*

Dmitry Goncharov (National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russia): *Postcommunist Unciviness: Syndrome of Anti-Modern Society*

Anna Tarasenko (European University at Saint Petersburg, Russia): *Division Means no Competition? The Case Study of the Non-profit Sector in St. Petersburg*

Discussants: **Simo Mannila** (National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland) and **Meri Kulmala** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

11 Inter-Ethnicity and Citizenship (Hall 8)

Chair: **Sigrid Kaasik-Krogerus** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Tatiana Litvinova (Russian Academy of Science): *Regional Power Institutions of the North Caucasus and Federal Power of Russia: through Competition to Consensus*

Juris Rozenvalds (University of Latvia): *Inter-Ethnic Relations and Political Competition in Post-Soviet Development of Estonia and Latvia*

Elo-Hanna Seljamaa (University of Tartu, Estonia): *Ethnic Diversity and Competition in Post-Soviet Estonia*

Discussant: **Markku Kangaspuro** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

12:15-13:15 Lunch break

13:15-14:45 Plenary Session II (Small Hall, Main Building)
Chair: **Markku Kivinen**, Director, Aleksanteri Institute, Finland

Colin Sparks

Professor of Media Studies, Chinese Media Research Center,
University of Westminster, UK
Censors, Markets and Journalism

Andrea Petö

Professor, Department of Gender Studies, Central European
University, Hungary
History as Happiness

14:45-15:15 Coffee

15:15-16:45 Panels V

12 Competition and Co-operation in Sports (Hall 7)

Chair: **Saara Ratilainen** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)
Brendan Humphreys (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland): *Soldiers or Jailers? Rugby in Ceausescu's Romania*
Elena Kapustkina (Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia): *Competition of a Form of Rehabilitation for Handicapped People*
Tatjana Lipiäinen (University of Eastern Finland): *Cooperation Mechanisms of the Russian Youth: Transnational Capoeira Angola Movement in St. Petersburg*
Discussant: **Jussi Lassila** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

13 Gender – Equality (Hall 8)

Chair: **Anna-Maria Salmi** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)
Marianna Muravyeva (Aleksanteri Institute/ Faculty of Law, Finland): *Competing Genders: Domestic Homicide and Traditional Values in Russian Society*
Larisa Zabrovskaia (Russian Academy of Science): *The Gender Policy in Countries with Confucian Traditions: A Comparative Study*
Ekaterina Borozdina (European University at St. Petersburg, Russia): *The Russian "Maternity Capital" Benefit: Outcomes for Gender Equality*
Discussant: **Andrea Petö** (Central European University, Hungary)

14 Politics of Cultural Identity (Hall 14)

Chair: **Anna Korhonen** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)
Elnura Assyltayeva (Al-Faraba Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan): *Identity in Democracy*
Chia Yin Hsu (Portland State University, USA): *The Color of Money: The Ruble, Competing Currencies, and Conceptions of Citizenship in Russian Manchuria, 1890s-1920s*
Michael Long (Baylor University, USA): *Progress or Stagnation: Inter-Agency Competition in the Preservation of Georgian Cultural Monuments*
Discussant: **Aappo Kähönen** (Department of Political Studies, University of Helsinki, Finland)

17:00-18:30 Panels VI

15 Competition in Socialism – Theoretical Approaches (Hall 7)

Chair: **Jutta Scherrer** (Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris, France)
Dieter Segert (University of Vienna, Austria): *The Need in Com-*

petition in State Socialist Society as a Precondition for the Transition to a Modern Society

Natali Stegmann (University of Regensburg, Germany): *No Competition at All? Ideas of a Good Life in Late Socialist Societies: Working Place and Family (Examples from Poland and Czechoslovakia)*

Katalin Miklóssy (University of Helsinki, Finland): *Interactive Socialism: Competition and Entrepreneurial Behaviour*
Discussant: **Iván Szelényi** (Yale University and NYUAD, USA)

16 A(nta)gonising Civil Society in BiH – Motives, Practices, and Results (Hall 8)

Chair: **Brendan Humphreys** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)
Piotr Goldstein (University of Manchester, UK): *Agony or Apathy? Changing Modes of (Non)-Competitiveness in Mostar and Novi Sad Civil Societies*
Giulia Carabelli (Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland): *Antagonism vs. Good Society: Is the Answer in Art Practice? The Case of Mostar*
Maria Andreana Deiana (Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland): *Fighting against Windmills? The Promises and Perils of Collective Action in Post Dayton Bosnia-Hertzegovina*
Discussant: **Jouni Järvinen** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

19:00-20:00 RECEPTION

The conference reception is held at the Helsinki City Hall (address: Pohjoisesplanadi 11-13). Meeting point is at 18:45 in front of the University Main Building by the Senate Square side.

FRIDAY 26TH OCTOBER

09:00-11:00 Panels VII

17 Theoretical Perspectives of Competition I (Hall 14)

Chair: **Hanna Ruutu** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)
Irina Frolova (Tver State University, Russia): *Chinese Strategies as a Reflection of Competition Theory and Practice*
Nina Wieda (Middlebury College, USA): *Tales of Unauthentic Human Beings: Competition in Contemporary Russian Literature*
Aleksandar Fatic (Institute of International Politics and Economics, Belgrade): *The Role of Sympathy vs. Competition in Communal Ethics*
Discussant: **Jutta Scherrer** (Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris, France)

18 Power Vertical or Competition? Power Elite Strategies and Structuring of Civil Activism in the "Operated Democracy" in Modern Russia (Hall 7)

Chair: **Peggy Watson** (University of Cambridge, U.K.)
Anna Shentyakova (St. Petersburg State University, Russia): *The Influence of the Federal Elite on the Inter-Party Competition in the Pre-Election Period*
Aleksandra Daugavet (Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia): *St. Petersburg Political-Administrative Elite on the New Stage: "Return" of Opposition to Regional Parliament*
Polina Leshukova (Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia): *Elite Clubs: Modern Russia and Motivation of the Members*

Andrey Nevskij (Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia): *Social and Labor Movements in St. Petersburg: Rise of the Leaders and Interaction between Groups*

Discussant: **Markku Kivinen** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

19 Changing Values and the Idea of Democracy (Hall 8)

Chair: **Tatiana Zhurzhenko** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Siti Zahrotul Luthfiyah (University of Indonesia): *Democracy: New Colonialism for Developing Country*

Aimar Ventsel (University of Tartu, Estonia): *Half of the Country is My Relatives: Kinship Solidarity, Morality and Good Life in Post-Socialist Kazakhstan*

Gulnar Iskakova (Academy of Political Science, Semey State Pedagogical Institute, Kazakhstan): *Social and Cultural Context of Human Rights: Dialogue of Cultures East-West*

Discussant: **Markku Lonkila** (Department of Social Research, University of Helsinki, Finland)

11:15-13:15 Panels VIII

20 Geopolitical Aspects of Competition (Hall 7)

Chair: **Anni Kangas** (University of Tampere, Finland)

Irina Zeleneva (Saint Petersburg State University, Russia): *Competition within the Large Spaces and between Them: A Trend of World Policy and World Economy of the 21st Century*

Greg Simons (Uppsala University, Sweden): *New Public Diplomacy in the Era of Global Communication and Competition*

Aftab Kazi (Johns Hopkins University, USA and Quid Azam University, Pakistan): *Interdependence or a New Political Order in Eurasia: A Geopolinomic Perspective*

Nadezhda Kharlampieva (Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia): *East Meet East in the Arctic: How Are We Ready?*

Discussant: **Hanna Smith** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

21 Social Welfare and Well-Being: Problems and Challenges (Hall 8)

Chair: **Kaarina Aitamurto** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Kishimjan Osmonova (Humboldt University, Germany): *Housing and Notions of Social Justice: Soviet legacy and Present*

Elda Gjergji (University of Elbasan, Albania): *Social Protection of Vulnerable Groups in Post-Communist Albania*

Ortenca Kotherja (University of Tirana, Albania): *Professor Workplace Satisfaction: A Factor of Motivation in Their Performance with Students*

Klavs Sedlenieks (University of Latvia): *The Fiction of Competitiveness: How Latvian Unhappiness Tells a Story of Human Nature*

Discussant: **Anssi Halmesvirta** (University of Jyväskylä, Finland)

13:15-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-16:30 Panels IX

22 National and Transnational Dimensions of Russia's Relations in the Asian Region (Hall 7)

Chair: **Anaïs Marin** (Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Finland)

Elena Shadrina (Meiji University, Japan): *Russia's State Capitalism and Energy Geopolitics of Northeast Asia*

Fabio Indeo (University of Camerino, Italy): *Central Asia between National Interest and Supranational Projects*

Maria Lagutina (Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia): *Eurasian Union Foundation: Issues of Global Regionalization*

Discussant: **Pami Aalto** (University of Tampere, Finland)

23 Theoretical Perspectives of Competition II (Hall 14)

Chair: **Sanna Turoma** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Dzemat Sokolovic (Institute for Strengthening Democracy, Bosnia): *The Dialectics of Exchange*

Karmo Kroos (Tallinn University, Estonia): *Varieties of Post-Communist Capitalism with Their Religious Foundations*

Discussant: TBC

24 CERES-panel 2: Post-Socialist Entrepreneurs as New Economic Actors (Hall 8)

Chair and discussant: **Jouko Nikula** (Aleksanteri Institute, Finland)

Ivan Tchalakov (University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria): *Innovation and Entrepreneurship in (Post) Socialist Bulgaria: between Capitalist Path-Dependencies and Newly Emerging Patterns of Industrial Development*

Vladislava Vladimirova (Uppsala University, Sweden and Tromsø University, Norway): *Indigenous Ethnic Kinship/ Neighborhood-Based Organizations (Obshchiny) as a New Way to Economic Entrepreneurship in the Russian North*

Ann-Mari Sätre (Uppsala University, Sweden): *Household Strategies for Business Development from a Local Perspective in Russia*

Ildikó Asztalos Morell (Uppsala University and Mälardalen University, Sweden): *Minorities and the Majority: Local Models of Incorporation in Rural Hungary*

16:30-17:00 Coffee

17:00-17:45 Plenary Session III (Small Hall, Main Building)

Chair: **Markku Kangaspuro**, Professor, Aleksanteri Institute, Finland

Vladimir Gel'man

Professor of Political Science and Sociology, European University at St. Petersburg, Russia and Finland Distinguished Professor, Aleksanteri Institute, Finland

Challenges of Competitive Authoritarianism: Lessons from Russia's Experience

17:45-18:00 Closing Ceremony (Small Hall, Main Building)



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ANDREA PETÖ

Andrea Petö is associate professor at the Department of Gender Studies at the Central European University in Budapest, the president of the gender and women's history section of the Hungarian Historical Association and the Feminist Section of the Hungarian Sociological Association, and co-president of AtGender, The European Association for Gender Research, Education and Documentation. Petö has authored several books and articles on European comparative social and gender history.

ABSTRACT OF THE KEYNOTE LECTURE ON 25 OCTOBER
HISTORY AS HAPPINESS

On a long weekend in August, 2012, tens of thousands of Hungarians were parading in historical costumes in an open air festival called "kulturtaj" (meeting of the tribes), which celebrates the fact that Hungarians are not of Finno-Ugric origin but have Sumerian and Hunnic roots. Similarly, people in the Czech Republic dressed as Hussites (14th century religious reformers in the Czech lands) march on the streets of Prague to protest against the European Union. Extreme nationalism and populism are on the rise all over Europe.

The talk seeks to contribute to a new field of analysis, exploring the possible ways in which the popularity of the far right is constructed in relationship to the past and the narratives of the past, and how history becomes an indispensable tool for constructing happiness.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

COLIN SPARKS

Colin Sparks is professor of media studies at the University of Westminster (UK) and director of communication at the Media Research Institute (CAM-RI). Professor Sparks was one of the founders of Media, Culture and Society, and was a founder of the European Institute for Communication and Culture. His current research interests include the comparative study of media systems undergoing rapid change. He is particularly interested in comparing the media systems of post-communist countries with those of other societies that have moved away from different forms of dictatorship towards more democratic forms of political rule.

ABSTRACT OF THE KEYNOTE LECTURE ON 25 OCTOBER
CENSORS, MARKETS AND JOURNALISM

The general shift from a command to a market economy in China has affected the mass media as much as, if not more than, other areas of society. Starting in 1978, the entire media moved away from the subsidised model towards a dependence upon advertising and subscription.

Today, most of the media is dependent upon market forces for its economic survival and is consequently under pressure to adapt its content to the needs of those markets. Although some heavily subsidised areas remain, such as international broadcasting, the main media, like CCTV and the large-circulation newspapers, are almost completely dependent upon their ability to attract readers, viewers and advertisers.

Alongside the existing media that have adapted, there have been numerous new outlets, notably newspapers and magazines, that originated with a market orientation. At the same time, party control of the media remains a central reality for journalists and other media producers, particularly in the field of news production.

For some years, Chinese and Western commentators argued that the development of the market would inevitably bring the media into conflict with the party and lead to a pressure towards democratization. This hope has, so far, turned out to be illusory: Chinese media organizations and Chinese journalists have found ways of adapting to the new situation, with varying degrees of comfort.

More recently, observers have expressed the same enthusiasm for the democratic potential of the internet, particularly instant messaging services, and this situation is indeed much more hopeful.

This presentation reviews the changes to Chinese media organisations, to the practices and self-conceptions of Chinese journalists, and to the relations between the media, political power and popular interests. It is demonstrated that there is no simple and uniform progression from a controlled state media to a free-market media, and that there are a range of different practices to be detected in the current situation.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

IVÁN SZELÉNYI

Iván Szelényi is the William Garam Sumner Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Political Science at Yale University, and the Max Weber Professor of Social Science and Foundation Dean of Social Sciences at NYUAD. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as well as a member of the Hungarian National Academy of Sciences. Szelenyi has published several books and articles on social inequalities from a comparative and historical perspective in communist and post-communist countries.



ABSTRACT OF THE KEYNOTE LECTURE ON 24 OCTOBER PATHWAYS FROM AND CRISES AFTER COMMUNISM

The transition from socialist redistributive economy to capitalist markets proved to be a rockier road than anticipated. The degree and character of difficulties that countries faced during the transition depended on the nature of the pathways they took. In this paper, I distinguish three major trajectories that various countries followed: Central European neo-liberalism, the post-USSR neo-patrimonial regime, and the East Asian (Chinese and Vietnamese) transformation from below. Rather than distinguishing the “right way” from the “wrong way”, I explore the different costs and benefits of the various pathways at various stages of the transformation.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

IVÁN T. BEREND

Iván T. Berend is distinguished professor of the University of California, Los Angeles, a member of the British Academy, the Academia Europea, and four other European academies of science. He has authored 29 books on economic history, the most recent of which are *Europe Since 1980* (2010) and *Industrialization and Diversity. A Regional Economic History of 19th Century Europe* (forthcoming in 2012), and he is currently working on *Out of the Blue? The 2008–12 European Economic Crisis*.



ABSTRACT OF THE KEYNOTE LECTURE ON 24 OCTOBER CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

In spite of major attempts to catch up with the West, the Eastern peripheries remained continuously backward for two centuries. The region’s income level fluctuated around 40–50 percent of that of Western Europe. Backwardness not only refers to lower per capita income, but a complex cultural, economic, political and social phenomenon. It means the conservation of pre-modern cultural values and behavioural patterns, a lower level of education, a broader income gap in a more hierarchical society, and more authoritarian, often dictatorial political regimes. These elements of peripheral backwardness are mutually reinforcing.

The paper presents three separate stories of backwardness that, together, illuminate some of the genuine problems of change and continuity in Central and Eastern Europe. The Greek example provides an economic scenario with which to catch up with the West from a position of economic backwardness. The Russian case represents the political strategy of dealing with the challenges and pressures of change and continuity regarding the choices

of development. The Hungarian story illustrates a scheme of trying to find a solution to come to terms with social backwardness and the revisiting of welfare institutions.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

VLADIMIR GEL'MAN

Vladimir Gel'man is professor of political science and sociology at the European University in St. Petersburg; Finland distinguished professor at the Centre for Modernisation Studies at the Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki; and visiting professor at the Central European University in Budapest and at the University of Texas in Austin. He is a member of the editorial board of *Polis*, *European Political Science*, and *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. He has published 17 books and over 120 articles on Russian and Post-Soviet politics and comparative politics.



ABSTRACT OF THE KEYNOTE LECTURE ON 26 OCTOBER CHALLENGES OF COMPETITIVE AUTHORITARIANISM: LESSONS FROM RUSSIA'S EXPERIENCE

Why do some authoritarian regimes survive while others do not? Considerable recent effort has been invested into analysing “competitive” or “electoral” authoritarianism – the type of authoritarian regime that is based upon meaningful elections (as opposed to “classical” versions of authoritarianism, which are known for their “elections without choice”). The essence of these elections is an uneven level playing field, which aimed to maintain incumbents’ electoral victories, irrespective of the preferences of voters.

The recent proliferation of competitive authoritarian regimes resulted from the fact that autocrats across the globe sought to use elections as a means of both domestic and international legitimisation of the status quo. It is no wonder that post-electoral protests often became challenges, which might be incompatible with regime survival, as the experience of “colour revolutions” tells us.

Although Russia’s regime was able to muddle through these challenges in 2011–2012, the cost of its survival was certainly high. But what are the major features of such a regime in the case of Russia? What about its institutional foundations and mechanisms of maintenance? How has its life cycle – the emergence, development, and further decay – changed over time? How might it evolve in the foreseeable future, and what are the lessons that could be learned from Russia’s experience for the study of competitive authoritarianism?

THE FIRST YEAR OF THE "CHOICES OF MODERNISATION" CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Russia faces a number of important choices in the years ahead. The researchers at the "Choices of Russian Modernisation" Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies are examining the structuration of the new Russian society and the challenges of modernisation.

The first year of the CoE has been very active. The work started with a kick-off seminar in February and continued with a summer school entitled "Choices of Modernisation", the monthly Modernisation Reading Group and several smaller events at the cluster level.

The CoE's scientific approach was thoroughly discussed in June 2012 in the International Advisory Board (IAB) meeting in Helsinki. The IAB's critical but support-



ive feedback provides a strong basis for the future work of the CoE.

In mid-August, Director **Markku Kivinen** introduced the updated goals for the CoE in a research seminar. According to Kivinen, Russian modernisation is best analysed using common questions, developing common concepts and gathering data together. The first joint CoE case study will be Togliatti, where an international car manufacturer (Nissan–Renault) is trying to modernise the automobile industry in a huge one-factory city. Complementary cases and surveys are planned in the next phase of development of the CoE.

For more information about the activities of the CoE, please, visit our webpage: www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/crm



Photo: Sari Autio-Sarasma

From left IAB members Prof. Sergey Medvedev, Prof. Alexey Yurchak and Prof. Jutta Scherrer listening to Pami Aalto's presentation.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR PHD CANDIDATES

The "Choices of Russian Modernisation" Centre of Excellence organised its first summer course for PhD candidates from Finland, Russia, Estonia, Sweden, Germany and the UK in cooperation with the Finnish Doctoral Programme for Russian and East European Studies in June 2012 in Åland.

The course was multidisciplinary, both in composition and structure. The prominent senior scholars discussed challenges that electoral authoritarianism faces in Russia, including the recent anti-government protests. Issues pertaining to modernisation on the grassroots level were also raised, such as the health reform.

On a broader level, the conceptualization of the entire Soviet modernity and the centrality of culture and language for the concept of modernization were on the agenda. The students were also able to present their own projects and discuss their work in the context of modernisation.

Hanna Ruutu

SEMINAR: RUSSIA AS A GREAT POWER

What is happening in Russia's foreign policy? What can be expected of Putin's second term? These questions were discussed in a public policy-relevant seminar entitled "Russia as a Great Power: Challenges of Modernisation", organised in Helsinki on 6 September, 2012 by **Tuomas Forsberg**, **Hanna Smith** and **Hanna Ruutu** of the CoE Cluster 4.

As **Anatoli Tsygankov** (San Francisco State University) predicted, there are three possible scenarios in Russia/West relations: the preservation of the current status quo (which seems most likely); the growth of anti-Russian tendencies in the West; or growing cooperation between Russia and the West, which would demand significant changes from both sides. **Anne Clunan** (Center on Contemporary Conflict & Naval Postgraduate School) stated that Russia's official discourse on nuclear issues currently seems to be on hold until the result of the US presidential election is clear.

The insightful presentations led to the assumption that Putin's second term has not played all its cards yet, and there might be significant moves to come, depending on the other big players in the world politics – the USA and China.

Hanna Ruutu

RECENT & UPCOMING DISSERTATIONS

- **MA Iina Kohonen** (Associate member) defended her PhD thesis entitled *Gagarinin hymy. Avaruus ja sankaruus neuvostovalokuvissa 1957–1969* at Aalto University on 14 September 2012.
- M.Soc.Sc. **Susanna Hast** will defend her PhD thesis entitled *Beyond the Pejorative: Sphere of Influence in International Theory* at the University of Lapland, Faculty of Social Sciences on 27 October 2012.

VISITING FELLOWS 2012

“The two months I have spent at Aleksanteri Institute have been a gift, in terms of time to focus on research and writing, the opportunity to connect with scholars with shared interests, and the prospect of future conference collaboration”, says Dr **Peggy Watson**, a Senior Research Fellow at the Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge, and a Fellow and Director of Studies for Politics, Psychology and Sociology at Homerton College, Cambridge.

Watson graduated in Psychology from Edinburgh University, and holds a PhD in the Sociology of Health and Illness from the University of Warwick. She has published four books, the most recent of which is a collected volume entitled *Health Care Reform and Globalisation: The US, China and Europe in Comparative Perspective* (Routledge 2012). She has been a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and in 2012 was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation residency at the Bellagio Center, Italy.

Dr Watson is using her time at the Aleksanteri Institute to analyse the political uses of mainstream feminism and neo-orientalist discourse in Poland. Now that feminism has entered the political mainstream, whose interests does it serve? What are the implications of an exclusive focus on gender in a context of class formation? This project represents an extension of earlier work on feminism and gender in the aftermath of socialism, and will form the basis of a book-chapter which she is currently writing. In her present work, one of her concerns is to explore how health care change is represented in mainstream feminist discourse, and the political implications of this.



Photo: Niina Into

Robert Kaiser has been a professor of the Geography department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison since 1996. He has also served as director of the Center for Russia, East Europe and Central Asia at UW-Madison, and has just completed a 3-year term as Chair of the Geography Department there. Earlier this year, Kaiser received the Leon Epstein Faculty Fellow award for his work in critical political geography.

Professor Kaiser has published two books: *The Geography of Nationalism in Russia and the USSR* (Princeton UP, 1994) and *The Russians as the New Minority. Ethnicity and Nationalism in the Soviet Successor States* (Westview Press, 1996). He has also published over two dozen articles and book chapters, including a series of articles on the political and cultural geographies of the Estonian-Russian borderlands. Most recently, he has researched and written about Estonia's Bronze Night event - what political events such as the Bronze Night have to teach us, and how the event newly determined the conditions for the problems of integration and statelessness in Estonia.

During his fellowship at the Aleksanteri Institute, Professor Kaiser is exploring the cyber attacks that accompanied the Bronze Night, and how this has transformed the concepts of cyber warfare and cyber security since 2007.

"The Aleksanteri Institute provides you with all the resources you need to be productive as a scholar - a knowledgeable and accommodating staff, wonderful office space and facilities in the heart of a great university and city, and most importantly a warm, collegial environment to work in."

ALEKSANTERI INSTITUTE VISITING FELLOWS RESEARCH SEMINARS

- 29 November at 2.15 pm at the Aleksanteri Institute
Deniz Dinc, Visiting PhD student
Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey
*Turkish Influence in Central Asia: Reasons of the Failure
Turkish Nationalist Discourse Towards Central Asian
Turkic Republics*
- 13 December at 2.15 pm at the Aleksanteri Institute
Galina Nikiporets-Takigawa, University of Cambridge,
United Kingdom
*The Opposition Won the Battle for the Internet, so,
What's Next? The Internet and Social Media in the
"Managed" Russian Protest (2011-2012).*

You are warmly welcome to attend the Visiting Fellows research seminars!

Please register your participation at the latest one week prior to each seminar to Eeva Korteniemi (eeva.korteniemi[at]helsinki.fi).



NEXT CALL OPENS ON JANUARY 10, 2013

The Aleksanteri Institute Visiting Scholars Programme offers an opportunity for highly qualified scholars studying Russia, Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union to spend two or three months working at the Aleksanteri Institute. Aleksanteri visiting fellows receive a monthly grant to cover the costs of travel, accommodation and subsistence. The call for proposals for 2013–2014 will open on 10 January and close on 22 February 2013. The selection of proposals is based on academic excellence, while also taking into consideration the potential for mutually beneficial research visits.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

FORTHCOMING IN THE ASHGATE SERIES EMPIRES AND THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD, 1650-2000:

Empire De/Centered: New Spatial Histories of Russia and the Soviet Union (eds. Sanna Turoma and Maxim Waldstein, Farnham: Ashgate, 2013).

Why does empire continue to fascinate us and why is space and spatial imagination so central to culture and society? This edited volume brings together specialists in Russian and Eastern European studies to discuss spatial and imperial "turns," two major paradigmatic shifts in contemporary social sciences and humanities. It focuses both lenses on 20th century Russia and the Soviet Union, combining new imperial histories with new spatial histories, two fields of interest that are topical to social sciences and humanities in general – and Russian and Soviet studies in particular. This innovative and cross-disciplinary volume performs a series of displacements and decentrings of dominant conceptual frameworks and empirical foci.

RECENT BOOKS

- Aalto, P. (ed.) 2012: *Russia's Energy Policies: National, Interregional and Global Levels*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- Järvinen, J. & Hakala, E. (eds.) 2012: *Energy Security and Environment in the Western Balkans*. Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki
- Lassila, J. 2012: *The Quest for an Ideal Youth in Putin's Russia II: The Search for Distinctive Conformism in the Political Communication of Nashi, 2005-2009*. ibidem-Verlag

RECENT DISSERTATIONS

- Kansikas, S. 2012: *Trade Blocs and the Cold War. The CMEA and the EC Challenge, 1969-1976*. University of Helsinki
- Nisonen-Trnka, R. 2012: *Science with a Human Face: the Activity of the Czechoslovak Scientists František Šorm and Otto Wichterle during the Cold War*. University of Tampere

RECENT ARTICLES

- Kivinen, M., Aalto, P., Dusseault, D. & Kennedy, M. 2012: How Are Russian Energy Policies Formulated? Linking Actors and Structures of Energy Policy. In *Russia's Energy Policies*. Aalto, P. (ed.). Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd
- Kivinen, M. 2012: Public and Business Actors in Russia's Energy Policy. In *Russia's Energy Policies*. Aalto, P. (ed.). Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd
- Lassila, J. 2012: "Making Sense of Nashi's Political Style: The Bronze Soldier and the Counter-Orange Community." In *Russian Nationalism, Foreign Policy and Identity Debates in Putin's Russia New Ideological Patterns after the Orange Revolution*. Laruelle, M. & Umland A. (eds.). ibidem-Verlag
- Ratilainen, S. 2012: "Business for Pleasure: Elite Women in the Russian Popular Media." In *Rethinking Class in Russia*. Salmenniemi, S. (ed.). Ashgate
- Saarinen, A. 2012: "Welfare Crisis and Crisis Centers in Russia Today." In *And They Lived Happily Ever After?* Carlback, H., Gradska, Y. & Kravchenko, Z. (eds.). Central European University Press
- Smith, H. 2012: "Domestic Influences on Russian Foreign Policy: Status, Interests and Ressentiment." In *Russia and its near neighbours*. Freire, M. & Kanet, R. (eds.). Palgrave Macmillan
- Van der Vet, F. 2012: "Seeking Life, Finding Justice: Russian NGO litigation and Chechen Disappearances before the European Court of Human rights." In *Human rights review*, Vol. 13, No 3.



FORTHCOMING IN ALEKSANTERI PAPERS

- Saarinen, A. & Calloni, M. 2012: *Builders of a New Europe: Women Immigrants from the Eastern Trans-Regions*. Aleksanteri Papers 1/2012.
- Cox, T. 2012: *Interest representation and state-society relations in East Central Europe*. Aleksanteri Papers 2/2012.

Aleksanteri Institute

Finnish Centre for Russian and Eastern European Studies

The Aleksanteri Institute is affiliated with the University of Helsinki and operates as a national centre of research, study and expertise pertaining to Russia and Eastern Europe, particularly in the social sciences and humanities. The institute co-ordinates and promotes co-operation and interaction between the academic world, public administration, business life and civil society in Finland and abroad.

The Aleksanteri Institute was founded in 1996. It has grown rapidly into a working community of around 50 people, including doctoral students in the Institute's Graduate Programme. The institute hosts the Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies - Choices of Russian Modernisation and a Finland Distinguished Professor project. The Institute has a board of trustees that represents the University of Helsinki and other interest groups. The Institute also has an Advisory Board.

Aleksanteri Institute
P.O. Box 42 (Unioninkatu 33)
FI-00014 University of Helsinki

aleksanteri@helsinki.fi
Tel. +358 (9) 191 24175
www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english

Download the electronic version at
www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/newsletter.

The next newsletter will be published in December 2012.

Editor:
Niina Into

Writers:

Sari Autio-Sarasma, Anna Korhonen, Katalin Miklóssy, Susanna Pirnes, Hanna Ruutu, Anna-Maria Salmi, Iiris Virtasalo

Layout:
Niina Into

Join the Aleksanteri Email List to stay informed in between the quarterly Newsletters. More information and instructions at:

www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/aleksanteri-list.html

To receive the newsletter directly to your e-mail, please send an e-mail to aleksanteri@helsinki.fi