

# ALEKSANTERI NEWS

25 February, 2011 ■ Issue 1

Photo: Mikko Palonkopi



The Enguri Dam in Jvari, Georgia, near the administrative boundary line with Abkhazia, is a good example of how regional cooperation can solve common problems. Read more on page 5.

## THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE THE DRAGON AND THE BEAR

The 11<sup>th</sup> Aleksanteri Conference entitled The Dragon and the Bear: Strategic Choices of China and Russia will be held on 9-11 November, 2011 at the University of Helsinki. The call for papers will open in early March and close on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Read more on page 3



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS CALLS OPEN

- The Aleksanteri Institute Visiting Scholars Programme. Call for applications for visiting fellowships 2011–2012 is open until 4<sup>th</sup> of March.  
*Read more on page 7*
- Master's Programme - Call for new students. The call is open until 31<sup>st</sup> of March.  
*Read more on page 6*
- Summer school: Creativity and Control - rephrasing closed societies, on 5–10 June, 2011 in Riga, Latvia. The deadline for applications is 13<sup>th</sup> of March.  
*Read more on page 3*

## FACE OF THE MONTH: VELI-PEKKA TYNKKYNYNEN

"Approximately one-fifth of Russians live in very bad environmental conditions. The poor level of the environment has an impact on the GNP as well. According to estimates made by the UN, this has reduced the GNP by 12 percent. Russian environmental policy does exist, but only on paper. In reality, it has no actual impact on the deterioration of the environment or the excess use of resources." This is one of the challenges that Russia faces in its efforts to modernise its economy, and one that intrigues **Veli-Pekka Tynkkynen**, the newly-appointed professor of Russian energy policy.

Interestingly, however, what we have witnessed over the last two years are new incentives (such as regional energy saving programmes promoted by the federal state) that encourage or even force Russians to save energy. As Tynkkynen explains, the reasons for this have little to do with preserving the environment. Instead, the efforts are part of an attempt to sell more oil and gas abroad, which can be done if domestic consumption is reduced. At the moment, 73 percent of Russia's gas production is consumed domestically.

"Production costs will increase significantly in the future, since oil and gas can, on a larger scale, only be found in more challenging areas: in colder areas covered by permafrost, mountainous terrain or below the sea bed," says Tynkkynen. "Much to the regret of the **Putin-Medvedev** regime, this also means that Russia must rely more on Western oil companies or energy industry service providers in the future, such as Halliburton, since only they possess the kind of new technology that is necessary in

these more demanding conditions."

Globally speaking, the greatest challenge is connected to global warming. "Russia is the largest producer of oil and second only to the US in producing gas. The amount of emissions is therefore globally very significant," says Tynkkynen. While this presents a real challenge to the whole world, including neighbouring Finland, it has led to new opportunities for Finnish companies. New markets in the new energy sectors will emerge and Finnish companies can also help modernise more traditional sectors and contribute to energy saving – this is exactly what Fortum has already done.

In addition to academic investigations, Tynkkynen will also be active in developing the Porvoo region's strategy on Russia. The new professor is excited about the challenge. "I am eagerly looking forward to assembling a research team. I hope we will be able to produce new knowledge that will benefit both the academic community and respond to the needs of the society. The long-term professorship gives an opportunity to construct a coherent research profile and work more persistently."

*Anna-Maria Salmi*

*The professorship in Russian energy policy is a joint professorship between the Aleksanteri Institute and the Faculty of Social Sciences. It is funded by Fortum, EM Group, the City of Porvoo and the Uusimaa Regional Council. A significant personal donation was made by the late Ensio Miettinen, the founder of the Ensto Group.*

### FACTS ABOUT VELI-PEKKA TYNKKYNYNEN:

- Professor in Russian energy policy since 1 January, 2011, docent in environmental planning at the Department of Geosciences and Geography, University of Helsinki.
- Worked from 2008 to 2010 as an Academy of Finland post-doctoral researcher and from 2006 to 2008 as a senior research fellow at the Nordic Center for Spatial Development, Stockholm.
- Since 1998, Tynkkynen has authored 40 publications on geography, environmental planning and the regional development of Russia and the Nordic Countries. Recent publications include From

Mute to Reflective: Changing Governmentality in St Petersburg and the Priorities of Russian Environmental Planning (*Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, 2010) and Planning Rationalities among Practitioners in St Petersburg, Russia – Soviet Traditions and Western Influences", in Knieling & Othengrafen (eds.) *Planning Cultures in Europe* (Ashgate, 2009).

- A Finlandia-prize winner for non-fiction books in 2003 with a book entitled *Maantieteelle Venäjä ei voi mitään* (Russia Cannot Escape its Geography), written with **Antti Helanterä** and published by Ajatius Kirjat (2002).



## THE ALEKSANTERI CONFERENCE 2011

THE DRAGON AND THE BEAR:  
STRATEGIC CHOICES OF CHINA AND  
RUSSIA

Over the past two decades, Russia and China have both experienced extensive socio-economic and political transformation, as well as foreign policy reorientation. Within the framework of "transition studies", these developments have naturally been a rather popular subject of academic study and applied research. However, only a few scholars have studied the post-Communist developments in Russia and China in comparative perspective. The 11th Aleksanteri Conference, which will be organised at the University of Helsinki on 9-11 November 2011, compares Russia's and China's transformation from three interrelated perspectives: socio-economic system, political system, and international system.

The conference will emphasize a multidisciplinary and comparative approach and bring forth new interpretations on the different strategic choices of the two giants and their mutual relations.

Hence, conference participation is open to a broad array of international scholars from the political and social sciences, economics, the law, and the arts and humanities. Additionally, due to the obvious economic and policy relevancy of the topic, representatives of the public and private sectors are also invited to contribute in the panels and roundtable discussions.

## 11th Annual Aleksanteri Conference

## THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

**HISTORY AND CHANGE:** converging and diverging models of communism and transition

**INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK:** Cold War legacy, spheres of influence, integration, bilateral relations

**ECONOMY:** transformation models, FDIs, legal framework, state ownership and the entrepreneurial environment

**DEMOCRACY:** aspects of authoritarianism and democracy, institutions, elites, practices of governance

**SOCIAL BALANCE:** socio-economic and welfare development

**EVERYDAY SECURITY:** national crisis management systems and their implications to regional security balance

## SCHEDULES AND DEADLINES

Proposals for panels (500 words): May 15th

Abstracts for individual papers (300 words): May 15th

Notification of Acceptance: June 30th

Publication of the conference programme: September

Conference: 9-11th, November 2011

For further assistance, please contact the conference organizers at: [fcree-aleksconf@helsinki.fi](mailto:fcree-aleksconf@helsinki.fi)

*Further information coming up soon on the Aleksanteri Institute web site!*

## CONFERENCE SUMMARY

## FUELLING THE FUTURE?

For the past several years, Russia's role as a significant provider of energy for EU consumers has been under scrutiny.

The Aleksanteri Institute's 2010 Conference on October 27-29 focused on the nature of Russia's role in the Eurasian energy sector. The need for a conference dedicated to Russia's energy sector was clear from the outset, judging by the tangible and theoretical challenges facing researchers, policy makers and businesses.

The conference attracted a broad array of international scholars from the social and political sciences, cultural studies, the arts and humanities, law and economics, as well as members of the private and public sectors.

*David Dusseault*

## NEW INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

## CERES

The CERES (The Nordic network on Choices, Resources and Encounters in Russia and other European post-socialist states) is a Nordic network funded by Nordforsk for a period of three years (2010–2013). The CERES network introduces a Nordic perspective into studies on Russia and other European post-socialist states from the point of view of Choices, Resources and Encounters.

"Choices" entails research on various choices Russia and the post-communist states have made and will face, not forgetting the direction of the political development in the area. "Resources" focuses on questions ranging from energy to human capital and everyday security. "Encounters" ties the first two themes together and aims to analyze new identities both in the target area and the Nordic countries. The main aim of the CERES network is to strengthen the Nordic academic expertise on Russia and Eastern Europe, an area that is relevant politically, culturally, and economically to each Nordic country.

The CERES network supports research training, transfers knowledge and facilitates the mobility of senior and young researchers. It also disseminates information through publications, seminars, conferences and a website. CERES creates new joint projects, new networks and research programmes, as well as grants funds for arranging workshops pertaining to the network's field of interest. The exact deadlines for applications are announced on the network's Internet site prior to every call.

The CERES network is coordinated by the Aleksanteri Institute. Other institutional members of the CERES network are Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEEES), Södertörn University, Sweden. Department for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Norway. Institute of History and Area Studies at the University, University of Århus, Denmark.

*For more information please visit CERES network webpage: [www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/ceres](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/ceres).*

## NEW PROJECT

## COMBATING GENDER VIOLENCE

In March, 2011, the Aleksanteri Institute will join the multi-national Speak Out! Empowering Migrant, Refugee and Ethnic Minority Women against Gender Violence in Europe project team. Dr **Aino Saarinen** and researcher **Kaarina Aitamurto** (pictured) will be responsible for the research activities, while the NGO partner in development work will be Monika – Multicultural Women's Association, which is based in Helsinki.



photo: Jenni Mikkonen

The objectives are to support migrant women in combating gender violence and in facilitating networks between women and local social services. Among the involved migrant communities will be women from Russia and Eastern Europe. Funding for 2011–2012 comes from the

Daphne III Programme, which is run by the DG Justice, Freedom and Security. Coordination takes place at the University of Padua.

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/projects/minority\\_women.htm](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/projects/minority_women.htm)

## PROJECT

## MEDIA REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

The University of Helsinki awarded one of its three-year research grants to Dr. **Jukka Pietiläinen** and his research group. The total funding for 2011–2013 is 135,000 euros. The aim of the project is to investigate those parts of the Russian media that may change Russian society in the near future. These include magazines, independent regional newspapers and the Internet.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWS

## REFLECTIONS ON RUSSIA IN GLASGOW

In Glasgow in November 2010, the Finnish Graduate School for Russian and East European Studies and the Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies at the University of Glasgow organised their second joint postgraduate workshop, entitled Critical Reflections on Russia and Eastern Europe.

The keynote speeches were delivered by Dr **Suvi Salmeniemä** (University of Helsinki) on the various power actors within contemporary Russia. The second keynote speaker was Dr **Dominique Moran** (University of Birmingham), who presented an in-depth view on the alarming situation in Russia's women's prisons, based on her extensive fieldwork in the area. A final keynote speech was given by Professor **Lynne Attwood** (University of Manchester), who discussed the privatisation of housing in Russia and the changing conceptions of home. The graduate student sessions, which combined students from Finland and the UK, presented a broad range of topics in the best interdisciplinary traditions, ranging from civil society to structures of power and cultural issues.

Hanna Ruutu



photo: Jouni Järvinen

## NEW PROJECT

## ENVIRONMENT AND SECURITY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

The project, launched in January 2011, examines linkages between environmental questions and politics in the Western Balkans – asking how can this problematic generate both risks and co-operation in the region. The environment is a security concern of growing importance, complicated by politicised arguments over energy sources, migration, the political climate, as well as illegal activities like the trafficking of hazardous substances.

The project is funded by the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Project leader is Dr. **Jouni Järvinen**.

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/projects/balkan.htm](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/projects/balkan.htm)

## GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWS

## SUMMER SCHOOL CALL OPEN

The question of open and closed systems in relation to cultural processes is becoming highly relevant for understanding post-socialist societies and cultures. Within their perceived totalitarian control and isolation, closed societies are often considered incapable of producing or accepting innovative changes, while open societies are treated as dynamic platforms for interaction. However, such an approach has proven problematic for Soviet Russian history. Now, more than 20 years since the Berlin Wall collapsed, is a fitting time to reassess the period of late socialism, since the structures of inner dialogue in post-socialist societies of the era were more complex than previously believed.

The international multidisciplinary summer school for PhD students and young post-doctoral researchers aims to study how post-socialist countries communicate within themselves and with others. Topics include:

- the self-reflective culture, discourses of power, processes of open/closed systems in culture
- new historiography and approaches to Stalinism
- the assimilation of alien elements in Russian culture
- democracies versus hegemonies; development of democracy, civil society
- rephrasing official and unofficial in Soviet culture

The invited lecturers include Mikhail Lampolski, Evgeni Bershtein, Peeter Torop, Libora Oates-Indruchova, Michael Pullman, Mark Bassin and several other distinguished scholars. The course will take place on 5–10 June, 2011 in Riga, Latvia (University of Latvia, Faculty of Social Sciences). The deadline for applications is 13 March. The course is funded by NordForsk.

For the programme, call and instructions, please visit [www.helsinki.fi/vie-tutkijakoulu/english/](http://www.helsinki.fi/vie-tutkijakoulu/english/).



## CONFERENCE SUMMARY

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN TBILISI

The Aleksanteri Institute and the Heinrich Böll Foundation organised an international conference in Tbilisi in October 2010. The conference began with a field trip during which a group of Georgian and international policy shapers and researchers visited Western Georgia to investigate best practices of cross-regional cooperation between Georgia and Abkhazia. Various forms of regional cooperation between Georgia and Abkhazia were observed and identified during this field trip.

At the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) field office in Zugdidi, the group was acquainted with the current security situation at the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL) between Georgia and Abkhazia. The field office monitors the situation on the ground and reports on any incidents. The EUMM presence has improved the security situation at the ABL. Transfers between Georgia and Abkhazia, observed by the EU monitors, are largely due to remaining economic ties and grass-roots trade. These actions are good examples of regional cooperation and people-to-people contact at the local level.

The group also visited the Enguri Dam in Jvari, an example of regional cooperation situated near the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL). People from both sides of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict not only operate and maintain the hydroelectric power plant together, but also share the generated electricity output. The cooperation even continued during and after the war in August 2008. The Enguri Dam and the connected hydroelectric power station are prime examples of how regional cooperation can



photo: Mikko Palonkorpi

solve common problems in ways that are beneficial for both sides, even under the most difficult political circumstances. The Enguri HPP is vitally important for Georgia's energy supply, accounting for approximately 35–40 percent of Georgia's total electricity production.

The conference on cross-regional cooperation discussed the findings of the field trip. It included speakers and participants from the Georgian government, the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN), the Ambassadors of Finland, Estonia and Switzerland, local and international NGOs, as well as Georgian and international university scholars and experts (including one Russian researcher). The main goal of the conference was to evaluate problems and risks (as well as identify opportunities and possibilities) for regional cooperation to become an instrument for peace building and reconciliation in Georgia's conflicts. Of particular interest was whether something could be learned from experiences of regional cooperation between Finland, the Scandinavian and Baltic countries and Russia. As one of the initiators of the Northern Dimension initiative of the European Union, Finland has developed considerable expertise in regional

cooperation. In a recently published policy guideline, Finland has pledged to increase its commitment and deepen its relations with the South Caucasian countries, to redouble its efforts to prevent conflicts, and to promote conflict resolution through international and regional cooperation. The conference was sponsored by Finland's development assistance as a part of the Wider Europe Initiative framework programme.

*Sebastian Relitz and Mikko Palonkorpi*

## PROJECT NEWS

## FOCUS ON THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

The Aleksanteri Institute and the Heinrich Böll South Caucasus Office are conducting a joint research project entitled the South Caucasus Beyond Borders, Boundaries and Division Lines: Conflicts, Cooperation and Development that seeks to determine the potential for cross-border cooperation to promote conflict resolution and increase mutual trust in protracted conflicts in the South Caucasus. One of the project's goals is to analyse cross-border cooperation in other conflicts in order to identify resolution elements that can be adapted to conditions in the South Caucasus. The project will also make use of Finland's experiences in cross-border cooperation with Russia.

The major research topics by country are:

- Cross Border Cooperation as an Instrument for Peace Building and Reconciliation (Georgia)
- Opening Borders – Steps Towards Europe – The Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation (Armenia)
- Limits of Economic, Political and Social Transition – Assessing a Rentier State (Azerbaijan)

The project's partners in the South Caucasus are the Heinrich Böll Foundation South Caucasus Regional Office (Georgia), the Caucasus Institute (Armenia) and Ilham Abbasov (contact person in Azerbaijan). As part of the project, seminars will be organised in Tbilisi, Yerevan and Baku, with a concluding seminar in Helsinki. Other types of cooperation include researcher exchanges; Finnish researchers will conduct fieldwork in the South Caucasus and researchers from countries in the South Caucasus will visit Finland. The results will be published both as country-specific research reports and in a final publication. The project is funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland as a part of the Wider Europe Initiative framework programme.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWS

## RECENT DISSERTATIONS

- **Nelli Piattoeva** 10.12.2010 (associate member): Citizenship education policies and the state. Russia and Finland in a comparative perspective. Available electronically: <http://acta.uta.fi/pdf/978-951-44-8259-5.pdf>
- **David Dusseault** 15.5.2010 (associate member): Elite Bargaining and the Evolution of Centre-Periphery Relations in Post-Soviet Russia: A Comparative Analysis. Available electronically: e-thesis <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-10-6158-5>



## THE 2011 ALEKSANTERI INSTITUTE CULTURAL FORUM FOCUS ON RUSSIAN CULTURE

The Aleksanteri Institute Cultural Forum offers a series of lectures and discussions that focus on the study of Russian culture. The monthly meetings bring together scholars and artists from different fields to reflect on the dialogue between arts, research and society, as well as the challenges of Russian and Soviet cultural studies.

The spring term 2011 started with "Scenes from Dostoevsky", a discussion led by Professor **Pekka Pesonen** and actor **Hannu-Pekka Björkman**. Professor Pesonen spe-

cialises in Russian literature, especially **Dostoevsky** and **Mikhail Bakhtin**. Björkman is an acclaimed Finnish actor, who currently appears on stage as Prince Myshkin in the Finnish National Theater's production of Dostoevsky's *The Idiot*. The event filled the Aleksanteri Institute's 150-seat venue and the lively discussion between Professor Pesonen and Mr. Björkman was received with enthusiasm.



photo: Jenni Mikkonen

Sanna Turoma

## PROGRAMME FOR SPRING 2011

■ 8 March (International Women's Day): "Women and Russian Culture"

Dr Kirsti Ekonen: The New Women in Russia.

Researcher Saara Raatilainen: Russian Elite Women and the Culture of Glamour.

■ 9 May: Russian Cinema

Researchers Ira Österberg and Lauri Piispa.

Talks will be held in Finnish. All events are held at the Aleksanteri Institute, Unioninkatu 33, from 4–6 pm.

For more information, please contact Sanna Turoma: [sanna.turoma@helsinki.fi](mailto:sanna.turoma@helsinki.fi).

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/events/2011/culturalforum.html](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/events/2011/culturalforum.html)

## THE ALEKSANTERI INSTITUTE MASTER'S SCHOOL PEDAGOGY OF LUXURY

The Master's School in Russian and East European Studies offers a broad array of lectures, seminars and practical classes, including summer schools, study trips and seminars backing Master's theses.

One of the Master's thesis seminars brings together students from a variety of academic fields, including political science, sociology, social work and social politics.

The seminar is led by researchers **Matti Jutila** and **Maija Jäppinen** (pictured) from the Aleksanteri Institute.

The intensive monthly seminar is based on an active interdisciplinary discussion, on encouraging academic debate, and an efficient work process. The seminar offers additional support to students writing their Master's theses from the viewpoint of Russian and East European research. Some departments may have less expertise on Russian and East European studies than others, so extra guidance is often appropriate. The idea of the seminar is to explain how to comment on discussions of different academic fields and also to write in a manner that is intelligible to everybody, not just members of a certain scientific community.



photo: Jenni Mikkonen

Students are expected to commit to the seminar by actively producing text for their theses, but also by providing constructive comments on other students' texts. In particular, opposing pairs are encouraged to explore unfamiliar issues and discourses in order to offer each other constructive feedback. "The aim is to prepare the students to be generalists in Russian and East European research. We practice the 'pedagogy of luxury': we give the students the best possible guidance but also demand that they give their best efforts and commitment to the seminar work", explained Maija Jäppinen and Matti Jutila. In this spirit, the seminar discussions have been fruitful, but also challenging for both students and teachers. "Even as a teacher, you can learn many things every day in a seminar like this. Just like the students, we learn new things about other research fields that are not so familiar to us. It is also motivating to guide students who are gifted and eager to develop their skills. In helping others, you often go back to very basic questions about research, which helps you focus and clarify also your own work", concluded the seminar leaders.

Jenni Mikkonen and Emma Rimpiläinen

## MASTER'S PROGRAMME CALL FOR NEW STUDENTS

The Master's Programme in Russian and East European Studies is a national multidisciplinary study programme that offers specialisation in Russian and Eastern European studies through the perspective of economics, society, his-

tory, politics, law, environment, culture and theology. The Master's school is open to applications from any MA student of its Finnish network universities. The call is open until 31 March 2011. For more information, see:

[www.helsinki.fi/vie-maasterikoulu/english/principles/applying.html](http://www.helsinki.fi/vie-maasterikoulu/english/principles/applying.html)





## ALEKSANTERI VISITING FELLOWS FOUR NEW VISITORS



Dr **Lynn Tesser's** (International University of Sarajevo) project The Aftermath of Ethnic Cleansing in a 'Post-National European Union', casts doubt on the view that European Union enlargement is the major stability policy for Central Europe and especially the Western Balkans. The EU's emphasis on free movement for goods, capital, people and services may actually heighten fears regarding the retention of sovereignty over recently 'cleansed' areas. During her fellowship, she is completing a book manuscript examining this new phenomenon of (re) integrating areas subject to ethnic separation campaigns in six countries.

*Fellowship period: 1 January–28 February, 2011*



**Irina Bystrova** is a Leading Research Fellow at the Institute of Russian History, Russian Academy of Sciences and Professor at the Russian State University for Humanities. She holds a doctoral degree in Russian History (2002). Bystrova is a specialist on history of the Cold War and World War II, as well as on international military-industrial complexes. Her books include *The Cold War 1945–1960. Tokyo-Moscow-Washington* (Moscow, IDEL, 2009) and *Soviet Military-Industrial Complex: Problems of Creation and Development (1930s–1980s)* (2006).

*Fellowship period: 1 January–31 March, 2011*



**Mikhail Mikeshin** is Professor of philosophy at the St Petersburg State Mining Institute (Technical University) and Director of the St Petersburg Center for the History of Ideas. Professor Mikeshin's current project focuses on Count Simon Vorontsov (1744–1832), the ambassador to the British Court, who had an important bearing on European politics at his time, including the Baltic region. His recent publications include: "A.M. Beloselsky-Belozersky and His Philosophical Heritage" (2008) and "The Reception of the British Socio-Philosophical Thought in Russia in 18-19 Centuries" (2006).

*Fellowship period: 1 January–28 February, 2011*



**Elena A. Bogdanova** is a researcher at the Centre for Independent Social Research, St Petersburg. She gained her PhD in sociology in 2006 and has received the Merit Award Certificate of International Sociological Association for one of her publications. Since January 2011, Bogdanova has been leading a research group entitled "Law and Society" at the Centre for Independent Social Research. She is currently writing a book about the legal order of the Russian society from the late Soviet period to the present day.

*Fellowship period: 1 March–31 May, 2011*

## ALEKSANTERI INSTITUTE VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAMME CALL OPEN

The Aleksanteri Institute Visiting Scholars Programme awards Aleksanteri Visiting Fellowships to highly qualified scholars pursuing research on Russia and Eastern Europe in themes related to the Institute's research agenda. The fellowship provides an opportunity to conduct research and interact with other researchers at the Aleksanteri Institute and with the wider academic community at the University of Helsinki and in Finland. The duration of the research period can range from two to four months. The programme awards fellows a monthly grant of €2400. The call for applications for Aleksanteri Visiting Fellowships for the 2011–2012 academic year is open until 4 March, 2011.

More information on the Visiting Scholars programme and application instructions can be downloaded from the website at:

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/fellowship](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/fellowship)



PROGRAMME MARCH-MAY

## VISITING FELLOWS RESEARCH SEMINAR

In this series of seminars the Visiting Fellows present their ongoing research

- 3 March **Victoria Hudson**: The 'Russian World' Foundation: Contemporary Russian Soft Power in Motion?
- 10 March **Irina Bystrova**: The Military-Industrial Complex: From the Cold War Period to Post-Soviet Russia
- 21 April **Christine Worobec**: Orthodox Pilgrimages in Late Imperial Russia
- 28 April **Elena Bogdanova**: Complaining to Putin. Several cases in practice of the modern Russian governance
- 12 May **Dieter Segert**: Understanding the footprint of state socialism in East European post-socialism
- 19 May **Miguel Vázquez Liñan**: History as a Propaganda Tool in Putin's Russia
- 26 May **Jane Harris**: Russian Centers of Social Services and the Culture of Aging

For more information, please see:

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/events/2011/visitorseminars.htm](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/events/2011/visitorseminars.htm)

## GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWS

### FORTHCOMING DISSERTATION

**Jussi Lassila**: Anticipating Ideal Youth in Putin's Russia: The Web-Texts, Communicative Demands, and Symbolic Capital of the Youth Movements "Nashi" and "Idushchie Vmeste" University of Jyväskylä 19.3.2011

EDITED BY PEKKA SUUTARI AND YURY SHIKALOV:  
**KARELIA WRITTEN AND SUNG.  
 REPRESENTATIONS OF LOCALITY IN SOVIET  
 RUSSIAN CONTEXT**

The articles of Karelia Written and Sung open up various complementary perspectives on the construction of a Karelian identity during and after the Soviet era. The general picture is one of a progression towards reliance on publicly produced modes of culture for the maintenance of a national Karelian identity, with literature, music and linguistic activities at the forefront. Although these activities were organised within state-imposed schemes, the local Karelians were still able to influence some of them.

The papers of the present volume have emerged from the Finno-Russian joint research project entitled The Representation of Locality in Russian and Soviet Contexts. The articles provide a vivid description of the work and experiences of activists who succeeded within a Soviet and Russian context in producing national representations of Karelian identity.

*Aleksanteri Series 3:2010, ISBN 978-952-10-6565-1, 280 p. 25 € + VAT 9 %*



ED. BY MERI KULMALA AND AINO SAARINEN  
**NAISTUTKIJANA VENÄJÄN KENTILLÄ**

*Aleksanteri-series 5:2010, ISBN 978-952-10-6566-8, 225 s.  
 25 € + VAT 9%*



NEW PUBLICATION SERIES LAUNCHED  
**WINTER KEPT US WARM: COLD WAR  
 INTERACTIONS RECONSIDERED**

Ed. by Sari Autio-Sarasma and Brendan Humphreys

A new book series, the Aleksanteri Cold War Series, is dedicated to providing an arena for new approaches to and fresh interpretations of the Cold War era. The new series is the outlet of the Aleksanteri Cold War Research Group. The first volume in the series is Winter Kept us Warm: Cold War Interactions Reconsidered, edited by **Sari Autio-Sarasma** and **Brendan Humphreys**.

An exercise in New Cold War history, this book examines the paradox of cooperation and interaction that took place within that conflict. Human encounters on many levels are recorded; footballers in the GDR, American orchestras and exhibitions in the USSR, Icelandic communists and New York publishers, as well as cinema and "socialist" consumerism, are all examined in chapters that inform and complement each other. The volume is an outcome of the Cold War Interactions Reconsidered conference, which marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

*Aleksanteri Cold War Series 1:2010, ISBN 978-952-10-6564-4, 234 p. 25 € + VAT 9 %*

To read more about the research group, please visit:

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/cwrg](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/cwrg)



## Aleksanteri Institute

Finnish Centre for Russian and Eastern  
 European Studies

The Aleksanteri Institute is affiliated with the University of Helsinki and operates as a national centre of research, study and expertise pertaining to Russia and Eastern Europe, particularly in the social sciences and humanities. The institute co-ordinates and promotes co-operation and interaction between the academic world, public administration, business life and civil society in Finland and abroad.

The Aleksanteri Institute was founded in 1996. It has grown rapidly into a working community of around 50 people, including doctoral students in the Institute's Graduate School who work at their respective universities. The Institute has a board of trustees that represents the University of Helsinki and other interest groups. The Institute also has an international Advisory Board and is also guided in its various activities by the executive boards of the Master's programme and of the Graduate School and by an editorial board.

Aleksanteri Institute  
 P.O. Box 42 (Unioninkatu 33)  
 FI-00014 University of Helsinki

[aleksanteri@helsinki.fi](mailto:aleksanteri@helsinki.fi)  
 Tel. +358 (9) 191 24175  
[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english)

Aleksanteri News is published in both electronic and printed format.

Download the electronic version at  
[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/  
 news/newsletter](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/newsletter).

The next newsletter will be published  
 in April 2011.

Editor: Jenni Mikkonen

Writers:

Kaarina Aitamurto, Anna Salonsalmi, Sari Autio-Sarasma, David Dusseault, Jouni Järvinen, Markku Kivinen, Jenni Mikkonen, Mikko Palonkorpi, Jukka Pietiläinen, Sebastian Reltz, Emma Rimpiläinen, Hanna Ruutu, Aino Saarinen, Anna-Maria Salmi, Sanna Turoma

Layout:

Emma Rimpiläinen and Anu Pöyry

Join the Aleksanteri Email List to stay informed in between the quarterly Newsletters. More information and instructions at :

[www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/aleksanteri-list.html](http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/english/news/aleksanteri-list.html)

To receive the newsletter directly to your e-mail, please send an e-mail to [aleksanteri@helsinki.fi](mailto:aleksanteri@helsinki.fi)