

Transnational Research in a Multipolar World

International Conference of the Max Weber Foundation

Parallel Session

'East European and Eurasian Studies in Times of War'

May 9, 9:00 – 12:00am

Abstract

On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine in a significant escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War, which began in 2014. Russia's attack on Ukraine also has far-reaching implications for the field of East European and Eurasian studies. Considering the different academic cultures in Japan and Germany, this panel takes stock of how scholars adapt to the challenges in the field. Panelists will discuss access to sources, reassessment of previous research and funding, the increased importance of studying imperialism nationalism and geopolitical issues, the (re)politicization of the academic community, and other topics requiring scholars to adapt to the post-2022 world.

Speakers

Sandra DAHLKE, Director, German Historical Institute Moscow

Miloš ŘEZNÍK, Director, German Historical Institute Warsaw

SHINOHARA Taku, Professor of History, Department for Central European Studies, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

David WOLFF, Professor of History, Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University

Moderator

Sören URBANSKY, Research Fellow and Head of the Pacific Office, German Historical Institute Washington at UC Berkeley

CVs

Sandra Dahlke is director of the German Historical Institute (GHI) Moscow. After studying History and Slavic Studies in Paris, Cologne, and Hamburg, she obtained her PhD at the University of Hamburg in 2005 with a dissertation on "Emel'jan Jaroslavskij (1878-1943): Individual and Rule under Stalinism". Her research focuses on the history of Tsarist Russia in the second half of the 19th century and the Soviet Union. From 2007 to 2008 and in 2011 she was visiting scholar at the Centre d'études des mondes russe, caucasien et centre-européen (CERCEC) at the Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris. In 2013, she assumed the position of deputy director at the GHI Moscow.

Miloš Řezník is director of the German Historical Institute in Warsaw. He is on leave from the Chemnitz University of Technology (Saxony) where he holds a professorship for European Regional History. He is a historian of East-Central Europe. His research focuses on ethnicity, nationality and nation-building, politics of history, changes of elites, and Romantic epistemology. He is co-chair of the German-Czech Historians' Commission. His publications include a monograph on the acculturation of Polish aristocracy in the Habsburg monarchy (*Neuorientierung einer Elite. Ständewesen, Aristokratie und Loyalität in Galizien, 1772–1795*, 2016) and a book on regionality as historical category (*Regionalität als historische Kategorie*, co-edited, 2019).

Taku Shinohara has been Professor at the department for Central European Studies, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies since 2009. He graduated from the Faculty of Arts of The Tokyo University of Tokyo (MA in European history), and Faculty of Arts of Charles University, Prague with Ph.D. (History). He specializes in the history of Central Europe of the 19th and 20th century, especially in the history of Bohemian lands. He is also a core faculty member in the double degree master program "History in the Public Sphere", run by Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and Central European University (Vienna), with NOVA/Lisbon, and University of Florence.

Sören Urbansky is a historian of Russia and China in the modern era, specializing in imperial and racial entanglements, migration, infrastructure, and the history of borders. He is a global and transnational history research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., and since 2021 heading its Pacific Office at UC Berkeley. Sören has previously taught Chinese and Russian history at the Universities of Munich and Freiburg and was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Cambridge. Sören has published three monographs, including *Beyond the Steppe Frontier: A History of the Sino-Russian Border* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2020).

David Wolff is Professor of Eurasian History and Deputy Director of the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center (Hokkaido University). He is also the former Director of the Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC. He is author of *To the Harbin Station: The Liberal Alternative in Russian Manchuria, 1898-1914* (Stanford, 1999), (Kodansha, 2010), coeditor of the two-volume *World War Zero: A Global History of the Russo-Japanese War* (2005; 2008) and most recently *Russia's Great War and Revolution in the Far East* (2018). He is now working on a history of Stalin's postwar Far East policy. In 2022, he was awarded a Humboldtpreis for his work on Russia in Asia.