

# SLAVIC-EURASIAN RESEARCH

## CENTER NEWS

No. 24  
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### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Sengoku Manabu**

I began to work as a director of the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center at the beginning of February 2017. Twenty-two years ago, I was a research fellow of this center (at that time, the name of this center was the Slavic Research Center), but I did not imagine that I would be a director of this center in the future.

The third mid-term plan (FY2016–2021) started in 2016. During this third mid-term plan, we will continue in the recent directions of our joint projects at the SRC focused on comparative research and border studies. Comparative research will be conducted in the following ongoing joint research projects: JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research A “Comparative Colonial History: Colonial Administration and Center-Periphery Interactions

in Modern Empires,” “Comparison of Development Models for Major Regional Powers in Eurasia: Russia, China and India,” JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research B “Economic Policies of Emerging Democracies in the Post-neoliberal Period,” and “Memoryscape of War in Socialist Countries: The Soviet Union, China and Vietnam.”

With respect to border studies, the Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies: Slavic-Eurasia and World” (FY2009–2013) has been succeeded by JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research A “Reconstruction of International Relations through Border Studies” and JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research B “Russo-Chinese Relations: Researching Rapprochement.” Additionally, for the next six years, the National Institutes for the Humanities have undertaken an initiative on Northeast Asia, in which five Japanese research institutions are taking part, including the SRC. The SRC’s role, focused on politics broadly speaking, also includes border studies, economics, and history. Our border studies program has been socially active supporting the NPO “Japan International Border Studies Network (JIBSN).” The JIBSN connects workers in local governments and public-service corporations across borders. The JIBSN won the Japan Consortium for Area Studies (JCAS) award for social collaboration in 2015. Especially worthy of note is the border tourism initiative, an attempt to revitalize local areas by leveraging border region attributes as a resource to attract tourists. If nothing else, it has drawn wide attention as a practical form of social activism when applied at Japan’s northern, southern, and western edges.

Related to both comparative research and border studies, we also are conducting international joint research on comparative linguistics and welfare states in Slavic-Eurasia. In addition, we are integrating various and different fields and disciplines including the natural sciences to investigate largely unexplored areas, such as the Arctic. Hokkaido University has been chosen to host the polar initiative and the SRC is playing its part as Russia and its neighbors are a large part of the Northern equation.

In the area of education, i.e., the graduate program of Slavic Eurasian area studies at the Graduate School of Letters, the SRC has made improvements, taking advantage of such activities at our university as summer institutes and the program with five universities in the Russian Far East (RJE3).

Our center will continue to advance Slavic-Eurasian area studies together with our colleagues and friends around Japan and the world. I would be glad if you could assist our center with your continuous support.

## 2016 SUMMER INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM “RUSSIA’S FAR NORTH: THE CONTESTED FRONTIER”



A scene from the reception

The 2016 Summer International Symposium “Russia’s Far North: The Contested Frontier” was held on July 7–8, 2016 at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center (SRC). This symposium was designed on completion of the Japan-Finland Bilateral Joint Research Program of the JSPS “Russia’s Final Energy Frontier: Sustainability Challenges of the Russian Far North.” Since the research program started in 2014, Japanese and Finnish researchers including some staff from the

SRC have conducted a series of seminars in each country. Besides, the members of this multi-disciplinary research program together visited the Russian Far North on-site twice: first Murmansk and Arkhangelsk in 2014, and second Salekhard and around Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug in 2015.

The political situations surrounding Russia have been ones of unrest during the research program due to Russia’s annexation of Crimea and the Ukraine crisis. The economic sanctions imposed by Western countries against Russia greatly affected offshore natural resource development in the Arctic Russia. At the same time, the Northern Sea Route became more navigable in the summer season because of the temperature rise by global warming. As a result, a new possibility of more effective transportation between Europe and East Asia is opening. Russia’s Far North has certainly become a spot attracting worldwide attention as a “contested frontier.”

The symposium was organized by members of the research program inviting in addition advanced specialists in the field from other countries. The two-day program of the symposium consisted of six sessions with three presentations each, followed by discussants’ comments and open discussions. The first session was on energy and development, in which the geopolitical

situation as well as the circumstances of resource development in the Russian Arctic were illustrated. The second session was on indigenous people and society. The massive trade activity of indigenous people within and over the range of regions was shown with vivid examples. In the third session on maritime transportation, the most up-to-date information about logistics in connection with the Northern Sea Route was provided. The fourth session, on the economy and the environment, had presentations examining the circumstances of business and environmental issues. The presentations in the fifth session on international relations interpreted the latest situation of politics and military affairs in the Russian Far North under the Ukrainian and Syrian crises. And, last but not least, in the sixth session on image and representation, analyses of how the Russian Far North was imagined historically, and is imagined in contemporary Russia, were presented.

On the day before the symposium, four young scholars who had been selected from among the general applicants talked on the results of their usual studies. Through the course of the young scholars' seminar and the symposium, a large number of people dynamically joined the discussions. The discussion papers, dealing with issues of the common area from various viewpoints, are now being prepared for publication in the near future. The results of the symposium are undoubtedly connected to the further research in progress.

*GOTO Masanori*

### **Speakers at the Symposium (July 7–8, 2016)**

**Lassi Heininen** (University of Lapland, Finland) “The Nexus of Resource Geopolitics, the Environment, Security and Resilience in the World of ‘Wicked’ Problems”

**MOTOMURA Masumi** (JOGMEC, Japan) “Perspectives of Oil and Gas Development in the Russian Arctic”

**LIU Xu** (Renmin University of China, China) “China’s Arctic Policy and Its Implication for China-Russia Relations”

**Arbakhyan Magomedov** (Ulyanovsk State University, Russia) “Russian Nationalism and Arctic Aborigines: Growing Pressure to Indigenous Communities (Some Comparison with the North Caucasus)”

**GOTO Masanori** (SRC) “Cutting through Channels: Local Entrepreneurship of Indigenous Actors in Arctic Russia”

**Tobias Holzlehner** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany) “Hunters and Traders in a Fluid World: Towards a Maritime Anthropology of Northeast Russia”

**Furuichi Masahiko** (Kyoto University, Japan) “Container Quick Delivery Scenario by the NSR/SCR-combined Shipping: How Can the Arctic Shipping Be More Competitive in the Age of Mega-ships?”

**Daria Gritsenko** (University of Helsinki, Finland) “The Structuration Approach to Arctic Seaport Development: The Case of Sabetta”

**OTSUKA Natsuhiko** (North Japan Port Consultants, Japan) “Northern Sea Route Today and Future: How Arctic Shipping Might Become Reality”

**Veli-Pekka Tynkkynen** (University of Helsinki, Finland) “Greening Regional Energy Policies in the Russian Arctic? Encountering State Energopower in Archangelsk and Karelia”

**TOKUNAGA Masahiro** (Kansai University, Japan) “The Russian Arctic and Environmental Discourse”

**Hanna Mäkinen** and **Eini Haaja** (University of Turku, Finland) “Are Finnish Firms Willing to Explore the Russian Maritime and Offshore Industry?”

**Alexander Sergunin** (St. Petersburg State University, Russia) “Russia’s Arctic Strategies in the Wake of the Ukrainian and Syrian Crises”

**Pavel Baev** (Peace Research Institute Oslo, Norway) “Examining the Sustainability of Russian Military-security Policies and Programs in the Arctic”

**OHNISHI Fujio** (Nihon University, Japan) “Casting Dark Shadows: The Arctic Concert System and Its Challenges”

**Otto Boele** (Leiden University, The Netherlands) “The Far North in Russia’s Fin-de-Siècle Imagination: The Paintings and Writings of Aleksandr Borisov”

**Dmitry Baranov** (Russian Museum of Ethnography, Russia) “The Image of the Russian North in I. Bilibin’s Creative Work”

**Sergei Medvedev** (Higher School of Economics, Russia) “Arctic Legacy as Symbolic Resource in Russian Politics”

### Speakers at the Young Researchers' Seminar (July 6, 2016)

**Jussi Huotari** (University of Helsinki, Finland) "Oil and Gas Corporations in the Russian Arctic: Environment Liability vs Social Responsibility?"

**OISHI Yuka** (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) "Disappearing 'White Fish' and Remaining 'Black Fish' in the Lower Ob' River and Its Tributaries"

**KAJI Hiromi** (University of Tokyo, Japan) "Stem Alternation and Suffix Allomorphy in Ewen"

**Sun Mingrui** (Shanghai International Studies University, PRC) "Environmental Situation of the Russian Arctic Region and Its Solutions"

## 2016 WINTER INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM "25 YEARS AFTER: POST-COMMUNISM'S VIBRANT DIVERSITY"



The session about "Family and the State"

this year. The former Yugoslavia also collapsed and disastrous civil wars started in 1991. In addition, and maybe most people do not remember, the final "first totally free election of parliament" in Eastern Europe was held in Poland in 1991. Judging from these facts, we can say that the first stage of transformation of socialist regimes ended in this year.

In this symposium, we organized six sessions for discussing the diversity of the post-communist world from a political, economic, linguistic, and border studies' perspective. This does not mean that the socialist world was homogeneous or monolithic; most researchers, including myself, admitted the diversity of socialist countries at that time. But, during the last 25 years, the diversity or variety of post-socialist countries has considerably expanded for various reasons, such as East European countries' accession to the European Union, the rise of regional powers, including Russia, the curious coexistence of globalization and anti-globalization, and so on. We have discussed various aspects of diversity in this symposium from a comparative perspective.

On the first day, we held three sessions: "Transition or Not among Germany's Neighbors," "Socio-political Turning Points and Linguistic Change in Slavic Eurasia," and "Comparison of State Sector Reforms: Russia, China and India." On the second day, we also held three sessions: "Family and the State in Post-Communist Societies," "Corruption and Anti-corruption in Eurasia," and "Neoliberalism and its Foes: The Battle for Post-Communist Countries." A total of 76 people participated in this symposium.

*SENGOKU Manabu*

## Speakers at the Symposium (December 8–9, 2016)

- KIMURA Goro Christoph** (Sophia University, Japan) “Signs of Deterritorialization?: Linguistic Landscape at the German-Polish Border”
- Dagmara Jajeśniak-Quast** (Europa Universität Viadrina, Germany) “German-Polish Border from the System Transformation until the Present-Day European Integration”
- Martin Klatt** (University of Southern Denmark) “The Danish-German Border Region: Caught between Systemic Differences and Re-bordering: Difficulties of Integrative Cooperation in a Pacified European Border Region”
- NOMACHI Motoki** (SRC) and **Wayles Browne** (Cornell University) “Newly Recognized Old Languages: Ausbau Languages and Their Changes after the Disintegration of Yugoslavia”
- Tomasz Wicherkiewicz** (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland) “The (Minority) Languages of Poland: Dynamics of Contacts and Changes after 1989”
- Ilya Matveev** (Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration) “Privatization That Never Was: Politics of State-owned Sector Reform in Russia since 2009”
- MARUKAWA Tomoo** (University of Tokyo, Japan) “Regional Unemployment Disparities in China”
- FUKUMI Atsushi** (University of Hyogo, Japan) “Power Sector Reform in India: Current Status and Issues”
- Jolanta Aidukaite** (Lithuanian Social Research Centre, Lithuania) “Support to Families with Children in the Baltic States: Pathways of Expansion and Retrenchment from 2004 to the Present”
- SENGOKU Manabu** (SRC) “Coping with a Declining Birthrate: Comparing Eastern Europe with Japan”
- IGARASHI Noriko** (Tenri University, Japan) “Elderly Care in Post-Soviet Russia”
- Alexander Kupaadze** (King’s College London, UK) “Exploring the Variation in Political-Criminal Nexus of Post-Soviet Eurasia”
- Dina Sharipova** (KIMEP University, Kazakhstan) “Informal Exchanges in Education in Post-Soviet Kazakhstan”
- ABURAMOTO Mari** (SRC) “The Politics of Anti-Corruption Campaigns in Putin’s Russia: Power, Opposition and the All-Russia People’s Front”
- Peter Rutland** (Wesleyan University, USA) “Neoliberalism and Its Alternatives: Looking Back at 25 Years of Transition in Russia”
- Pavol Baboš** (Comenius University, Slovakia/SRC) “Different, Yet the Same? Neo-liberalism in the Czech and Slovakian Economic Policies”
- YOSHII Masahiko** (Kobe University, Japan) “Neo-liberalism or EU Conditions: Economic Policies in the CEECs and Balkan Countries”

## ASSOCIATION FOR BORDERLANDS STUDIES JAPAN CHAPTER (ABSj) OFFICIALLY APPROVED

The Eurasia Unit for Border Research (UBRJ) had enjoyed close relations with Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS), one of the largest academic communities of border studies all over the world. The unit leader, Akihiro Iwashita, served as the ABS President in 2015–2016. He also took an initiative to establish the ABS Japan Chapter, which is an umbrella organization for ABS members in Japan with the intention of expanding to Eurasia in the future. The ABS Board of Directors approved of its establishment in April 2016 at the ABS annual conference in Reno. Japan-based members of ABS had already shown their intention to create the Border Studies Japan Chapter and tentatively elected Naomi Chi (Graduate School of Public Policy, Hokkaido University and UBRJ member) as its chair in November 2016, who officially became the head of ABSj on this occasion. ABSj kicked off its activity by hosting the very first ABSj Seminar on November 27, 2016, at the Tokyo Office of Hokkaido University. It is without a doubt that the UBRJ took a leading role in institutionalizing the academic community of border studies in Japan.

*IWASHITA Akihiro*

## BORDER STUDIES SUMMER SCHOOL RELAUNCHED



Attentive students

The Eurasia Unit for Border Research (UBRJ) relaunched the Border Studies Summer School within the framework of the Hokkaido Summer Institute, which was held on July 25–29, 2016 at SRC. The Graduate School of Public Policy (HOPS) was the co-organizer of the school. The predecessor project of UBRJ, Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies,” held the analogous summer school in 2010–2013 FY. Naomi Chi (HOPS), making use of her past experiences and personal connections in the border studies

community all over the world, and devised the following program. We invited four distinguished scholars from abroad as lecturers.

### **Border Studies I: Invitation to Border Studies I**

#### **Day 1: July 25, 2016**

1. Introduction to the course: Overview, ice breaker (Naomi Chi, HOPS & Akihiro Iwashita, SRC)
2. Theoretical Framework on Border Studies I: Overview and application (Alexander Diener, the University of Kansas)
3. Theoretical Framework on Border Studies II: Philosophical Approach to Bordering (Diener)
4. Borders and International Relations I: Borders in East Asia (Iwashita)

#### **Day 2: July 26, 2016**

5. Borders and International Relations II: “The Land of No Smiles” (David Shim, University of Groningen)
6. Borders and International Relations III: Unrecognized states in Eurasia (Shinkichi Fujimori, SRC)
7. Borders and International Relations IV: Economic Development of the Russian Far East and North (Shinichiro Tabata, SRC)
8. Movie showing “Hafu”

### **Border Studies II: Invitation to Border Studies II**

#### **Day 3: July 27, 2016**

1. Borders and Migration I: Case study of Europe (Paul Fryer, University of Eastern Finland)
2. Borders and Migration II: Case study of East Asia (Chi)
3. Borders and Culture: Migration and Foodscapes (Joni Virkkunen, University of Eastern Finland)
4. Borders and Environment: Case Study of Central Asia (Tetsuro Chida, SRC)

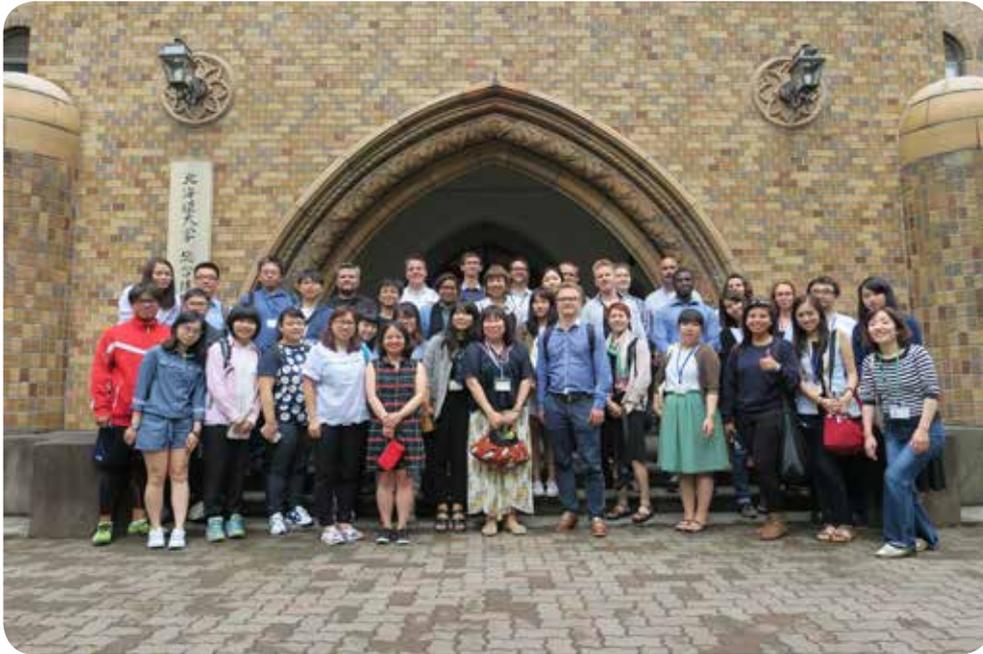
#### **Day 4: July 28, 2016**

5. Borders and Diversity: The Ainu Indigenous People and Japanese Indigenous Policy (Chisato Abe, NPO “Ainu Indigenous Peoples Film Fest”)
6. Wrap up session: Student Presentations

#### **Day 5: July 29, 2016**

Study Tour to Ainu Museum, Tobiu Art Community (Shiraoi Town) and Noboribetsu Onsen

Fifty four people, including lecturers, students and auditors, from 21 countries participated in this summer school. Participants were exposed to various topics related to border studies: theoretical aspects, territorial disputes, migration, economy, border representations, rights of indigenous people and transboundary environmental problems. At the same time, we also rode on the strength of SRC and geographically covered a vast area of Slavic-Eurasian world: Northeast Asia, Central Asia, Russian Arctic region, Ukraine and “Donetsk People’s Republic” etc. Domestic as well as foreign students actively engaged in discussions and group



Collective photo at the entrance of Hokkaido University Museum

work. At the final “wrap-up session” all participants collaborated and worked together to make a collective presentation about “how the world would be like in 2030.” We also organized a short tour of the Hokkaido University Museum, which reopened on July 25 and invited the participants to see the exhibition of “border tourism” at the UBRJ booth.

Moreover, our participants joined the study tour to Shiraoi and Noboribetsu Town on July 19. We visited the Ainu Museum, where we were exposed to the Ainu, the indigenous people of Hokkaido. Also, participants got to take a glimpse of “border art” at the Tobiu Art Community, which is led by a distinguished artist of Hokkaido, Mr. Kineta Kunimatsu. During the summer school, we held several dinners and parties after the lectures, which deepened our friendship as well as established personal connections.

The organization of the summer school has an important meaning: an “investment for the future.” We are confident that many of the participants will take a leading role in the global community of the “border studies” in the near future, with whom UBRJ will continuously collaborate with. We sincerely would like to thank all the participants in the “Border Studies Summer School 2016” for an intense and stimulating time together. We also appreciate all the staff who were involved in the organization and logistics of the summer school. The SRC and HOPS will host another summer school on July 12–19, 2017, which will focus on border issues in Northeast Asia. The Northeast Asian Area Studies project (NIHU) will co-organize next year’s summer school.

*CHIDA Tetsuro*

## NOMACHI MOTOKI AWARDED THE JAPAN ACADEMY MEDAL AND JSPS PRIZE



Prof. Nomachi (second from the left) with his parents and Prof. Huszcza

Associate Professor Nomachi was awarded the 13th Japan Academy Medal and FY2016 JSPS Prize.

The JSPS Prize is meant to recognize at an early stage in their careers young researchers with fresh ideas who have the potential to become world leaders in their fields, while helping to enhance their opportunities to advance their research and make breakthroughs. On the recommendation of the JSPS PRIZE Selection Committee held on October 31, 2016, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) has chosen 25 young researchers, who are expected to become future trailblazers of scientific research in Japan, as recipients of the FY2016 JSPS Prize. Dr. Nomachi was elected for his research on “Typological Studies in Slavic Morphosyntax and Its Diachronic and Areal Changes: With Special Reference to Kashubian.”

The purpose of the Japan Academy Medal is to give formal recognition to outstanding

young researchers, while encouraging them in their future work. Awardees are selected from among the annual recipients of the JSPS Prize. Six scholars, including Dr. Nomachi, were elected as recipients of the 13th Japan Academy Medal at the 1105th General Meeting held on January 12, 2017.

A ceremony in which both the JSPS Prize and the Japan Academy Medal was awarded was held on February 8, 2017 at the Japan Academy.

*TABATA Shinichiro*

## OUR STAFF (FY2016)

**IEDA Osamu:** Professor, Environment of Eurasia; Area Studies on Eastern Europe, Hungarian Studies

**IWASHITA Akihiro:** Professor, Eurasia Border Studies; Russian Foreign Policy and Sino-Russian Relations

**KOSHINO Go:** Associate Professor, Russian and Belarusian Literature

**NAGANAWA Norihiro:** Associate Professor, Modern History of Central Eurasia; Islam in Russia

**NOMACHI Motoki:** Associate Professor, Slavic Linguistics; General Linguistics

**SENGOKU Manabu:** Professor, Comparative Politics and Political Economy; Welfare Politics of Central and East European Countries; Director of the SRC

**TABATA Shinichiro:** Professor, Russian Economy and Comparative Economic Studies

**UYAMA Tomohiko:** Professor, Modern History and Politics of Central Asia; Comparative Imperial History; Modern History and Politics of Central Asia; Comparative Imperial History

**David Wolff:** Professor, Russian, Soviet, and Emigre History; Siberia and the Far East; Cold War; Northeast Asian Region Construction

**YAMAMURA Rihito:** Comparative Economics; Russian Industry and Agriculture

#### ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

**ABURAMOTO Mari:** Comparative Politics, Contemporary Russian Politics

**CHIDA Tetsuro:** Russian History; Central Asian Area Studies; History of Geography

**KATO Mihoko:** International Relations, Russia's Foreign Policy, Regionalism in East Asia

**KIKUTA Haruka:** Contemporary Social Changes in Central Asian Sedentary Society

**TAKAHASHI Minori:** International Relations, Area Studies (Denmark, Greenland, and the Arctic)

**TAKAHASHI Sanami:** Russian Orthodoxy in Soviet and Post-Soviet Russian Culture

#### FOREIGN VISITING FELLOWS 2016 (JUNE) – 2017 (JULY)

**Jolanta Aidukaite:** Welfare System of the Three Baltic States after the Post-Soviet Period

**Alexander Alexandrov:** Leo Tolstoy in the Media World of the Russian Empire (1900s – early 1910s)

**Pavol Baboš:** Neoliberalism and Support for Democracy in Post-communist Europe

**Bojan Belić:** Languages of Vojvodina: What to Expect When You're a Minority

**Bruce Grant:** The Donkey Wars: Satire, Free Speech, and Political Imagination in the Muslim Caucasus

**Marcin Kaczmarek:** The Eurasian Economic Union and the New Silk Road: Between Competition and Cooperation

**Nikolay Mitrokhin:** Pro-Russian Separatism in East and South Ukraine: How "City Freaks" Took Control of the Donbas and Crimea

**Stephen Wheatcroft:** Food and Demographic Problems in the Urals, Siberia, the Russian Far East and East Asia, 1929–60

**Zbigniew Wojnowski:** Building Capitalism in the Socialist Bloc: Music Industry in Soviet Eurasia, 1976–1991

#### RESEARCH FELLOWS

**Anastasia Fedorova:** Japanese Cinema, Soviet Cinema, Transnational Cinematic Exchange

**GOTO Masanori:** Cultural Anthropology; Cultural and Economic Agency in Russia

**KAMITAKE Kieko:** Russian Music History from the End of the 19th Century to the Early 20th Century

**Aleksandra Kuklina:** Japan-Russia and China-Russia Resource Diplomacy after the End of the Cold War

**SOUNO Fumoto:** Cultural Anthropology; Bazaar Trade in Uzbekistan

#### LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE STAFF

**OSUGA Mika:** Research Associate, Publications

**TONAI YUZURU:** Associate Professor, SRC Head Librarian

## ONGOING COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BY THE JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE, EXCLUDING “GRANTS-IN-AID FOR JSPS FELLOWS” AND “GRANTS-IN-AID FOR PUBLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH RESULTS SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE”

### Scientific Research A

Headed by TABATA Shinichiro: “Comparison of Development Models for Major Regional Powers in Eurasia: Russia, China and India” (2015–18).

Headed by IEDA Osamu: “Destruction and Reconstruction of Human and Natural Environments in Post-catastrophe Areas: Chernobyl, Ajka, and Fukushima” (2015–17).

Headed by IWASHITA Akihiro: “Reconstruction of International Relations through Border Studies” (2014–17).

Headed by UYAMA Tomohiko: “Comparative Colonial History: Colonial Administration and Center-Periphery Interactions in Modern Empires” (2013–17).

### Scientific Research B

Headed by SENGOKU Manabu: “Economic Policies of the Emerging Democracies in the Post-neoliberal Period” (2016–19).

Headed by David Wolff: “Russo-Chinese Relations: Researching Rapprochement” (2015–18).

Headed by KOSHINO Go: “Memoryscape of War in Socialist Countries: The Soviet Union, China and Vietnam” (2013–16).

Headed by NOMACHI Motoki: “A Comprehensive Study of the Slavic Micro Literary Languages after the Revolution of Eastern Europe” (2013–16).

Headed by HARA Teruyuki: “Modern History of the Sakhalin Island (Karafuto), as a Borderland Colony” (2013–16).

### Scientific Research C

Headed by GOTO Masanori: “Anthropological Study of Entrepreneurship in Post-Socialist Countries” (2014–16).

Headed by ITANI Hiroshi: “Characters and Social Influences of the ‘Hokushin’ (advance to the north) Theory in the Empire of Japan: In the Cases of Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands” (2014–16).

Headed by NAGANAWA Norihiro: “Revolutionary Empire: A Biography of Karim Khakimov (1892–1937)” (2013–16).

Headed by KOMOTO Yasuko: “An Examination of ‘Lamaism’ Visual Materials in Modern Japan” (2012–16).

### Challenging Exploratory Research

Headed by NOMACHI Motoki: “Language Change in Banat Bulgarian in Serbia and Its Current Situation” (2016–18).

Headed by KOSHINO Go: “Mixture of Russian and Chinese Cultures in North-East Eurasia: Memory and Representation” (2016–18).

Headed by IEDA Osamu: “New Historical Approaches to Slavic Eurasia between Emerging Eastern Europe and Imperial Japan” (2015–17).

### Grants-in-Aid for Young Scientists A

Headed by TAKAHASHI Minori: “Self-government and Climate Change: ‘Autonomy in External and Internal Relations’ in Greenland” (2014–17).

### Grants-in-Aid for Young Scientists B

Headed by ABURAMOTO Mari: “Political Regime and Elections in Contemporary Russia: Politics of Electoral Integrity” (2016–18).

Headed by TAKAHASHI Sanami: “Canonization and Veneration of Saints in the Russian

Church through International Relations” (2015–17).

Headed by CHIDA Tetsuro: “Environmental History of the Aral Sea Basin after the World War II: Human Activities and Ecological Crisis” (2013–16).

#### **Research Activity Start-up**

Headed by KAMITAKE Kieko: “The Role of Media on Self-awareness of Russian Music” (2016–17).

Headed by KIKUTA Haruka: “Glocalization of Gender through Immigrant Laborers in Central Asian Muslim Societies” (2015–16).

#### **Other Project**

Headed by TABATA Shinichiro: “Russia’s Final Energy Frontier: Sustainability Challenges of the Russian Far North” (2014–2016) (Funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the Academy of Finland).

## **VISITORS FROM ABROAD**

**Daria Gritsenko** (University of Helsinki, Finland), June-July 2016: The Structuration Approach to Arctic Seaport Development: The Case of Sabetta.

**TIAN Hongmin** (Shanghai Normal University, PRC), September-October 2016: Images of China in Contemporary Russian Literature.

**FENG Anquan** (Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences, PRC), October-November 2016: Economic Development of the Russian Far North and East.

## **GUEST LECTURERS FROM ABROAD**

**Tuyara Gavrilyeva** (North-Eastern Federal University, Russia) “Comparative Analysis of Trends in the Development of the World Northern Cities and Russia,” January 25, 2016.

**Kornelia Ichin** (University of Belgrade, Serbia) “От авангардного взрыва — к военному,” January 27, 2016.

**Tulkin Atamurodov** (University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan) and **Sanjar Kholbaev** (University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan) “Transformation and Sustainable Development in Uzbekistan,” February 4, 2016.

**Kseniia Galiaeva** (Willem de Kooning Academy, Rotterdam, The Netherlands) “Unreal Estate: Dacha as Semiosphere,” February 19, 2016.

International Seminar: “Current Change from Cooperation into Confrontation?: Security Environment in the Arctic Region”: **Andreas Østhagen** (Norwegian Institute of Defence Studies) “Arctic Security: A Tale of Two Worlds?”; **Rob Huebert** (University of Calgary, Canada) “It Never Really Was about Cooperation...: The Impact of the Core Security Needs of the Great Powers on the Arctic”; **Katarzyna Zysk** (Norwegian Defence University College) “Russia and the Arctic: Territory of Dialogue and Militarization”; **Marc Lanteigne** (Norwegian Institute of International Affairs) “Musings of a Near-Arctic State: China’s Circumpolar Strategies,” February 27, 2016

**Aleksandr Duličenko** (Tartu University, Estonia) “Литературные микроязыки: новая языковая категория в современном славянском мире,” March 14, 2016.

Workshop & Seminar: “New Approaches to the Medieval Slavic Texts”: **Alexandre Bobrov** (Institute of Russian Literature, RAS) “Новозаветные апокрифы в версиях Ефросина Белозерского”; **Anisava Miltenova** (Institute of Literature, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) “Medieval Texts with a Multilingual Tradition: Апокрыфа,” March 15, 2016.

**Kristian Feigelson** (Sorbonne-Nouvelle University/IRCAV, France) “Filming the Terror in USSR,” March 23, 2016.

**Robert Greenburg** (University of Auckland, New Zealand) “Asserting the Position of the Humanities and Social Sciences: Perspectives from the USA and New Zealand,” March 28, 2016.

**Robert Greenburg** (University of Auckland, New Zealand) “Making Linguistic Analysis Impactful: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Research on the Slavic Language,” March 29, 2016.

**Evžen Kočenda** (Charles University, Czech Republic) “Trade in Parts and Components across Europe,” May 19, 2016.

**Svetlana Vasil’eva** (Buryat State University, Russia) “Сохранение, трансляция духовного и материального наследия старообрядцев: семейских в условиях трансформации российского общества”; **Sergei Taranets** (Ukrainian Academy of Sciences) “Старообрядчество в социокультурном пространстве Российской империи конца XVII – начала XX века,” May 28, 2016.

**Svetlana Vasil’eva** (Buryat State University, Russia) “Государственная модернизация старообрядческих институтов Байкальского региона в имперский, советский и постсоветский периоды”; **Sergei Taranets** (Ukrainian Academy of Sciences) “Старообрядчество на территории Украины в конце XVII – начале XX века,” May 31, 2016.

**Diliara Usmanova** (Kazan Federal University, Russia) “Археографические экспедиции КГУ и традиции казанской восточной археографии в XX столетии,” June 8, 2016.

**Jason Wittenberg** (University of California at Berkeley, USA) “Contemporary Political Trends and Historical Legacies: Eastern Europe, Russia and Turkey,” June 22, 2016.

**Daria Gritsenko** (University of Helsinki, Finland) “Unveiling Russian Media and Foreign Policy Perceptions of the Arctic,” July 11, 2016.

**Andrijana Cvetkovikj** (Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia in Japan) “Macedonian Cultural Heritage, Language and Cinema,” July 20, 2016.

International Symposium: “Standard Language Ideology in the Slavic Lands”: **Tore Kristiansen** (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) “Late-Modern Sociolinguistic Change and the SL/SLI Complex”; **Curt Woolhiser** (Brandeis University, USA) et al. “Round Table: Minority Languages’ Standardization”; **Christina Kramer** (University of Toronto, Canada) “Language Ideology in Macedonia: Language Laws, Changing Orthographies, and the New Pravopis”; **Marko Stabej** (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia) “Standard Language Ideologies in Slovenia”; **Grace E. Fielder** (University of Arizona, USA) “Recalibrating the Norms in a Standard Language Culture: The Case of Bulgarian”; **Robert Greenberg** (University of Auckland, New Zealand) “The Role of Language Ideology in the Standardization of the Newest South Slavic Languages: Bosnian and Montenegrin”; **Mark Richard Lauersdorf** (University of Kentucky, USA) “Standard Language Ideology in the Slovak-Speaking Region of Central Europe: Controlling Space and Time, Form and Function”; **Laada Bilaniuk** (University of Washington, USA) “The Affective Dimension of Standard and Non-Standard Language Use in Ukraine”; **Curt Woolhiser** (Brandeis University, USA) “Standard Languages and Standard Language Ideologies in Post-Soviet Belarus,” August 5–6, 2016.

**Andrey Gubin** (Far Eastern Federal University, Russia) “Russian New Oriental Diplomacy: Peculiarities in New Upheavals,” August 24, 2016.

«Специальный Семинар: Восприятие русской литературы в современной Китае» **Хоу Вейхун** (Исследовательский институт иностранной литературы при Академии общественных наук, PRC) “Современная литература”; **Сюй Лэ** (Исследовательский институт иностранной литературы при Академии общественных наук, PRC) “Чехов”;

**Хоу Дань** (Исследовательский институт иностранной литературы при Академии общественных наук, PRC) “Гоголь,” September 13, 2016.

**Sergii Geraskov** (Donetsk National Technical University, Ukraine) “Japan’s Image in Ukraine: Myths and Reality,” October 3, 2016.

**Dmitrii Strel’tsov** (Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russia) et al. “Northern Territorial Issue: Rethinking the Recognition and the Relationship between Russia and Japan,” October 6, 2016.

**Ilja Viktorov** (Stockholm University, Sweden) “When Monetary Power Autonomy Matters: Political Economy of the 2014–15 Financial Crisis in Russia and Its Macrofoundations,” October 11, 2016.

**Sanja Vulić** (University of Zagreb, Croatia) “Latest Dialectological Observation of the Language of Faust Vrančić: Lexis in the Focus,” November 4, 2016.

**FENG Anquan** (Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences, PRC) “Sino-Russian Economic Cooperation: Current Situation and Future Issues,” November 8, 2016.

**Erika Rondo** et al. “Refugee Wave of 2015–2016 in Germany and State Policy of Integration,” November 14.

## *European Researcher in Japan*

**Pavol Baboš (Institute for Forecasting, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia/  
Foreign Fellow, 2016–17)**

In October 2015 I submitted an application for visiting fellowship at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, because it was recommended as one of the best places with some of the best experts on Central Eastern Europe. At that time I was developing ideas about why democracy in post-communist countries started to fail. So I formulated my research proposal around those ideas.

Before I knew the results Poland held its parliamentary elections, which brought to power the Law and Justice party, which is now dismantling the pillars of liberal democracy in the country. And by the time I could travel to Japan my own country, Slovakia, witnessed the elections that put an extreme right, and some would even say fascist political party in the parliament. All of this meant that there will be a lot of new studying impulses.

Being in Japan helped me in many ways to proceed with my work. The advantage of being a visiting researcher meant that I had no administrative duties and no teaching, which in turn provided enough time for research. Being a European researcher in Japan also meant 7–8 hours difference, so the time for research was mostly uninterrupted by modern communication technology that otherwise connects the world easily. Simply, the telephone did not ring all the time and emails were not beeping every minute.

The real environment at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center’s exceeded all expectations. I found a well-equipped and stocked library, which is far from a matter of course in underfunded East European public universities. I have been very lucky to meet other colleagues, both the SRC researchers as well as other visiting scholars that I could discuss my work with and thus improve my ideas further. Especially helpful were the events facilitated or organized by the SRC. As part of my fellowship, I had an opportunity to be part of a seminar



The author

at Waseda University in Tokyo, and also to be part of a panel at the SRC's symposium devoted to post-communism in Europe. During those events I could confront my ideas and research with many other colleagues and their expert opinions, which no doubt contributed to better understanding of post-communist problems.

I will briefly introduce the main problem of post-communist Europe, which could be in a single sentence called the deviation from liberal to illiberal democracy. Three of four Visegrad countries experienced a single-party government recently. In Hungary and Poland the single-party government is still in office. While it is quite common in many countries like the USA or Great Britain, it is rather unique in Central and Eastern Europe for two main reasons: proportional electoral rules and heterogeneous structure of society, which together produce a multi-party system with a need to form coalition governments. However, once in office, the parties that formed a government attempted to meddle with many other institutions to strengthen their power position.

In Hungary, Mr. Orban and his party Fidesz has more or less successfully attempted to cross all the abovementioned lines. Fidesz changed electoral rules before the 2014 elections by lowering the number of seats in the parliament and thus increasing the number of MPs voted in a single-member districts in one round, which clearly favors the biggest party. Fidesz also changed the constitution, replaced management in the public broadcasting company, and only recently a businessman close to Mr. Orban has bought the publishing house of the most critical newspaper in Hungary (Nepszabadsag). Mr. Orban himself has voiced his admiration to other than democratic regimes and in an infamous speech in summer 2014 he stated that democracy does not necessarily mean a liberal one.

In Poland, after coming to power in October 2015, the new government of the Law and Justice party has introduced laws that, according to its critics, limit the independence of the media. Moreover, the government triggered a constitutional crisis when it took steps that undermined the ability of the Constitutional Tribunal to function. The Polish government has been locked in a battle over control of the 15-judge tribunal since winning last year's election. The new government rejected five judges appointed by the previous parliament and instead chose its own replacements, and later refused to publish a tribunal decision finding that action was largely unconstitutional. The government's efforts to impose new legal restrictions on the tribunal were also ruled unconstitutional, but that decision has also been ignored. In addition to the constitutional tribunal issues, the new Polish government also replaced the management of public broadcasting, which was perceived as taking control of the national TV and Radio broadcasting, and also executed purges of the intelligence services and police.

Guy Verhofstadt, the European parliamentary group leader for the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE), and a former prime minister of Belgium from 1999–2008, said that the measures Warsaw is taking are not only anti-liberal; they are above all anti-democratic and contrary to the principles of the rule of law signed by Poland upon its EU accession.

The visiting fellowship at the SRC allowed me to study the reasons of the anti-democratic turn of Eastern European elites and why it is tolerated by the people. Preliminary findings suggest that globalization is to blame. Long years of globalization and trade liberalization brought consequences to ordinary people in the form of sharp job competition and constant threats to their well-being. People blame established political elites for decisions that allowed the consequences come this far and increasingly more people are prone to vote for anti-establishment parties with clear program that it incompatible with liberal democracy. In the year 2016 we witnessed a few of the real word examples, the Brexit referendum being the most notable effort to reverse globalization. The challenge for political science therefore remains to include globalization effects on individual lives into studying political attitudes and behavior.

## *Crows, Frogs, and I: A Summer in Sapporo*

**Bojan Belić (University of Washington, USA/Foreign Fellow, 2016)**

If one has never visited Sapporo in mid-June, then one has never witnessed rows and piles of garbage bags left by orderly humans continuously being attacked by disorderly crows; they sometimes even turn their beaks and claws on the orderly humans themselves. And if one has never had the chance to live in mid-June Sapporo immediately to the north of the Hokkaido University campus, right across the street from the Horse Track and the Crop Farm, then one has never fallen asleep to the tune of the never-ready-to-doze frogs; they hide in the bamboo springing from the canal bordering the farm. In 2016, I was honored to be invited by Hokkaido University's Slavic-Eurasian Research Center (SRC) to spend two months in Sapporo as a foreign visiting scholar, living and working there between June 15th and August 15th. I saw the attacking crows, I heard the hidden frogs, and I loved it all.



Almost like on top of the world.  
My friend's bicycle is now mine!

Before my 2016 trip to Sapporo, I had previously visited the city in early February of 2015. I heard talks on Slovak and Kashubian matters and delivered a talk of my own at the SRC; I went to the Sapporo Snow Festival; and I dined in the famous Sapporo Biergarten restaurant. My second visit was a chance to experience Sapporo in the summer. On the first day I went to work, poplar fluff welcomed me to a beautiful campus. Those were the same poplars that would, as much as they could, protect me from late-June showers and July's merciless sun. On that same day I also walked by Ono Pond, covered in lotus, delightfully inviting children with their grandparents, college students with their notebooks, and random tourists with their cameras. And then eventually, as I entered the SRC, I ran into—of all people—Osuga-san, with whom I had previously been communicating by mail and email. Her helping me with everything continued, only now in person. In a few short days, I met most of the SRC faculty, as well as the SRC General Office personnel. In addition to being ready to accommodate all of my whims, Tagata-san and Nakajima-san were also so kind as to accompany Dr. Nomachi and me to the July 30th Hokkaido Nippon-Ham Fighters baseball game. Already, after those few short days, I knew that leaving it all behind in mid-August would not be easy, as indeed it wasn't.

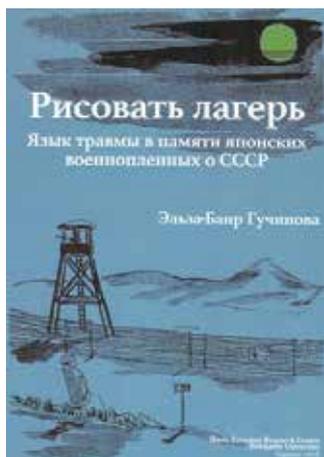
I came to the SRC with the plan of continuing to collaborate even more closely with my colleague, Dr. Nomachi, on various issues related to both Slavic majority and Slavic minority languages. During my two-month tenure, Dr. Nomachi and I were honored to visit the esteemed Dr. Nagayo at Waseda University in Tokyo, deliver talks at Kyoto University on the latest developments regarding what used to be the Serbo-Croatian language, and welcome to Sapporo renowned scholars from Europe, North America, New Zealand, and Japan, who participated in the international symposium, "Standard Language Ideology in the Slavic Lands." With all the work I was able to accomplish in those two months at the SRC, I became convinced that the Foreign Visitors Fellowship Program is an extremely

well-conceived arrangement for foreign scholars interested in studies of the former Soviet and East European countries to spend time in Sapporo, enabling them to dedicate their attention to various research projects, as well as avail themselves of the close proximity of Japanese scholars with similar interests.

Within the SRC's comfortable confines, I enjoyed my continuing work on language-related issues of the Bunyev ethnolinguistic community of northern Serbia. This resulted in my delivering a paper entitled "Bunyev among Bunyevs: The 5W1H of the Bunyev Language Question" at the Symposium. At the same event, I also delivered a paper, "Standard Language Ideology without a Standard? The Varying Views of the Standard (Serbian) Language in Present-Day Serbia," which came out of my ongoing examination of the general notion of *standard language* and the particular notion of *standard Serbian language*. I was also able to expand on my anthroposophical notion of *glottocommunicability* as I prepared to deliver a talk at Kyoto University under the title of "Where Once There Was Serbo-Croatian: A proliferation of language names in what used to be the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia." The time spent in Japan also allowed me once again to enjoy the company of Dr. Nagayo of Tokyo's Waseda University, with whom I have been in close contact ever since I first visited Japan in 2014. His wise, boundless, generous advice is something I appreciate most sincerely. I similarly reconnected with Dr. Mitani of the University of Tokyo and Dr. Hashimoto of Hokkaido University. All of this was indeed possible thanks to the SRC's Foreign Visitors Fellowship Program.

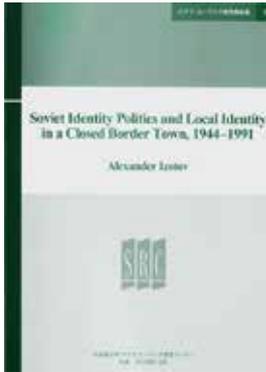
If one has not had a chance to experience Sapporo in the summer, then one has not seen the attacking crows and heard the hidden frogs the way I have. If one has never come to the oh-so-vibrant Sapporo, the way I did in the summer of 2016, then one has not had the pleasure of getting to know many Sapporoans; they accept with open minds. My friendships with Koji-san, Shun-san, and Yusuke-san continue to grow. If one has not yet considered the possibilities that the SRC's Foreign Visitors Fellowship Program has to offer, then one should certainly consider them soon.

## PUBLICATIONS (2016)

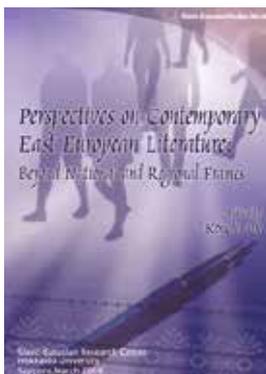


Эльза-Баир Гучинова. Рисовать лагерь: Язык травмы в памяти японских военнопленных о СССР (Sapporo: SRC, 2016) (in Russian).

The book sheds new light on the traumatic experience of Japanese POWs in the Soviet Union, based on visual materials such as pictures, caricatures, and illustrated diaries created by soldiers themselves.



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*Slavic Studies*, no. 63, 2016, refereed journal in Japanese with summaries in English or Russian.

*Acta Slavica Iaponica* vol. XXXVII, 2016, refereed journal in English and Russian.

*Eurasia Border Review* vol. 6, no. 1, 2016, refereed journal in English.

*Japan Border Review*, no. 6, 2016, refereed journal in Japanese with summaries in English.

## THE LIBRARY

The library is maintaining and expanding our web gallery of old maps and photos mainly on the Russian Far East, as we mentioned here in 2013 and even earlier. In March 2015, we added two photo albums on North Sakhalin around 1920 to the gallery and, in October 2016, we added two more photo albums on the Siberian expedition of the Japanese Army and Navy from 1918 to 1921, geological maps of Okha by Japanese engineers, and several maps of Sakhalin in the first half of the 20th century.

The URL of the gallery is <http://srcmaterials-hokudai.jp/>

TONAI Yuzuru

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