

Research Report 2019

HSE
UNIVERSITY
ST. PETERSBURG



НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬСКИЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

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INTRODUCTION



Professor
Sergey M. Kadochnikov
Director,
HSE University
St. Petersburg

Research and the transfer of knowledge are fundamental to the mission of HSE University St. Petersburg. So, the University will remain committed to conducting research of global impact, serving the needs of international and local communities.

HSE University has strengthened its position in leading educational ratings:

- Top 100 in leading subject ratings (Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, QS World University Rankings);
- Top 100 among young universities (THE Young University Rankings, QS World University Rankings Top 50 Under 50);
- Top 250 in QS Global Employability Ratings.

In addition to that, our leading researcher Professor Ronald Inglehart was pronounced as the most cited political researcher by American Political Science Association.

HSE University continues its support policy to develop research centers and groups. First of all, we enhanced support for our flagship international research centres, among which are the International Laboratory of Game Theory and Decision Making, the Centre for Market Studies and Spatial Economics, and the Laboratory for Comparative Social Research. We have also managed to establish two new international research centers: Social and Cognitive Informatics Laboratory and International Laboratory of Intangible-driven Economy. We are glad to announce that a new international research centre will be established in 2020 – International Research Laboratory of Quantum Optoelectronics.

Secondly, in 2019 we continued to facilitate the work of multiple interdisciplinary research groups, focusing on cognitive and information sciences, digital business transformation, big data and so on. We hope that some of these groups will also become research centres with outstanding international reputation.

Thirdly, in 2019 HSE University St. Petersburg continued to organize large-scale international events, which contribute to the campus's reputation as a platform for cutting-edge discussions in social sciences, economics and the humanities. Thus, we were especially proud to host the 12th Annual INAS Conference 2019 and the Analytics for Management and Economics Conference 2019 (AMEC 2019), another annual key research event.

In May 2019 we also held our annual flagship international conference on Education and World Cities, as well as a large number of more focused seminars and roundtables organized by our laboratories and research centres.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Kadochnikov', written in a cursive style.

HSE UNIVERSITY ST. PETERSBURG:

FACTS AND FIGURES

Research Priority Areas:

- Data Science for the Changing Society
- Inequality and Governance
- Humanities in the Knowledge Economy

Established in 1997, HSE University St. Petersburg is one of the four campuses of the Higher School of Economics. Nowadays, it is home to more than 6,000 students, including 10% international students from 50+ countries, and about 50 research fellows, many of them holding PhD degrees from the top universities from around the world. HSE St. Petersburg runs 19 research centers and laboratories, including 5 international flagship research centers led by world-renowned researchers, as well as multiple standalone research groups where faculty and students jointly carry out research projects.

**Shanghai Ranking's
Global Ranking
of Academic Subjects 2019**

Subject	World	Russia
Mathematics	76-100	2
Economics	151-200	1
Political Sciences	101-150	1
Sociology	51-75	1
Psychology	401-500	1
Business Administration	301-400	1
Management	301-400	1

**QS – World University
Rankings by Subject 2019**

Subject	World	Russia
Accounting & Finance	101-150	1
Business & Management Studies	101-150	1
Communication & Media Studies	101-150	2
Computer Science & Information Systems	201-250	5
Economics & Econometrics	51-100	1
Education	101-150	1
History	101-150	2
Law	151-200	2
Linguistics	101-150	3
Mathematics	101-150	4
Modern Languages	151-200	4
Philosophy	101-150	2
Physics & Astronomy	551-600	17
Politics & International Studies	51-100	3
Psychology	201-250	2
Sociology	51-100	1

QS – World University Rankings by faculty 2019

Subject	World	Russia
Art and Humanities	153	3
Engineering and Technology	451-500	13
Social Sciences and Management	75	2

Top 25%

Institutions and Economists in Russia
(score 3.64)

Top 10%

Economic Institutions
(#241)

Diagram 1.
Research Output 2019
Academic publications

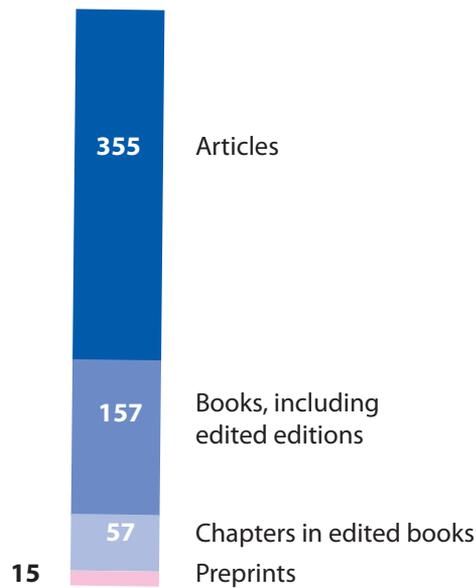
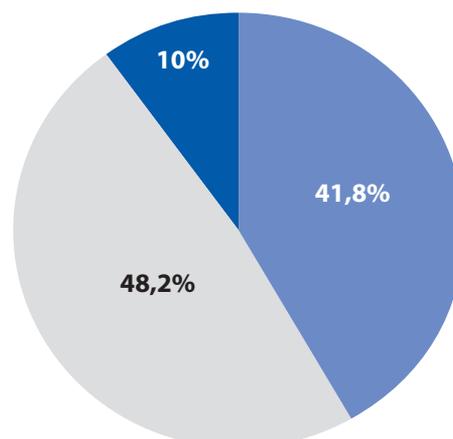


Diagram 2.
**External Basic Research Funding
Amount 2019**



- Government Funds
- Russian foundations (RSF, RFBR)
- Corporations and non-federal funds

HSE UNIVERSITY ST. PETERSBURG:
KEY EVENTS 2019

6th Annual International Conference
“Education and Global Cities: New Horizons in University Reputation”

May 22 – May 23, 2019

The conference brought together experts in education and university reputation, university leaders and heads of university networks and associations, as well as international education professionals interested in discussing reputational mechanisms aimed to increase the competitiveness of Russian education and internationalization.

Discussion was held over three thematically organized tracks – “Global Education: New Approaches to University Partnerships”, “Building University Reputation”, “Engaged University: Multiple Education Models and Modes (for a Transforming Job Market)”. The conference was organized in partnership with University of Navarra (Spain), Association of management of academic reputation, university strategic development and international partnership “World 100 Reputation Network”.

12th Annual INAS Conference 2019

May 31 – June 2, 2019

In 2019 HSE University St. Petersburg served as a local organizer and host of the 12th Annual INAS Conference, held in Russia for the first time in the history of the conference. The conference was attended by world’s leading sciences developing the field of analytical sociology.

One of the main events of the conference was a symposium dedicated to the topic of teaching undergraduate students computational social sciences. Participants, many of which are university professors all around the world, shared their experience in teaching analytical sociology. Most universities teach classical sociology, with little to no emphasis on the computational aspect of sociology at the undergraduate level, so it was a new and important field for discussion.

Keynote speakers included Michael W. Macy (Cornell University), Squazzoni Flaminio (University of Milan).

8th International Conference
“Industrial Organization and Spatial Economics”

June 13 – 14, 2019

On June 13-14, the VIII International Conference «Theory of Market Structures and Spatial Economics» was held with the participation of leading foreign experts Donald Davis and Joseph Zweimuller. In total, 29 reports were presented at 5 sessions and 2 key lectures. The conference papers covered the latest findings in theoretical models, new regulatory concepts and research methods for regional and sectoral markets, consumer preferences, urban economics and trade development. Key speakers at the events were Donald Davis, Joseph Zweimüller, Hans Koster, Yasusada Murata. 94 participants represented the following countries: Russia, Canada, Great Britain, Japan, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands, India, Switzerland, USA, South Korea.

International conference
“Economic Design and Algorithms in St Petersburg”

July 8-9, 2019

In July 2019, the International Laboratory of Game Theory and Decision Making organized the international conference « Economic Design and Algorithms in St Petersburg». The event was attended by representatives of 15 countries. The conference brought together 20 world experts in the fields of computer science and microeconomics aimed to exchange experience, discuss the up-to-date scientific achievements and future collaborations. It focused on design problems where the methodologies of these two communities interact successfully, including but not limited to market design, matching and assignment, voting rules, fair division, information design, auctions, networks.

Analytics for Management and Economics Conference

September 27 – 28, 2019

Analytics for Management and Economics Conference took place at the Higher School of Economics between 27 and 28 September 2019. Scholars from all over the world came together to discuss the most pressing issues of global business and innovation.

This academic conference is initiated as a response to the emerging and fast-growing trends in Economics and Business management skewed towards analytical approaches, data-driven decision making, digital transformation and disruptive innovations in IT.

International Conference
“Situating the ‘Global’ in
Contemporary Humanities”

October 17-19, 2019

The concept of the ‘global’ gained currency since the 1980s in the emergent paradigms of global history and the anthropology of globalization, and the critique of comparative perspectives in area studies and literary scholarship. How is the global as a matter of academic concern interlinked with the globalization after the end of the Cold War and more recent geopolitical, and ecological realities — as well as with the globalization of the humanities and social sciences themselves? What are some of the contours of global networks, cultural flows and hierarchies which we explore — and in which we are also implicated as scholars, authors and teachers? How do academics react to the globalization of politics of knowledge in different countries and regions? Discussing these issues is the goal of the first annual conference of the School of Arts and Humanities of the HSE St Petersburg.

Anniversary International
Conference of the Centre
for Youth Studies
“Youth in the 21st Century:
Multiplicity and Difference”

October 18-19, 2019

International conference «Youth in the XXI century: multiplicity and difference» dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the Centre for Youth Studies (CYS), the Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg, took place on October 18-19, 2019 and involved around 100 participants from all over the world. At the heart of this conference was the commitment of CYS research to overcome an understanding of young people that problematizes, marginalizes and generalizes their experiences. The focus on ‘multiplicity’ in the conference allowed recognizing among youth multiple subjects who exert their agency, but at the same time, experience their life in certain structural conditions. Through this lens, the researchers produced a comprehensive picture of youth practices, identities, experiences, modes of participation and their meanings and to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that young people have in today’s global and local contexts.

The results of key CYS project were presented at the conference, including the results of five-year research «Creative fields of interethnic interaction and youth cultural scenes of Russian cities» supported by the Russian Science Foundation. In her plenary presentation, prof. Elena Omelchenko, the Head of CYS, disclosed the main trends in the development of youth cultural scenes and shared values profiles of youth generations. Prof. Hilary Pilkington (University of Manchester, UK) also giving the plenary speech in the first day, presented the results of the international project «Dialogue about Radicalization and Equality» supported by European Commission (CYS is one of its participants). It aims to understand how radicalization affects young people in different countries and how they respond to calls for radicalization. In the frame of plenary session on the second day of the conference, Dr. Jo Dekin (University of Manchester, UK) and Prof. Paivi Honkatukia (University of Tampere, Finland) focused on the experience of using a participatory approach to the study of youth, based on the idea of the young people involvement in research not only as informants, but also as co-researchers. Speakers successfully demonstrated that despite the difficulties in its implementation, it is a necessity for modern youth studies as it allows developing the agency of young people.

International symposium
“Cold War Matters: (In)Visible
Economies of Things”

December 16-17, 2019

On December 16th and 17th, the Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History and the History Department hosted the symposium titled «Cold War Matters: (In)Visible Economies of Things.» The goal of the symposium was to look at the Cold War from a different angle, one that differed from politics and military. Instead the focus of the symposium was to look at the Cold War through consumer culture, art, science, industry, and the exchange of these things across the permeable Iron Curtain.

During the Symposium, participants put things in the center of research in order to make trajectories of objects more visible. Papers by scholars of various disciplines - from history of science to history of art - challenged disciplinary borders and demonstrated the complex intersections of technical and aesthetical matters, as well as of practical and ideological ones.

HSE UNIVERSITY ST. PETERSBURG:
RESEARCH AREAS

01

Spatial Economics

Center for Market Studies and Spatial Economics

<https://ces.hse.ru/en/>

2011-2019

The Center for Market Studies and Spatial Economics (MSSE) conducts research on two interrelated important aspects of economic reality:

1) Various forms of market competition. Different markets have different structures of the economic game. Some markets have only a few players (for example, electricity or oil producers), other involve many players (apparel or electronics), or even open entry with thousands of players; market outcomes will not be the same. Pursuing social welfare, modern IO theory attempts to determine which markets need to be somehow regulated, are there any externalities or public goods involved? (Externalities can include spatial frictions, agglomeration economies, non-market interactions, network effects, etc.) What are the effects of international trade, urbanization, market expansion and technological progress on market structures and market outcomes? Approaching the hard-core theory of markets, our Center cooperates with prominent world theorists and develops the theory in such up-to-date directions as: spatially distributed heterogeneous preferences, network effects, heterogeneous firms, stochastic markets, monopolistic competition. In empirical research, we attempt to apply these ideas to micro-level data (instead of aggregated data, that were popular in XX century).

2) Spatial distribution of economic activity. More precisely, we ask why economic activity is so unequally distributed across space and concentrated in very few places around the world. What are the driving forces for the concentration of activity within large metropolitan areas, where the land price is very high, while the land price average is negligible outside the metropolitans? For example, we have applied the methodology of cluster-detecting to identify centers of manufacturing in Russia. We have identified approximately 2,000 agglomerations of manufacturing plants in many industries across the country, which have emerged due to the beneficial aspects of agglomeration economies. Addressing these questions helps us better understand market mechanisms, develop and verify theory. In the long run, such research suggests ways for potential improvements of governmental trade, urban, and regional policies, which in turn may increase social welfare.

Main publications:

- Gokan, T., Kichko, S. and Thisse, J.F., 2019. How do trade and communication costs shape the spatial organization of firms? // *Journal of Urban Economics*, 113, p.103191.
- Koster, H.R., Pasidis, I. and van Ommeren, J., 2019. Shopping externalities and retail concentration: Evidence from Dutch shopping streets. // *Journal of Urban Economics*, 114, p.103194.
- Ostermeijer, F., Koster, H.R. and van Ommeren, J., 2019. Residential parking costs and car ownership: Implications for parking policy and automated vehicles. // *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 77, pp.276-288.
- Sandomirskaja, M., 2019. Nash-2 equilibrium: selective farsightedness under uncertain response. // *Group Decision and Negotiation*, 28(2), pp.275-304.
- Ushchev, P. and Zenou, Y., 2020. Social norms in networks. // *Journal of Economic Theory*, 185, p.104969.
- Behrens, K., Boualam, B. and Martin, J., 2020. Are clusters resilient? Evidence from Canadian textile industries. // *Journal of Economic Geography*, 20(1), pp.1-36.
- Proost, S., & Thisse, J. F. (2019). What can be learned from spatial economics? // *Journal of Economic Literature*, 57(3), 575-643.
- Kichko, S., 2019. Competition, land prices and city size. // *Journal of Economic Geography*.
- Takayama, Y., Ikeda, K. and Thisse, J.F., 2020. Stability and sustainability of urban systems under commuting and transportation costs. // *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, p.103553.
- Behrens, K., Mion, G., Murata, Y. and Suedekum, J., 2020. Quantifying the gap between equilibrium and optimum under monopolistic competition. // *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 135(4), pp.2299-2360.
- Koster, H.R., Cheng, F.F., Gerritse, M. and van Oort, F.G., 2019. Place-based policies, firm productivity, and displacement effects: Evidence from Shenzhen, China. // *Journal of Regional Science*, 59(2), pp.187-213.

Director

Sergey Kokovin,
Professor

Academic Advisor:

Kristian Behrens,
Professor,
Université du Québec à Montréal

Chief Research Fellow:

Jacques-François Thisse,
Professor Emeritus,
Université catholique de Louvain

Leading Research Fellows:

Yasusada Murata,
Professor,
Hans Koster, Professor,
Alexander Tarasov,
Associate Professor,
Philip Ushchev,
Associate Professor

Senior Research Fellow:

Sergey Kichko,
Associate Professor

Research Fellows:

Vera Ivanova,
Associate Professor
Marina Sandomirskaya,
Associate Professor
Evgeniy M. Ozhegov,
Associate Professor
Konstantin Kucheryavy,
Assistant Professor

- Behrens K., Barbero J., Zofio J. L. (2018) Industry location and wages: The role of market size and accessibility in trading networks // *Regional Science and Urban Economics*. 2018. Vol. 71. P. 1-24.
- Marin D., Schymik J., Tarasov A. Trade in tasks and the organization of firms // *European Economic Review*. 2018. Vol. 107. P. 99-132.
- Behrens K., Pokrovsky D. A., Zhelobodko E. Market size, occupational self-selection, sorting, and income inequality // *Journal of Regional Science*. 2018. Vol. 58. No. 1. P. 38-62
- Behrens K., Bougna T., Brown M. The World is not yet Flat: Transport costs matter! // *The Review of Economics and Statistics*. 2018.
- Behrens K., Albouy D., Robert-Nicoud F., Seeger N. The optimal distribution of population across cities // *Journal of Urban Economics*. 2019. Vol. 110. P. 102-113.
- Ivanova V. Spatial Convergence of Real Wages in Russian Cities // *Annals of Regional Science*. 2018. Vol. 61. No. 1. P. 1-30.
- Parenti M., Ushchev P., and Thisse J-F. (2017). Toward a theory of monopolistic competition. // *Journal of Economic Theory*, 167(1), 86 -115.
- Behrens K., Mion G., Murata Y., and Südekum J. (2017). Spatial frictions. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 97, 40 – 70.
- Behrens K., Mion G., Murata Y., Südekum J. Spatial frictions // *Journal of Urban Economics*. 2017. Vol. 97. P. 40-70.
- Tabuchi T., Thisse J-F., Zhu X. Does technological progress magnify regional disparities? *International Economic Review*. 2018. Vol. 59. No. 2. P. 647-663.
- Gaigné G., Riou S., Thisse J-F. (2016). How to make the metropolitan area work? Neither big government, nor laissez-faire. *Journal of Public Economics*, 134, 100 – 113.
- Bykadorov I., Kokovin S. G. Can a larger market foster R&D under monopolistic competition with variable mark-ups? // *Research in Economics*. 2017. Vol. 71. No. 4. P. 663-674.
- Kokovin S. G., Nahata B. Method of Digraphs for Multi-dimensional Screening // *Annals of Operations Research*. 2017. Vol. 253. No. 1. P. 431-451.
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- Malykhin N. I., Ushchev P. How market interactions shape the city structure // *Regional Science and Urban Economics*. 2018. Vol. 71. P. 122-136.
- Ushchev P., Zenou Y. Price Competition in Product Variety Networks // *Games and Economic Behavior*. 2018. Vol. 110. P. 226-247.
- Ivanova V. I., Ushchev P. Product differentiation, competitive toughness, and intertemporal substitution // *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*. 2019. Vol. 121. No. 3. P. 1244-1269.
- Ushchev P. Multi-product firms in monopolistic competition: the role of scale-scope spillovers // *Research in Economics*. 2017. Vol. 71. No. 4. P. 675-689.
- Krishna K., Tarasov A. Affirmative Action: One Size Does Not Fit All // *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*. 2016. Vol. 8. No. 2. P. 215-252.

Major events organized by CMSSE

– **International conferences
“Industrial Organization and
Spatial Economics» (IOSE):**

June, 2019 (forthcoming):

8-th IOSE. Keynotes: Donald Davis (Columbia University), Josef Zweimüller (University of Zurich).

June, 2018:

7-th IOSE. Keynotes: Lorenzo Caliendo (Yale), Laurent Gobillon (PSE), Henry Overman (LSE), Andres Rodríguez-Clare (Berkeley).

June, 2017:

6-th IOSE. Keynotes: Keith Head (University of British Columbia), Pierre-Philippe Combes (Lyon), Esteban Rossi-Hansberg (Princeton).

June, 2016:

5-th IOSE. Keynotes: Jose Scheinkman (Columbia), Gabriel Felbermayr (LMU), Kiminori Matsuyama (Northwestern).

June, 2015:

4-th IOSE. Keynotes: David Albouy (Illinois), Thomas Holmes (Minnesota), Kaz Miyagiwa (Florida).

Also: Annual IOSE sections within HSE April Conference, Annual December IOSE Workshops.

Key projects:

2011 – 2015:

“Spatial Economics, Regional Economics, Economics of Agglomeration, International Trade”

2016 – 2018:

“Spatial and Regional Economics, Economics of Agglomeration, International Trade”

2019 – 2020:

“Imperfect markets, Spatial economics and Industrial clusters”.

02 Game Theory

International Laboratory of Game Theory and Decision-Making

<https://game.hse.ru/en/>

2015

Laboratory Head

Alexander Nesterov

Leading researchers

Hervé Moulin,
Professor, University of Glasgow,
United Kingdom

Anna Bogomolnaia,
Professor, University of Glasgow,
United Kingdom

Main publications

Game theory shows how differences in preferences give rise to a variety of social and economic phenomena, and it provides rigorous tools for predicting the outcomes of people’s behavior. In particular, using the language of mathematics, game theory explains why some institutions work well and others do not. Mechanism design, in turn, shows how to make institutions function more efficiently, or how to design new institutions in a demonstrably optimal way.

The International Laboratory of Game Theory and Decision-Making combines the efforts of specialists in mechanism design, cooperative and strategic games, mathematics, theoretical computer science, and behavioral economics. Our aim is to make St. Petersburg one of the global centers of game theory and mechanism design.

The research conducted by the Laboratory covers a broad range of theoretical and applied projects: for example, efficient mechanisms for resource allocation on the micro-level of an organization (e.g. tasks, offices, or promotions) or fair mechanisms for solving property disputes; school choice mechanisms and labor markets for recent graduates; multi-unit auctions and algorithms for collusion detection; or fair mechanisms for splitting the rent between roommates. In fact, every interaction of a group of agents (individuals, firms, the state) can be examined and optimized from the point of view of mechanism design.

Weekly seminars, summer schools, public lectures, and conferences organized by the Laboratory promote high-quality theoretical research in economics and offer the students of HSE a unique opportunity to begin their research career under the guidance of leading game theorists.

- Moulin H., Caragiannis I., Kurokawa D., Procaccia A., Shah N., Wang J. The Unreasonable Fairness of Maximum Nash Welfare // ACM Transactions on Economics and Computation. 2019. Vol. 7. No. 3. P. 1-32.
- Kondratev A., Nesterov A. S. Measuring majority power and veto power of voting rules // Public Choice. 2019. P. 1-24.
- Bogomolnaia A., Moulin H., Sandomirskiy F., Yanovskaya E. B. Dividing bads under additive utilities // Social Choice and Welfare. 2018. P. 1-23.
- Ivanov D., Nesterov A. S. Identifying Bid Leakage in Procurement Auctions: Machine Learning Approach (in EC '19 Proceedings of the 2019 ACM Conference on Economics and Computation). Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), 2019.
- Kalinin N., Guzmán-Sáenz A., Prieto Y., Shkolnikov M., Kalinina V., Lupercio E. Self-organized criticality and pattern emergence through the lens of tropical

geometry // Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. 2018. Vol. 115. No. 35. P. E8135-E8142.

- Kreps V. L., Gavrilovich M. Games with symmetric incomplete information and asymmetric computational resources // International Game Theory Review. 2018. Vol. 20. No. 2. P. 1-16.
- Kalinin N., Shkolnikov M. Introduction to tropical series and wave dynamic on them // Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems. 2018. Vol. 38. No. 6. P. 2827-2849.
- Bogomolnaia A., Moulin H., Sandomirskiy F., Yanovskaya E. B. (2017). Competitive division of a mixed manna. *Econometrica*, 85 (6), 1847-1871. Nesterov A.S. (2017). Fairness and efficiency in strategy-proof object allocation mechanisms. *Journal of Economic Theory*, 170 (C), 145-168.

Major events

July, 2019:

International Conference «Economic Design and Algorithms in St Petersburg»
July, 2019: International Summer School «Game Theory: Applications, Networks, Emotions»

August, 2018:

International Conference “Algorithmic Aspects of Social Choice and Auction Design”

August, 2017:

International Summer School “Fair Division: Between Economics, Mathematics and Computer Science”

August, 2017:

International Conference “Advances in Fair Division”

October, 2016:

International School “Computational Social Choice and Fair Division”

May, 2016:

International Conference in Memory of Victor Domansky “Game Theory and Mechanism Design”

03

Health Economics, Management, and Policy

International Center for Health Economics, Management, and Policy (CHEMP)

<http://scem.spb.hse.ru/en/chemp/>

2015

Nothing is more important than health. Yet all of us, at some time, will not have as much health as we want. Health economics is the science which seeks to resolve this pervasive conflict between the unlimited demands that society has for health and health care and the limited resources (money, people, materials, time) which we have at our disposal for meeting those demands.

Across the globe, life expectancies are increasing, health technologies are improving and the demands for better health and more healthcare are increasing. The healthcare industry has become one of the largest global industries. Decisions about how to allocate the time of doctors and nurses time, whether to build a new polyclinic, what drugs to provide to the population for free, how to decide on the price of medicines, what kind of health insurance system to adopt or what kind of restrictions to place on the sale of alcohol, tobacco and fizzy drinks are fundamental to the well-being of all populations. Applying the principles of health economics, we seek to understand the costs and benefits of different health care policies, we analyse the effects that lifestyle choices have on health outcomes, we understand the impact that changes in healthcare financing have on different parts of the population and, as health economists, we are acutely aware of the balance to be struck between efficiency and fairness.

In Russia, the population is ageing, expensive health technologies are proliferating, new medications and treatment protocols are coming to market, public health campaigns have had mixed levels of success, regional health inequalities are large, life expectancy remains too low, multi-morbidities are becoming prevalent, an HIV epidemic looms and the economy shows few signs of

Director

Ekaterina Aleksandrova,
Associate Professor

Leading researchers

Christopher Gerry, Dean,
St Antony's College,
University of Oxford
Peter Meylakhs
Anastasia Meylakhs

breaking the fiscal constraints which determine the resources available to confront these issues.

Against this background, CHEMP researchers are among the first in Russia to apply health economics to the crucial issues at the forefront of public health. We have already examined the causes and patterns of smoking; we have conducted interdisciplinary work addressing the HIV challenges that Russia faces; we have asked whether a voluntary drug insurance system in Russia will be successful; we have developed the first analysis seeking to understand how the Russian population values health; we have studied the evolving Russian health profile in the context of European and global norms and we have asked whether population health is an obstacle to the proposals for changing the retirement age in Russia.

Main publications

- Gerry, C. J. The economic case for deinstitutionalisation in post-communist Europe. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 2018
- Kaneva M., Gerry C.J., Baidin V. The effect of chronic conditions and multi-morbidity on self-assessed health in Russia. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 2018
- Gerry, CJ; Sheiman, I. Too many and too few: The paradoxical case of physicians in the Russian Federation. *International Journal of Health Planning and Management*, 2018
- Mateu-Gelabert, P; Guarino, H; Quinn, K; Meylakhs, P; Campos, S; Meylakhs, A; Berbesi, D; Toro-Tobn, D; Goodbody, E; Ompad, DC; Friedman, SR. Young Drug Users: a Vulnerable Population and an Underutilized Resource in HIV/HCV Prevention. *Current HIV/AIDS Reports*, 2018
- Bakhtin M., Aleksandrova E. Health and labor force participation of elderly Russians. *Applied Econometrics*, 2018. Vol. 49.
- Aistov A.V., Aleksandrova E.A. Ex post moral hazard in private health insurance. *Ekonomicheskaya Politika*, 2018
- Akifyeva R. N., Алиева А. В. The influence of student ethnicity on teacher expectations and teacher perceptions of student warmth and competence. *Psychology in Russia: State of the Art*, 2018. Vol. 11. No. 1.
- Aleksandrova E.A., Gerry J.C., Kind P., Khabibullina A.R. Health-related quality of life population indicators using EQ-5D questionnaire. *Zdravookhranenie Rossiiskoi Federatsii (Health Care of the Russian Federation, Russian journal)*. 2018; 62 (6).

Major events

March, 2016:

International Research Seminar "Health Economics in Russia: Past, Present and Future?"

July, 2016:

1st International Summer School "Health Technology Assessment"

May, 2016:

International Multidisciplinary Conference "Health Behaviours: Tobacco, Drugs and Diet"

June 2017:

2nd International Summer School "Health Outcomes Measurement: An Introduction from A-Z"

October 2017:

International Workshop "Quantitative and Qualitative Research in the Field of Health Economics"

Key projects

2015–2017:

In collaboration with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Almazov Center of St. Petersburg "Patients recovery patterns following a myocardial infarction".

2016–2017:

“Measuring health in Russia”.

2017–2018:

In collaboration with CQUniversity, Cairns, Australia “The effectiveness of the anti-alcohol and tobacco campaigns in Russia”.

2017–2018:

“Moral hazard in the Russian market for private health insurance”.

2018–2019:

“Darknet” with financial support of Russian Found of Fundamental Research

2018–2019:

In collaboration with University of Oxford “Economic Burden of Mental Health Disorders”.

2015–2019:

In collaboration with EuroQOL group and University of Oxford “EQ-5D in Russia: Development and Implementation”.

04

Economics of Culture

Laboratory of Economics of Culture

2011

Director

Valery Gordin,
Tenured Distinguished Professor

Leading researchers:

Irina Sizova
Alexey Gorgadze
Anastasia Polomarchuk

Key research areas in the field include:

Post-event activity management in the organizations of event industries

The project covers the research of post-event activity cases which create extra effects after event. In the framework of this project, recommendations of network activity, post-event activity formats and participants' loyalty creation towards conducting event organizations will be developed. In this purpose, there will be conducted opinion poll of “Museum night” event visitors which will let know more about motivations and post-event activity formats.

Head of the project: Valery Gordin

Curator of the project: Alexey Gorgadze, Polomarchuk Anastasia

Museum management and marketing

The project is based on cooperation with the range of leading museums. Thus, research works devoted to different formats of youth work (State Hermitage, State Russian Museum), excursion activities gamification (State Russian Museum) and overtourism regulation (State Hermitage, Peterhof) are conducted. All studies are related to the study of work practice in the largest museums in the world and Russia.

Head of the project: Valery Gordin

Digital footprints study in the sphere of culture and tourism

Current project is devoted to study of digital footprints which are left on the web pages of cultural and tourist objects. We analyze visitors' reviews from such places using methods of Text Mining, SNA and geo – mapping. Such analysis let know and monitor main trends in the sphere of culture and tourism, understand inquiries and its dynamics.

Head of the project: Valery Gordin

Curator of the project: Alexey Gorgadze

Actualization of online education practices of museums

The project provides a study of the practice of educational activities by museum organizations in the context of the total spread of online education. The main vector of research is the classification of educational products of museums that meet educational standards and have innovative elements.

The main result of the project is the publication of a guidebook of educational

museum online products used in formal and non-formal types of education -
Museum educational online products: Guidebook.

Head of the project: Valery Gordin

Curator of the project: Irina Sizova

Research on practices of innovative management and marketing in culture and event industry

In the framework of the international project "Contents for Cross-Cultural Events - C3E" of the cross-border cooperation program «Russia-Southeast Finland 2014-2020», a study was completed in 2019 to analyze the tools for updating the professional competencies of cultural institutions and event organizers in St. Petersburg. The study reflects the experience, knowledge and problems of using modern management and marketing tools, opportunities for cross-border cooperation in the field of culture.

The project is implemented in collaboration with Institute for cultural programs.

Head of the project: Valery Gordin

Curator of the project: Anastasia Polomarchuk

Main publications

- Trabskaia, I., Shuliateva, I., Abushena, R., Gordin, V., & Dedova, M. (2019). City branding and museum souvenirs: towards improving the St. Petersburg city brand. *Journal of Place Management and Development*, 12(4), 529-544
- Gorgadze A., Gordin V., Belyakova N. (2019). Semantic Analysis of the Imperial Topic: Case of St. Petersburg. *e-Review of Tourism Research (eRTR)*, 16 (2/3), 3-12.
- Gordin, V., Ilin, I., & Dedova, M. (2017). Legal aspects of sharing economy in tourism studies: view from transition countries. *ICT Management for Global Competitiveness and Economic Growth in Emerging Economies (ICTM)*, 64-65
- Gordin V., Borovskaia I. (2017). Creativity-based volunteering at the Winter Olympics in Sochi: beyond sport and borders. In by A. M. Benson & N. Wise (Eds), *International sports volunteering. Routledge research in sport, culture and society*. London, UK: Routledge, pp. 39-59.

Major events

December, 2019:

International Conference «Future of festivals» (during the international project «Contents for Cross-Cultural Events - C3E» implemented within the framework of the Cross-Border Cooperation Program «Russia - South-East Finland 2014-2020»)

November, 2019:

VIII St. Petersburg International Cultural Forum, St. Petersburg

May, 2019:

International Conference organized by ATLAS Business Tourism Special Interest Group, Porvoo, Finland

January, 2019:

26th annual ENTER2019 eTourism Conference ENTER2019 "Semantic Analysis of the Imperial Topic: Case of St. Petersburg"

Key projects

2019:

"Post-event activity management in the organizations of experience industries, carried out within the framework of the Basic Research Program of NRU HSE";

2019:

"Development of scenarios and recommendations for interaction with the target audience in the context of transforming the concept of Alexander Park in Pushkin city, commissioned by TSARSKOE SELO State Museum and Heritage Site";

2019: "Analysis of tools for updating professional competencies of employees of cultural institutions and event organizers in St. Petersburg, commissioned by the Institute of cultural programs during the international project «Contents for Cross-Cultural Events - C3E»"

05 Logistics

Scientific Laboratory of Logistics Research

2013

<https://loglab.hse.ru/en/>

Academic advisor

Valery Lukinskiy,
Tenured Professor

Logistics is both a field of practice and a science. It is connected with activities such as transportation, warehousing, cargo handling, inventory, service level support, etc. The aim of logistics is to ensure that the right consumer is in the right place at the right time with the right product of the right quality, quantity, and cost. According to different information sources, average logistics costs in the world amount to 10-14% of GDP (gross domestic product). If world GDP is estimated at 88 trillion dollars (World Bank national accounts data, 2019), annual logistics and supply chain management costs are about 11 trillion dollars.

In 2016-18 the Scientific Laboratory of Logistics Research conducted scientific research for one of the largest enterprises of St. Petersburg (2,000 buses, 10,000 workers, 5 separate manufacturing divisions, serving 300 million passengers per year). The Laboratory is developing an array of models for forecasting the demand for spare parts, considering the real conditions of running transportation units.

Thus, we are interested in the problem of multi-nomenclature supply (thousands of nomenclatures) in multi-level systems (manufacturer or supplier, central or regional warehouses, customers or consumers), taking into account financial, juridical, physical, personnel, and other restrictions. Our research is conducted using applied mathematics, in particular operations research, which employs the information technologies of big data processing.

The results of our transportation research will reduce inventories, prevent shortages of spare parts, promote compliance with operational and road safety regulations. At the same time, it will minimize the negative impact of transportation on urban ecology (for example, the reduction of traffic jams when buses break down) and ensure a guaranteed level of mobility for the urban population.

These results are applicable for countless other manufacturing and service companies interested in making adequate, reasonable, and secure decisions in the digital era.

Main publications

- Lukinskiy, V., Lukinskiy, V., Sokolov, B. Control of inventory dynamics: A survey of special cases for products with low demand. Annual Reviews in Control, in press;
- Lukinskiy V., Lukinskiy V., Merkuriev Y. (2018) Modelling of transport operations in supply chains in obedience to "just-in-time" conception. Transport. 2018. Vol. 33. No. 5. p. 1162-1172.
- Lukinskiy V., Lukinskiy V. (2018) Designing the analytical base for optimal allocation of stocks in supply chains. Transport and Telecommunication. Vol. 19. No. 4. P. 346-355.
- Lukinskiy V., Lukinskiy V., Merkuriev Y. (2017) Supply chains efficiency increasing based on the modelling of logistics operations. International Journal of Simulation and Process Modelling. Vol. 12. No. 3/4, P. 196-206

Major events

April, 2019:

The 18th International Academic and Research Conference "Logistics: Current Development Trends" in collaboration with the Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping;

July, 2019:

research practice of students of the master's program "Strategic Management in Logistics";

October, 2019:

The 19th International Conference 'Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication' (RelStat-2019), Latvia Transport and Telecommunication Institute;

November, 2019:

Seminars "Improving the efficiency and reliability of material flow management at St. Petersburg enterprises" and "Reducing costs in supply chains" for the Committee for Civil Service and Personnel Policy of the Administration of the Governor of St. Petersburg;

April, 2018:

The 17th International Academic and Research Conference "Logistics: Current

Development Trends” in collaboration with the Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping;

April, 2017:

The 16th International Academic and Research Conference “Logistics: Current Development Trends” in collaboration with the Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping

Key projects

2018:

“Comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic development of the Arkhangelsk region.» Section «Transport Infrastructure”.

2017:

“Approbation and implementation of a set of models for forecasting the spare parts for the rolling stock requirements in SPb SUE “Passazhiravtotrans» on the basis of the analysis of operational reliability» supported by the Government of St. Petersburg.

06

Comparative Social Research

**Laboratory for Comparative
Social Research (LCSR)**

2010

<https://lcsr.hse.ru/en/>

Director

Eduard Ponarin

Leading researchers

Ronald F. Inglehart,
Professor, University of Michigan;
Founding President, World Values

Survey Association

Christian Welzel, Professor, Leuphana
Universität Lüneburg; Vice President,
World Values Survey Association

The Laboratory for Comparative Social Research has updated and refined evolutionary modernization theory, demonstrating that existential security requires great changes in institutions and culture. Our research sheds light on the moral evolution of societies and institutional efficiency. Advanced methods of statistical data analysis and the longitudinal nature of our data allow us to deduce causation and draw conclusions on the reasons for change in these two spheres.

LCSR participated in the 2016 wave of data collection on the Russian elite, tracing its attitudinal changes in comparison with the waves conducted in 1993–2012.

LCSR collected data for the 7th wave of the World Values Survey and the 5th wave of the European Values Study in 2017. These data will provide a great opportunity to study trends among an array of social and political indicators and compare the Russian Federation with other countries in Europe and the world.

Main publications

- Foa, R.S., Nemirovskaya, A.V. (2019). Frontier Settlement and the Spatial Variation of Civic Institutions. *Political Geography* 73(8), 112-122.
- Kriesi, H., Malet, G. (2019). Economic Shocks and the Cost of Ruling: Evidence from Italy. *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 30(1), 22-41.
- Mavletova, A., Lynn, P. (2019). Item Nonresponse Rates and Panel Conditioning in a Longitudinal Survey among Youth. *Field Methods* 31(2), 95-115.
- Shcherbak, A. (2019). Nationalities Policy in the USSR: Explaining the ‘Pendulum

- Swing' Using Randall Collins' Geopolitical Theory. *Europe-Asia Studies* 71(10), 1627-1644.
- Tkacheva, T., Golosov, G.V. (2019). United Russia's Primaries and the Strength of Political Machines in the Regions of Russia: Evidence from the 2016 Duma Elections. *Europe-Asia Studies* 71(5), 824-839.
 - Kravtsova M., Oshchepkov A.Y. (2019). Market and Network Corruption. Working Papers by HSE University. Series: Economics, WP BRP 209/EC/2019.
 - Inglehart, R. F. (2018). *Cultural evolution: People's motivations are changing, and reshaping the world*. Cambridge University Press.
 - Almakaeva A., Welzel C., Ponarin E. (2018). Human Empowerment and Trust in Strangers: the Multilevel Evidence. *Social Indicators Research* 139(3), 923-962.
 - Brunkert L.J., Kruse S., Welzel C. (2018). A tale of culture-bound regime evolution: the centennial democratic trend and its recent reversal. *Democratization*, 1-22.
 - Dollbaum J.M., Semenov A., Sirotkina E. (2018). A Top-Down Movement with Grass-Roots Effects? Alexei Navalny's Electoral Campaign. *Social Movement Studies*, 1-8.
 - *Electoral Integrity and Political Regimes Actors, Strategies and Consequences* / ed. by Zavadskaya M., Garnett H.A. L.: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2018.
 - Firat R., Kwon H.W., Hitlin S. (2018). A Novel Measure of Moral Boundaries: Testing Perceived In-group/Out-group Value Differences in a Midwestern Sample. *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 4, 1-11.
 - Foa R., Inglehart R.F., Ponarin E., Karabchuk T. (2018). Set-Point Theory and Societal Collapse: The Case of Russia. *Journal of Happiness Studies* 19(6), 1639-1656.
 - Golosov G.V., Tkacheva T. (2018). Let My People Run: Pre-Election Resignations of Russia's Governors, 2013-2015. *Problems of Post-Communism* 65(4), 243-252.
 - Gureev A.S., Ananieva E.D., Rubanovich A.V., Inglehart R.F., Ponarin E.D., Borinskaya S.A. (2018). Association of MAOA-uVNTR Polymorphism with Subjective Well-Being in Men. *Russian Journal of Genetics* 54(5), 562-567.
 - Mavletova A.M., Gavrilov K.A., Tholmogorova T. (2018). Gamifying a web survey among adolescents: effects on understanding of risk, risk calculation, and ratio-bias. *Journal of Risk Research*, 1-14.
 - Mavletova A.M., Couper M.P., Lebedev D.V. (2018). Grid and Item-by-Item Formats in PC and Mobile Web Surveys. *Social Science Computer Review* 36(6), 647-668.
 - Mitrokhina E. (2018). Executive Constraints and Economic Growth in Autocracies. *Bulletin of Perm University. Political Science* 12(4), 106-121.
 - Ponarin E., Komin M. Imperial and ethnic nationalism: A dilemma of the Russian elite. *Russia Before and After Crimea*. Edinburgh University Press, 2018. P. 50-67.
 - Ponarin E., Komin M. (2018). The Russian elite's imperial nationalism and the Russian society: The emergence of a grand consensus. *Sociology Compass* 12(12), 1-16.
 - Savin N., Kashirskikh O.N., Mavletova A.M. (2018). Fragility of Strong Media-Effects in Authoritarian Environment (Evidence from Russia). *European Journal of Communication*, 1-18.
 - Sokolov B. (2018). The Index of Emancipative Values: Measurement Model Misspecifications. *American Political Science Review* 112(2), 395-408.
 - Sokolov B., Inglehart R.F., Ponarin E., Vartanova I., Zimmerman W. (2018). Disillusionment and Anti-Americanism in Russia: From Pro-American to Anti-American Attitudes, 1993-2009. *International Studies Quarterly*. DOI: 10.1093/isq/sqy013.
 - Vliert E. van de, Welzel C., Shcherbak A., Fischer R., Alexander A.C. (2018). Got Milk? How Freedoms Evolved From Dairying Climates. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 1-18.
 - Yusupova G., Ponarin E. (2018). Social Remittances in Religion: Muslim Migrants in Russia and Transformation of Islamic Practices. *Problems of Post-Communism* 65(3), 188-200.
 - Zavadskaya M., Garnett H.A. *Electoral Integrity and Political Regimes Actors, Strategies and Consequences*. L.: Routledge, 2018.
 - Aymaliev I.V. (2017). Corporate Motivations for Donating to the Police in Bulgaria. *East European Politics and Societies and Cultures* 20(10), 1-37.
 - Foa R.S., Inglehart R., Ponarin E., Karabchuk T. (2017). Set-Point Theory and Societal Collapse: The Case of Russia. *Journal of Happiness Studies* 18(3), 1-18.
 - Inglehart R.F., Ponarin E., Inglehart R.C. (2017). *Cultural Change, Slow and Fast:*

The Distinctive Trajectory of Norms Governing Gender Equality and Sexual Orientation. *Social Forces* 95(4), 1313-1340.

- Kravtsova M., Oshchepkov A., Welzel C. (2017). Values and Corruption: Do Postmaterialists Justify Bribery? *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* 48(2), 225-242. DOI: 10.1177/0022022116677579.
- Kruse S., Ravlik M., Welzel C. (2017). The Legitimacy Puzzle: Why So Many People Confuse the Absence of Democracy with Its Presence. *World Values Research* 9(2), 1-30.
- Kistler D., Thöni C., Welzel C. (2017). Survey Response and Observed Behavior: Emancipative and Secular Values Predict Prosocial Behaviors. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* 48(4), 461-489.
- Soboleva N. (2017). Perceptions of Gender Equality in Post-Crisis Europe. *European Journal of Government and Economics* 6(1), 59-77.
- Welzel C., Inglehart R., Kruse S. (2017). Pitfalls in the Study of Democratization: Testing the Emancipatory Theory of Democracy. *British Journal of Political Science* 47(2), 463-472. DOI: 10.1017/S0007123415000605.
- Welzel C., Kirsch H. (2017). Democracy Misunderstood: Authoritarian Notions of Democracy around the Globe. *World Values Research* 9(1), 1-29.
- Alexander L. George Award 2014 for the best book in political psychology awarded by ISPP
- Stein Rokkan Prize 2014 for comparative social science research awarded by ISSC, the University of Bergen, and ECPR.

Major events

September, 2019:

International Workshop: "Social Inequality and Value Polarization: A Cross-Country Perspective"

April, 2019:

The 9th International Annual Research Conference: "Comparative Social Research" November, 2018: International Workshop: "Values and Socio-Political Processes: A Quantitative Perspective"

August, 2018:

International Summer School: "Bayesian Statistical Analyses for Social Scientists"

April, 2018:

The 8th International Annual Research Conference: "Quantitative Research of Social Changes across the World"

April, 2017:

The 7th International Annual Research Conference: "Subjective Well-Being and Growing Inequality across the Globe"

Key Projects

2018 – ongoing:

"Transformation of values and subjective quality of life: A regional perspective" supported by the Russian Science Foundation.

2017 – ongoing:

"The cool water effect: Why human civilization turned towards emancipation in cold-wet regions" supported by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), the Reinhart Koselleck award.

2016 – 2018:

"Ethnic groups in the Russian labor market" in collaboration with the British Academy and the University of Exeter.

2016 – 2017:

"Male and female success strategies in the context of modernization" supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

2016 – 2017:

"Formal, informal and familiaristic social capital: Cross-cultural analysis with hierarchical regression modeling" supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

07

Sociology of Education

Sociology of Education and Science Laboratory

2007

<https://slon.hse.ru/en/>

Director

Daniel A. Alexandrov,
Tenured Distinguished Professor

Leading researchers

Valeria A. Ivaniushina
Ksenia Tenisheva
Vera Titkova

Main publications

The Laboratory of Sociology in Education and Science aims to develop cutting-edge research in the sociology of education, combining theoretical models with rigorous empirical data collection and modern analytical methods (social network analysis, advanced statistical modeling, agent-based modeling). The main areas of our research are school climate, adolescent health, school segregation, and the status of migrant children in Russian schools.

We have developed a unique research tool for measuring school climate, including bullying and cyberbullying. The Laboratory is currently evaluating the climate in schools in the Kaluga region. The project aims at improving school climate through regular surveys and feedback.

Health risks in the behavior of teenagers also fall within the scope of our research. We focus on such issues as the onset of alcohol consumption and the factors that promote such behavior. We have found that middle-school students who aspire to take different educational paths show diverse drinking patterns even before these paths are taken.

The Laboratory studies school differentiation and school choice, analyzing two perspectives: parents/children and school administration. We have identified four groups of signals that schools send to parents: expected cost, level of parental engagement, emphasis on academic or extracurricular aspects of school life, and barriers to admission. Parents choose a school from the existing options based on their perception of and reaction to these signals, which vary according to socio-economic status.

In our research on migrant school students, we have demonstrated that ethnic minority students have high levels of motivation, and their achievement and educational aspirations are similar to those of ethnic majority students. Xenophobic tendencies among the adult population, which are often reported in the Russian media, are not reflected in students' interethnic friendships. Schools provide a positive environment for integration.

These results can be used to offer social policy recommendations that will decrease inequality among schools and decrease the dropout rate, underachievement, adversity, and high-risk behavior.

- Ivaniushina V., Titkova V., Alexandrov D. Peer influence in adolescent drinking behaviour: a protocol for systematic review and meta-analysis of stochastic actor-based modeling studies // *BMJ Open*. 2019. Vol. 9. No. 7. P. 1-5.
- Ivaniushina V, Makles A., Schneider K., Alexandrov D. (2019) School segregation in St. Petersburg – the role of socioeconomic status. *Education Economics*. 27(2), 166-185
- Ivaniushina V., Alexandrov D. (2018). Anti-school attitudes, school culture and friendship networks. *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, 39, (5), 698-716.
- Lushin V., Jaccard J., Ivaniushina V., Alexandrov D. (2017). Vocational education paths, youth activities, and underage drinking in Russia: How early does the trouble start? *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 45, 48-55.
- Ivaniushina V., Alexandrov D., Lushin V. (2016). Academic help seeking among Russian minority and non-minority adolescents: A social capital outlook. *Learning and Individual Differences*, 50, 283-290.
- Poder K., Lauri T., Ivaniushina V., Alexandrov D. (2016). Family background and school Choice in cities of Russia and Estonia: Selective agenda of the Soviet past and present. *Studies of Transition States and Societies*, 8 (3), 5-28.

Major events

2012 – 2014:

The International Social Network Analysis Summer School

2006 – 2019:

Summer fieldwork. One of the most interesting and important parts of the Laboratory's work, which unites research and educational activities, is summer fieldwork. Students from each year have carried out fieldwork in Leningrad and Moscow regions, together with Laboratory researchers. The fieldwork has the simultaneous aims of research (collection of empirical material for the Laboratory's projects) and education (students get the opportunity to assess their abilities).

2019:

12th Annual INAS Conference 2019 (International Network of Analytical Sociology Conference)

Key projects

2016 – 2018:

“School differentiation and its consequences: school and parents” supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research;

2017 – 2019:

“Social dynamics in learning: studying coevolution of group network structure and student motivation using learning analytics” supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research;

2016 – 2020:

“Measuring school climate in the Kaluga region” in cooperation with the “Teach for Russia” programme and the New Teacher Foundation.

08 Youth Studies

Center for Youth Studies

<http://sh.spb.hse.ru/en/youth/>

2009

Director

Elena Omelchenko,
Professor

Leading researchers:

Nadezhda Nartova
Iskender Yasaveev
Yana Krupets
Svyatoslav Polyakov

In our studies of youth (sub)cultures, solidarities, and civil activism, we deconstruct the stereotype of Russian youth as apolitical and the idea that subcultures have disappeared. Teenagers and young people actively participate in discussions of important issues: nationalism vs. cosmopolitanism, patriarchy vs. gender equality, consumerism vs. anti-capitalism. A new mainstream “majority” has appeared among contemporary youth, as well as new marginal groups. Thus, the following questions form the focus of our studies: what drives young people to participate in protests, pursue volunteer opportunities, participate in extremist communities, commit acts of violence, or alter the urban landscape. In sum, why are subcultures so attractive for young people? At the same time we are interested in more general questions such as “what does it mean to be young?”, and in the project “Transition to Adulthood Among Russian Youth in the 21st Century: Generational Analysis” we are providing a comprehensive analysis of the process of becoming an adult of modern Russian youth in the context of generational changes in existing socio-economic conditions.

Discussion about youth in terms of risk and threats is common in modern society. Young people often become the object of moral panic of various kinds. The DARE: Dialogues about radicalisation and equality project addresses one of such topic - religious radicalization - but places fundamentally new emphasis on it. Not young people are extremely radical, but our whole world is permeated with ideas of radicality, calls for radicalization. Young people, being in such a discursive environment, choose their path: to follow calls or to resist them. This constant selection process is in the focus of the project.

As the researchers, we also try to understand the role of the governments for young people’s lives and study the anti-crisis potential of youth policies in Russia and in Europe. The goal of this project is to identify resources and instruments that allow or do not allow states to cope with crisis situations and redefine the formats of interaction and work with young people, increasing the country’s own stability and youth welfare. The study covers a wide geography: the conduct of a comparative analysis of anti-crisis youth policies in Finland, Germany, Greece, the UK and Russia.

Adults also often think of youth as lazy, spoiled, and utterly consumerist. The results of our research on employment and the role of consumption in contemporary youth life clearly demonstrate that such opinions are inaccurate. The young frequently and eagerly switch jobs, often giving priority to flexible work schedules. In other cases, prestige-based consumption patterns serve processes of self-identification and self-perception. The rejection of vertical career paths in favor of more horizontal forms, where it is important to find a vocation, diversity, pleasure, and time for non-work-related activities, is characteristic of the generation that has grown up with a “children-first ideology,” or else a response to low demand in the labor market. Some of young people prefer to leave the sphere of employment and start their own businesses connected with their hobbies and subcultural DIY practices. Our research of youth entrepreneurship appeals to these individualized economic projects of youth, based on the ideas of demassification, individualization, aspiration for authenticity, orientation on biographical and social significance of their business, as a special kind of economic activity.

Another important aspect of our work focuses on cultural scenes and interethnic interactions in the contemporary cities. For 5 years now, with the support of the Russian Science Foundation, we have been studying young people in various parts of Russia trying to find the fields of co-creative communication between young people with different ethnic and religious background. We managed to collect unique data about youth cultures, hobbies, values, existing rules and solidarities.

We are also involved in visual studies, and we produce sociological documentaries. We theorize and practice visual studies in our everyday work, looking for new explanations and ways to develop our methodology. We have produced twelve full-length movies, several short films, and numerous visual presentations and exhibitions.

Main publications

- Poliakov S., Omelchenko E. L., Garifzyanova A. Holding onto your roots: Tatar-language rap in post-soviet Kazan. *Popular Music and Society*. 2020. Vol. 43. No. 4. P. 401-413.
- Nartova N., Krupets Y., Shilova A. HIV Activism in Modern Russia: From NGOs to Community Development. *Community development journal*. 2020. Vol. 55. No. 3. P. 419-436.
- Omelchenko E. L., Polyakov S., Maiboroda A. Peers/strangers/others? The youth of Dagestan in search of group identities. *Cultural Studies*. 2019. Vol. 33. No. 5. P. 841-865.
- Nartova N., Krupets Y. 'It is hard for me to live in the city': local identities and place belonging of young rural Russians. *Monitoring Obshchestvennogo Mneniya: Ekonomicheskie i Sotsial'nye Peremeny*. 2019. No. 1. P. 342-361.
- Omelchenko E., Nartova N., Krupets Y. Escaping Youth: Construction of Age by Two Cohorts of Chronologically Young Russian Women. *Young*, 2018. Vol. 26. No. 1. P. 34-50.
- Omelchenko E., Poliakov S. Everyday Consumption of Russian Youth in Small Towns and Villages. *Sociologia Ruralis*. 2018. Vol. 58. No. 3. P. 644-664.
- Omelchenko E., Pilkington H., Perasović B. 'One Big Family': Emotion, Affect and Solidarity in Young People's Activism in Radical Right and Patriotic Movements, in: *Understanding Youth Participation Across Europe*. L.: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018. P. 123-152.
- Maslovskiy M., Maiboroda A., Garifzianova A. Multiple cultural encounters of urban youth in Russia's Muslim regions. *Journal of Intercultural Studies*. 2018. Vol. 39. No. 5. P. 557-569.
- Krupets Y., Morris J., Nartova N., Omelchenko E., Sabirova G. (2017). Imagining young adults' citizenship in Russia: from fatalism to affective ideas of belonging. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 20 (2), 252-267.

Major events

October, 2019:

International conference "Youth in XXI century: Multiplicity and Difference"

November, 2017:

International conference "Urban Youth Cultures: Solidarities, Creativity, Activism"

October, 2015:

International Conference "Youth and Society: in the Search for New Solidarities"

November, 2013:

Scientific youth festival "Youth, Education, Knowledge, City"

Key projects

2020-2021:

"Anti-crisis Potential of Youth Policies in Russia and Europe in the Era of Global Risks: National Imaginary, Patriotism, and Social Engagement", supported by Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

2020-2022:

"Transition to Adulthood Among Russian Youth in the 21st Century: Generational Analysis", supported by the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).

2020:

"New Masters and New Apprentices in the Craft Economy: Prosumerism as a Phenomenon of Youth Everyday Culture", implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE)

2016 – 2021:

"Dialogue about Radicalization and Equality (DARE)" supported by Horizon 2020 Programme.

2018 – 2019:

"Creative fields of interethnic interaction and youth cultural scenes of Russian cities" supported by the Russian Science Foundation.

2018 - 2021:

"In the Gulag's Shadow: Producing, Consuming and Perceiving Prisons in the Former Soviet Union" supported by Economic and Social Research Council (UK).

2019:

"Youth entrepreneurship: between subcultural DIY-practices and new forms of citizenship" implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).

2016 – 2018:

"PROMoting youth involvement and social engagement: opportunities and challenges for the conflicted "young people across Europe" implemented in the framework of Horizon 2020 Programme.

2015 – 2017:

"Creative fields of interethnic interaction and youth cultural scenes of Russian cities" supported by the Russian Science Foundation.

09 Social and Cognitive Informatics

Laboratory for Social and Cognitive Informatics

2019

<https://scila.hse.ru/en/>

Director

Olessia (Elena) Koltsova, Professor

Leading researchers:

Vera Ignatenko

Sergey Koltsov

Ekaterina Pronoza

Yadviga Sinyavskaya

SCILA (until 2019 - Laboratory for Internet Studies, LINIS) is an interdisciplinary research unit whose team seeks to investigate and model interaction of individual humans and groups with information, knowledge, respective technologies and with other humans using these technologies. The research strongly relies both on the knowledge from social, behavioral and cognitive sciences and on the cutting-edge approaches from computer science, including machine learning and computational linguistics. Network analysis and advanced machine learning approaches are used widely to reveal latent patterns in highly unstructured and noisy Internet data. This has allowed the team to obtain significant results for such diverse issues as the impact of online communities on offline political participation, the motivation for involvement in communities that promote destructive health practices, the relation of users' online activity to individual social capital, and factors influenced the ability of people to detect fake news.

EthnoHate, a central project of the Laboratory at the present time, aims at automatic detection of negative ethnicity-targeted speech in user text data taken from social networking sites. At the current stage we, first, modify the definition of ethnically-targeted hate speech to specify the ethnic groups subjected to hate. Positive attitude towards ethnic groups is also taken into account in the classification framework. Second, we use advanced neural network architecture, and, third, important linguistic features are being added to it, including word frequencies in the immediate context of the specific ethnonyms, negative sentiment words in the context, and the ethnonym words themselves.

QTM, an on-going SCILA's project, develops metrics that would allow researchers using topic modeling in social science evaluate model quality and assist in the choice of the number of topics.

FakeNews project represents a new research avenue of SCILA and aims at studying how much news consumers trust news content, how susceptible people are to fraudulent news, and what factors influence their ability to detect fake information. The research focuses on social media users and news production in three countries: Ukraine, Russian and Kazakhstan. This allows understanding how mutual representation of Post-Soviet countries in news is related to audiences' perception of news credibility and their ability to recognize deception in news.

DigiFriends project in its current stage is aimed at studying how specific online user behaviors are related to structural social capital in a network of geographically proximate ties. We found that membership in more online groups is positively associated with user's centrality in the location-bounded network. Additionally, the share of local friends, the number of received likes and the duration of SNS use are associated with social capital indicators.

Main publications

- Koltcov S., Ignatenko V., Koltsova O. (2019) Estimating Topic Modeling Performance with Sharma–Mittal Entropy. *Entropy*, 21(7), 660.
- Selivanova G., Koltsova O. Y. (2019) Explaining Offline Participation in a Social Movement with Online Data: The case of Observers for Fair Elections. *Mobilization*, 24(1).
- Koltsova O., Pashakhin S. (2019) Agenda divergence in a developing conflict: Quantitative evidence from Ukrainian and Russian TV newsfeeds. *Media, War & Conflict*.
- Nagornyy O., Koltsova O. Y. (2019) Redefining media agendas: topic problematization in online reader comments. *Media and Communication*.
- Koltsov S. (2018) Application of Rényi and Tsallis entropies to topic modeling optimization. *Physica A: Statistical Mechanics and its Applications*, 512, 1192-1204.
- Koltsov S., Pashakhin S., Dokuka S. (2018) A Full-Cycle Methodology for News Topic Modeling and User Feedback Research, in: *Lecture Notes in Computer Science (including subseries Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence and Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics)*. 10th International Conference on Social Informatics, SocInfo 2018; St.Petersburg. Cham: Springer, 308-321.
- Couldry N., Rodriguez C., Bolin G., Cohen J., Volkmer I., Goggin G., Kraidy M., Iwabuchi K., Qui, J. L., Wasserman H., Zhao Y., Rincon O., Magallanes-Blanco C., Thomas P., Koltsova O., Rakhmani I., Lee K.-S. (2018) Media, communication and the struggle for social progress. *Global Media and Communication*, 14(2), 173–191
- Nikolenko S., Koltcov S., Koltsova O. (2017) Topic modelling for qualitative studies/ *Journal of Information Science*, 43(1), 88-102
- Bodrunova S, Koltsova O., Koltcov S., Nikolenko S. (2017) Who's Bad? Attitudes Toward Resettlers from the Post-Soviet South Versus Other Nations in the Russian Blogosphere. *International Journal of Communication*, 11, 3242-3264.
- Rykov Y. G., Meylakh P. A., Sinyavskaya Y. E. (2017). Network structure of an AIDS-denialist online community: Identifying core members and the risk group. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 61(7), 688-706.

Major events

September, 2018:

10th International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo 2018)

July, 2017:

WSTNet Web Science Summer School 2017

August, 2015:

The 9th Russian Summer School in Information Retrieval (RuSSIR 2015)

Key projects

2019:

"Social networks as a socio-psychological and textual phenomenon" supported by the Center for Fundamental Research;

2019:

"FakeNews: Political news on Russia and its neighbors on social media: major content features, factors of trust and news truthfulness detection by users of different countries" supported by the Russian Science Foundation;

2018:

"Social and textual measurement of social network user profiles" supported by the Center for Fundamental Research;

2017:

"Internet as sociotechnical phenomenon" supported by the Center for Fundamental Research;

2015 – 2017:

"Development of concept and methodology for multi-level monitoring of the state of interethnic relations with the data from social media" supported by the Russian Science Foundation;

2014 – 2015:

"Open database and a crowdsourcing website for development of sentiment analysis instruments" supported by the Russian Foundation for Humanities.

10 Social Informatics: Digital Social Research

Sociology of Education and Science Laboratory

Department of Informatics

<https://slon.hse.ru/en/topics>

Project Director

Daniel Alexandrov, Tenured
Distinguished Professor

Leading researchers

Kirill Maslinsky
Ilya Musabirov
Alena Suvorova

The ubiquitous proliferation of new digital technologies in all areas of life has made it possible to study society on a new scale.

What are the topical issues for people of different regions and cities? How are work and educational migration flows organized? How do students choose a university, and what do school students learn from online games? To answer such questions modern social science analyzes digital data: for example, activity on social networking sites, search queries, and mobile data.

The research program of Social Informatics and Digital Social Research is three-fold:

1. Digital Footprints and Social Processes. Using social media data and surveys, we study opinion dynamics on both global and local topics, migration (including educational), and ethnic communities.
2. New Educational Technologies. We study all stages of life-long learning, using learning analytics and educational data mining, explore new forms of communication emerging in educational services from social science and human-computer interaction standpoints.
3. Online Games and eSports. Online games have recently become a leading sector in the digital entertainment industry, and the time spent by children in games sometimes exceeds time spent in school. It is safe to say that games influence the formation of children's communication, negotiation, and other skills. We study students' socialization and team and skill formation via online games, and other important topics, such as cyberbullying and toxic behavior, virtual consumption and communication.

On the methodological level, we are invested in improving machine learning methods for digital footprint data, and study social algorithms and ranking systems.

Main publications

- Musabirov I., Sushevskiy Vsevolod. Teaching Undergraduate Sociologists Modeling and Computational Thinking, in: SIGCSE '20: In Proceedings of the 51st ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education. NY : Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), 2020. P. 1368-1368.
- Alexandrov, Daniel, Viktor Karepin, Ilya Musabirov, and Daria Chuprina. 2018. 'Educational Migration from Russia to the Nordic Countries, China and the Middle East. Social Media Data'. In Companion Proceedings of the The Web Conference 2018, 49–50. WWW '18. Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland: International World Wide Web Conferences Steering Committee.

- Musabirov, Ilya, and Alina Bakhitova. 2018. 'Code-Sharing Networks of Non-STEM Students: The Case of Data Science Minor'. In Proceedings of the 23rd Annual ACM Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education, 389–389. ACM.
- Musabirov, Ilya, Denis Bulygin, Paul Okopny, and Ksenia Konstantinova. 2018. 'Event-Driven Spectators' Communication in Massive ESports Online Chats'. In Extended Abstracts of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, LBW564:1–LBW564:6. CHI EA '18. New York, NY, USA: ACM.

Major Events

June, 2018:

International Conference "Digital Transformation & Global Society" (DTGS'18)

11

Comparative Historical Research on Empires and Nationalism

Center for Historical Research

2012

<https://spb.hse.ru/humart/chr/>

Director

Alexander Semyonov, Editor, *Ab Imperio*
Journal, Professor

Leading researchers

Alexander Semyonov, Professor
Anton Kotenko
Alexander Turbin
Tatiana Borisova

Main publications

The question of diversity has recently moved to the forefront of the political and cultural agenda in contemporary states and societies, confronting seemingly well-established nation states and their citizens with the challenges of immigration and a shifting relationship between citizenship, the state, immigrants, minorities, and majorities. And while politicians consider possible responses and courses of action, historians approach the issue from an altogether different angle. The rule that cultural and political boundaries ought to coincide did not apply for much of human history. The most ubiquitous form of political organization up until the modern history was empire. There were colonial and continental empires, state-bureaucratic and nomadic empires, traditional dynastic empires and new imperialisms, but what they all had in common was the construction and governance of diverse populations and territories, including the institutionalization of difference based on religion, ethnicity, social status, race, and culture.

The work of historians at the Center for Historical Research in St. Petersburg is situated in the context of rethinking the impact of empires on the present world, focusing on the transformations of empires in Eurasia under the effects of nationalism, war, and revolutions. Often treated as archaic imperial dinosaurs, the Ottoman, Habsburg, and Russian empires at the fin de siècle were modernizing structures that sought to reform the old imperial mechanisms of governance. The Petersburg team provides explanations for the divergent outcomes of these empires' collapse in the 20th century and explores the rise of alternative imaginaries of autonomism, federalism, regionalism, and internationalism as a response to the crisis of cosmopolitan empires.

- Semyonov A., Smith J. (2017) Nationalism and Empire before and after 1917 // Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism. Vol. 17. No. 3. P. 369-380.
- Borisova T. Y., Burbank J. (2018) Russia's Legal Trajectories // *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*. Vol. 19. No. 3. P. 469-508.
- Marzec W., Turunen R. (2018) Socialisms in the Tsarist Borderlands. Poland and Finland in a Contrastive Comparison 1830–1907 // *Contributions to the History of Concepts*. Vol. 113. No. 1. P. 22-50.
- Semyonov A. (2019) Wither Russian Liberalism?, in: *Dimensions and Challenges of Russian Liberalism: Historical Drama and New Prospects* / Ed. by R. M. Cucciolla. Vol. 8. Cham : Springer. P. 27-42.

Major events

June 2019:

International conference “Versailles and Rights: A Centenary Appraisal” in frames of the research project “Post-imperial diversities: Majority-minority relations in the transition from empires to nation-states.”

February 2019:

International workshop of the EuParl.Net members “Parliaments and Political Transformations in Europe and Asia: Diversity and Representation in the 20th and 21st Century.”

since 2018:

Ab Imperio Award Public Lectures at the Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg.

October 2018:

International workshop of the EuParl.Net members “Parliamentarianism and Representative Democracy in Crises of War, Revolution, and Collapse of Empires”.

April 2018:

International conference “Nationalism, Empire, and State”, in cooperation with Andrew Gagarin Center for Study of Civil Society and Human Rights and with support from Kudrin Foundation for Support of Civil Initiatives.

June 2017:

International conference in partnership with Ab Imperio Journal “Imperial Revolution of 1917: Post-Imperial Imaginaries and Revolutionary Politics in the Context of Diversity”.

2012 – ongoing:

Regular research seminar “Boundaries of History” chaired by Alexander Semyonov.

Key projects

2018 – 2020:

Post-imperial diversity: Majority-minority relations in the transition from empires to nation-states. The ERA.Net RUS Plus project brings together researchers from the University of Eastern Finland, The Higher School of Economics, St Petersburg, Russia, and the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity of the University of Goettingen, Germany, in an attempt to examine in a multidisciplinary and comparative perspective the governance of ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity at times of transition from Imperial to nation-state political formations in Eurasia.

2018 – 2022:

Paulsen Fellowships. A series of international seminars “Russia in the World in the Imperial Era (1650-1917)” is held by the Center in 2021-2022 in conjunction with the London School of Economics with funding from the Frederick Paulsen Foundation Program to support young Russian historians.

2016 – ongoing:

“Empires in global history” in collaboration with Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn and University of Turin.

2016 – 2018:

“The historical legacy of federalism, regionalism, autonomism and the minority “nationalism” supported by the Foundation for Support of Liberal Arts.

2014 – 2016:

International research project “Comparative historical studies of empire and nationalism” co-directed by Ronald Suny, William H. Sewell Jr Distinguished University Professor of History, University of Michigan.

12

Early Modern History of Baltic Space

Center for Historical Research

2012

<https://spb.hse.ru/humart/chr/>

Director

Alexander Semeyonov,
Editor, *Ab Imperio* Journal, Professor

Leading researchers

Evgeniy Anisimov,
Tenured Professor
Adrian Selin

Main publications

Our research focus includes the history of St. Petersburg as the imperial capital, the history of Peter the Great, the history of borders in Baltic space, and the social history of Early Modern Muscovy, Scandinavia and the Baltic countries. In our study of Petrine St. Petersburg, we are particularly interested in the appearance and functioning of imperial capitals and global cities in 18-19th centuries. The methodology of global history, institutional and comparative approaches, and the prosopographical method are the priorities of our research program. We study the history of borders and borderlands in the Baltic region, the history of Early Modern communication, and the history of political transformations in the region. Of central importance is the study of Muscovite (and then – Russian imperial) political culture's development and spread throughout the Baltic region. We also study the history of representation in Russian art and culture of 18-early 20th centuries. Russian-Swedish, Russian-Danish, and Russian-Finnish coexistence, cultural influences, and exchanges are also very important among our developing research priorities. Our main fields of study include Peter the Great as the builder of St. Petersburg and the Russian Empire, the spread of the Muscovite bureaucratic system to Novgorod and Baltic space in the 15-16th centuries, and the history of Muscovy during the crises of the late 16-early 17th centuries.

The concepts of the border and the borderland are central to the history of St. Petersburg from medieval times until the Russian Revolution 1917. These concepts must be studied in a long-term perspective, examining the social, cultural, and political history of Baltic space in the broader context of Scandinavian and Baltic history.

- Selin A. Die Kandidatur des schwedischen Prinzen Karl Filip auf den russischen Thron und Groß-Novgorod. Die Entwicklung einer Intrige 1611–1615, in: *Die autokratische Herrschaft im Moskauer Reich in der ‚Zeit der Wirren‘ 1598–1613. Studien zu Macht und Herrschaft*, Bd. 2. Bonn : Bonn University Press bei V&R unipress, 2019. P. 225-243.
- Anisimov E. (2019) Delo o donose W.N. Tatischeva 1738 g. [The Case on W. Tatischev's Denunciation, 1738] // *Quaestio Rossica*. Vol. 7. № 1. P. 315-334.
- Selin A. (2018) Novgorodskie tatory v Smutu I posle Smuty: rekonsolidazija sozial'noj gruppy [Novgorod Tatars in the Time of Troubles and after: Social Group Reconsolidation] // *Quaestio Rossica*. Vol. 6. № 4. P. 943-954
- Selin A. (2018) Communications in the Novgorod Region during the Crisis Period of the Time of Trouble // *Vestnik Sankt-Peterburgskogo Universiteta, Istorija*. Vol. 63. No. 3. P. 748-762.

Key projects

2015 – 2017:

“Russian-Swedish Border in Ingria: GIS” supported by the Russian Foundation for Humanities.

2014 – 2017:

“Digital katalog över Smolenskarkivet i Stockholm” in collaboration with Stockholm University.

13

Environmental and Technological History

In recent times, environmental degradation, the overexploitation of natural resources, and rapid climate change have become global issues that demand transnational and transdisciplinary attention. Environmental history studies the interactions between humans and nature in historical perspective. The human use and transformation of nature are only possible through technology, which we understand through the lens of socio-technological systems and infrastructural developments (the enviro-technological approach). A crucial third pillar of our research is the history of expertise, scientific and technological. Experts are central in the social ‘construction’ of natural resources and in providing knowledge circulation. We frame our historical research as part of the social sciences, on the one hand, focusing on materiality, the circulation of knowledge and goods, and the analysis of patterns of resource use in collaboration with human geographers and ecologists. On the other hand, environmental history is rapidly developing

Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History

2016

<https://spb.hse.ru/en/humart/chr/eth/>

Head

Julia Lajus, Associate Professor

International Advisors

Sverker Sorlin and Catherine Evtuhov

Leading researchers

Alexandra Bekasova

Margarita Dadykina

Elena Kochetkova

Alexei Kraikovski

International postdocs

2018 - Martin Emanuel; Viktor Pal

2020 – Charlotte Wrigley

Main publications

as a viable part of the environmental humanities, with its focus on narratives that might help to overcome a gap between disciplines in addressing environmental issues. researchers at the Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History study institutional developments in the exploration and use of natural resources; examine the activities of scientists, designers and engineers who have contributed to the development of Soviet consumer goods technology; analyze the role of experts in understanding of marine and polar environment and climate; describe patterns of infrastructure, urban development and technology transfer including those across the Cold War divide; and problematize interrelations between cultural and natural heritage and their perception in tourism and preservation.

- Dadykina M.M., Kraikovski A.V., Lajus J.A. Pomorskie promysly na Shpitsbergene v XVIII – nachale XIX v. Issledovaniia. Dokumenty. Moscow- St. Petersburg: Alians-Arkheo, 2017 (in Russian).
- Kalemeneva E. From New Socialist Cities to Thaw Experimentation in Arctic Townscapes: Leningrad Architects Attempt to Modernise the Soviet North. Europe-Asia Studies 2019, vol. 73, 3: 426-449.
- Kochetkova E. Milk and Milk Packaging in the Soviet Union: Technologies of Production and Consumption, 1950s-70s. Russian History 2019, vol. 46, 1: 29-35.
- Kraikovski A. Profits from under the water: The international blubber market, Russian monopolistic companies and the idea of whaling development in the eighteenth century // International Journal of Maritime History. 2019. T. 31. № 1. C. 34-49
- Lajus, Julia. Russian Environmental History: A Historiographical Review. In The Great Convergence: Environmental Histories of BRICS, S. Ravi Rajan and Lise Sedrez (eds.) Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 245 – 273.

Key projects

2019 – 2022:

“Material World of Late Soviet Society in the Cold War: Technological Innovations in Production and Representation of Mass Consumer Products” supported by Russian Science Foundation (leader Elena Kochetkova)

2016 – 2018:

“Natural resources in history of Russia: Economic institutes, communities of experts and infrastructures” supported by Russian Science Foundation (leader Julia Lajus).

2018-2020:

«Salt production accounting books of Spaso-Prilytsky monastery in the 17th c: texts and analysis” supported by Russian Foundation for Basic Research (leader Margarita Dadykina)

2019:

“Representation of Natural, Industrial and Cultural Heritage and Strategy of Actualization of the Past: Past, Present and Prospects of Applied History in Russia”. “implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE) (leaders Evgenii Anisimov and Margarita Dadykina).

Major events

September, 2019:

International Symposium “Cold War Matters: (In)visible Economies of Things”

May, 2019:

International Workshop “Oceanic Turn and Perspectives of Historical Research: Russia and France in Comparative Perspective”

May, 2018:

Seminar organized by international project “Atomic Heritage goes Critical: Waste, Community and Nuclear Imaginaries”

December, 2017:

International Workshop “Science, Technology, Engineering, Environment and Medicine in Russia’s Great War and Revolution, 1914 –1922”.

14 Anthropology

Department of History
Department of Sociology
Center for Historical Research
(Division of Social Anthropology)

Leading researchers

Jeanne Kormina
Xenia Cherkaiev
Dominic A. Martin
Nikolai Ssorin-Chaikov

Anthropology explores social and cultural diversity in the contemporary world, drawing on the distinct research method of ethnography – the in-depth, participatory observation of human communities and institutions. Our research focuses on two key areas, building on the interests of colleagues at HSE St. Petersburg: the anthropology of the state and of religion. These topics address questions that are of vital importance for understanding the human situation today, such as the phenomenon of the state at beginning of the 21st century and the “end” of the secular age. What are the new forms of sovereignty that are increasingly visible in contemporary geopolitics? How are these forms simultaneously linked with new forms of patriotism (including slogans like “make America great again”) and ideologies of the “cheap” state that outsource social responsibility and violence, including military action, to private institutions? What new forms of religious practice can be identified and why do their adherents seemingly reject secular rationality, becoming explicitly anti-modern and conservative, yet drawing on modern technologies? Research in these fields constitutes the center of a vibrant and growing network of post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students, and colleagues across departments with research interests that also cover such areas as the anthropology of ethics and art, as well as linguistic, economic, and medical anthropology.

Ethnography provides not only a unique vantage point from which to address these issues; it also endows students with a valuable, transferrable skill and a multipurpose competency, enabling them to negotiate contemporary cultural complexities. In a variety of courses, which are taught in the Department of History, as well as in the newly established anthropology minor, students acquire skills in communication across cultural and social barriers, engaging with people from different class, education, ethnic, and religious backgrounds.

Main publications

- Naumescu V., Kormina J. A new ‘Great Schism’? Theopolitics of communion and canonical territory in the Orthodox Church // *Anthropology Today*. 2020. Vol. 36. No. 1. P. 7-11
- Kormina J., Heo A. Introduction: Religion and Borders in (Post-)Cold War Peripheries // *Journal of Religion*. 2019. Vol. 99. No. 1. P. 1-17
- Kormina J. Inhabiting Orthodox Russia: Religious Nomadism and the Puzzle of Belonging, in: *Praying with the Senses: Contemporary Orthodox Christian Spirituality in Practice*. Bloomington : Indiana University Press, 2018. Ch. 5. P. 143-162
- Kormina J., Luehrmann S. The Social Nature of Prayer in a Church of the Unchurched: Russian Orthodox Christianity from Its Edges // *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. 2018. Vol. 86. No. 2. P. 393-424
- Shtyrkov S., Kormina J. The Female Spiritual Elder and Death: Some Thoughts on Contemporary Lives of Russian Orthodox Saints // *State, Religion and Church*. 2017. No. 4 (2). P. 4-24
- Cherkaev, Xenia A. St. Xenia and the Gleaners of Leningrad // *American Historical Review*. 2020. Vol. 125. No. 3. P. 906-914
- Cherkaev, Xenia A. They Sow the Wind and Reap the Whirlwind (Covid Doubt in St. Petersburg). // *Fieldsights, Society for Cultural Anthropology (CSA)*. 2020

- Cherkaev, Xenia A. Self-Made Boats and Social Self-Management. The Late-Soviet Ethics of Mutual Aid // Cahiers du Monde Russe. 2018. Vol. 59. No. 2-3
- Cherkaev, Xenia A. How Grades Had Been Gotten for Penguins and Money // Anthropology and Humanism. 2017. Vol. 42. No. 1. P. 127-134
- Martin, D. A. (2017). Loyal to God: Old Believers, oaths and orders. History and Anthropology, 28(4), 477-96.
- Martin, D. (2017). The last men before the last: a Russian messianic revival in the twilight of history. In G. Kirn & M. Burchardt (Eds.), Beyond Neoliberalism: Social Analysis after 1989 (pp. 155-179). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2020) Rethinking Performativity: Ethnographic Conceptualism. Journal of Cultural Economy 1: 1-18.
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2019) Reassembling history and anthropology in Russian anthropology: part I. Social Anthropology, 27, 320-335.
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2019) Reassembling history and anthropology in Russian anthropology: part II. Social Anthropology, 27, 336-351
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2018) Hybrid Peace: Ethnographies of War Annual Review of Anthropology. 47: 251-262
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2018) Conceptualism, Ethnographic, in: The International Encyclopedia of Anthropology. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2017) "Aliens and traders": one hundred years later: introduction" (on Siberian indigenous trade, in Russian) "Kupsty i inorogsty": sto let spustia. Vvedenie Etnograficheskoe Obozrenie 1 (Special issue): 30-42
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2017) Our Electric Illuminations. Theorizing the Contemporary Cultural Anthropology
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2017). Two Lenins: A brief anthropology of time. Chicago: Chicago University Press/ HAU Malinowski Monographs.

Major events

November, 2019:

The Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale Roundtable on the New Far Right. Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association/ Canadian Anthropology, Vancouver, Canada

May, 2018:

"The state of the art: the anthropology of art and the anthropology of the state", Art, Materiality and Representation, fourth major conference of the Royal

Anthropological Institute

February, 2018:

On Thinking, Crafting and Claiming the Future(s). Future-symposium University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland December

November, 2017:

Panel at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C. "Legacies of the Russian Revolution across Contemporary Political Systems".

November, 2017:

International Workshop "Victims and Martyrs: Memory of Soviet repressions in Contemporary Russia and Beyond".

Key projects

2019:

"Pilgrimage in post-secular world" supported by the Russian Foundation

2014 – 2017:

"Cartography of exchange among indigenous peoples of the North" supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

2014 – 2017:

"Anthropology of the market and social transformations among indigenous peoples of the North" supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

15

Comparative Governance Studies

Center for Comparative Governance Studies

<https://spb.hse.ru/soc/ccrga/>

2019

Director

Irina Busygina, Professor

Leading researchers

Anna Dekalchuk

Andrey Starodubtsev

Anna Tarasenko

Ivan Grigoriev

Yuri Kabanov

Major publications

Taking the concept of governance as the main object of analysis, we are developing a research agenda to address the basic questions of how power is distributed and how decision-making processes are carried out in modern states and supranational entities. This allows us not only to study governance at different levels, from local to global, but also to explain the strategic links between these levels (multi-level governance). Addressing these questions helps us understand the practice of political governance in multi-level systems (in particular, in the Russian Federation, the European Union, and the Eurasian Economic Union) in order to identify the existing constraints of mechanisms for coordinating the interests of actors in the political process. We study practices of governance coordination, subordination, and control in the development of multi-level political systems, and we aim to provide systematic explanations of their successes and failures as well as of the sources of their stability. Our research contributes to developing recommendations for improving the quality of governance, as well as choosing strategies for governance reform policies and predicting their outcomes.

- Busygina I., Filippov M. (2020) Russia, Post-Soviet Integration and the EAEU: The Balance between Domination and Cooperation, Problems of Post-Communism, Published online September 01. DOI: 10.1080/10758216.2020.1803755
- Busygina I., Kahn J. (2019) Russia, the Council of Europe, and "Ruxit," or Why Non-Democratic Illiberal Regimes Join International Organizations, Problems of Post-Communism, Vol.66, N5, 2019. Published online: 30 Sep, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10758216.2019.1660186>
- Busygina I. (2019) Russia in the Eurasian Economic Union: Lack of Trust in Russia Limits the Possible. PONARS Eurasia Policy Memo N571.
- Busygina I. (2018). To decentralize or to continue on centralization track: comparative analysis of Russia and Kazakhstan, Journal of Eurasian Studies, N1.
- Busygina, I. (2018). Russia-EU relations and the common neighborhood: Coercion versus authority. London, UK: Routledge.
- Dekalchuk A. (2018) From Hidden Othering to Open Rivalry: Negotiating the EU-Russia Role Structure through the Visa Dialogue, in: EU-Russia Relations in Crisis: Understanding Diverging Perceptions. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2018. Ch. 6
- Grigoriev, I. (2018). "Law Clerks as an Instrument of Court-government Accommodation under Autocracy: The Case of the Russian Constitutional Court." Post-Soviet Affairs 34 (1): 17–34.
- Starodubtsev A. (2018). Federalism and Regional Policy in Contemporary Russia. Abingdon: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- Tarasenko A. (2018). Russian Non-Profit Organizations in Service Delivery: Neoliberal and Statist Social Policy Principles Intertwined. Europe - Asia Studies. Vol. 70, No. 4, 14-530.

Major events

October, 2019:

International workshop "Regional Leadership in Eurasia: How Major Powers Compete for Potential Followers", Higher School of Economics in Saint-Petersburg

October, 2019:

Conference on Inequality and Diversity, Higher School of Economics in Saint Petersburg

October, 2018:

VII International Annual Conference "October Readings" - "Political Governance in the Global World: New Practices, Levels, Scales".

16 Literature and Languages

Department of Philology

Department Head

Georg Wilhelm Heinrich Witte,
Professor

Leading researchers

Boris Gasparov
Dmitry Kalugin
Evgeny Kazartsev
Tatiana Sherstinova
Dmitry Tokarev
Ilya Kalinin,
Editor-in-chief of the journal
Emergency Rations: Debates on Politics
and Culture (Neprikosnovennyj zapas:
Debaty o politike i culture)
Ivan Delazari

Philology deals with challenging texts that communicate complex and enduring images and ideas. Such texts tend to arise in peculiar cultural and historical circumstances, often at the crossroads of different languages and traditions. Of central interest are periods of active interaction among cultures, as well as moments of historical rupture that decisively impact the history of a nation. The research team based in our Department investigates the most significant works created under such conditions. At the center of our research is the elaboration of methods of interpreting literary texts as well as inquiry into processes of their production, perception, and reception.

Our goal is not only to devise new approaches to reading works of literature but also to gain insight into how they come into being. Based on analysis of the structure of texts, we strive to enter the laboratory in which poets and writers create their works and in this way to understand intellectual activity in its highest manifestations. In a sense, we engage in an experiment, whose participants include literary geniuses of different epochs – Homer, Shakespeare, Lomonosov, Goethe, Pushkin, Tolstoy, and so on.

Particular attention is paid to the cognitive aspects of literary creativity, treating texts as the result of interactions between thought and language within the semiotic field of culture. We are developing the techniques of cognitive poetics and semiotic models designed for the comparative study of works written in different languages. In particular, we are working on a special corpus of prose and verse, which contains works in English, Dutch, German, Swedish, Russian, Belorussian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, and Ancient Greek. Students in the BA Program in Philology are involved in contributing to the corpus.

For the study of texts contained in the corpus, new computational methods of typological analysis have been devised. In particular, we have developed a new kind of software, which enables comparative research in different languages. This program represents an important part of the scholarly apparatus, the goal of which is to reconstruct processes and principles in the formation of poetic systems in different epochs and among different nations. The software enables us to conduct computational analysis of the texts' structure and to model this structure according to probabilities. The software represents an original analytic system that has no analogues. The department develops also the new methods in Digital Humanities and will create a specialization for students in this field and theDH center.

Main publications

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- Kazartsev E. (2017). *A Comparative Study of Verse Meter and Rhythm*. St.Petersburg: Alex. Herzen Univ. Press, 2017.
- Kalugin D. (2018). From Genius-Creator To National Genius: Representations Of Greatness in the Biographies of M.V. Lomonosov// *Russian Literature*. 2018. № 99. P. 39-70.
- Tokarev D. (2018). In 'the Paradise of Friends': Boris Poplavskii's Novel, Homeward from Heaven, in the Light of Alexandre Kojève's Seminar on Hegel // *Slavonic and East European Review*. 2018. Vol. 96. No. 2. P. 181-207

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- Delazari I. Musical Stimulacra: Literary Narrative and the Urge to Listen. New York: Routledge, 2021.

Major events

November, 2019:

International Conference "Weltanschauung/Vision of the world: milestones of the intellectual history"

June, 2018:

Conference "Life of wonderful people» -to the anniversary of Dmitry Kalugin

June, 2017:

International Conference "Personality and Emotions in the History of Russian Silver Age" in memoriam of Sarah Minz.

March, 2017:

International Conference "Non-Wax Person" on the occasion of the 50 anniversary of Arkady Blumbaum.

September, 2016:

The First International Polish-Russian Conference "Methods of the Textual Criticism and the Poetics Models" in cooperation with the Polish Academy of Science.

May, 2016:

International Conference "The Material and the Ideal in the History of Russian Thought in the 19th – 20th Centuries" on the occasion of Boris Egorov's 90th

Key projects

2015 – 2017:

"Genesis and evolution of syllabotonic versification in European poetry of the 16th – 19th centuries" supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

2016:

"Russian verse reform of the 18th century: genesis and evolution of forms" implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).

2017:

"West European influences into the Russian literature in the 18th – 19th century" implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).

2017:

"West European influences into the Russian literature in the 18th – 19th century" implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).

2016 – 2019:

"Contemporary models of poetics: a reconstructive approach" supported by the Russian Science Foundation.

2020 – 2023:

"Russian Literature and its International Relationships"

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Intangible- driven Economy

International Laboratory of Intangible-driven Economy

2018

<http://scem.spb.hse.ru/en/ielab/>

Head

Elena Shakina

Scientific adviser

Angel Barajas

Main publications

- Parshakov P., Naidenova I. N., Barajas A. Spillover effect in promotion: Evidence from video game publishers and eSports tournaments // *Journal of Business Research*. 2020. Vol. 118. P. 262-270. Shakina E., Barajas A. 'Innovate or Perish?': Companies under crisis // *European Research on Management and Business Economics*. 2020. (in press)
- Shakina E., Parshakov P., Alsuveyev A. Rethinking corporate digital divide: complementarity of technologies and demand for digital skills // *Technological Forecasting & Social Change*. 2020 (in press)
- Maiti M., Krakovich V., Shams R., Vukovic D. Resource-based model for small innovative enterprises // *Management Decision*. 2020 (in press)
- Shakina E. A., Gasparetto T. M., Barajas A. Football Fans' Emotions: Uncertainty Against Brand Perception // *Frontiers in Psychology*. 2020. Vol. 11. No. 659.
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- Parshakov P., Shakina E. A. Do Companies Disclose Intellectual Capital in Their Annual Reports? New Evidence from Explorative Content Analysis // *Journal of Intellectual Capital*. 2020. Vol. 21. No. 6. P. 853-871

Major events

- IDLAB weekly online research seminar
- Webinars OnLab "Russian labor market during COVID-19 pandemic: transformation and development scenarios"
- Webinar OnLab "Shocks of COVID-19 pandemic on financial markets"
- Special track within AMEC 2020 "Intellectual capital of individuals, groups and organizations"

Key projects

- Digital Divide in Corporate sector: Transformation and Strategic Responses
- Competitiveness and Leapfrogging Capabilities of Russian Business through Intangibles
- Digital Natives: New Sources for Labor Market

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Youth Communities of Dagestan. Street workout and anime scenes in Makhachkala

Having studied youth communities in Makhachkala, HSE sociologists are using the examples of street workout and anime fans to discuss growing up and socialisation in Dagestan today. The article was published in *Cultural Studies*.

Growing up in today's world is a highly individualised experience with limited dependence on class-, employment- or ethnicity-based solidarities. Young people grow up by constructing their preferred lifestyles and joining communities of their choice based on individual cultural preferences. In the early 2000s in Russia, a distinction between 'normal' and 'advanced' youth played a key role in shaping such communities demarcated by their members' attitudes towards Western culture and related choices of behaviour and appearance.

Today, according to sociologists, youth cultural spaces in Russian cities are more fragmented, while the formation of group identity is more complicated than before, arguably due to the increased role of IT and digital media in everyday life. Other factors that have shaped youth cultures include increased government pressure on young people, and an officially-declared return to conservative values, as well as geopolitical and ideological confrontation with the West.

'Scene' is a term used by sociologists to describe the life of youth communities in today's urban context.

A scene is a local social environment instrumental in shaping various urban identities and solidarities based on self-expression values and on shared lifestyles and cultural sensibilities.

The study authors used the examples of workout and anime fans – two very different urban scenes in Makhachkala – to illustrate how youth identities are shaped and reproduced in the periphery of the globalised world.

Urban Context

Like many other Russian cities, Makhachkala was hit by deindustrialisation and the economic turmoil caused by the collapse of the Soviet Union in the 1990s. Unemployment rates soared, and society was increasingly polarised due to inequality of income. Many residents, mainly intellectual workers, moved away from the region, while people from Dagestan's rural areas migrated to its capital city of Makhachkala.

Dagestan's capital has always been considered one of the most ethnically diverse communities in Russia, inhabited by more than 30 ethnic groups such as Avars, Dargins, Kumyks, Lezgins, Laks, Russians, and others. Religion plays an important role in the city and the broader region. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Dagestan has become a centre of re-Islamification, marked by a rapid growth of Islamic institutions and the de-secularisation of everyday life. With communist ideology losing its dominant position, religion has regained its status of an officially approved and even required component of 'normal' life.

Adding to Dagestan's and its residents' ethnic and religious 'otherness', they are often perceived as aggressive and dangerous elsewhere in Russia, and as a result, young Dagestanis traveling outside of their Republic often face discrimination in finding employment, renting accommodation and dealing with the authorities.

Most (70%) of those who stay in Dagestan after graduation remain financially dependent on their parents due to high unemployment levels. The aforementioned challenges have been found to influence young Dagestanis' ways of socialisation.

A survey of 800 high school and university students in Makhachkala revealed the city's most popular youth scenes, which included those of football fans (25.9% of respondents), street workout fans (20.1%), 'active Muslims' (18.5%), boardgame fans (18.3%), cyclists (15.7%), and lowriders (fans of lowered cars, 7.2%). Only 6.6% of respondents identified themselves as anime fans, but the scene's communicative involvement is much higher, with 28.9% of all respondents having friends among anime fans and 35.7% knowing about this scene in Makhachkala but not being part of it.

Street Workout Fans

This scene brings together young men aged between 14 and 25, mainly from urban families who have moved to the city, with low incomes and limited cultural capital. Since many members of this scene are high school or university students,

their number varies by season from 60-100 in summer to 15-20 in winter. The young men get together in open-air sports grounds to practice push-ups, pull-ups and horizontal and parallel bar exercises. Many older and more experienced participants offer to train others for free.

Most city residents approve of street workouts as a way of allowing young men to develop physical strength and mental stamina as well as expressing their masculinity in aggression-free ways. In addition to that, workout fans sometimes travel to rural areas, giving talks on healthy lifestyle choices and conducting master classes, as well as producing videos of their workouts and posting them on social media.

Many workout fans perceive this activity as a relief from their condition of marginality, and those aged 21–25 and financially dependent on their parents see it as a substitute for a professional occupation and a source of self-respect and social recognition – an important consideration in Dagestan where honour and dignity are emphasised as key aspects of male self-determination.

In the future, street workout fans hope to access financial support for their scene from the local authorities, as it would enable them to develop as professionals in their occupation.

Anime Fans

Most participants in this scene are female school students or undergraduates learning creative professions and sharing a fascination with Japanese animation. The scene was formed by anime lovers who had met via social media or by attending the annual festival of Japanese and Korean culture which used to be held in Makhachkala until recently and served as a platform for creative pursuits. Fans attending the festival wore home-made costumes to cosplay their favourite anime characters and performed related scenes and soundtracks. Between and after the festivals, fans have continued to communicate virtually.

Generally, anime fans are peaceful, promote gender equality and acceptance of migrants, and reject xenophobia. According to a survey in four Russian cities, the anime scene is the most tolerant of all youth communities in the country. However, few people in Makhachkala share the anime fans' enthusiasm and values.

Instead, local residents tend to believe that anime is a form of deviant behaviour prompted by foreign influence. Dying one's hair a bright colour and wearing a different style of clothes from the norm is strongly discouraged in Dagestan.

Recently, conservative sentiments have been particularly strong, forcing anime fans to make a tough choice between trying to defend their activity as legitimate and harmless, with anime and cosplay being part of the global popular culture, on one hand, and avoiding being bullied by street thugs and shunned by conservative-minded people, on the other. Indeed, street gangs have violently attacked some anime scene participants.

Equally important are family attitudes, as few anime fans are supported at home. Some parents consider their children's passion to be caused by poor discipline and ban them from watching anime, dyeing their hair, and participating in festivals. There is a common belief that anime is somehow associated with the LGBT community, which is a particular taboo in Dagestan. Some other parents, however, approve of their children's hobby and find anime no more dangerous than other types of comics or movies. Such parents accept the anime scene as a space where young people can grow up and develop professional skills in areas such as design, painting, illustration and music.

Tired of the struggle and discouraged by family and society disapproval, some anime fans leave the scene or try to hide their involvement with it, while some others make plans to move elsewhere in Russia (often to St. Petersburg). Parental choices for their children and social attitudes are powerful factors in the lives of Dagestani youth. At the age of 19-21, girls are generally pressured into marriage, forcing many anime fans to leave the scene for a new stage in their life.

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© IQ.HSE: Popular Science and Education
Media by HSE UniversityMilk Packaging in the
USSR*

*The study was implemented as part of the 'Fields of positive interethnic interactions and youth cultural scenes in Russian cities' project supported by the Russian Science Foundation.

When the Milk Canister Went Out of Style. The History of Paper Milk Packaging in the USSR

The cold war not only influenced the ideology and military sector of the Soviet Union, but served as an engine that jumpstarted its consumer economy — in particular, the food industry. In an article published in the journal *Russian History*, HSE historian Elena Kochetkova traces the development of the Soviet dairy industry and the production of dairy packaging in the post-war period. Her article recounts how milk became a staple of state propaganda and how Tetra Pak packaging came to be used in the USSR.

The Winds of Change

After World War II, many countries made rapid advancements in the chemical industry, as well as the related industries of pulp-and-paper, textiles, food, and others. This industrial growth prompted countries to compete with each other in terms of their consumption levels and quality of life. The USA and countries of Western Europe became world leaders in this regard.

The Eastern Bloc, too, began to put greater focus on increasing the domestic demand for consumer goods and improving standards of living. However, countries of the socialist camp first had to overcome the disadvantages inherent to a planned economy, such as chronic shortages, poor quality, and meager selection of goods.

Starting in the mid-1950s, the USSR showed its first signs of consumption growth. However, it was generally still much lower than in the West. Some researchers believe that Soviet products were characterized by inner quality, but not style, beauty, convenience, or ergonomic comfort. In their view, products were created solely as utilitarian products, designed to perform certain functions.

Others, however, point out that Soviet specialists, at least in the 1960s, did consider the aesthetic side of products, such as their appearance and design. The policy of Nikita Khrushchev opened a new phase of Western-style consumption. It became clear that not just the product itself is important, but its packaging and supply. This change is especially noticeable in the technological evolution of the production and distribution of milk and dairy products.

We Will Catch Up and Surpass!

In pre-revolutionary Russia, the dairy industry was concentrated mainly in the production of butter and cheese. Until 1917, its production reached 2 million tons per year, 95% of which was cheese. Cheese factories were mainly located in Siberia and the Baltic States.

During the first decades of Soviet rule, milk production exceeded that of the pre-revolutionary period by 20 times.

'Milk had traditionally been one of the staple foods in Russia, and when the Bolsheviks came to power, the issue of milk consumption became a part of their ideological agenda. Increasing consumer demand for it became an important issue since it enabled the state to produce a sought-after product,' notes Kochetkova.

According to Soviet statistics, milk factories produced 1.3 million tons of milk in 1940 and 8.3 million tons of milk in 1960. Under Krushchev, large enterprises such as the Ostankovsky and Ochakovsky dairy plants and the Cherkizovsky dairy plant were opened. All in all, from 1959 to 1964, dairy production increased by 15%. If the country had about 200 dairy plants in 1940, by 1960 they had 307.

After World War II, the Soviet Union began an active propaganda campaign for milk and dairy products. Special emphasis was placed on the scientifically proven benefits of their consumption. Cities hosted special events where medical workers told visitors about the value of milk and its beneficial properties in combating various diseases. In addition, workers employed in hazardous industries were given half a liter of milk a day.

'In endeavoring to produce more milk, the state under Krushchev, on the one hand, sought to produce a basic food product, and, on the other hand, sought to compete with Western countries. Winning the competition would show that Soviet agriculture and production were strong and that the Soviet people ate well,' says the researcher.

In light of the appeal of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Part of the Soviet Union (CPSU) to 'catch up and surpass the USA in milk and meat production', propaganda promoting the consumption of milk and dairy products became especially prevalent. This propaganda brought about changes in both the dairy industry itself as well as in the production of glass containers and other packaging.

Variety and Consumption

As for milk consumption, in the 1960s, some Soviet experts predicted an increase by the end of the decade to 0.5 liters per person per day. After the end of the Khrushchev era, the real level of consumption was lower than expected, but nonetheless higher than that in the US. In 1989, the United States consumed 263 kg of milk annually per capita compared to 378 kg in the USSR.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the range of dairy products in Russia expanded significantly. New dairy products such as fermented baked milk (riazhenka), curd paste (tvorozhnaia pasta), chocolate glazed curd bars, and processed cheese appeared.

'The emergence of new types of products was made possible with advances in production technology, and, no less significant, the advent of chemistry in the food industry. At the same time, some types of milk had been known in the world much earlier. For example, processed cheese started being produced at the beginning of the 20th century, but it was not produced in the USSR until the 1930s. After the efforts of the Khrushchev leadership and the expansion of consumption in the 50s-60s, we got the famous "Wave" and "Friendship" processed cheeses,' explains Elena Kochetkova.

In 1968, the Soviet dairy industry produced 93 types of products. However, they were only available to consumers in large cities. While city dwellers enjoyed a more or less varied diet, the main form of nourishment in small towns and rural areas continued to be bread and potatoes.

In developed countries, scientific and technological progress had led to the use of antibiotics and other chemical components in agriculture as well as in the food industry. In the Soviet Union, however, the level of implementation of scientific research was lower than in the West. Khrushchev's policy therefore sought to increase the role of science, especially chemistry, in technological processes.

A New Task

In Western countries, paper milk packages were coming into wider and wider use. They were considered to be more practical than glass bottles, and they kept the product fresher at room temperature for longer.

The development of the packaging industry in the West presented a challenge for the Soviet Union. In the USSR, the pulp and paper industry in the late 1950s was poorly developed.

In a report on the state of the pulp and paper industry, Soviet experts from the Central Research Institute for the Pulp and Paper Industry (TsNIIB) and the State Economic Council reported a significant lag behind the West: the USSR did not produce many types of paper. This was especially true of cardboard packaging, which competing countries produced in a variety of forms. This type of packaging was used for milk, eggs, frozen foods, ice cream, and much more.

The joint report also provided statistics on paper consumption. In 1959, the USSR consumed an average of 15 kg of paper per person, while the US consumed 188 kg, Sweden consumed 105 kg, England consumed 94 kg, and France consumed 73 kg.

The Soviet pulp and paper industry could not cope with the growing production of the food industry. In stores, most products were sold without packaging, despite its importance if only for sanitation purposes.

In 1959, the CPSU Central Committee decided to take measures to overcome its lag in the pulp and paper industry. The decree was followed by investment, the opening of new enterprises, and technological development. Soviet scientists and engineers planned to catch up with the West by improving the technology involved in combining paper and polymers. It was calculated that polymers would give packaging the necessary properties to preserve the quality of the food and increase its shelf life.

The question was, which is better to use: a glass container or a paper package

with polymer coating? Economically, the latter was less profitable. The production of one bottle cost 0.9 kopecks, and a paper package cost 1.5 kopecks. However, from the standpoint of practical convenience for producers and consumers, paper packaging was preferable. Due to its weight and dimensions, it allowed producers to reduce labor costs threefold during production and fourfold during implementation.

In 1960, more than 67% of glass bottles would break in transit only in Moscow. And broken glassware was difficult to recycle.

Despite the advantages of paper packaging, by the end of the 1960s, 80% of milk in the Soviet Union continued to be produced in glass bottles, and in 1975, 60% was still produced in this manner. Paper milk packages accounted for only 20% of milk packaging in 1969 and 30% in 1970.

For comparison, the share of glass containers in the USA was 12% in 1969 and 7% in 1975. In 1969, paper packaging made up 77% of the market.

In Sweden, home of the Tetra Pak packaging company, 99% of the milk was sold in paper packaging in 1969. Milk stored in glass bottles accounted for only 1% of sales.

A Period of Experimentation

In the USSR, numerous experiments for creating paper packaging similar to the American kind—a sample of which was obtained by specialists of TsNIIB in 1947. It was assumed that Goznak (a conglomerate of paper and printing factories and mints) and the Volodarsky Paper Mill would be able to figure it out. However, in the end, Soviet developers were forced to admit that none of the factories in the USSR could produce paper that would meet the standards of the foreign sample. Only after the modernizing German machinery from 1905 could the Volodarsky Paper Mill make paper packaging suitable for milk.

In 1967, work commenced on the development of special packaging paper for butter. Until that time, it was customary to sell it wrapped in parchment, which did not protect the product from light and air. Parchment kept the butter suitable for use no longer than three days. After this time, it would become covered in a yellow film and acquire an unpleasant taste.

In the 1960s, many Western countries introduced food production requirements. The rules stated that their packaging should not allow water, gas, grease, air, or odor to pass through.

Soviet engineers developed new packaging for butter, combining parchment paper and foil, which was similar to the packaging used in Austria. Meanwhile, work was carried out in various Soviet institutes to create packaging materials for other types of products.

Soviet consumers responded in different ways to the new paper milk packaging. Some liked its convenience and practicality. Others didn't like the fact that with paper packaging you cannot see the product you are buying. In addition, the quality of the Soviet packing paper was low. Due to poor sealing, milk often leaked. This was due to the quality of the raw materials and the overall backwardness of the packaging industry. Some Soviet manufacturers believed that only technology imported from the West could correct the situation. In their opinion, there was no point in pursuing their own experiments and research into packaging production, which was already widespread in other countries.

How Tetra Pak Came to the USSR

Soviet specialists learned about the success of Tetra Pak, a Swedish company that gained authority not only in Sweden, but France, Italy, Germany, Japan and other countries. The company also came to their attention in industry magazines. During the Cold War, professional publications served as a kind of advertising platform to showcase company achievements to one's competitors. Publications about Tetra Pak, appearing in the journal *Dairy Industry*, were mainly aimed at selling the company's equipment. Milk packages were simply shown as an illustration of the equipment's work. In particular, the ads stated that milk in Tetra Pak packaging is sterile and retains its freshness for up to four weeks at room temperature. Since the majority of Soviet citizens did not have reliable refrigerators, this advantage of the packaging was very important.

In addition, the Swedish company asserted that its equipment reduces noise and improves sanitation conditions in production. This was also important, since in the early 1960s, intestinal bacteria were detected at several dairy farms. The issue of

health standards began to receive increased attention, and in 1973, at the ministerial level, a proposal was made to ban dairy plants from producing milk in tanks.

Milk in metal canisters (bidony) and cisterns began to symbolize backwardness, while milk in paper packaging came to embody progressiveness.

In 1959, the first Tetra Pak machines in the USSR for producing 0.5- and 0.25-liter milk packages were installed at the Cherkizovsky Dairy Plant. They produced up to 5,800 packs per hour.

In 1963, 12 Soviet factories were producing milk in Tetra Pak packs. In 1972, 1.1 million tons of milk was produced in paper packaging. However, their share increased more slowly than planned. In 1973, the new packaging accounted for less than 50% of the market instead of the expected 95-97%.

In the 1960s, Soviet enterprises gradually began to produce packaging for various dairy products, using foreign equipment or copying Western designs. From 1966 to 1970, about 33 types of new packaging were developed under experimental conditions.

Paper packaging fully displaced glassware only in the 2000s; it was only at this time that drinks sold in paper packaging made up 85% of the Russian market. Tetra Pak and its later modified versions played a significant role in this process.

* This research will be continued as part of the collective project, 'The Material World of Late Soviet Society in Cold War Conditions: Technological Innovations in Production and Representation of Consumer Goods', supported by the Russian Science Foundation.

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How Private Health Insurance Affects Health Behaviour. Moral hazard in insurance

HSE researchers have discovered that the terms and conditions of purchasing private health insurance (PHI) can impact the person's attitude to their health. If PHI is bought at the client's own expense, they are inclined to be more careful about their health, when compared to those whose medical insurance is part of an employer's benefits package.

Private health insurance market

Private health insurance (PHI) first appeared in Russia in 1991, and until 2004, its share was growing rapidly. This was related to the emergence of insurance companies and private clinics. On average, between 9 and 11.4 million PHI contracts are signed annually. This means that about 6 to 8% of the country's population use private medical insurance.

Corporations are the key buyers of PHI. They sign 95% of contracts in Moscow and St. Petersburg. It is advantageous for insurers to work with organizations, since this decreases the risk of so-called adverse selection.

Adverse selection means signing a PHI contract with a client whose condition is unknown and who potentially may need expensive medical services and treatment. As a rule, those who buy PHI individually at their own expense do this beforehand, expecting high future costs for health care.

For organizations, PHI purchase can lead to tax benefits and help cover costs for staff medical check-ups.

Moral hazard

Moral hazard or client's negligence to their own health is considered as one of the key insurers' ex post risks in the private health insurance market. Andrey Aistov and Ekaterina Alexandrova, researchers at the HSE International Centre for Health Economics, Management, and Policy in St. Petersburg, found out whether such behavior is typical for holders of PHI policies in Russia.

To measure moral hazard levels, the researchers considered doctor visits, tobacco and alcohol consumption, physical exercises, and self-assessed health (SAH) in three groups of respondents.

RLMS-HSE data (2000–2015) was used for empirical estimations. The total number of respondents was over 211,000 (121,000 women and 90,000 men). The first group (203,800) consisted of those who have no private medical insurance. The second group (1,000) were those who had bought insurance at their own expense. The third group (6,400) consisted of corporate medical insurance policy holders.

Gender specifics

Statistical analysis has shown that women pay for medical insurance more often than men (16.5% vs 10.9%). In addition, they visit doctors more often, regardless of whether they have private medical insurance or not. One of the reasons for this is that men generally have a higher self-assessment of their health than women.

Notably, women with insurance smoke more than those who don't have cover, no matter whether they pay for the policy themselves or have it provided by their employer. However, there is a trend that when women get insurance, they start smoking less. Men who buy medical insurance start to exercise more. There is no such effect in women.

Private health insurance effects

The research has revealed a difference in the behavior of those who bought the policy themselves and those who received it from the employer. In both cases, the number of visits to a doctor increased. However, those who had paid for insurance themselves start caring about their health more. This is probably thanks to the fact that doctors draw their attention to diet, exercising etc. As a result, they start exercising more and consume less tobacco and alcohol. This means their self-assessed health improves and they start to feel better. This demonstrates a positive effect of private health insurance.

At the same time, those respondents who use a corporate health policy demonstrate decreasing self-assessed health and signs of moral hazard. In particular, those with insurance start consuming more alcohol. The reasons for such behavior should be studied in a separate research. However, Ekaterina Alexandrova, co-author of this study, explained this phenomenon with clients' possible reaction to the diagnoses they get, taking into account that when they have a policy, people tend to visit doctors more often.

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Alena Tarasova, February 21, 2019
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HSE UNIVERSITY ST. PETERSBURG:
KEY EVENTS 2020

Workshop “Economic Cooperation between CMEA Countries: Motives, Resources and Challenges of the Cold War”

January, 2020

On January 18, 2019, the round table “Economic Cooperation between CMEA Countries: Motives, Resources and Challenges of the Cold War” will be organized by the Laboratory of Environmental and Technological History of the Center for Historical Research and dedicated to the history of integration and cooperation of CMEA countries. The focus of the conference will be economic cooperation between socialist countries during the Cold War.

Online conference “Towards a New Normality? University Reputation in the Context of Pandemics”

June 2 – 25, 2020

In June 2020, HSE University in St. Petersburg will host a series of webinars focused on the reputation of universities amidst the pandemic. These webinars, put together under the general topic “Towards the New Normal? The Reputation of Universities in the Context of the Pandemic”, will embody the Annual International May Conference “Education and Global Cities”, which will adopt a non-traditional format this year due to the current coronavirus crisis in the world.

This series of webinars continues the discussion about Building University Reputation (BUR – Russia) which was organized by HSE Saint-Petersburg together with the World 100 Reputation Network and the University of Navarra (Spain) in 2019. The following will lie at the core of all discussions: activities of universities aimed at maintaining and developing their reputation, transforming their academic processes and retaining students' loyalty, as well as special aspects of admission processes at top international universities.

Analytics for Management and Economics Conference

September – December, 2020

Analytics for Management and Economics Conference (AMEC) brings together students, researchers and experts in economics and management, as well as business practitioners. The conference aims to build a knowledge-led ecosystem and expand the boundaries of the international academic network. AMEC provides an opportunity for networking and exchange of experience. For young researchers, participation in the conference is a chance to gain valuable experience of communicating with outstanding professors and present their projects.

Last year, scientists from more than 20 countries took part in the conference - for example, Israel, France, Finland and Great Britain. Professors of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Yashey Yafe, Dean of the Brussels School of Economics and Management Bruno Van Pottelsberg, as well as Professor of Corporate Finance at IE Business School and Senior Advisor of the European Foundation for Management Development Julio Urgel spoke to the participants.

3rd International Kochoubey Readings “Private Collections and Digital Technologies”

October 08 – 09, 2020

HSE University in St. Petersburg will be holding the 3rd International Kochoubey Readings “Private Collections and Digital Technologies” under the patronage of the Kochoubey family.

Conference discussions will consider recent Russian and international cases in the application of digital technologies to the work with private collections, as well as formats for cooperation in developing, preserving and representing collections in the future.

2nd St. Petersburg International Conference on Inequality and Diversity

November 05 – 07, 2020

IDC is an annual international forum for social scientists to discuss such topics as social and political cleavages in modern societies, co-existence of different social groups in countries, cities and organizations, modern forms of inequality and ways to combat it, human and minority rights, ways of ethnic, religious and territorial conflicts resolution.

***The keynote speakers
of IDC - 2020:***

Matthijs BOGAARDS,

Professor, Department of Political Science, Central European University, member of the editorial board of Party Politics, Democratization, Politics and Governance academic journals

Michael DORSCH,

Associate Professor of Economics, director of the Master of Public Administration program, School of Public Policy, Central European University

Richard SAKWA,

Professor of Russian and European Politics, University of Kent, Associate Fellow of the Russia and Eurasia Programme at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RISI)

Thomas REMINGTON,

Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Emory University, Associate of the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University

Christian WELZEL,

Academic Supervisor of the Laboratory for Comparative Social Research at HSE, Professor at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg and Director of the World Values Survey project.