International Scholarly Conference

**A “MEMORY REVOLUTION”:**

**SOVIET HISTORY THROUGH THE LENS OF**

**PERSONAL DOCUMENTS**

**7-8 June 2017, Moscow**

National Research University –

Higher School of Economics

Myasnitskaya 11

**Organizers**

International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences

National Research University – Higher School of Economics (Moscow)

The Friedrich Ebert Foundation

**Additional Support**

- the Faculty of Humanities, NRU HSE (Moscow)

- the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (Washington, DC)

- the German Historical Institute (Moscow)

- the Center for Russian, East-European and Caucasian Studies (Paris)

- the Franco-Russian Research Center (Moscow)

- the Blavatnik Family Foundation

**CONFERENCE PROGAM**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 (Myasnitskaya 11, Moscow)**

**09:30 AM – Registration (Foyer, 5th floor) / Coffee and snacks**

**10:00 AM –Welcome and opening remarks (Room 518)**

**10:15 AM – Panel 1: Plenary session (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Michael David-Fox,**

Professor of Russian History, Georgetown University, Scholarly Advisor, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Vladimir Buldakov,**   
Leading Research Fellow, Institute of Russian History, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow  
***Between Revolution and Dictatorship: Ego-Documents and Identification Processes in Russia in the 1920s***

**Yuri Slezkine,**

Professor of History, University of California, Berkeley, USA

***Letters from the Personal Archives of Residents of the House of Government***

**Oleg Budnitskii,**

Professor, School of History, Director of the International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

***“Into the Drawer”: Uncensored Memoirs of the Second World War, 1940-1970s***

**Stephen Lovell,**

Professor of Modern History, King’s College, London, Great Britain

***The “Late Soviet” Memoir as a Genre***

**12:15 – Lunch (Dining room)**

**01:30 PM – Parallel sessions**

**Panel 2-1: Personal documents of Soviet leaders (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Oleg Khlevniuk,**

Leading Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, Professor of History, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Mikhail Zelenov,**   
Chief Specialist, Center for Documentary Publications of the Russian State Archive of Socio-Political History, Moscow  
***The Memoirs of L.M. Kaganovich: Their Purpose, Sources, and Value***

**Nikita Pivovarov,**   
Chief specialist of the Russian State Archive of Contemporary History, Moscow  
***Notes of a Survivor: The Diary Entries of G. I. Petrovsky, 1937-1940***

**Tomas Sniegon,**

Senior Lecturer in European Studies, University of Lund, Sweden

***How Should We Write the History of the Early Brezhnev Era with the Help of No Written***

***Evidence and Imprecise Testimonies?***

**Victor Dönninghaus,**

Deputy Director of the Nordost-Institut at the University of Hamburg, Germany  
***The "Diaries" of Leonid Brezhnev: The Key to Understanding the Personality of the General Secretary?***

**Panel 2-2: Soviet Repressive Practices through the Lens of Ego-Documents (Room 430)**

**Moderator: Jens Hildebrandt,**

Deputy Director, Moscow Office of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Moscow

**Andrei Savin,**

Senior Research Fellow, Institute of History, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk

**Marc Junge,**

Researcher, Department of History, Ruhr-University of Bochum, Germany

***Chekists’ Appeals “To the Powers that Be” as a Self-Portrait, 1939-1941***

**Aleksei Tepliakov,**

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, Novosibirsk State University of Economics and Management  
***The Notes of Cheka Operative M.P. Shreider: The Unknown Pages of the History of the VChK- NKVD***

**Alain Blum,**

Professor at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Senior Researcher at the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED), Paris

***Can We Consider Police Interrogations and Petitions as “Personal Documents?”***

**Tatiana Levchenko,**

Researcher at the Project Laboratory for Studies of Yury Lyubimov’s Work and Director’s Theatre of the 20-21 Centuries, NRU HSE, Moscow

***Literary Critic F. Levin and His Struggle with the System during the Campaign Against Cosmopolitanism***

**Panel 2-3: Narrating Soviet Experience through Visual and Literary Documents (Room 431)**

**Moderator: Nikolaus Katzer,**

Director, German Historical Institute, Moscow

**Natalia Petrova,**   
Research Fellow, Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, Moscow  
***Early Soviet Folklore Uncensored: Personal and Official Sources***

**Ilya Kukulin,**

Associate Professor, School of Cultural Studies, Senior Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow  
***Amateur Poetry as a Historical Source: A Methodological Interpretation***

**Erika Wolf,**

Associate Professor at the Department of History and Art History, University of Otago, New Zealand

***The Personal Documents and Photographs of German Soldiers in Soviet War Propaganda***

**Maria Vinogradova,**

PhD Researcher, Department of Cinema Studies, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, USA

***Between the Personal and Official: Analyzing Soviet Amateur Films Today***

**03:30 PM - Coffee break (Foyer, 5th floor)**

**04:00 PM – Parallel sessions**

**Panel 3-1: Jewish Families in the Second World War and Holocaust in the USSR: Problems and Methods of Using Personal Sources (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Daniel Newman,**

Program Director of the Initiative for the Study of the Holocaust in the Soviet Union, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for the Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, USA

**Anna Shternshis,**

The Al and Malka Gree Associate Professor in Yiddish Language and Literature, Director, Anne Tanenbaum Center for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto, Canada

***Jewish Orphans in the Soviet Union during World War II***

**Kiril Feferman,**

Lecturer, Department of Jewish Heritage, Ariel University, Israel

***Family Correspondence and the Micro-History of the War and the Holocaust in the Soviet Union***

**Polly Zavadivker,**

Assistant Professor of History, Director of the Jewish Studies Program, University of Delaware, USA

***Jewish Children during the Holocaust in the Soviet Union: Two Stories***

**Panel 3-2: Society and Culture in the Post-War Soviet Union (Room 430)**

**Moderator: Alex Marshall,**

Senior Lecturer in History, Glasgow University, Great Britain

**Juliane Fürst,**

Senior Lecturer in Modern History, University of Bristol, Great Britain

***Sunny Moscow: Late Socialist Life According to Iuriy Iurevich Burakov Better Known as “Solntse,” or How Global Youth Culture Came to the Soviet Union***

**Alissa Klots,**   
Associate Professor, European University at St. Petersburg  
**Maria Romashova,**  
Senior Researcher, Center for Comparative Historical and Political Studies, Perm State University  
***Archiving the “(Un)ordinary:” The Personal Documents and Commemorative Practices of the Older Soviet Generation, 1960s-1980s.***

**Irina Gordeeva,**   
Associate Professor, Department of the History of Russia in the Middle Ages and Modern Times, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow  
***Archives of Marginalized Groups as a Historical Source for the Study of New Social Movements in Russia***

**Panel-3-3: Soviet Writers and Personal Archives: Theoretical Approaches (Room 431)**

**Moderator : Yury Zaretsky,**

Professor, School of Philosophy, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Nikolai Bogomolov,**   
Professor, Head of the Department of Literary Criticism and Journalism, Moscow State University, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow  
***Writers’ Diaries of the Twentieth Century: Looking Back after a Quarter of a Century***

**Maria Mayofis,**

Senior Research Fellow, School of Practical Humanitarian Research, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, Moscow

***The Soviet “Literary Person:” Personal Archives as a Form of Integration***

**Anatoly Pinsky,**

Associate Professor of History, European University at Saint Petersburg

***A Soviet Union: The Personal Correspondence of Graduate Students in Love, 1945-1953***

**05:30 PM – Presentation (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Oleg Budnitskii,**

Professor, School of History, Director of the International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Misha Mel’nichenko,**

Founder and Director of the Internet project “Prozhito”  
***The “Prozhito” Community: The Experience of Organizing Publications with Volunteers***

**Julie Chervinsky,**

Director of the Blavatnik Archive, USA

***Personal Documents in the Digital World: New Directions, Opportunities and Challenges in Digital Archives***

**06:30 PM – Conference dinner (Dining room)**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 8**

**09:30 – Parallel sessions**

**Panel 4-1: Soviet war-time correspondence (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Erina Megowan,**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Brandon M. Schechter,**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, History Department, New York University, USA

***Polevaia Pochta: Letters To and From the Front, 1941-1945***

**Elena Rozhdestvenskaya,**

Professor, Department of Sociology, NRU HSE, Moscow, Leading Research Fellow, Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow  
***Letters from the Front: Personal Documents in the Context of their Time***

**Charles D. Shaw,**

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Central European University, Hungary

***An Army of Poets: Verse and Courtship in Uzbek Red Army Letters, 1941-1945***

**Panel 4-2: Intellectuals and Power: A Personal Perspective (Room 424)**

**Moderator: Vitaly Tikhonov,**

Leading Research Fellow, Institute of Russian History, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

**Vladimir Ryzhkovsky,**

PhD Candidate in History, Georgetown University, USA

***“Writing to the Drawer:” Diaries of Soviet Scholars and Unpublished Manuscripts as Personal Sources ( The Case of Boris Porshnev)***

**Antonina Sharova,**

Associate Professor at the School of History, NRU HSE, Moscow  
***The Voice of Historians Versus the Voice of Power: The Correspondence between Soviet and English Medievalists in the 1940s and 1950s***

**Anastasia Tantsevova,**

Assistant Researcher, Department of Russian History, North-Caucasus Federal University, Stavropol  
***“The Test of Time ...”: Memoirs about M.E. Koltsov***

**Panel 4-3: Observing the Soviet Experiment: Outsider Perspectives (Room 428)**

**Moderator: Angelina Lucento,**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Andrei Ganin,**

Leading Research Fellow, Institute of Slavic Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow  
***A White Agent in the Red Army: A Memoir of General A.L. Nosovich and Problems with its Verification***

**Masha Kirasirova,**

Assistant Professor of History, New York University Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

***Biography and Gender Politics in the Communist University for the Toilers of the East***

**Rósa Magnúsdóttir,**

Associate Professor of History, Aarhus University, Denmark

***Living Socialism: The Soviet Project Experienced from the Outside***

**11:00 AM – Coffee break (Foyer, 5th floor)**

**11:30 AM – Parallel sessions**

**Panel 5-1: Exploring Archival Collections for Personal Documents (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Vera Dubina,**

Project Coordinator in History and Civil Society, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Moscow

**David Brandenberger,**

Professor of History, University of Richmond, USA

***The “Harvard Project” as a Personal Document: Criticism and Methodology***

**Oksana Kornilova,**

Head of the Scientific Exhibition Department, Katyn Memorial Complex, a Branch of the State Central Museum of Contemporary History of Russia, Smolensk  
***Unwritten Personal Documents in the Archival Collection of the Katyn Memorial***

**Michael David-Fox,**

Professor of Russian History, Georgetown University, USA, Scholarly Advisor, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

***Pedagogue, Kolkhoz Director, Partisan: V. V. Kozubskii's Analysis of De-Collectivization in El'ninskii Raion, 1941-1944***

**Panel 5-2: Jewish Memoirs and Ego-Documents (Room 424)**

**Moderator: Aleksandr Lokshin,**

Senior Researcher at the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

**Gennady Estraikh,**

Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University, USA, Senior Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

***“Lying as a Witness:” Memoirs that Can Mislead Historians​ of Soviet Jewry***

**Galina Zelenina,**

Associate Professor, Center for Biblical and Jewish Studies, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow

***“I am Deeply International, But I Implore You, Children, Do Not Forget ...:” Personal, Family and National Histories of “Ordinary” Soviet Jews***

**Pavel Polyan,**

Director of the Mandelstam Center, NRU HSE, Leading Research Fellow, Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow  
***The Typology of Ego-Documents***

**Panel 5-3: Nationalism and Contesting Soviet Identities (Room 428)**

**Alain Blum,**

Professor at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Senior Researcher at the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED), Paris

**Stanislav Tumis,**

Researcher, Department of East European Studies, Charles University, Prague

***Memory of Anti-Soviet (Anti-Russian) Identity: Differences and Similarities in Personal Narratives and Official Documents of Banderovites and their Sympathizers in Western Ukraine, 1944–1951***

**Elena Kosovan,**

Associate Professor, Department for the Study of Post-Soviet Countries, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow  
***Memoirs as a Source for Uncovering the History of Ukrainian Displaced Persons in Germany and Austria, 1945-1950***

**Michael Loader,**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

***Collaborators or Dissidents? The Memoirs of the Latvian National Communists***

**01:00 PM – Lunch (Dining room)**

**02:00 PM – Parallel sessions**

**Panel 6-1: Experiences of World War II (Room 518)** (working languages English and Russian with simultaneous translation)

**Moderator: Tatiana Filippova,**

Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Russian History, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

**Alexander Golubev,**

Head of the Center for the Study of Russian Culture, Institute of Russian History, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow  
***Soviet Society and Personal Diaries on the Emergence of an Anti-Hitler Coalition***

**Maria Senina,**

Senior Research Fellow, State Museum of Political History of Russia, St. Petersburg  
***Humans in Inhuman Conditions: The Diary of Tamara Frolova, Pavlovsk, 1941-44***

**Vojin Majstorovic,**

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for Holocaust Studies, Institute for Contemporary History, Munich, Germany

***Personal Sources on the Soviet Occupation of Eastern Europe***

**Erina Megowan,**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

***Family Histories as a Prism for Analyzing the Social Impact of World War II: Sources from the 1970s***

**Panel 6-2: Soviet State and Society of the Interwar Period (Room 424)**

**Moderator: Liudmila Novikova,**

Deputy Director of the International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, Associate Professor, School of History, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Irina Belova,**

Professor, Department of History, K.E. Tsiolkovsky Kaluga State University, Kaluga  
***A Voice from the Provinces: The Experience of Building Socialism “Out of Thin Air”***

**Josette Bouvard,**

Research Fellow, the Center for Russian, East-European and Caucasian Studies, Paris, France

***A Narrative Factory? Storytelling Bolshevo’s Labour Commune, 1924-1938***

**Marina Kolesnikova,**  
Professor, Head of the Department of Russian History, North-Caucasus Federal University, Stavropol

***The Social History of the Stavropol Region in the Framework of “New Local History:” The Documents Collection “Voices from the Province: Residents of Stavropol Region…”***

**Irina Tazhidinova,**   
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Kuban State University, Krasnodar  
***Metamorphoses of Joy? Letters to Leaders from the Provincial Cities of the USSR as Sources on the History of Emotions in the 1930s***

**Panel 6-3: Professionals and Post-War Soviet State (Room 428)**

**Moderator: Gennady Estraikh,**

Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University, USA, Senior Research Fellow, International Center for the History and Sociology of World War II and Its Consequences, NRU HSE, Moscow

**Olga Rosenblum,**

Associate Professor, Department of the History of Contemporary Russian Literature, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow  
***Witnessing a Socially Significant Event in the Circle of Frida Vigdorova: Between Literature and Document***

**Leah Goldman,**

Visiting Assistant Professor of European History and Humanities, Department of History, Reed College, USA

***The Personal is the Petitionary: Personalization of Soviet Censorship in One Composer’s Letters to the Committee on Arts Affairs***

**Magali Delaloye**,

Lecturer, Centre of Gender Studies, Institute of Social Sciences, University of

Lausanne, Switzerland

***Afghan War through Personal Documents of Soviet Military Doctors: A Pragmatist Approach***

**Galina Orlova,**

Associate Professor, Department of Psychology and the Psychology of Personality, Southern Federal University, Rostov-on-Don, Associate Professor, Department of Media, European Humanities University, Vilnius, Lithuania  
***Soviet Nuclear Corps: Mobilized Memory and Regime Subjectivity in the Memoirs of Engineers and Physicists***

**04:00 PM – Cultural program**