

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

Smolny
Beyond Borders



Gagarin Center



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 Phantasmaticization 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

- Gülçin 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: Gülçin 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

- Dmitriy 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.
If you have any questions, please email gagarincenter@smolny.org.