Historical Past and Contemporary Propaganda in the Global Context

June 7 – 8, 2024

Presented by

Gagarin Center at Bard College
Smolny Beyond Borders Initiative at Bard College Berlin
Center for Comparative Research on Democracy at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum
Geschwister-Scholl-Straße 1/3
10117 Berlin
Friday, June 7, 2024

8:45 am  Coffee

9:00 – 9:15 am  Welcome
- Silvia von Steinsdorff, CCRD/Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Philip Fedchin, Smolny Beyond Borders/Gagarin Center/Bard College Berlin
- Jonathan Becker, Bard College
- Kerry Bystrom, Bard College Berlin
- Stefan Karsch, International Department/Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

9:15 – 10:45 am  Panel 1: (Re)invention of Temporality
Moderator: Artemy Magun, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
- Ilya Kalinin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
  History as Politics: Mobilization of the Past
- Elad Magomedov, Center for Phenomenology and Continental Philosophy, KU Leuven
  Propaganda as Phantasmatization of Temporality
- Victor Apryshchenko, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  History as Propaganda: 19th Century National Projects in Scotland, Catalonia and Don Cossack Region
- Dmitrii Dubrovskii, Charles University; Irina Rebrova, ZfA TU Berlin
  (Re)invention of the ‘Genocide of the Soviet People’: Legal Practice and Political Context in Modern Russia

10:45 – 11:00 am  Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:15 pm  Panel 2: Resistance and (Contr)propaganda
Moderator: Danila Raskov, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ University of Helsinki
- Rosario Forlenza, Luiss; Bjørn Thomassen, Roskilde University
  Propaganda as a Vehicle of Political Transition. The Risorgimento and the Politics of Memory in Italy from Fascism to Post-Fascism, 1932-1961
- Masha Godovannaya, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  The Filmmaker as Partisan: Found-Footage Film as a Form of Aesthetic Resistance and Affective Cinematic Labor
- Mikhail Allakhverdov, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  Dynamic Memory Processes: Unraveling Propaganda’s Influence and Crafting Adaptive Counter Strategies

12:15 – 1:15 pm  Lunch

1:15 – 2:30 pm  Panel 3: Propaganda in a Coups
Moderator: Claudia-Y. Matthes, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
- Gülcin Coşkun, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin; Ertuğ Tombuş, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
  Constituting the Regime: The July 15 Coup Attempt and Political Legitimization in Turkey
- Peter Rutland, Wesleyan University
  Inside the Wagnerverse
- Denis Skopin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
In Front of the Wagner Center in St. Petersburg, Next Day after Prigozhin’s Assassination (a visual anthropology essay)

2:30 – 4:00 pm  Panel 4: Symbols and Languages of Propaganda
Moderator: Silvia von Steinsdorff, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin

- Polina Vishnevskaya, Central European University
  National Symbols and Propaganda: Marianne and Germania in the French Patriotic Illustrated Press during WWI
- Domenico Scagliusi, Sorbonne University
  Performing the Duty of Memory: Five Time Travel Narratives of the Great Patriotic War
- Larissa Muraveva, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  Russian autofiction and collective trauma
- Nikolai (Kolya) Nakhshunov, independent scholar
  From „Gayropa” to „Rainbow Reich”: A Critical Phenomenology of Anti-Gay Propaganda in Russia

4:15 – 5:15 pm  Project presentation: Russian Independent Media Archive and the Task of Resistance to Media Censorship in Russia
Ilya Venyavkin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ RIMA*

Saturday, June 8, 2024

8:45 am  Coffee

9:00 – 10:30 am  Panel 5: Education and Propaganda
Moderator: Jonathan Becker, Bard College

- Philip Fedchin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ Bard College Berlin
  Liberal Arts Education in Russia: Individual Plan of Study and its Enemies
- Ekaterina Rozova, Sorbonne University/ Independent Institute of Philosophy (Paris)
  History of Russian Philosophy as an Academic Discipline: Instrumentalisation of the Course in Russian Propaganda
- Vera Shengeliya, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  Disability Lab Initiative: Fefelov List as a Tool to Empower a Community of Activists
- Andrei Rodin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  Political Propaganda in Science and Mathematics Education: Some Historical Examples and Recent Practices

10:30 – 10:45 am  Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:15 pm  Panel 6: Art and Propaganda
Moderator: Danila Raskov, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ University of Helsinki

- Natalia Fedorova, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ University Paris 8
  Art as propaganda
- Oleg Minin, Bard College
Satirical Laughter and Repressive Regimes: Russian Émigré Cartoons of Early Soviet Symbols of Power, Memory and Commemoration

- Alexey Gusev, University of Münster
  *The Leningrad Rock Club: A Tale of Historical Propaganda and Soviet Rock Music*
- Maria Chernysheva, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center
  “Saving princess Tarakanova”: When is the popularization of history not propaganda?

**12:15 – 1:45 pm**  
**Panel 7: Propagandistic Mobilisations**  
Moderator: Gülcin Coşkun, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin

- Ilya Venyavkin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ RIMA*
  *Aleksandr Dugin and Aleksandr Prokhanov as ideological entrepreneurs*
- Sophia Winkler, ZOiS
  *Memory Mobilisation in Russian-Language Social Media Abroad*
- Olga Logunova, King’s College London; Ilya Kiriya, University of Grenoble
  *Polarisation of Russian online public sphere around Stalin’s figure: evidence from wartime*
- Aleksei Gilev, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ University of Helsinki
  *Foundations of political conformism in nowadays Russian society*

**1:45 – 3:00 pm**  
**Lunch**

**3:00 – 4:15 pm**  
**Panel 8: Digital Media and Propaganda**  
Moderator: Artemy Magun, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center

- Dmitrij Lebedev, Freie University
  *Russian Propaganda and Media: from the Logic of Market to the Logic of Cruelty*
- Natalia Artemenko, Institute of Humanistic and Existential Psychology, Birstonas, Lithuania
  *The phenomenon of “Shitstorm” and “Hate Speech” in the Social Media Space: What Drives People to Participate in Online Firestorms?*
- Olena Pavlova, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
  *Teaching and Researching the Memes of War in Ukraine as a Form of the Contemporary Propaganda*

**5:00 – 6:30 pm**  
**Key-note Talk**  
Moderator: Ilya Kalinin, Smolny Beyond Borders/ Gagarin Center/ Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

- Alexander Etkind, Central European University
  *Russia’s Casus Belli: Memory Politics or Political Propaganda?

* The Russian Independent Media Archive project (RIMA) is a joint initiative of PEN America and The Gagarin Center at Bard College, made in collaboration with Internet Archive (Wayback Machine). RIMA launched in April 2023.

For more information, please visit [smolny.org](http://smolny.org).  
If you have any questions, please email [gagarincenter@smolny.org](mailto:gagarincenter@smolny.org).