



**20** DREAM  
& SHAPE  
YOUR  
FUTURE

# RESEARCH REPORT 2017

**HSE UNIVERSITY ST. PETERSBURG**



# **RESEARCH REPORT 2017**

**HSE UNIVERSITY ST. PETERSBURG**

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# Introduction



Research and the transfer of knowledge are fundamental to the mission of HSE University St. Petersburg, and the campus's reputation depends on its competitive edge in these areas.

In 2017, we revisited and reevaluated our overarching research priorities. As a result, we reformulated them as: (1) Data Science for a Changing Society, (2) Inequality and Governance, (3) Humanities in the Knowledge Economy. We think that these priorities better reflect the unique features of the campus, such as its concentration upon economics, social sciences and the humanities, and its focus on quantitative methods in research. They also reflect the campus' ambition to serve both the city of St. Petersburg and the global academic community, thus providing research *Urbi et Orbi*, to the city and to the world. In 2017 we also made plans to extend campus research objective into cognitive and information sciences, particularly in conjunction with the social sciences.

First of all, we evaluated the progress of and reinforced 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.

Secondly, 2017 marked the start of the process of the campus' comprehensive internationalization, which will embrace research as well as education. The campus became a member of the QTEM (Quantitative Techniques for Economics and Management) consortium, established collaboration with a number of the world-class universities abroad, and initiated the Global

Economics and Innovations Consortium together with the University College London, Pompeu Fabra University, and Fudan University. Although most of these projects are for the moment focused on teaching, we envisage their impact on advanced research at the campus in the near future.

Thirdly, in 2017 HSE University St. Petersburg continued the practice of organizing large-scale international events, which contribute to the campus's reputation as a site for cutting-edge discussions in the social sciences, economics and the humanities. Thus, we were proud to host the Second World Congress of Comparative Economics (June 15 – 17), The 1st Annual International Political Science Association Summer School (July 30 – August 13), and to organize the BRICS Global Business and Innovation Conference (September 14 – 15). In May 2017, we also held our annual flagship international conference on Education and World Cities, as well as a number of more focused seminars and roundtables organized by our laboratories and research centres.

We will maintain the heights of excellence, for which we are recognized national and international leaders, and invest in emerging researchers and groups capable of having a global impact. We will continue to attract and develop an outstanding international academic community, and we remain committed to the close links we have fostered between our research activities and the classroom, where the transfer of knowledge begins.

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



# HSE University St. Petersburg: Research Map

## 3A Kantemirovskaya Ulitsa

- International Laboratory of Game Theory and Decision-Making
- International Center for Health Economics, Management, and Policy (CHEMP)
- Laboratory for Economics of Culture
- Scientific Laboratory of Logistics Research
- Department of Applied Mathematics and Business Informatics
- Department of Economics
- Department of Finance
- Department of Management

## 16 Ulitsa Soyuza Pechatnikov

- Center for Asian and African Studies

## 17 Promyshlennaya Ulitsa

- Center for Historical Research
- Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History
- Department of History

## 123 Naberezhnaya kanala Griboedova

- Center for Market Studies and Spatial Economics
- Department of Political Sciences
- Department of Comparative Literature and Linguistics

## 55/2 Ulitsa Sedova

- Laboratory for Comparative Social Research (LCSR)
- Laboratory of Sociology in Education and Science
- Center for Youth Studies
- Laboratory for Internet Studies
- Department of Sociology



# Facts and Figures

## Research Themes

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

### RePEc: HSE University St. Petersburg

- # 2 in top 25% institutions in Russia
- 12 economists in top 25% authors in Russia
- Top 8% economic institutions

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 5,000 students, including 9% international students from 50+ countries, and about 60 research fellows, many of them holding PhD degrees from the top universities from around the world.

HSE St. Petersburg runs 12 research centers and laboratories, including 4 international flagship research centers led by world-renowned researchers, as well as 4 standalone research groups where faculty and students jointly carry out research projects.

Diagram 1. FY 2017 External Funding Amount Received by Sponsor Type

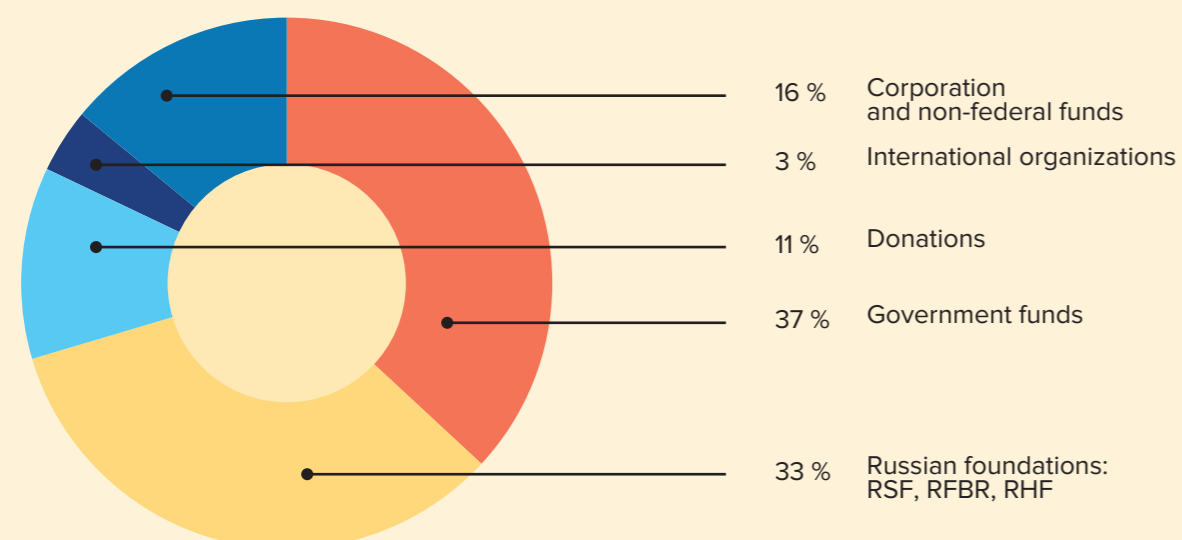
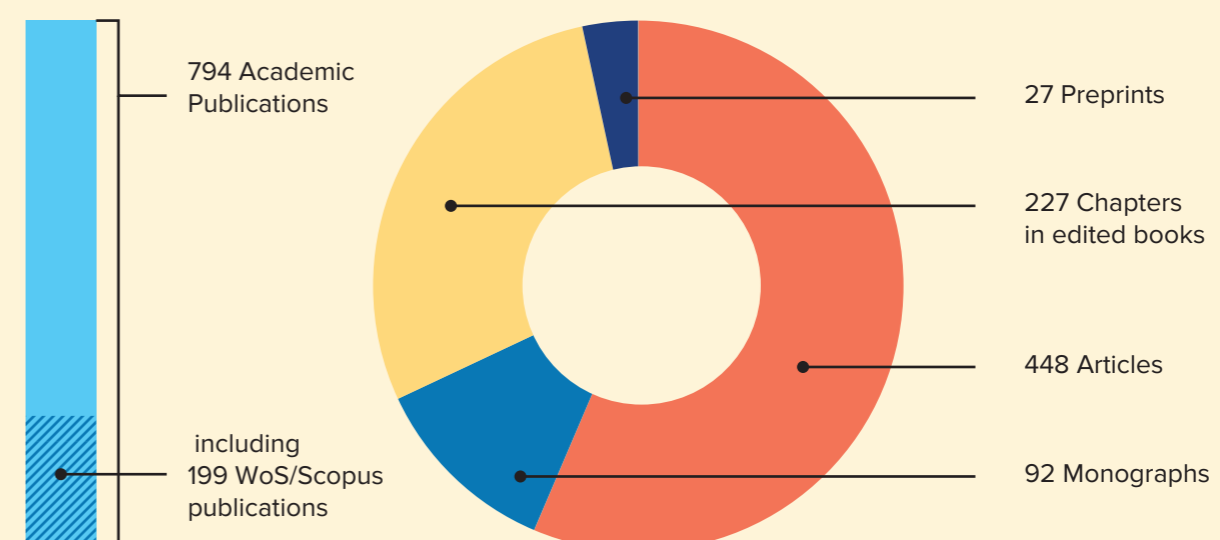


Table 1. HSE University in International Rankings

Ranking		# in the world	# in Russia
Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, 2017	Sociology	51–75	1
	Political Sciences	101–150	1
	Mathematics	101–150	2
QS – World University Rankings by subject, 2017/ 2018	Sociology	51–100	1
	Politics & International Studies	51–100	2
	Economics & Econometrics	101–150	1
	Mathematics	101–150	3
	Philosophy	101–150	2
	Accounting & Finance	151–200	1
	Business & Management Studies	151–200	1
	History	151–200	3
	Law	201–250	3
QS – World University Rankings by faculty, 2018	Social Sciences & Management	73	2
	Arts & Humanities	220	3
QS – Top 50 Under 50, 2017		48	1
THE Young University Rankings, 2017		96	1
THE World University Rankings by subject, 2017/2018	Business & Economics	101–125	1
	Social Sciences	176–200	2
	Arts & Humanities	176–200	3

Diagram 2. Research Output 2017



# Key Events



## Lecture by Brooke Harrington (Copenhagen Business School) “Inequality and the Wealth Management Profession”

February 2, 2017

Author of *Pop Finance* (Princeton University Press, 2008) and *Capital without Borders* (Harvard University Press, 2016), American sociologist Brooke Harrington offered one part of the puzzle by pointing to the experts who make personal tax avoidance possible on a massive scale — an estimated US\$200 billion annually.

This massive depletion of state coffers undermines efforts to provide public services, such as education, health care and transportation, or to distribute food and housing aid to those in need. So the poor get poorer, while the rich get richer.

## Fourth Annual International conference “Education and Global Cities: Smart Learning for World Universities”

May 19–20, 2017

The conference brought together experts in learning analytics, educators and IT companies to discuss new digital challenges that universities face, as well as new tools and techniques that allow answering these challenges. The event was co-organized with Beijing Normal University (BNU).

## Second World Congress of Comparative Economics “1917–2017: Revolution and Evolution in Economic Development”

June 15–17, 2017

In 2017 HSE University St. Petersburg served as a local organizer and host of the Second World Congress of Comparative Economics. The event was organized by the European Association for Comparative Economic Studies (EACES), the Association for Comparative Economic Studies (ACES), the Japanese Association for Comparative Economic Studies (JACES), and the Korean Association for Comparative Economic Studies (KACES) in collaboration with the Italian Association for Comparative Economic Studies (AISSEC), the Society for the Study of Emerging Markets (SSEM), the Chinese Economists Society (CES), the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE) and other scientific associations and networks.

Following a call for papers, almost 700 proposals of paper presentations have been received. After the selection made by the scientific committee, the event brought together 381 participants from 36 countries across the globe. The 2nd WCCE featured keynote talks, special panels, networking events for participants, the electronic resources and book fair, and 91 parallel sessions.

Keynote speakers included Professor Gerard Roland, University of California Berkeley (USA); Professor Alexander Auzan of Moscow State University (Russia), and Professor James Kai-sing Kung, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (China).

## WSTNet Web Science Summer School 2017

July 1 – 8, 2017

The Web Science Network (WSTNet) Summer School (WSSS17) was organized by the Web Science Trust, the National Research University Higher School of Economics, and ITMO University, St Petersburg.

The School included lectures tackling major trends in Web Science and the following keynotes: Professor Dame Wendy Hall, Managing Director, Web Science Trust; Professor Tat-Seng Chua, National University of Singapore; Professor Jeremy Wyatt, Wessex Institute of Health & Research, UK; Dr Pete Burnap, Cardiff University, UK. The Summer School provided hands-on training in data processing, analysis and methods, team work, and opportunities to present current research. Participants worked on specific tasks linked to the datasets provided, and were mentored by local instructors. All teams presented the results of their work on the last day of the school.

## 1st Annual International Political Science Association Summer School (IPSA – HSE Summer School)

July 30 – August 13, 2017

Jointly organized by the HSE University and the International Political Science Association (IPSA), the IPSA – HSE Summer School 2017 was supported by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the U.S. Consulate General in St. Petersburg.

The school’s mission is to develop student competencies, specifically in the use of modern methods of political science to advance political and social research, and to promote further cooperation within the global political research community. Overall, the School drew 24 students from eight countries, most of whom were PhD students and young researchers.

## BRICS Global Business & Innovation Conference

September 14 – 15, 2017

BRICS Global Business and Innovation Conference took place at the Higher School of Economics between 14 and 15 September 2017. Scholars from all over the world came together to discuss the most pressing issues of global business and innovation in the context of BRICS as a factor of competition and sustainable development in era of growing uncertainty. The event featured keynote talks from Igor Filatotchev of Cass Business School, City University London, England; Justin Yifu Lin, Peking University, China, Slavo Radošević of University College London (UCL), England; and Ravi Ramamurti, Northeastern University, USA.



## Lecture by Albert (Albie) Louis Sachs “Forging a New South African Constitution: The Struggle from Racism to Equal Rights for All”

September 27, 2017

Albert (Albie) Louis Sachs (born 1935) is anti-apartheid activist and a chief architect of South Africa’s post-apartheid Constitution. In 1988, he was the target of a car bombing by South African security agents, which cost him his right arm and sight in one eye. In 1994, Albie Sachs was appointed by Nelson Mandela to serve on the Constitutional Court, where he served until 2009 and was the author of the Court’s majority judgments on discrimination law. Sachs has 14 honorary degrees across four continents, won the Alan Paton Award for his books twice, and received multiple awards for his achievements.







# 01

## Spatial Economics

The Center for Market Studies and Spatial Economics (MSSE) aims to conduct research on two major aspects of economic reality:

1) The dependence of market behavior on degrees of competition. Different markets have different structures. Think of markets with only a few players (for example, electricity or oil producers) and markets with many players (apparel or electronics): market outcomes in each case will not be the same. We are interested in determining which markets need to be more or less regulated to improve social welfare, and whether either of these two market examples delivers excess or insufficient contributions to the public good. What are the effects of market expansion and technological progress? Differently structured markets can often deliver a desired outcome, while various externalities (spatial frictions, agglomeration economies, non-market interactions, etc.) can mitigate the initial distortion of certain markets.

2) We are developing our research agenda to examine the primary factors involved in the 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 price of land is very high, while land prices average next to nothing all over

the globe? 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 and suggest ways for the potential improvement of trade, urban, and regional policies, which in turn may increase social welfare.

## Center for Market Studies and Spatial Economics

Est. 2011

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

### Director



**Sergey Kichko**,  
Associate Professor

### Leading researchers



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



**Kristian Behrens**,  
Professor, Université du Québec à Montréal

### Main publications

- Tabuchi T., Thisse J-F., Zhu X. Does technological progress magnify regional disparities? *International Economic Review*. Forthcoming.
- 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.
- Gagné 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.

### Major events

- June, 2017: Sixth International Conference “Industrial Organization and Spatial Economics». Keynotes: Keith Head (University of British Columbia), Pierre-Philippe Combes (Lyon), Esteban Rossi-Hansberg (Princeton).
- June, 2016: Fifth International Conference “Industrial Organization and Spatial Economics”. Keynotes: Jose Scheinkman (Columbia), Gabriel Felbermayr (LMU), Kiminori Matsuyama (Northwestern).
- June, 2015: Fourth International Conference “Industrial Organization and Spatial Economics”. Keynotes: David Albouy (Illinois), Thomas Holmes (Minnesota), Kaz Miyagiwa (Florida).

### Key projects

- 2011 – 2015: “Spatial Economics, Regional Economics, Economics of Agglomeration, International Trade”.

# 02

## Game Theory

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.

## International Laboratory of Game Theory and Decision-Making

Est. 2015

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

### Director



**Fedor Sandomirsky**

### Leading researchers



**Hervé Moulin,**  
Professor, University  
of Glasgow, United  
Kingdom



**Anna Bogomolnaia,**  
Professor, University  
of Glasgow, United  
Kingdom

### Main publications

- 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. <http://doi:10.1016/j.jet.2017.05.004>.
- Moulin H. (2017). One dimensional mechanism design. *Theoretical Economics*, 12(2), 587-619. <http://doi:10.3982/TE2307>.

### Major events

- 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

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 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.

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

Est. 2015

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

### Director



**Ekaterina Alexandrova**

### Leading researchers



**Christopher Gerry**,  
Dean, St Antony's  
College, University  
of Oxford



**Peter Meylakhs**



**Anastasia Meylakhs**

### Main publications

- Gerry, C. J. and Quirmbach, D. (2016). Gender, education and Russia's tobacco epidemic: a life-course approach. *Social Science and Medicine*, 160, 54-66.
- Rykov Y., Meylakhs P., Sinyavskaya Y. (2017). Network structure of an AIDS-denialist online community: Identifying core members and the risk group. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 61(7), 688-706.
- Gerry, C., Kaneva, M., Zasimova, L. (2017). Reforming voluntary drug insurance in Russian healthcare: does social solidarity matter? *Health Policy*, 121(11), 1177-1185. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.healthpol.2017.09.001>.
- Alexandrova, E. and Bakhtin, M. (2017). Health and labour force status of elderly Russians: Does health limit an increase in the retirement age? *Applied Econometrics*. Forthcoming.
- Kind, P. and Gerry, C. (2018). From Russia with love: valuation of EQ-5D states using available data. Forthcoming.

### 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".

# 04

## Economics of Culture

The main targets of our research are the transformations and innovations in creative industries, specifically, changes in tourism and culture. For example, in our collaborative studies of the Peterhof and Tsarskoe Selo estate and palace museums, the Museum of the History of Religion, and the Museum of Cats, we examined how St. Petersburg's annual «Night of Museums» is changing the visitor profile of city museums, and how the museums themselves are changing under conditions of augmented reality: for example, by expanding into non-museum spaces or creating and promoting destination-branding.

At the request of the Committee for Tourism Development and the Committee for Culture in St. Petersburg, we studied the city's "gastronomic branding" and the development of gastronomic tourism, how creative spaces and clusters can become tourist sites, and possibilities for using film tourism to promote the development of St. Petersburg.

In our studies of numerous cultural festivals in St. Petersburg and the Sochi Olympics, we examined the various forms of stakeholder participation in such events, the role of festivals in reducing the negative impact of seasonality in St. Petersburg's tourism industry, and the structure and activities of volunteer groups at cultural festivals and sporting events.

In the future, we plan to study the pathways and prospects for development in the creative industries, the multi-sector nature of their activities, and their influence on the urban environment. We also plan to study creative industries' human capacity and the various forms of labor activity in local creative spaces and clusters.

## Laboratory for Economics of Culture

Est. 2011

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

### Director



Valeriy Gordin

### Main publications

- 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* (pp. 39-59). London, UK: Routledge.

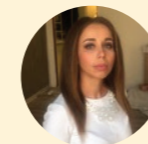
- Gordin V., Trabskaya J., Zelenskaya E. (2016). The role of hotel restaurants in gastronomic place branding. *International Journal of Culture, Tourism and Hospitality Research*, 10 (1), 81-90.

### Leading researchers



Marina Matetskaya

- Gordin V. E., Dedova M. (2015). Social entrepreneurship in the informal economy: A case study of re-enactment festivals. *Journal of Enterprising Communities*, 9 (1), 6-16.



Yulia Trabskaya

### Major events

- February, 2017: International Conference "Sustainable Tourism Development in the Changing World"
- October, 2016: Workshop "The Territory Management and the Improvement of the Viability of Cities"

### Key projects

- 2015 – 2016: "Culture for Health" supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers.
- 2015 – 2017: "Rural practice in art-homestead "Kaikino – 10" supported by the Charitable Foundation of Elena and Gennady Timchenko.

# 05

## Logistics

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 70 trillion dollars, annual logistics and supply chain management costs are about 9 trillion dollars.

In 2016-17 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.

## Scientific Laboratory of Logistics Research

Est. 2013

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

### Director



Valery Lukinskiy

### Main publications

- Lukinskiy V.S., Lukinskiy V.V. Pletneva N. G., Vorobyeva N. I., Mayevsky (2017) *Logistika I upravlenie tsepyami postavok* [Logistics and supply chain management]. Moscow: Urait.
- Lukinskiy V.S., Lukinskiy V.V. (2017). Evaluation of stock management strategies reliability at dependent demand. *Transport and Telecommunication*, 18 (1), 60-69.
- Lukinskiy V.S., Lukinskiy V.V. (2015). Analysis of the logistics intermediaries choice methods in the supply chains // *Transport and Telecommunication*, 16 (4), 288-295.

### Major events

- Lukinskiy V.S., Lukinskiy V.V. Pletneva N. G., Vorobyeva N. I., Mayevsky (2017) *Logistika I upravlenie tsepyami postavok* [Logistics and supply chain management]. Moscow: Urait.
- Lukinskiy V.S., Lukinskiy V.V. (2017). Evaluation of stock management strategies reliability at dependent demand. *Transport and Telecommunication*, 18 (1), 60-69.
- Lukinskiy V.S., Lukinskiy V.V. (2015). Analysis of the logistics intermediaries choice methods in the supply chains // *Transport and Telecommunication*, 16 (4), 288-295.

### Key projects

- 2016: "Development of a set of models for forecasting the need for spare parts for the rolling stock of SPb State Unitary Enterprise 'Passazhiravtotrans' on the basis of the analysis of operational reliability" supported by the Government of St. Petersburg.
- 2016: "Ranking of freight forwarding and logistics companies in the North-West Federal region".





**2<sup>ND</sup>** WORLD CONGRESS OF COMPARATIVE ECONOMICS  
1917-2017: REVOLUTION AND EVOLUTION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA  
JUNE 15-17, 2017

04

04



# 06

## Comparative Social Research

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 is organizing data collection for the 7th wave of the World Values Survey and the 5th wave of the European Values Study, which will be finished by the end of 2017. Data collection for the full set of countries participating in the EVS5 and WVS7 will be completed by the end of 2018. 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.

## Laboratory for Comparative Social Research (LCSR)

Est. 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

### Main publications

- Inglehart, R. F. (2018). *Cultural evolution: People's motivations are changing, and reshaping the world*. Cambridge University Press.
- 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 post-materialists justify bribery? *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 48 (2), 225-242.
- Foa R.S., Nemirovskaya A. (2016). How state capacity varies within frontier states: A multicountry subnational analysis. *Governance*, 29 (3), 411–432.
- Welzel C. (2013). *Freedom rising: Human empowerment and the quest for emancipation*. 1 ed. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- + *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, 2016: The 6th International Annual Research Conference: “Survey Research and the Study of Social and Cultural Change”
- August, 2016: The 6th LCSR Summer School “Latent Curve Models: A Structural Equation Perspective”
- November, 2015: The 5th International Annual Research Conference of LCSR “Cultural and Economic Changes Under Cross-National Perspective”

### Key projects

- 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 – ongoing: “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

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.

## Laboratory of Sociology in Education and Science

Est. 2007

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

## Director



Daniel Alexandrov

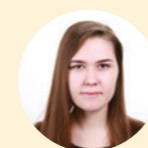
## Leading researchers



Valeria Ivaniushina



Ksenia Tenisheva



Vera Titkova

## Main publications

- Ivaniushina V., Alexandrov D. (2017). Anti-school attitudes, school culture and friendship networks. *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, 38. Forthcoming.
- 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 – 2014: 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).

## 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

In our studies of youth (sub)cultures, solidarity, 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?

Adults 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.

Another important aspect of our work focuses on *migration and ethnic identity research*, conducted

in two different spheres. First, we study how ethnicity (one’s own or somebody else’s) becomes salient in family relations and friendships, subcultural communities, political activity and civic activism, as well as in public spaces (streets, public transport, queues, etc.) Second, we study how the children of migrants adapt in Russian schools, and how they get involved in youth leisure activities in Russian urban spaces. The results of this research are being used by teachers, lecturers, and school administrations to improve their work.

*The sociology of the body* is a rapidly developing research area in western academia, and it is very new in Russia. Images of the “normal” or exemplary male or female body are actively being constructed in the media today and discussed in friendship networks. The reactions of youth to the image of a healthy, young, and beautiful body, normalized according to gender and sexuality, range from frantic obsession with achieving such an ideal to the absolute rejection of social norms. Regimes of nutrition and hygiene, the use of cosmetics, healthy lifestyle, physical training, plastic surgery, gender and sexual identity – these are the aspects of life that contemporary youth care about most and thus are the phenomena that most interest CYS researchers.

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.

## Center for Youth Studies

Est. 2009

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

### Director



Elena Omelchenko

### Leading researchers



Yana Krupets



Nadezhda Nartova



Guzel Sabirova

### Main publications

- 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.
- Omelchenko E. (2012). Russian youth from the 1990s until 2010: Generational changes. In C. Henseler (Ed.) *Generation X goes global: mapping youth culture in motion* (pp. 248-268). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Omelchenko E. L., Pilkington H. (2013). Regrounding youth cultural theory (in post-socialist youth cultural practice). *Sociology Compass*, 7 (3), 208-224.
- Omelchenko E. L., Sabirova G. (2015) Youth cultures in contemporary Russia: memory, politics, solidarities. In M. Schwartz & H. Winkel (Eds.), *Eastern European Youth Cultures in a Global Context* (pp. 253-270). Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Pilkington H., Omel’chenko E. L., Garifzianova A. (2010). *Russia’s skinheads: exploring and rethinking subcultural lives*. London, UK: Routledge. Major events

### Major events

- November, 2017: International conference “Urban Youth Cultures: Solidarities, Creativity, Activism”
- October, 2015: Conference “Youth and Society: in the Search for New Solidarities”
- November, 2013: Scientific exhibition “Youth, Education, Knowledge, City”

### Key projects

- 2016 – 2021: “Dialogue about Radicalization and Equality (DARE)” supported by Horizon 2020 Programme.
- 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.
- 2014: “Youth solidarities and generations of the 21st century: the value of labor and consumption” implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).
- 2013 – 2014: “Extracurricular activity and integration of migrant children in St. Petersburg” supported by the Russian Foundation for Humanities.

# 09

## Internet Studies

Integrating scholars from a variety of backgrounds, the Laboratory for Internet Studies conducts a range of interdisciplinary research into online human behavior, its network structure, and its textual representations. Advanced machine learning approaches, network analysis, and statistical methods 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 influence online communities have on offline political participation, the motivation for involvement in communities that promote destructive health practices, the relation of social networking activities to entrepreneurial success, and how the level of privacy in online behavior depends on personality features and individual online goals.

Thus, one of our research projects found that individuals get involved in online AIDS-denialist communities mostly because they do not receive enough patient-friendly explanations from their doctors. Network analysis has revealed clusters of undecided participants in such communities, who can be influenced and diverted from AIDS-denialism through online interventions. Another research study investigated the social movement for Fair Elections, establishing a strong connection between, on the one hand, the size and activity of online communities in this movement and, on the other hand, their offline turnout at polling stations.

The primary project of the Laboratory at the present time is the development of a system for semi-automatic monitoring of inter-ethnic tensions in user text data taken from social networking sites. This system will allow policy makers and NGOs to determine when and where there is rising risk of ethnic conflict. The system identifies user messages containing the names of ethnic groups, automatically detects their sentiment features, and maps the frequency of negative messages in time and space. The prototype of this system, along with the Laboratory's other major software products, is available online.

## Laboratory for Internet Studies

Est. 2012

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

### Director



**Olessia (Elena)  
Koltsova**

### Main publications

- Rykov Y. G., Meylakhs 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.
- Koltsova O., Koltsov S., Nikolenko S. I. (2016). Communities of co-commenting in the Russian LiveJournal and their topical coherence. *Internet Research*, 26 (3), 710-732.
- Koltsova O., Scherbak A. N. 'LiveJournal Libral!': The political blogosphere and voting preferences in Russia in 2011–2012. *New Media and Society*, 17 (10), 1715-1732.

### Leading researchers



**Vera Ignatenko**



**Sergey Koltsov**



**Alexander Porshnev**

### Major events

- July, 2017: WSTNet Web Science Summer School 2017
- August, 2015: The 9th Russian Summer School in Information Retrieval (RuSSIR 2015)

### Key projects

- 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

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.

## Laboratory of Sociology in Education and Science Department of Applied Mathematics and Business Informatics

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

### Project Director



Daniel Alexandrov

### Main publications

- Musabirov I., Bulygin D., Okopny P., Sirotkin A. (2017). Deconstructing cosmetic virtual goods experiences in Dota 2. In *Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. CHI'17* (pp. 2054-2058). New York, NY: ACM.

### Leading researchers



Kirill Maslinsky

- Alexandrov D., Gorgadze A., Musabirov I. (2016). Virtual Caucasus on VK social networking site. In *Proceedings of the 8th ACM Conference on Web Science. WebSci '16* (pp. 215-217). New York, NY: ACM.



Ilya Musabirov

- Alexandrov D., Karepin V., Musabirov I. (2016). Educational migration from Russia to China: Social network data. In *Proceedings of the 8th ACM Conference on Web Science. WebSci '16* (pp. 309 - 311). New York, NY, USA: ACM.

- Voskresenskiy V., Musabirov I., Alexandrov D. (2016). Private and public online groups in apartment buildings of St. Petersburg. In *Proceedings of the 8th ACM Conference on Web Science. WebSci '16* (pp. 301 - 306). New York, NY, USA: ACM.



Alena Suvorova

### Major events

- June, 2017: International Conference "Digital Transformation & Global Society" (DTGS'17)
- May, 2017: The Fourth Annual International Conference "Education and Global Cities: Smart Learning for World Universities"



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**VLADIMIR  
TIMONIN**

**WU  
FATI**

**DANIEL  
ALEXANDROV**



## 11

## Comparative Historical Research on Empires and Nationalism

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.

## Center for Historical Research

Est. 2012

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

### Director



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

### Leading researchers



**Vladimir Bobrovnikov**



**Anton Kotenko**

### Main publications

- Lohr E., Tolz V., Semyonov A., von Hagen M. (Eds.). (2014). *The empire and nationalism at war*. Bloomington: Slavica Publishers.
- Suny, R. (2015). *They can live in the desert, but nowhere else: a history of the Armenian genocide*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- + Winner of the 2016 Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize, Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies
- + A Financial Times Summer Books 2015 selection
- + One of Financial Times (FT.com) Best Books in History 2015, chosen Tony Barber
- Sablin, I. (2016) *Governing post-imperial Siberia and Mongolia, 1911–1924: Buddhism, socialism, and nationalism in state and autonomy building*. London: Routledge.
- Semyonov, A. (2017). Global history is more than the history of globalization: Interview with Sebastian Conrad. *Ab Imperio*, 1, 23-44.

### Major events

- International conference in partnership with *Ab Imperio* Journal “Imperial Revolution of 1917: Post-Imperial Imaginaries and Revolutionary Politics in the Context of Diversity”.
- May 2013: International conference in partnership with *Ab Imperio* Journal “When Postcolonial Meets Postimperial: Sovereignty, Politics of Difference, and Composite Society in Comparative Perspectives”.
- 2012 – to the present: Regular research seminar “Boundaries of History” chaired by Alexander Semyonov.

### Key projects

- 2016 – 2018: Currently the St. Petersburg team of historians is creating a database of historical sources pertaining to the history of regionalism, autonomism and federalism in Russian Empire and Eurasia as alternative canons of political thought and political practices. This work is carried out in partnership with the project “Socio-legal dynamics of governing cultural diversity” at Georg-August-Universität Göttingen;
- 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

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.

## Center for Historical Research

Est. 2012

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

### Director



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

### Leading researchers



**Evgeniy Anisimov**



**Adrian Selin**

### Main publications

- Anisimov E. V. (2015) The question of women in power in the eighteenth century. In M. di Salvo, D. H. Kaiser & V. A. Kivelson (Eds.), *Word and Image in Russian History: Essays in Honor of Gary Marker* (pp. 191-205). Boston: Academic Studies Press.
- Anisimov E. V. (2016) *Russkoe iskusstvo glazami istorika, ili kuda vedet Susanin* [Russian art from historian's view: Where Susanin leads]. St. Petersburg: Arca.
- Selin A. A. (2015) Appearing of the Borderland Delimitation in Ingermanland in 1617-1618. *Canadian-American Slavic Studies*, 49 (2-3), 282-293.
- Selin A. A. (2014) "Invitation of the Varangians" and "Invitation of the Swedes" in Russian history: Ideas of early historiography in late Russian medieval society. In A. E. Musin & P. Bauduin, *Vers l'Orient et vers l'Occident. Regards croisés sur les dynamiques et les transferts culturels des Vikings a la Rous ancienne* (pp. 397-406). Caen: Presses universitaires de Caen.

### 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 central 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 in these types of research is the history of expertise, both scientific and technological. Experts are central in the social ‘construction’ of natural resources and in transfers of knowledge from one place to another. We frame our historical research as part of the social sciences, focusing on materiality, the circulation of knowledge and goods, and the identification of resources and socio-natural sites. We collaborate with sociologists, economists, human geographers, and ecologists. At the same time, environmental history is rapidly developing as a viable part of the environmental humanities, where cultural studies approaches are central.

The Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History studies path-dependencies and institutional developments in the exploration and use of natural resources, especially in the North and the Arctic; analyzes the circulation of environmental knowledge, especially knowledge of the marine environment and climate across the Cold War divide; describes patterns of infrastructure and technology transfer; reveals the role of waterscapes in the economy, culture, and urban development; and problematizes interrelations between cultural and natural heritage and their joint perception and preservation.

## Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History

Est. 2016

<http://sh.spb.hse.ru/en/chr/eth/>

## Director



Julia Lajus

## Leading researchers



Alexandra Bekasova



Margarita Dadykina



Alexei Kraikovski

## Main publications

- Anisimov, E. V., Bekasova A., Kalemeneva E. (2016). Books that link worlds: Travel guides, the development of transportation infrastructure, and the emergence of the tourism industry in imperial Russia, nineteenth – early twentieth centuries. *The Journal of Tourism History*, 8 (2), 184-204.
- Dadykina, M., Kraikovski A., Lajus J. (2017). Mastering the Arctic marine environment: organizational practices of Pomor hunting expeditions to Svalbard (Spitsbergen) in the eighteenth century. *Acta Borealia*, 1, 50-69.
- Kochetkova E. A. (2016). Seeing the forest and the trees: Western forestry systems and Soviet engineers, 1955-1964. *Technology and Culture*, 57 (3), 586-611.
- Kraikovski, A., Lajus J. (2017). Living on the river over the year: the significance of the Neva to Imperial St. Petersburg. In M. Knoll, U. Leubken & D. Schott (Eds.), *Rivers Lost – Rivers Regained? How cities use, abuse and adore their rivers* (pp. 235-254). Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh University Press.
- Oldfield, J., Lajus J., Shaw, D. J. B. (2015). Conceptualizing and utilizing the natural environment: Critical reflections from Imperial and Soviet Russia. *Slavonic and East European Review*, 93 (1), 1-15.

## Major events

- December, 2017: International Workshop “Science, Technology, Engineering, Environment and Medicine in Russia’s Great War and Revolution, 1914 –1922”
- November, 2016: International workshop “New Governance for Sustainable Development in the European Arctic” and research trip to Murmansk and Teriberka in cooperation with KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden
- October, 2016: International Conference “Technology, Natural Resources and Crises in the Past and Present of Europe and Beyond” in cooperation with the Research Network on History, Technology and Europe “Tensions of Europe” and University of Aarhus, Denmark

## Key projects

- 2016 – 2018: “Natural resources in history of Russia: Economic institutes, communities of experts and infrastructures” supported by the Russian Science Foundation.
- 2017: “Historical heritage (industrial, cultural and natural) and tourism in the past and present” implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).
- 2014 – 2018: “New governance for sustainable development of the European Arctic” in partnership with KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2016 – 2017: “Between science and politics: How Arctic research survived and thrived in the Cold War and beyond” in partnership with KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2015 – 2017: “Moody Grumant”: the sources on the history of the Pomors hunting on Spitsbergen in the 18th and early 19th century” supported by the Russian Foundation for Humanities.

# 14

## Anthropology

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.

## Department of History | Department of Sociology | Center for Historical Research

### Leading researchers



Jeanne Kormina



Dominic A. Martin



Nikolay Ssorin-Chaikov

### Main publications

- Kormina, J. (2013). Canonizing Soviet pasts in contemporary Russia: the Case of Saint Matrona of Moscow. In J. Boddy & M. Lambeck (Eds.), *A Companion to Anthropology of Religion* (pp. 409-424). London: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 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. (2017). *Two Lenins: A brief anthropology of time*. Chicago: Chicago University Press/ HAU Malinowski Monographs.
- Ssorin-Chaikov, N. (2016). Soviet debris: failure and the poetics of unfinished construction in northern Siberia. *Social Research: An International Quarterly*, 83 (3), 689-721.

### Major events

- 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”.
- June, 2016: International Conference “Bordering Religions in (Post-)Cold War Worlds” supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

### Key projects

- 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

## Political Studies

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. 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.

## Department of Political Sciences

Est. 2012

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

### Project director



**Irina Busygina**

### Leading researchers



**Anna Dekalchuk**



**Andrey Starodubtsev,**  
Postdoctoral  
Researcher,  
Aleksanteri Institute,  
University of Helsinki

### Main publications

- Busygina, I. (2017). *Russia-EU relations and the common neighborhood: Coercion versus authority*. London, UK: Routledge, 2017.
- Busygina, I., Filippov, M. (2016). Functionality of the EU multi-level arrangements: Evidence from the 'Russian Case'. *The Uppsala Yearbook of Eurasian Studies*, 1, 123-142.
- Starodubtsev, A. (2017). How does the government implement unpopular reforms? Evidence from education policy in Russia. In V. Gel'man (Ed.), *Authoritarian Modernization in Russia: Ideas, Institutions, and Policies* (pp. 148-165). London, UK: Routledge.
- Dekalchuk, A. (2017). Choosing between bureaucracy and the reformers: The Russian pension reform of 2001 as a compromise squared. In V. Gel'man (Ed.), *Authoritarian Modernization in Russia: Ideas, Institutions, and Policies* (pp. 167-182). London, UK: Routledge.

### Major events

- April, 2017: International Seminar "Distributing power and money: Federalism and decentralization in Germany and Russia" in cooperation with the Consulate General of Germany in St. Petersburg and the Forum of Federations, Canada.
- April, 2016: International Seminar "Federalism and Regionalism in Russia and Germany" in cooperation with the Consulate General of Germany in St. Petersburg and the Forum of Federations, Canada.
- 2012 – to the present: Annual International Conference "The October Readings"

# 16

## Asian and African Studies

The Center for Asian and African Studies researches the regions of the Middle East, Africa, and Central, East, and Southeast Asia. It unites Asian Studies specialists, both Russian and foreign, working in various fields of scientific knowledge. The Center conducts research covering a wide geographical area and a variety of issues. We study the process of forming new identities, associations, and social movements in Asian and African countries. Scholars in the Center have formulated a framework for understanding the genesis of revolutions in Middle Eastern countries (the “Fitna” phenomenon); we investigate the Kurdish independence movement and study the political situations in Syria, Iraq, Iran, Xinjiang-Uygur and Tibet autonomous regions of PRC. We also study diasporas: for example, the Chinese diaspora in the United States, the Russian minority in China, the Armenian minority in the Ottoman Empire, and others. Issues of discrimination against minorities and small ethnic groups in Asian and African countries, and affirmative action programs in support of them, also occupy scholars in the Center: for example, the plight of Ethiopian Jews (Falash), the Copts in Egypt, the Ainu in Japan, and the Muong people in Vietnam. We study education and education policy in Asian countries: for example, the features of Islamic education, the education system of the PRC, and the role of education in national identity formation. Another research program looks at cultural traditions and spiritual values in the socio-cultural

context of Asian countries: for example, the problem of the Vietnamese “cultural heritage,” the Christianization of Korea, etc. Recently the Center has been specializing in the problems of protest movements and extremism, cooperating with the Department of Africa within Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Researchers in the Center act as experts in the media; they organize various cultural events (e.g., exhibitions in the State Museum of the History of Religion or events dedicated to the celebration of Chinese New Year and Nowruz in Iran). We are also engaged in the examination of cultural objects (involving students in the Department of Asian and African Studies); we organize conferences, which serve as important venues for dialogue on the most pressing issues. In January 2017, with the participation of the Center, a seminar on Russian-Turkish-Syrian relations was held. During the meeting, among other things, the prospect of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of the armed groups in Syria was discussed. Our researchers are also involved in expeditionary studies funded by the Russian Humanitarian-Scientific Fund.

## Center for Asian and African Studies

Est. 2014

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

### Director



**Evgeny Zelenev**

### Leading researchers



**Garnik Asatrian,**  
Professor, Yerevan  
State University



**Sergey Frantsouzoff**



**Nina Grigorieva**



**Milana Ilyushina**



**Maria Soloshcheva**

### Main publications

- Zelenev E., Ilyushina M. (2016). The “Fitna” concept within the context of the Sultan Barquq (1382 – 1399) and the Karamanids relations. *Iran and the Caucasus*, 20 (2), 179-190.
- Frantsouzoff S. (2016). On the dating of the Ethiopian dynastic treatise Kəbra nagašt: New evidence. *Scrinium. Journal of Patrology, Critical Hagiography, and Ecclesiastical History*, 12, 20-24.
- Soloshcheva M. (2017). Positive discrimination in education in PRC: Pro et Contra. *Asia and Africa today*, 5.

### Major events

- September, 2017: International Conference “Armenia, Byzantium and the Orient: Written Heritage from Manuscripts to the Internet”
- January, 2017: International Seminar “The Syrian and Middle East Regional Order: Russian, Syrian and Turkish Perspectives”
- December, 2016: International Conference “Identity in Asian Countries: States, Society, Cultural Groups”

### Key projects

- 2017: “Positive and negative discrimination of cultural groups and identification theory” implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).
- 2016: “Small Social Groups of Asian and African Countries in Ethnic, Political, Religious, and Cultural Dimensions” implemented as part of the Basic Research Program at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE).
- 2016 – 2018: “From the Viet-Muong people to the Vietnamese and Muong people: the language, ritual narratives and folk music of Bavi (Northern Vietnam) Muong people in the comparative perspective” supported by the Russian Foundation for Humanities.
- 2015: The First Youth International Conference “Methods of exact sciences in Asian Studies” supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.



## 17

## Literature and Languages

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.

## Department of Comparative Literature and Linguistics

## Department Head



**Boris Gasparov**, Boris Bakhmeteff Professor Emeritus of Russian and East European Studies, Columbia University

## Leading researchers



**Ilya Kalinin**, Editor-in-chief of the journal *Emergency Rations: Debates on Politics and Culture* (Neprikosnovennyj zapas: Debaty o politike i culture)



**Dmitry Kalugin**



**Evgeny Kazartsev**



**Boris Maslov**



**Ilona Svetlikova**

## Main publications

- Gasparov B. (2017). Theoretical linguistics as a worldview. *Voprosy jazykoznanija*, 3, 7-23.
- Kazartsev E. (2015). *Vvedenie v sravnitelnoe stikhovedenie. Metody i osnovy analiza* [Introduction into comparative metrics and prosody. Methods and basic principles of analysis]. St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg University Press.
- Kalugin D. (2015). *Proza zhizni. Russkie biografii 18-19 veka* [The Humdrum of life. Russian biographies of the 18-19th century]. St. Petersburg: EUSP Press.
- Maslov B. (2015). *Pindar and the Emergence of Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## Main publications

- 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 anniversary.

## Key projects

- 2016 – 2018: “Contemporary models of poetics: a reconstructive approach” supported by the Russian Science Foundation.
- 2015-2017: “Genesis and evolution of syllabotonic versification in European poetry of the 16th – 19th centuries” supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.
- 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: “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).

# Key Events 2018

April 20, 2018

**HSE SPb Research Day**

May 17–18, 2018

**5th Annual International Conference  
“Education and Global Cities: New  
Technologies for Development”**

June 18–19, 2018

**7th International Conference “Industrial  
Organization and Spatial Economics”**

July 26 – August 10, 2018

**2nd Annual IPSA–HSE Summer School  
for Methods of Political and Social Research**

September 19–22, 2018

**Analytics for Management and Economics  
Conference**

September 25–28, 2018

**10th International Conference on Social  
Informatics (SocInfo2018)**

September 20, 2018

**Ab Imperio Award Public Lecture by  
Choi Chatterjee (Assistant Professor,  
California State University) “Leo Tolstoy  
and Rabindranath Tagore: Principles of Global  
Thinking”**

September 30 – October 2, 2018

**Seminar “Paliamentarism and Representative  
Democracy in Crises of War, Revolution,  
Collapse of Empires, and Mass Politics”**

October 4, 2018

**Ab Imperio Award Public Lecture by Krishan  
Kumar (Professor, University of Virginia) “How  
Empires Conceived the World”**

October 18–20, 2018

**7th Annual International Conference “The  
October Readings. Governance in the Global  
World: New Practices, Levels and Scales”**





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