

The NEWSLETTER

of the Early Slavic Studies Association



Vol. 36, No. 2 (Fall 2023)

From the President

Dear colleagues,

The fall newsletter of the Early Slavic Studies Association contains new information about the membership's work. In addition to papers and published articles, some of our members share their exciting ideas for research projects. Have a look at what they are doing and share your ideas with them. We can all learn so much from each other.

This newsletter also contains the schedule of Early Slavic Studies panels at this year's ASEES convention, Nov 30th – Dec 3rd in Philadelphia. If you plan to attend the convention, my hope is that this schedule will help you decide which panels to visit. Please attend the ESSA business meeting on Friday, Dec 1st, at 6 pm in Meeting Room 307. I also invite you to attend the Famous Early Slavic Dinner on Friday, Dec 1st, at 7.30 pm. The dinner is always a good opportunity to stay in touch and meet new people.

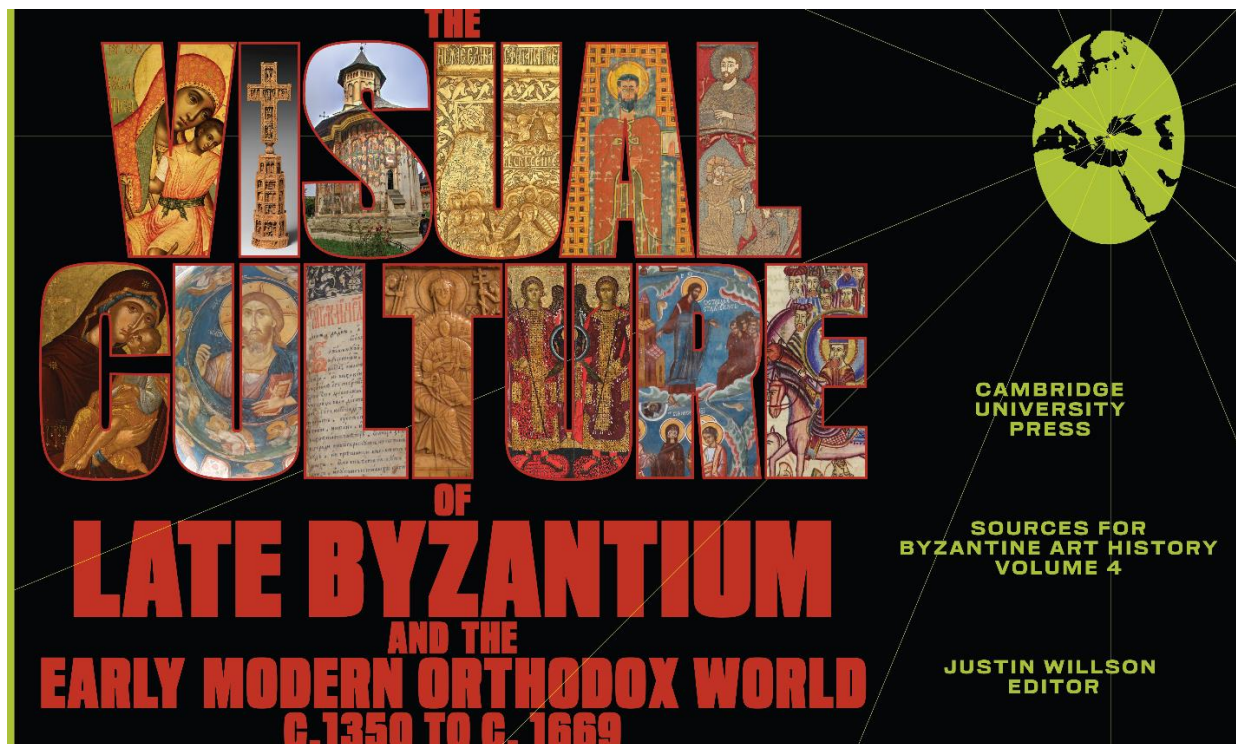
For me it is time to say good-bye. I have been your president for the last two years, and it was an honor for me to serve to advance Early Slavic Studies. I am passing the baton to the incoming president, Maria Ivanova.

I wish that you stay dedicated to Early Slavic Studies and do the best to further advance our field with your excellent research. Do not forget to include all the methods of

Digital History that you can find useful to help you with your work. And don't forget Ukraine.

Yours sincerely,
Cornelia Soldat
President

Spotlight



Justin Willson, editor, *The Visual Culture of Late Byzantium and the Early Modern Orthodox World (c.1350- c.1669)*. Under contract with Cambridge University Press. Anticipated publication date: 2028. Volume 4 in the series "Sources for Byzantine Art History." Series editor: Charles Barber.

Orthodox art, for so long defined by the culture of the Byzantine Empire, persisted long after the fall of Constantinople in 1453. This was not a static legacy. Rather, artistic production underwent a profound transformation during the Early Modern period. The artists and scholars who found patronage at the courts and ecclesiastical centers of the Early Modern Orthodox world were linked by a shared worldview shaped by the

literary, philosophical, and liturgical heritage of Byzantium. Their world reached across and beyond the Ottoman empire, encompassing the Caucasus in the east, the African kingdom of Ethiopia in the south, the Venetian stronghold of Crete in the west and Moscow in the north. These varied voices reveal a vibrant, sustained engagement with questions that had long animated artistic discourse in Byzantium, even as they present new categories for conceptualizing that tradition. This volume will provide its reader with the texts necessary for understanding the fate of Orthodox art in the Early Modern era.

While dispersed across the map, the various cultural hubs that produced the texts to be edited and translated in this volume were linked by travel and trade, as well as by rhetorical postures, the spaces of literary imagination, and a shared body of rituals. Cities such as Venice, Moscow, Jerusalem, Lalibela, Kyiv, Suceava and Tarnovo, and monastic centers at Athos and Sinai, as well as in Anatolia and Armenia, maintained and shaped this legacy, renewing the intellectual and spiritual life of the Eastern Churches. Their common ground endows the volume with coherence, even as the discursive breadth of the sources recognizes divergence within this wide-flung community.

The volume will be divided into two parts: the first foregrounding the individuals who produced and interpreted works of art (painters, patrons, poets, theologians, court officials, scribes, and artisans of various trades) as well as doctrinal and theoretical questions pertaining to images; and the second leading with literary concepts, forms of record keeping, and genres which clarify how rhetoric and writing practices shaped perceptions about what images and objects were and could do. This two-fold division will facilitate accessibility for the volume's intended audience, namely, scholars and students in Art History, Philology, History and Theology, as well as adjacent disciplines (for example, Classics, Comparative Literature, Near Eastern Studies, Medieval Studies and the History and Philosophy of Science). With the 'visual' and 'material' turns underway in the study of premodern literature, history, and theology, the fields of late and post-Byzantine art and literature, given their expansive geography and deep textual and visual archives, are in an excellent position to be at the forefront of critical approaches to the Early Modern period. This volume will widen the scholarly horizon beyond Europe and across the Eastern Mediterranean deep into interior of three continents.

This volume exemplifies a global perspective on Early Modernity, expanding the definition of what can be considered "Byzantine" by showing that what has been thought of *as* Byzantine could just as easily be classified *as* Ethiopian, Romanian, Melkite, Serbian, Bulgarian, Georgian, Armenian, Russian, and Ukrainian. Writers in all of these places worked from *within* the Greek-speaking tradition; often, they knew the Greek language, but sometimes they used translated Greek texts or were simply

conversant in Hellenic culture through the *paideia* that constituted an intellectual commons across the Eastern Mediterranean. Rather than outsiders living on the frontiers of the Eastern Roman (later Ottoman) Empire, they were actors within the Byzantine/post-Byzantine cultural sphere, reshaping the pillars on which it stood and moving freely across borders thanks to trade, travel, pilgrimage, and leaps of literary and theological creativity. To bring this corpus of texts together is to define the world after Byzantium in terms of a dialogue between a multiplicity of interrelated linguistic subjects who shared overlapping rhetorical, hermeneutic, theological, and religious identities.

Entries from the volume's contributors will be comprised of an introduction, an edition of the primary source, a facing-page translation, expository notes, and bibliography. At present, there are over three-dozen contributors from more than ten countries working on a range of texts. Sources currently being edited, researched, and translated include: inventories, donor inscriptions, interconfessional polemics, workshop model books and recipes, scriptoria documents, preservation notes, travel accounts, texts of image theory, church council rulings, epigrams, tomb inscriptions, epistles, legends about miraculous icons, apocalyptic narratives, colophons, homilies, ekphraseis, inventories, historical writings, dedicatory poems, and more. Many of these sources have never been published in a modern critical edition, leaving them largely unavailable to art historians. Still fewer have been translated. Thus, this volume will greatly contribute to their accessibility, helping to enlarge the source base for the volume's intended audience and create dialogue across linguistic traditions. In the introductions to the subsections, the editor and other authors will comment on the logic of studying the cultural heritage of these geographical areas as a single conceptual unit, advocating for an inclusive and wholistic approach to the visual culture of the Early Modern Orthodox world. This wide-angle approach parallels the important work currently being done by curators and directors of research centers who are fostering exhibitions and projects on Byzantine and post-Byzantine art with truly expansive intercultural dimensions. The volume will therefore make a timely contribution, infusing the field with new primary sources that will nuance the scholarly conversation and provide a groundwork for future generations of research.

Justin Willson
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Art History Leadership
Cleveland Museum of Art / Case Western Reserve University

Chronicle of Publications

Tomasz Grusiecki (Boise State University) published: "[Locating the Material: Prussian Carved Ambers, Place Ambiguity, and a New Geography of Central European Art.](#)" *German History* 41, no. 3 (2023): 444–471. His upcoming book is set to release on 9 December: Tomasz Grusiecki, *Transcultural Things and the Spectre of Orientalism in Early Modern Poland-Lithuania*. (Manchester University Press, forthcoming December 2023). It is available for pre-order [here](#).

Charles J. Halperin (Indiana University) published: "Varieties of Otherness in Ivan IV's Muscovy: Relativity, Multiplicity, and Ambiguity," in *Images of Otherness in Russia, 1380-1917: At the Crossroads of History and Politics*, ed. Kati Parppe and Bulat Rakhimzianov (Boston: Academic Studies Press, Spring 2023), 34-54; "Zolotoordynskovedenie: A Research Report," *Mongolian Studies* 40 (2019-2020): 98-121; "Signatures and Signatories: Literacy and Documentation in Muscovy during the Reign of Ivan IV," *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas* 70: 1-2 (2022): 60-71; co-author **Ann M. Kleimola**, "The Illustrated Ivan: Ivan IV in the Illustrated Chronicle Compilation," *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* [Lawrence N. Langer Festschrift], 57:3-4 (2023): 336-52.

Paul W. Knoll (Emeritus Professor of History, University of Southern California) has published "The Governance of Medieval Poland," in Christian Raffensperger, ed., *How Medieval Europe Was Ruled* (London and New York: Routledge, 2023 [official publication date 2024]), 92-106.

Russell E. Martin (Westminster College, PA) published "‘Though I Married Her Unlawfully’: Prince Semën Shakhovskoi’s Defense of His Fourth Marriage," in *Muscovy in the World: An Empire and Its Limits* (Bloomington, Ind.: Slavica Press, 2023); "The Prayers of the Sinful Semën Shakhovskoi: the Religious World of Russia’s First Intelligent," *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 56:4 (2022): 498–522; and "I Remember the Days of Old; I Meditate [on All Thy Works]: St. John (Maksimovitch) and his *Origin of the Law of Succession in Russia*," *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* [Lawrence N. Langer Festschrift], 58:2 (2023).

Heidi Sherman (University of Wisconsin-Green Bay) published (with **Owen Christianson**), *The Viking House Saga: A Journey into Experiential Archeology at UW-Green Bay* (Green Bay: Hard-Penned Press, 2023).

Cornelia Soldat (University of Cologne) published "A Case Lacking Contemporaneous Local Sources: The ‘Sack of Novgorod’ in 1570", in: Ben Kiernan, General Editor: *The Cambridge World History of Genocide*, Vol. II, *Genocide in the Indigenous*,

Early Modern, and Imperial Worlds, c. 1535 to World War One, edited by Ned Blackhawk, Ben Kiernan, Benjamin Madley, and Rebe Taylor (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press 2023), 99-117; “Ivan Groznyi’s Sinodik opal’nykh Reconsidered”, in: *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 57 (2023): 169–189; and “Kormchii Richard Chensler i Koroleva Mariia. Opisanie Rossii cherez prizmu konfessional’nykh standartov i interesov”, in: *Poriadok i smuta. Rosudarstvo, obshchestvo, chelovek na vostokey i zapade evropy v srednie veka i rannee novoe vremya. K 85-letiiu Vladislava Dmitrievicha Nazarova*, ed. by A. A. Frolov (Moskva, 2023), 310-318

Kira (Carol B.) Stevens (Professor Emerita, Colgate University) published "Conflict in northeastern Europe and the emergence of Russia to 1721," in *Cambridge History of War*, David Parrott ed. (Cambridge University Press: forthcoming 2023); together with **Philip B. Uninsky**, "Private Borrowing and Lending in Moscow, 1702: Before There Were Banks," *Cahiers du monde russe*, 64:2 (Apr-June 2023): 411-444; and *Войны за становление Российского государства, 1460-1730* (Academic Studies Press: Dec 2022)—translation of Longman/Pearson 2007.

Res gestae

Tomasz Grusiecki (Boise State University) has been recently promoted to the position of Associate Professor (tenured).

Charles J. Halperin (Indiana University) - Podcast (Interview on Ivan the Terrible) - Suzannah Lipscomb, Not Just the Tudors, July 3, 2023.

<https://access.historyhit.com/not-just-the-tudors/videos/ivan-the-terrible>

NB: not Open Access but free trial subscriptions are available.

Russell E. Martin (Westminster College, PA) was named Distinguished Professor of History, the new title presented at the May 2023 Commencement Exercises.

Cornelia Soldat (University of Cologne) gave a paper on “The Instrumentalization of Antique Rhetorical Invectives in a Pamphlet Discourse of the 16th century: Historiographical Criticism of the Discourse on Tyrants in the German Oprichnina Pamphlets about Ivan the Terrible,” at the conference *New Research on Pre-modern Russia*, Münster, March, 17-18, 2023, and a paper on “Die Güter finden ihren Weg. Handelsgüter aus der Kiever Rus‘ im Mittelalter Paper”, at the conference *Enns und der europäische Fernhandel im Mittelalter*, 24.-25.10.2023, Museum Lauriacum, Enns (Austria).

Heidi Sherman (University of Wisconsin-Green Bay) was named the coordinator for the Midwest Viking Festival, which is an annual educational festival that brings together historical interpreters and craftspeople from throughout the United States to demonstrate crafts and material culture from Scandinavia's late Iron Age.

Kira (Carol B.) Stevens: Since 2020, Editor of Canadian-American Slavic Studies and Professor Emerita of History and of Russian and Eurasian Studies, Colgate University. Submissions to the journal on its website or to me personally (kstevens@colgate.edu) will be enthusiastically received.

Talia Zajac has started a tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor in the Department of Religious Studies, Niagara University, Lewiston, NY (USA).

Announcements

12th Biennial Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI)

June 17 - July 12, 2024 The Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio, USA

Deadline for submission of MSSI 2024 application: March 1, 2024

If you are interested in applying to the 12th Biennial Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (June 17-July 12, 2024), the online application is now live. We ask you to upload a current c.v. and an unofficial transcript (for related courses).
<https://rcmss.osu.edu/mssi>

If you have any questions or problems with the form, please write to hilandar@osu.edu.

Early Slavic Panels – ASEES (virtual)

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Cultural and Political Aspects of Colonization and Decolonization in Croatia

8:30 to 10:15am EDT, Virtual Rooms, VR2

Croatia has been the subject of numerous colonization and decolonization efforts, some effectuated by outside powers, others which resulted from internal processes. This panel will examine such efforts from a number of different aspects, including the expression of decolonization desires in Croatian poetry as well as colonization and

decolonization efforts in two regions of Croatia which have been particularly subject to colonization efforts by Italy and its antecedents: Istria and Dalmatia.

Chair: **Tomislav Galovic** (U of Zagreb, Croatia)

Papers: **Elvis Orbanic** (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Croatia) Orthodox and Catholics in Istria from the 16th to the 18th Centuries: Colonization, Decolonization, and Coexistence as a Response to the Ottoman Threat; **Ivo Soljan** (Grand Valley), Rebellion and Liberation as Decolonization in Croatian Poetry; **John Peter Kraljic** (Croatian Academy of America), Decolonization in Croatian Historiography: Eliminating Venice and Italy from Istria and Dalmatia.

Discussant: **Željko Bartulović** (U of Rijeka, Croatia)

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Confessionalization on the Orthodox Lands of Eastern Europe: As It Appeared in the Book Culture

10:45am to 12:30pm EDT, Virtual Rooms, VR2

The printing houses were managed by the Orthodox Confraternities and the schools as well, on the Ukrainian (and Belarusian) lands. The bourgeois development appeared in the constitutional monarchy. In historiography, these processes of institutionalization of cultural development in the Early Modern Age are named “confessionalization”; which took place on Polish, Ukrainian and Lithuanian (in the broader sense, including the Belarusian part of GDL) lands but hardly could take place in Muscovy. The introduction of these problems will be given by the presentation of N. Sinkevych, who provides us with a general overview of the “ideological” processes that happened in the Kyivan Metropolia in the 16/17 cc. Then S. Földvári argues that the Confessionalization occurred on the Ukrainian and Romanian lands, too, as proved by the book printing. As for the cultural links in the book art, A. Tatay deals with direct and indirect contacts btw. the book ornaments and illustrations in Ukrainian and Romanian book art. M. Qaramah and A. Dumitran prove the Uniate church culture was a terrene of the Confessionalization processes, too, as well as on the Romanian lands. As a result, the intellectual history of the Eastern European peoples who followed the Byzantine-rite forms of Christianity is contributed by this panel. – Please visit the site of our panel for more details: <https://wp.me/PD47I-c6>

Chair: **Ana Dumitran** (National Museum of the Union, Romania)

Papers: **Nataliia Sinkevych** (Ludwig-Maximilians-U Munich, Germany), The Invention of Tradition: Kyiv Metropolia in Search of the Way between Rome, Constantinople, Wittenberg, Warsaw and Moscow (1596-1720); **Sandor Foldvari** (U of Debrecen, Hungary), The ‘Confessionalization’ as Appeared in Petro Mohyla (Petrus Movila)’s Support the Printing in Moldova and Țara Românească; **Anca-Elisabeta Tatay** (Academy Library Cluj-Napoca, Romania), Ukrainian Influence on Romanian

Book Xylographs in the 17th Century; **Ana Dumitran** (National Museum of the Union, Romania), **Mihail Khalid Qaramah** ("1 Decembrie 1918" University of Alba Iulia, Romania), The Florentine Union and the First Initiatives to Translate the Scriptures into Romanian.

Discussants: **Nataliia Sinkevych** (Ludwig-Maximilians-U Munich, Germany), **Sandor Foldvari** (U of Debrecen, Hungary)

Friday, October 20, 2023

International Diplomacy and the Expansion of the Russian Empire

10:45am to 12:30pm EDT, Virtual Rooms, VR2

This is an individual paper panel.

Chair: Nataliia Sinkevych, Ludwig-Maximilians-U Munich (Germany)

Papers: **Iulia Nitorescu** (U of Bucharest, Romania), Metropolitans of all Rus', Protectors of Moscow: The Legitimizing Role of Metropolitan Petr's Tomb, Late 15th Century; **Earl Joshua Hodil** (Northern Arizona U), Mistranslation: Russo-Danish Debates Concerning the Repatriation of Duke Johan's Bones in the Early Seventeenth Century; **Ning Chia** (Central College), State Seal Stamps on the Qing-Russian Treaties and the Colonization/Decolonization Issues in the Bilateral Relationship of These Two Eurasian Empires; **Zurab Sulaberidze** (The Museum of Colchian Culture of Georgia, Georgia), War and Colonial Policy: Russia and the Development of the Black Sea Border Line, 1830-1856.

Discussant: **Nataliia Sinkevych** (Ludwig-Maximilians-U Munich, Germany)

Early Slavic Panels – ASEEEES (in person)

Thursday, November 30, 2023

Experiencing Religion in Premodern Orthodoxy

1:00 to 2:45pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

This roundtable addresses themes pertaining to religious experience and emotions expressed in a variety of texts and approached through a variety of methods, all directed to the pre-modern period before secularization changed cultural understandings of the faithful's relation to the divine. Inspired by the writings of Mircea Eliade and his assumption that the human person is essentially a religious being, we examine works of the 15th to the 17th century for their power to evoke an experiential participation in sacred transcendental reality. Our presentations ask how, if and why the understanding of this experience may have evolved, been redefined or changed over time. Although

recent years have seen rich investigations of cultural strategies for the sacralization of experience, we are concerned with uncovering the subjective aspects of this experience as stimulated by churches and monasteries, liturgy and ritual, icons and music. Though references may be made to antecedents in the earlier Byzantine centuries, special emphasis will be given to the 17th century when emerging science and modernity both subverted and catalyzed the desire to evoke and commune in the numinous or transcendental world.

Chair: **David Goldfrank** (Georgetown U)

Roundtable Members: **Stefan Schneck** (U of Zürich, Switzerland), **Cornelia Soldat** (U of Cologne, Germany), **Justin Willson** (Cleveland Museum of Art)

Thursday, November 30, 2023

History Writing and Intellectual Community in 16th Century Russia

3:00 to 4:45pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

The panel's three papers address narrative historical texts of the sixteenth century: two concern text and imagery regarding the Trojan War in the "Illuminated Chronicle" and the other explores anonymous historical compositions from the late sixteenth century. They will reflect on how their case studies address broader questions about history-writing and intellectual community in Muscovy. The texts they study demonstrate that behind the anonymous and seemingly rote façade of chronicles stood circles of people who made choices about what might be added, subtracted or edited in a chronicle, or written from scratch. Our authors will reflect on the intellectual community they perceive behind their writings, the political and/or cultural interests of that community and perhaps its readers.

Chair: **Maria Salomon Arel** (Marianopolis College, Canada)

Papers: **Brian James Boeck** (DePaul U), *Silvester: Arch-Intriguer, Noble Liar, or Doctor of Souls?*; **Elena Boeck** (DePaul U), *Measure of Greatness: Hector in the Trojan Illustrations of Litsevoi letopisnyi Svod*; **Paul Alexander Bushkovitch** (Yale U), *The Trojan War in Sixteenth-Century Russia*;

Discussant: **Nancy S. Kollmann** (Stanford U)

Friday, December 1, 2023

(De)colonizing the Russian 18th Century

8:00 to 9:45am EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

The panel addresses four elements of de/colonization in the 18thc: two address institutional aspects of colonization (governance in late 18thc Crimea and the use of scientific cartography as an element of colonizing expansion) while the other two focus

on understandings of one of Russia's great 18th century colonizers -- Catherine II: current discussions/debates surrounding the recent demolition of a statue of Catherine II in Odesa Ukraine and interpretations of expansion in Derzhavin's poem "Felitsa." The panel is sponsored by the Eighteenth-Century Russian Studies Association.

Chair: **Carol (Kira) Belkin Stevens** (Colgate U)

Papers: **Brian L. Davies** (U of Texas at San Antonio), The Bruce-Mengden and Cornelis Cruys Maps of the Lower Don (1696-1705): An Inflection Point in the Practice of Russian Cartography?; **Oleksandr Kravchuk** (U of Bristol, UK), The Russian Imperial Court in the Colonial Model of Governance in the Taurida Region (Last Quarter of the Eighteenth Century); **Emma George** (Princeton U), В чужие области скакать: Envisioning the Linguistic, Cultural, and Spatial Expansion of the Russian Empire in Derzhavin's 'Felitsa' (1782); **Ernest Alexander Zitser** (Duke U), The Catherinian Equine Myth and the 2022 Demolition of the Monument to the Founders of Odesa

Discussant: **Gregory Afinogenov** (Georgetown U)

Friday, December 1, 2023

Ivan the Terrible: History, Legacy, and Image

10:00 to 11:45am EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

The significance of Ivan the Terrible in Russian history encompasses history, legacy and image, which sometimes overlap. This panel will explore various aspects of these areas. Kevin Kain's paper explores Ivan's historical relations with the Holy Land, especially Jerusalem, and the how his image as a benefactor of these holy sites created a legacy which his successors imitated through the eighteenth century. Daniel Rowland's paper examines the architectural and iconic parallels between Muscovite churches during Ivan's reign and the 2019 Main Church of the Russian Armed Forces, and whether these similarities reflect the views of Putin and his circle. Charles Halperin's paper engages the conception of Ivan as a tyrant who was the exception in Muscovite history within the context of political science theory of tyranny and the comparative history of early modern European rulers.

Chair: **Jennifer B. Spock** (Eastern Kentucky U)

Papers: **Kevin Michael Kain** (U of Wisconsin-Green Bay), Ivan IV's Image as Benefactor of the Holy Land; **Daniel B. Rowland** (U of Kentucky), Eerie Echoes of Ivan IV's Muscovy in Putin's Russia: The 2019 Main Church of the Russian Armed Forces; **Charles J. Halperin** (Independent Scholar) Ivan the Terrible as an 'Exceptional' Tyrant

Discussant: **Maria Salomon Arel** (Marianopolis College, Canada)

Friday, December 1, 2023

"Orthodoxies and Politics": Religious Reforms in Mid-17th Century Eastern and Southeastern Europe

1:30 to 3:15pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

In mid-seventeenth century, religious change swept across Eastern Europe with unparalleled intensity. Their causes and consequences remain a matter of broad debate. Nevertheless, a consensus has been reached on the critical role played by Nikon, the controversial Patriarch of Moscow and all Rus' (1652-1666). The European Research Council Startup Grant "Orthodoxies and Politics" (ORTHPOL) hosted by the Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Vienna), intends to build upon the extensive historiography on Nikon and prove that his reforms were not isolated and could be better understood if analyzed in a broader perspective. The roundtable is composed of members of ORTHPOL, headed by PI Ovidiu Olar. The aim of this roundtable is to introduce the ORTHPOL project to wider audiences and to advocate an interconnected and trans-regional study of the mid-seventeenth century East and South-East European religious reforms. Panelists will address topics including arguments and strategies developed to define Orthodoxy and heresy, Ruthenian and Russian Orthodoxy borrowings from Western Church tradition and the roles of seventeenth-century Greek clergyman in Orthodox church reforms. The roundtable format is justified because, rather than reporting on research findings, panelist will the explore the benefits of expanding and reframing study of the seventeenth-century Russian Orthodox Church reform in a discussion designed promote engagement with the conference theme and lively exchanges among the presenters and the attendees.

Chair: **Nikolaos A. Chrissidis** (Southern Connecticut State U)

Roundtable Members: **Liliya Berezhnaya** (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria), **Kevin Michael Kain** (U of Wisconsin-Green Bay), **Iulia Nitescu** (U of Bucharest, Romania), **Ovidiu Olar** (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria), **Nikolas Pissis** (Ionian U, Greece)

Friday, December 1, 2023

Russia Comparisons with Persia and Brazil: 16th-18th Centuries

3:30 to 5:15pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

This panel compares selected aspects of Muscovite and early Imperial Russian history with analogs in other places. We will develop reliable premises, while pointing out pitfalls of wayward perspectives on historical comparativism. We shall demonstrate what made Russia peculiar through comparative perspective by utilizing comparative *longue durée* analyses, mathematics, and lexicography and by coupling these

methodologies to societies outside of Early Modern Russia. Our panel is congruent with the decolonization these, because our papers address the heterogeneity and fluidity of national and overlord power projection and entrenchment. David Goldfrank will examine some of the many other ways in which Muscovy and Safavid Persia have been and can be meaningfully compared. Stefan Schneck will analyze the different ends to which mathematical knowledge was applied in seventeenth-century Muscovy and Safavid Persia. Pete Brown, through analysis of the administrative and socio-economic terminology of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Russian slavery and serfdom and of eighteenth-century Colonial Brazilian slavery, will reconstruct the lexicographical imprint of forced labor upon these two societies. The title of Goldfrank's presentation is "In the Footsteps of Anthony Jenkinson and Adam Olearius? Muscovy and Safavid Persia." Schneck's paper is "Pragmatic vs. Extraneous Mathematical Knowledge? The Cases of Seventeenth-Century Muscovy and Safavid Persia. Brown's presentation is entitled "Social Reconstruction Through Lexicography. The Examples of Early Modern Russian Slavery and Serfdom and Colonial Brazilian Slavery." Eve Levin is the panel Chair. Kira Stevens is the discussant.

Chair: **Eve Levin** (U of Kansas)

Papers: **David Goldfrank** (Georgetown U), In the Footsteps of Anthony Jenkinson and Adam Olearius?: Muscovy and Safavid Persia; **Stefan Schneck** (U of Zürich, Switzerland), Pragmatic vs. Extraneous Mathematical Knowledge?: The Cases of Seventeenth Century Muscovy and Safavid Persia; **Peter B. Brown** (Rhode Island College), Social Reconstruction through Lexicography: The Examples of Early Modern Russian Slavery and Serfdom and Colonial Brazilian Slavery

Discussant: **Carol (Kira) Belkin Stevens** (Colgate U)

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Struggles in the West: Reinterpreting Russian-Polish Relations in the 18th and 19th Centuries

8:00 to 9:45am EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

This year, the convention's theme of decolonization suggests the need to reconsider the long-established interpretations and de-center narratives of Russian history. This panel aims to take a step in this direction through the examination of several contentious points in the relations between Russia and Poland in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In the first paper, Andrey Gornostaev uses maps and treaties to reconstruct the complexity surrounding the Russo-Polish border and its effects on social and economic processes occurring in the borderlands in the pre-partition period. Anastasiia Lystsova's paper deals with several Polish noble families who found themselves under influence of the Russian court and for whom differences between the political cultures of autocracy and republicanism were not clear-cut or well-defined. In the final paper,

Kostas Zivas transitions to the late-nineteenth-century Kingdom of Poland to explore how Russian officials struggled to adjudicate court cases concerning the issue of guardianship over persons with mental disability, underage individuals, and spendthrifts, due to conflicts between the Russian imperial and Polish civil law. In exploring these themes, thus, this panel brings to the fore the importance of local actors and regional dynamics and processes, and seeks to contribute to the ongoing reevaluation of Russian and Eastern European history.

Chair: **Ekaterina Pravilova** (Princeton U)

Papers: **Andrey V. Gornostaev** (U of Toronto, Canada), A Map for the Contestation: How Russia and Poland-Lithuania Failed to Demarcate Their Border, 1686-1772; **Anastasiia Lystsova** (Princeton U), The Polish Nobility between Republic and Absolutism in the 18th Century; **Kostas Zivas** (Yale U), Imperial Court Practice and Jurisdictional Conflicts over Guardianship in the Post-1864 Kingdom of Poland

Discussant: **Piotr J. Wrobel** (U of Toronto, Canada)

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Ukraine and Empire: Political and Cultural Combinations of the 16th to 18th Centuries

10:00 to 11:45am EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

What was the relationship of the Ukrainian Hetmanate to the Russian Empire? How did the Hetmanate negotiate between its desire for autonomy and its critical role in strengthening institutions inside Muscovy and the Russian Empire? What is the legacy of this relationship in light of the current hostilities? The four scholars on this roundtable will discuss the complexity of the Russian/Ukrainian relationship in light of their research. Andrii Bovgyria considers the range of loyal or hostile perceptions of Russian Empire in Ukrainian texts of the 18th century, in terms of their attitudes towards the state structure, the monarch, and imperial officials. Maria Gracia Bartolini examines how Ukrainian Orthodox intellectuals in the 17th and 18th-century used 'Kyivan saints' (Saint Barbara, Saint Volodymyr, and others) as means to shape the devotional distinctiveness of their community vis-a-vis a Moscow-centered Church. Considering the contributions of Ukrainian political and church leaders to the early Russian Empire and its military and cultural development, Tatiana Tairova asks how this "mutual empire" became hostile and alien. Frank Sysyn delves further into Tairova's question by highlighting the Cossack Ukrainian concepts of rights and liberties and service to a monarch that conflicted with Muscovite traditions. Rather than present their research as discrete topics, these scholars wish to use the roundtable format to elicit discussion with the audience on the complex historical Russian/Ukrainian relations and how this history can illuminate critical background to the current hostile situation.

Chair: **Barbara J. Skinner** (Indiana State U)

Roundtable members: **Maria Grazia Bartolini** (U of Milan, Italy), **Andrii Bovgyria** (Institute of History, NASU, Ukraine), **Frank Edward Sysyn** (U of Alberta, Canada), **Tatiana Tairova** (Independent Scholar)

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Writing a Handbook of Hungarian History

12:00 to 1:45pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

What does a Handbook of Hungarian History need to provide if the target audience is a general audience of scholars and others interested in the history of the country? What topics should be included? How can the history of Hungary be presented in a European and global context? We invite everyone who is interested to discuss these and more questions with editors and authors of the ongoing project.

Chair: **Arpad von Klimo** (Catholic U of America)

Roundtable members: **Balazs Apor** (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland), **Annina Gagyiova** (Institute of History CAS, Czech Republic), **Paul A. Hanebrink** (Rutgers, The State U of New Jersey), **Anita Kurimay** (Bryn Mawr College)

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Constructing History: Approaches to the Past in Medieval and Pre-Modern Eastern and Central European Historiography

2:00 to 3:45pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting Room 309

This panel scrutinizes historiographical strategies deployed in the composition of chronicle narratives across Czech, Bohemian, Polish, Lithuanian and Rus'ian lands. Focusing on the selection and exclusion of information and on the use of etymology, we will explore how history was crafted in texts ranging linguistically from Latin to Old East Slavonic, Old Czech and Ruthenian, and chronologically from the 12th to the 16th centuries.

Chair: **Paul W. Knoll** (U of Southern California)

Papers: **Robert Antonín** (U of Ostrava, Czech Republik), Searching for a New Synthesis: The History of the Bohemians in Medieval Czech Historiography; **Julia Verkholtantsev** (U of Pennsylvania), Etymologizing the Past: The Grammar of the Genealogical Descent of Lithuanians from the Romans in Late Medieval Polish and Lithuanian Historical Writings; **Amelia Isabelle Sophie Gardner-Thorpe** (U of Cambridge, UK), Wedding Omissions in the First Novgorod Chronicle: Chronicler Bias and Supralocal Genealogical Interests; **Ines Garcia de la Puente** (Boston U), On Naming in Rus': Etymological Rationalization and the Making of Origins

Discussant: **Paul Richard Milliman** (U of Arizona)

Saturday, December 2, 2023

**Translations with an Agenda in the 17th Century Poland-Lithuania and Muscovy
4:00 to 5:45pm EST, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Floor: 3rd Floor, Meeting
Room 309**

Our panel aims at examining the various ways in which translations in the seventeenth-century Muscovy, Poland, and Ukraine were used to promote a specific socio-political or confessional agenda. Among some of the questions that we address are: What is the relation between a translation created in the Slavic milieu and its prototype? Who was the intended audience and how the translations targeted that audience? How did the translators creatively engage with or manipulate the original texts? We seek to demonstrate the subversive power of the translations designed to question and challenge the existing relations between various religious and political groups.

Chair: **Ines Garcia de la Puente** (Boston U)

Papers: **Cornelia Soldat** (U of Cologne, Germany), 'Translating, Integrating, Incorporating: 17th Century Muscovite Chronicle Information about Ivan the Terrible's Oprichnina'; **Jakub Niedzwiedz** (Jagiellonian U, Poland), 'Translation of the Breviary Hymns and Female Readership in Poland-Lithuania in the 17th Century'; **Maria Ivanova** (McGill U, Canada), 'An Overlooked Translation of Thomas à Kempis's "Imitatio Christi"'

Discussant: **Brian James Boeck** (DePaul U)

The Famous Early Slavic Dinner - ASEES

This year, the Famous Early Slavic Dinner will take place

Friday, Dec 1st, 7.30 pm at Maggiano's Restaurant

1201 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19107-2818.

The restaurant is directly opposite to the main entrance of the Marriott Hotel Philadelphia where this year's ASEES convention takes place.

The dinner will be served family style in a separate parlor.

The menu:

Starters and salads:

Caesar and Italian Tossed salads,
Stuffed mushrooms, Asagio-cruste shrimp.

Second course:

Four-Cheese Ravioli, Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce.

Entrees:

Chicken Florentine, Parmesan-Crusted Cod.

Dessert:

Apple Crostada, Tiramisu.

The menu includes coffee and tea, water and soft drinks as well as freshly baked Ciabatta rolls.

The menu costs \$75, including gratuity, paid in cash, by cheque or by Venmo on the site to our treasurer, Justin Willson. You may also pay in advance via the paypal button on the website www.earlyslavicstudies.org. All payments until November 23rd will be considered.

A special surprise is guaranteed, so do come and have a look and become acquainted with fellow researchers from all over the world.

Please, indicate to Cornelia Soldat soldat@soldatkuepper.de if you intend to come. Give notice until November, 23rd.

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.

THE EARLY SLAVIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION

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