



## RUSSIA'S WARS: POWER AND AGENCY IN TIMES OF CRISES AND EXCEPTIONS

**Ghent-Tartu Research Workshop**

hosted by Johan Skytte Institute for Political Science

University of Tartu

November 28-29, 2022

Programme

**28 November 2022, Monday**

13:00 – 14:00 Opening lunch

14:00 – 15:45 Parallel sessions 1:

**PANEL 1.1: Russia's War against Ukraine: Conceptual Departures (Lossi 36, room 205)**

Chair and moderator: **Steven Blockmans** (*ICDS, Tallinn and CEPS, Brussels*)

**Yulia Kurnyshova** (*University of Bremen*): Violence and Post-colonial Necropolitics: Russia's War and European Insecurities.

**Aliaksei Kazharski** (*Comenius University Bratislava*): The Realist Illusion About Russia and Ukraine. The origins of the Russo-Ukrainian war.

**Dumitru Minzarari** (*Baltic Defense College*): Understanding emerging technologies of conflict: A different look at Russia's hybrid war in Ukraine.

**PANEL 1.2: Russia's Invasion in Ukraine: Central and Eastern Asian Reverberations (Lossi 36, room 206)**

Chair and moderator: **Izzet Yalin Youksel** (*University of Tartu*)

**Sanshiro Hosaka** (*University of Tartu*): Ukraine's agency in Japanese academia and media before and after February 24.

**Bruno de Cordier** (*Ghent University*): Is some sort of 'Donbas separatism' thinkable in Kazakhstan?

**Karolina Kluczevska** (*Ghent University*): Redefining post-Sovietness: How the war in Ukraine reshapes Tajikistan's relations with Russia.





15.45 - 16.00: coffee break

16.15 - 18.00: parallel sessions 2:

**Panel 2.1: Post-imperial Hybridities: a Cultural Outlook (Lossi 36, room 205)**

Chair and moderator: **Azniv Tadevosyan** (*University of Tartu*)

**Anastasia Spirenkova** (*School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Paris*): Discursive Strategies of Art Activism after the End of Russian Hybrid Regime

**Laura Luciani** (*Ghent University*): Geopolitics of gender and sexuality in the EU-Russia neighborhood: conceptualizing activist struggles and resistance in Georgia and Armenia.

**Olesya Tkacheva** and **Sopo Tarimanishvili** (*Brussels School of Governance, VUB*): Russia's Religious Diplomacy on Twitter in the EU's Eastern Neighborhood: Insights from Computational Text Analysis of Russian Embassies Twitter Feeds

**PANEL 2.2: Russia's War against Ukraine: Agency and Communication (Lossi 36, room 206)**

Chair and moderator: **Karolina Kluczevska** (*Ghent University*)

**Kostiantyn Yanchenko** (*University of Hamburg*): Reconsidering communication studies in Ukraine after Russia's full-scale invasion: Novel priorities, research questions, and collaborative directions.

**Anselm Schmidt** (*University of Tartu*): Ukrainian Struggle(s) for Agency: How Studying the Marginalized Can Help Understand the War in Ukraine.

**Natalia Kovyliaeva** (*University of Tartu*): "If He Beats You, Means He Loves You": A Gendered Perspective on Understanding Russia's War in Ukraine.

19:00: Workshop dinner

**29 November, Tuesday**

Parallel sessions 3: 10:00 – 11:45

**Panel 3.1: New Insecurities (Jakobi 5, room 116)**

Chair and moderator: **Bruno De Cordier** (*Ghent University*)

**Caroline Dufy** (*University of Bordeaux*): War and Global Trade. A view from the Russian Wheat Sector.

**Andrey Makarychev** (*University of Tartu*) and **Vladimir Sazonov** (*Estonian Military Academy*): Money Laundering and Hybrid Threats: the Case of Estonia.



**Berk Vindevogel** (*Ghent University*): Russia's China-enigma in the Arctic.

**David Zdrojewski** (*INALCO, Paris*): The Bear perceived by the Eagle: Images of Russian power in Poland.

### **Panel 3.2: Russia's Hegemonic Regionalism in the "Unshared" Neighborhood (Jakobi 5, room 218)**

Chair and moderator: **Heidi Erbsen** (*University of Tartu*)

**Daniel Bach** (*University of Bordeaux*): Old grammars as stepping stones towards a new world of regions/regionalisms: the war in Ukraine as a litmus test.

**Jeremy Smith** (*University of Eastern Finland*): Russia and regional hegemony from 1991 to the present.

**Isabell Burmester** (*University of Geneva*): EU and Russian hegemony in the 'shared neighborhood': Between coercion, prescription, and co-optation.

**Louise Amoris** (*Ghent University*), **Fabienne Bossuyt** (*Ghent University*) and **Katsiaryna Lozka** (*Ghent University*): How is Russia depicted in Western IR scholarship? Three different images of Russia's involvement in its neighborhood.

12:00-13:30: Lunch

13:30 – 15:15:

### **Panel 4.1: The Multifaceted World of COVID-19: the Biopolitics of Medical Emergency (Jakobi 5, room 218/ 219)**

Chair and moderator: **George Spencer Terry** (*University of Tartu and Baltic Defense College*)

**Stefano Braghiroli** and **Andrey Makarychev** (*University of Tartu*): Vaccine Hesitancy in Countries of 'New Europe': In Search of Explanations, Correlations and Trends.

**Maria Papageorgiou** and **Alena Viera** (*University of Minho*): Russia's power between the lines: Russian Twitter discourse amidst the coronavirus crisis.

**Luca Anceschi** (*University of Glasgow*): Shoot the messenger. Communicating the Covid crisis in Central Asia.

### **Panel 4.2: Russia's War Against Ukraine: New Research Vistas (Jakobi 5, room 116)**

Chair and moderator: **Michael Cole** (*University of Tartu*)

**Marianna Gladysz** (*Ivan Franko National University, Lviv*) Ensuring the rights of Ukrainian refugees in Europe at war time.

**Alina Cherviatsova** (*Ghent University*): Historical Narratives in Russia's war against Ukraine: 'Russian historical lands'.



**Sebastiaan van Severen** (*Ghent University*): The danger of conceptual blurring between *jus ad bellum* and *jus in bello* during Russia's war against Ukraine.