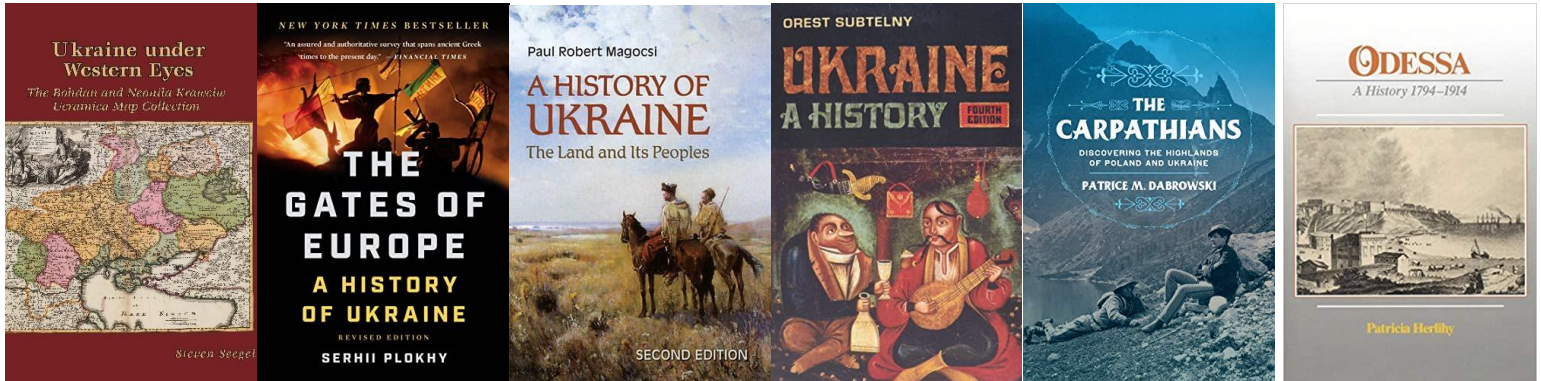


The NEWSLETTER of the Early Slavic Studies Association



Vol. 35, No. 1 (Spring 2022)

From the ESSA President

Dear ESSA members,

Russia invaded Ukraine. Can we really say we are shocked about this? Did not even we, who work on pre-1800 matters, see what was going on in contemporary Russia?

As you all know, ESSA has circulated a statement on events now taking place:

The Early Slavic Studies Association condemns Russia's attack on Ukraine. We are appalled at the historical distortions that Russia has used to justify its invasion, and we stand beside our colleagues, family, friends, and fellow citizens in Ukraine, as well as Russian colleagues opposing this violation of international law. The damage done, in loss of lives and loss of trust across countries of the Slavic world, will profoundly impact our colleagues, and we are eager to hear from members about how we can support anyone who may be affected by the ongoing crisis.

In the meantime, Ukraine has received, like never before, worldwide support either ideally in the form of demonstrations and resolutions, or directly in the form of donations and sanctions. The war has revealed and demonstrated the strength of the Ukrainian army and the Ukrainian people to resist aggression.

I regret that I begin my time as president of ESSA with these political rather than with scientific remarks. As a European citizen, I am deeply involved in what is happening in Europe now and in how international organizations have sometimes

neglected the boiling conflict between Ukraine and Russia before the war began. As a German citizen, I am deeply troubled by this violation of inner-European borders. All international treaties of the 1990s were designed to give stability to the current European borders and to prevent Germany to reclaim any territories that once may have belonged to the German state. Violating the borders of post-WWII Europe is a serious crime we must not taking lightly. Personally, I am deeply concerned for the Ukrainian people that currently come to Germany and my little town as refugees.

I hope that you all are well and supporting a peaceful solution to the conflict between Ukraine and Russia that does not further violate the rights of Ukrainian citizens. I also hope that the violation of international law as well as President Putin's distortions of history will not lead us to despair but continue our work for good and unbiased history writing.

It is my belief that as historians our task lies in doing our work with the utmost dignity and integrity and without any influence from daily politics. Let us all strengthen our efforts in our scholarly work.

Cornelia Soldat
President, Early Slavic Studies Association

Spotlight

In Memoriam: Martin Podolak

Cynthia Vakareliyska

I am greatly saddened to report that the ESSA webmaster, Martin Podolak, died tragically young of cancer on February 15, 2022. Martin was born in 1977 in Herning, Denmark, and grew up in Hamburg-Altona, Germany. He held joint German and Danish citizenship. He spent a year in Russia in 1995–96 on an exchange program while in high school, attending a Russian school, completed gymnasium in Hamburg with certification in Russian and English language, and then worked for a year at the AFS Intercultural Programs student exchange service, including six months in Moscow. At the AFS, he initiated a volunteer program for German teenagers to participate in social and environmental projects, and worked on strengthening volunteer organizations set up under a German-Russian partnership. From 2000-2004 he attended Hamburg University, majoring in Slavic languages and literatures, and East European studies. He completed his bachelor degree in 2012 at the University of Copenhagen, with a major in Russian language and culture and a minor in English translation studies. In 2013-14, he studied translation, Russian language, and linguistics on an independent basis at the Moscow State University for Linguistics. In 2014, he completed the 37th International Summer Seminar in Bulgarian language and

culture at the University of Veliko Tŭrnovo in Bulgaria; in 2015 he completed the 53rd Summer Seminar in the same at Sofia University. He received an M.A. degree in 2016 from the University of Copenhagen in Russian linguistics and translation, with a second specialization in Bulgarian. He completed certification as a teacher of German as a second language in 2020.

Beginning in 2011 until 2022, Martin served as the designer, editor and webmaster for the Danish Portal for East European Studies (<https://oesteuropastudier.dk/en/>). He served as the webmaster for the Bulgarian Studies Association beginning in 2015, and, beginning in 2016, as the ESSA webmaster, while also working since 2019 as a German language instructor for refugees at the WillkommensKulturHaus, run by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ottensen, Germany. He was also a highly-trained IT specialist, and, of particular interest to medieval Slavists, he was the editor of the Slavic Diachronic Dictionary Server, on historical linguistics, which contains c.140,000 headwords (<https://ordbog.oesteuropastudier.dk/index.php>).

On the recommendation of the president of the Bulgarian Studies Association, the ESSA officers hired Martin in 2016 to set up a new website for ESSA and move it to a new server so that it would no longer be hosted by H-Net, which did not permit online payment of dues. Martin designed and instituted what is now the ESSA website, at <https://earlyslavicstudies.org>, for a modest flat fee of \$200. He created the current design and look of the website, re-established the online dues payment system, and initiated and set up the member password and log-in systems for pages that are available to members only.

We were very surprised and touched by Martin's generosity when, after setting up the ESSA website, he offered to maintain it indefinitely for us, on a completely volunteer basis. During his tenure as ESSA webmaster, from 2016 up to the time of his death, he regularly updated announcements, added the latest Newsletter issue to the website, added links to related websites, and answered e-mails from ESSA members who had misplaced their website passwords, always very swiftly, collegially, and cheerfully. He proposed many innovative ideas for the website, which we welcomed, including the member log-in system so that the website could make available minutes of the annual ESSA meeting and other documents that were not public.

In 2021, during my last year as ESSA president, Martin informed me of his terminal prognosis, but insisted on continuing to manage the website as long as he was able. He spent much of his last year transferring the website files to ESSA President Cornelia Soldat, so that she and her husband could take over as webmasters when he no longer could do the job. He was in the process of writing a manual for Cornelia explaining, among other topics, how to use the Joomla toolkit that the website requires, when he died.

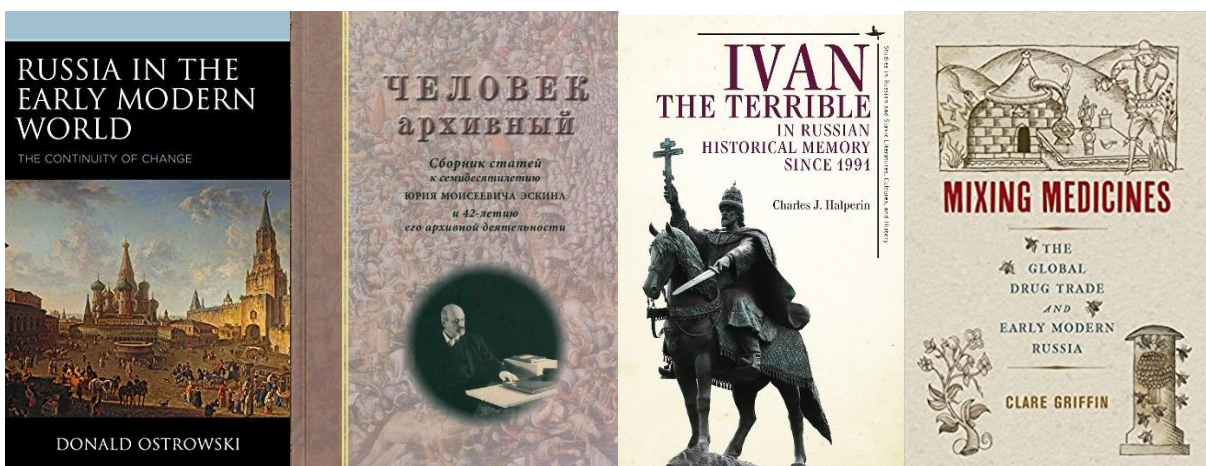
Martin was a remarkably generous and dedicated colleague, whose work for the ESSA was motivated by his keen life-long interest in Slavic studies. Although, I never

met him in person, even on Zoom, working with him by e-mail over the four years I served as president was always a great joy. I miss him greatly and am in awe of his courage and strength.

If you are curious about Martin's scholarly work in Slavic studies, his publications are still available at present at his personal webpage (<https://podolak.net/en/studies/publications>), and his CV is at <https://podolak.net/de/lebenslauf>. You may also be interested in the story of his Scandinavian great-grandparents' immigration to Brooklyn, New York in 1916, and then their re-immigration from the U.S. back to Denmark after the 1929 U.S. stock market crash (<https://podolak.net/en/a-brooklyn-tale>; written in German).

СВѢТЛА ПАМЯТЬ!

Chronicle of Publications



V. A. Arakcheev (RGADA, Moscow) and a team of colleagues have published a Festschrift in honor of our friend Iurii Moissevich Eskin, Deputy Director of RGADA and an eminent scholar of early modern Russia. The volume—entitled *Chelovek arkhivnyi: Sbornik statei k semidesiatiletiuu Iuriiia Moiseevicha Eskina i 42-letiiu ego arkhivnoi deiatel'nosti* (Moscow: Drevlekhranilishche, 2021)—includes 28 article-length contributions, a useful preface, and a *tabula gratulatoria* (signed by 18 colleagues). ISBN: 978-5-93646-410-2.

Leonid S. Chekin (AIRO-XXI Research Centre) reports the following two publications: “Калаалит-Нунаат и Русская земля,” in *Disablót. Сборник статей коллег и учеников к юбилею Елены Александровны Мельниковой* (Moscow: Квадрига, 2021), 111–117; and “Gervase of Tilbury’s Description of Russia, que et Rutenia. A Study in the History of Geography with a Side Story Based on a Memoir of a Soviet

Student,” in *Totius mundi philohistor. Studia Georgio Strzelczyk octuagenario oblata*, ed. by Malgorzata Delimata-Proch, Adam Krawiec, Jakub Kujawiński (Poznań: Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza, 2021), 207–226.

Peter Golden (Rutgers University). The Korean translation of his book *Central Asia in World History* (Oxford-New York: Oxford University Press, 2011) has appeared: *중앙아시아사 볼가강에서 몽골까지* [jung-ang-asiasa bolgagang-eseo mong-golkkaji] (Seoul, 2021) [Korean translation by Joo-Yup Lee]. Turkish and Chinese translations appeared in 2014, 2017 respectively. Prof. Golden also published: “Cumans, Quns and Qipčaq: A Brief Sketch,” in István Mándoky Kungor, *Newcomers from the East: Hungarians and Kipchak-Turks in Europe*, ed. Á. Molnár (Budapest: Molnár and Kelemen Oriental Publishers, 2021): 1-24; “Reflections on the Ethnonym *Türk*,” in *From the Khan’s Oven: Essays on the History of Central Asia in Honor of Devin De Weese*, ed. Eren Tasar, Allen J. Frank, Jeff Eden (Leiden: Brill, 2022): 1-50; and “The Kaepiči [Каепичи],” *Historical Linguistics and Philology of Central Asia. Essays in Turkic and Mongolic Studies* (Leiden: Brill 2022): 49-72.

Clare Griffin (Indiana University, formerly of Nazarbayev University) is the author of the forthcoming *Mixing Medicines: The Global Drug Trade and Early Modern Russia* (McGill-Queen’s University Press).

Charles Halperin (Independent Scholar) published “Alexander Nevskii and the Suzdalian Land,” in *Aleksandr Nevskii: lichnost’, epokha, istoricheskaia pamiat’. K 800-letiiu so dnia rozhdeniia. Materialy mezhdunarodnoi nauchnoi konferentsii (25-27 maia 2021, Moskva, Rossiia)* (Moscow: Indrik, 2021), 331-39.

Paul W. Knoll (University of Southern California), “The Last Piasts: Legitimizing Royal Rule in Fourteenth Century Poland,” in Grischa Vercamer and Dusan Zupka, eds., *Rulership in Medieval East Central Europe. Power, Ritual and Legitimacy in Bohemia, Hungary and Poland* (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2022 [East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 450-1450, No. 78]), pp. 247-259.

Russell E. Martin (Westminster College, Penna.) published “The Ways of the Tsar’s Scriptorium: Text and Revision in the Planned (and Cancelled) Wedding of Tsar Aleksei Mikhailovich and Evfimiia Vsevolozhskaia (1647),” in *Chelovek arkhivnyi: Sbornik statei k semidesiatiletiiu Iurii Moiseevicha Eskina i 42-letiiu ego arkhivnoi deiatel’nosti* (Moscow: Drevlekhranilishche, 2021), 183–204; “The Treasure Trove Behind the Icon Screen: N. V. Bashnin and the Ongoing Effort to Publish the Documents of the Early Modern Russian Church,” a review of six books (monographs and critical text editions) on the history of the

Orthodox Church in the Russian north in the early modern period, *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 56, no. 1 (2022): 95–101; and “Whomsoever He Wishes As His Successor?: Paul Bushkovitch on Succession and Absolutism in Early Modern Russia,” *Russian History* 48, no. 2 (2021): 211–29.

Paul R. Milliman (University of Arizona) published “*Und gras vor spise zeren*: Migration, Fermentation, and the Map of Civilization in the Baltic Crusades,” in *Authorship, Worldview, and Identity in Medieval Europe*, ed. by Christian Raffensperger (New York: Routledge, 2022).

Donald Ostrowski (Harvard University) published *Russia in the Early Modern World: The Continuity of Change* (Lexington Books, 2022).

Christian Raffensperger (Wittenberg University) edited *Authorship, Identity, and Worldview in Medieval Europe* (New York: Routledge, 2022) and the following articles: “Kingdom of Rus’: A New Theoretical Model for Rulership in Medieval Europe,” in *Rulership in Medieval East Central Europe: Power, Rituals, and Legitimacy in Bohemia, Hungary, and Poland*, eds. Grischa Vercamer and Dušan Zupka (Leiden: Brill 2022): 325-39; “Runaway Rulers: Marriage, Power, and building a Wider Medieval Europe,” *Royal Studies Journal* 8 (2) (2021): 55-75; “A Search for Russian Monastic Legitimation,” in *Religion: Proceedings of the 8th International Symposium on Byzantine and Medieval Studies “Days of Justinian I,” Skopje, 13-14 November, 2020*, ed. Mitko B. Panov (Skopje: INI, 2021): 33-43; “Situating Medieval Eastern Europe: Historiography and Dissent,” in *A Handbook of East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 500-1300*, ed. Florin Curta (New York: Routledge, 2021): 9-22; “Mykhailo Hrushevsky and the Construction of the Medieval History of Rus’,” *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* 38:1-2 (2021): 71-86; and “U.K. and North American Rusiana, 2000-2020,” *Russian Studies.hu* (Fall, 2021) <https://russianstudies.hu/onlineperiodikaru.html>.

Moshe Taube (Hebrew University) with **William F. Ryan** (Warburg Institute, University of London) *The Secret of Secrets: The East Slavic Version. Introduction, Text, Annotated Translation, and Slavic Index*. London: The Warburg Institute. 2019; “Chancellor Timofej Kamenevič and the Russification of the *Тайная тайных*,” in: *Sub specie aeternitatis: Сборник научных статей к 60-летию Вадима Борисовича Крысько / Отв. ред. И. М. Ладьженский, М. А. Пузина; ИРЯ им. В. В. Виноградова РАН. – М.: Издательский центр «Азбуковник», 2021, pp. 779-808.*

Moshe Taube (Hebrew University) published “Искра and its equivalents in Slavic translations,” in: *Sapere aude. Сборник в чест на проф. д-рн Искра Христова-Шомова*. София: УИ “Св. Климент Охридски,” 2019, pp. 279-286; “Gersonides’ Biblical

Commentaries in a Fifteenth-Century Slavic Translation of the Bible,” in: *Gersonides’ Afterlife: Studies on the Reception of Levi ben Gerson’s Philosophical, Halakhic and Scientific Oeuvre (Fourteenth through Twentieth Centuries)*, edited by Ofer Elior, Gad Freudenthal and David Wirmer, 2020, pp. 288-309; “On the Rendering of some Philosophical Terms in the Fifteenth-Century Slavic Translations from Hebrew,” in: *Magic, Texts and Travel. Homage to a Scholar, Will Ryan*, edited by Janet M. Hartley and Denis J. B. Shaw, Study Group of Eighteenth-Century Russia. London. 2021, pp. 178-191; “Three Ruthenian renderings of Hebrew מִצְטָצִים ‘offspring,’” in: *Fons sapientiae verbum Dei* Сборник научных статей в честь 80-летия профессора Анатолия Алексеевича Алексева. Ред. А.В. Сизиков, Е.А. Алексеева, отв. ред. А.В. Сизиков. Санкт-Петербург: Институт лингвистических исследований РАН, 2022, с. 89-97.

Res gestae

Clare Griffin (Indiana University) has accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor of Russian History at Indiana University, Bloomington, beginning in the fall 2022. Axios!

Peter Golden (Rutgers University) gave his inaugural address to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (he was elected an honorary member in 2019) on “The Current State of Khazar Studies.”

Paul R. Milliman (University of Arizona) participated, beginning in March 2022, in the World of Empires IV collaboration at the University of Arizona. See <https://news.arizona.edu/story/age-empires-iv-players-eligible-uarizona-credit-through-history-department-collaboration>. He was also a Title VIII Short-Term Scholar at the Kennan Institute last summer. See interview at: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/microsite/3/node/107666>.

Christian Raffensperger (Wittenberg University) was appointed an Archie K. Davis Fellow at the National Humanities Center.

Matthew P. Romaniello (Weber State University) was awarded a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society for archival research on my next monograph, *Unplanned Obsolescence: Modernity and the Loss of the Natural World*. The grant will take him to the UK for research.

Talia Zajac (Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, John Rylands Research Institute and Library, the University of Manchester) spent the spring term as a non-stipendiary

visitor at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. She published the following popular articles in The New Historia, a newly launched database of women's history. This open-access database aims, in part, to serve as a feminist alternative to Wikipedia, which often under-represents women's stories: "Anna Yaroslavna" and "Gertruda of Poland." The New Historia. Dr. Gina Luria Walker, Project Manager. New York, The New School, 2022, at: < <https://www.thenewhistoria.org/schema/anna-yaroslavna-anna-de-kiev/> > and < <https://www.thenewhistoria.org/schema/gertruda-of-poland/> >.

Announcements

Cornelia Soldat (U of Cologne) reminds everyone that the members-only site of the ESSA webpage was designed in part as a means to collect teaching material that might be useful for our field and those who follow us in teaching and learning. So before throwing something away, please consider whether it might be useful for somebody else.

Stephan Küpper and **Cornelia Soldat** have stepped in as webmasters of the ESSA webpage. You can contact them at: adminn@earlyslavicstudies.org.

Iulia Nițescu (University of Bucharest) has been awarded a 2-year post-doctoral grant by the Romanian Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding, expected to start in August 2022. The project entitled *Saint-Making and Institutional Consolidation: the Veneration of Metropolitans in 14th-16th Century Muscovy* addresses the emergence of the local cult of the Moscow-based metropolitans of all Rus', and the impact this cult had on the institutional development of the Russian Church. She will work under the supervision of Ionuț-Alexandru Tudorie, Lecturer in Byzantine Studies, University of Bucharest and Academic Dean, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, New York. Beginning in January 2022, she is also an affiliated researcher within the ERC Starting Grant *Orthodoxies and Politics. The Religious Reforms of Mid-17th Century in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe*, principal investigator Ovidiu Olar, hosted by the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Within the project she will focus on the 16th century background of Muscovite religious reform. More information on the project is available here <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/ihb/research-units/balkan-studies/research/forms-of-knowledge/orthodoxies-and-politics-orthpol>

Renew Your Membership

To be a member of ESSA or to renew your membership, please sign up for an annual dues subscription, with PayPal, on the ESSA website:

<https://earlyslavicstudies.org/membership>. Membership dues are \$20, or \$10 for retirees and graduate students. Members receive the ESSA Newsletter by email and may participate in the ESSA's Annual Meeting at the convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES).

Dues may also be paid via check on a US bank. Please make the check payable to the Early Slavic Studies Association. For the address for payment by check, please contact **Justin Willson** at justin.willson@gmail.com.

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