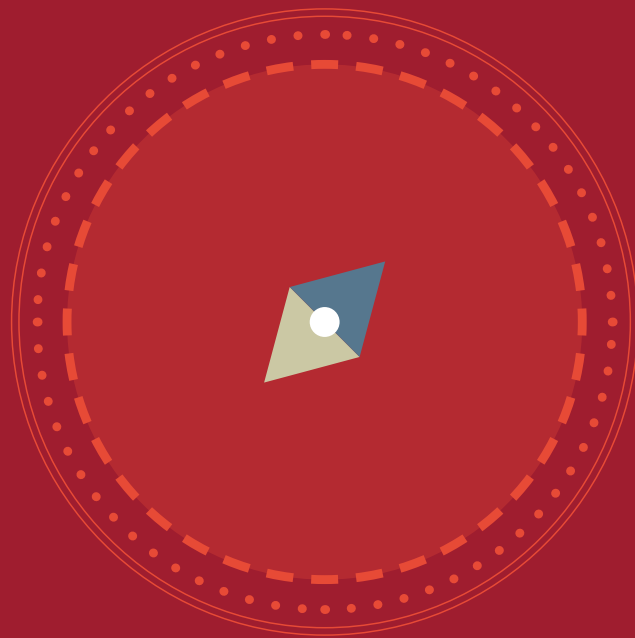




2018
A N N U A L R E P O R T

ZOIS

A N N U A L R E P O R T 2 0 1 8



CONTENTS

Contents

Foreword	6
ZOiS	7
▶ Basic Ideas	8
▶ The Mission Statement	10
▶ Staff	12
▶ Structure and Finances	18
Research Area: Societies Between Stability and Change	20
▶ Public Initiatives and State Policies – A Post-Soviet Comparison Nadja Douglas	22
▶ Morality Instead of Peace. The Social and Ethical Discourse of the Russian Orthodox Church Between Theological Sovereignty and Political Adaptation Regina Elsner	23
▶ Literature and Power in the Post-Soviet Space Nina Frieß	26
▶ Grassroot Public Spheres and Activism in Russian Federal Cities Tatiana Golova	28
▶ The Proliferation of Memory Laws and the Return of the Nation Félix Krawatzek	30
▶ Languages of Conflict: Ideas of Europe in European Memory Félix Krawatzek	32
▶ Political Change from Below? Local Politics in Ukraine Gwendolyn Sasse	34
Research Area: Conflict Dynamics and Border Regions	36
▶ Confidence-Building and Conflict Settlement: The Case of Transdnistria Nadja Douglas	38
▶ The Influence of War, Annexation and Displacement on Political Identities in Ukraine Gwendolyn Sasse	40
▶ Everyday Life in Conflict – Scopes of Action and Coping Strategies in De Facto States Sabine von Löwis	41
Research Area: Migration and Diversity	44
▶ Transformation of Urban Spaces and Religious Pluralisation in the Caucasus Tsypylma Darieva	46
▶ New Test Conditions in the »Laboratory of Peoples' Friendship«: The Situation of National Minorities in Kazakhstan Beate Eschment	49
▶ Post-Soviet Migrants and Transnational Public Spheres on Social Media Tatiana Golova	52
Research Area: Youth in Eastern Europe	54
▶ Youth as Political Actor and Social Imaginary Félix Krawatzek	56
▶ Surveying the Attitudes and Behaviour of Youth Across Eastern Europe Félix Krawatzek, Gwendolyn Sasse	58
Researchers' Activities	60
Support of Young Researchers	75
Events	79
Research Communication	88
▶ Topic: Research Communication	89
▶ Publications	92
▶ ZOiS in the Media	98
Publishing Details	102

Foreword

Dear readers and friends of ZOiS,

2018 was another year full of fresh energy for ZOiS, including new colleagues, a fourth research area, and our first large project with third-party funding. At the same time, many things no longer feel new at all; our publication and event formats have become established, and our profile has been enhanced.

And while the establishment of the institute may not yet be complete, the basic institutional structures are in place. ZOiS has assumed its position in the research landscape of Berlin-Brandenburg and has become more visible in the political and public discourse. The first medium-term research projects have produced important findings, which have been disseminated to stakeholders from academia, politics, the media, and the general public through our publications and events.

Also in 2018, in the framework of the Open Research Area programme, we were allocated our first large-scale project with third-party funding. Over the next three years through the MOBILISE project in cooperation with universities in the UK, France, and the Netherlands, we will explore the interactions between protest and migration. By comparing Eastern Europe with other regions, this and other projects will begin to inject content into the ‘international studies’ part of our name.

Through our research in 2018, ZOiS was present in the public debate on issues including the war in Eastern Ukraine, current political transitions in Armenia, Moldova, and Uzbekistan, the expectations and attitudes of the younger generation in Russia, the split in the Orthodox Church, and the social-media discourse of Russian-speaking communities in Germany.

We are particularly pleased by the resonance generated by our public events in the ZOiS Forum. This series shows there is a vibrant demand in Berlin for information about Eastern Europe, and that our combination of academic research, current affairs, and cultural events is bringing exciting new perspectives and dialogues.

The frequent feedback we receive that ZOiS is creating and presenting research and discussions in ‘different’ and ‘new’ ways confirms to us that our approach is an innovative one. This reflects our emphasis on combining funded academic research with effective research communication and an eye for politically relevant or less widely known issues.

We look forward to welcoming you back to ZOiS in 2019 and to continuing the debate. ◀

PROF. GWENDOLYN SASSE
Director

DR CHRISTIAN SCHAICH
Managing Director

Basic Ideas

Director Gwendolyn Sasse on what makes ZOiS unique

We are often asked – and with good reason – how we see ourselves as an institute. What does it mean to be a research institute? And what does our research focus on at ZOiS?

The term ‘research’ crops up in many places in the political and public discourse, with the result that its meaning is increasingly blurred. Often the term serves as a kind of synonym for ‘expertise’. At ZOiS, we pursue academic research in the sense of long-term projects centred on extensive data analysis and the evaluation of primary sources, such as textual data from (social) media or official documents, statistical analyses, data from in-depth interviews or focus groups, visual data, and archival material. Our mission is not only to build »Eastern expertise« but also to advance understanding about the Eastern European region and communicate our findings to the wider public.

Our research is led by empirical and conceptual questions and is discussed and published in German and international academic forums. Our focus is on the social sciences, and we create spaces for interdisciplinary debate on our research region. We see scientific communication and reflections on current developments in the region as important parts of our work. Although we are not a university institute, we are actively engaged in supporting young researchers (see pages 75–78) through ZOiS activities and cooperation with German and international universities.

ZOiS researchers include doctoral and postdoctoral students and professors. According to their regional and linguistic expertise as well as relevant methodological and theoretical knowledge of different disciplines, the researchers work on individual projects that each last about three years and sit under one of our four research areas. Many researchers also work on additional research projects at ZOiS, partly in cooperation with German and international partners.

ZOiS research areas

At ZOiS, we focus on four thematic research areas: *Societies Between Stability and Change*, *Conflict Dynamics and Border Regions*, *Migration and Diversity*, and *Youth in Eastern Europe*. All four areas concentrate on exploring dynamic processes and the roles of different actors at the local, national, and international levels. The themes are designed to complement each other in both empirical and conceptual terms. Cross-cutting issues, such as the question of how to define generations or the concept of contested spaces, connect the themes and individual projects. Our first three research topics straddle many social-science disciplines and thus help frame the research on Eastern Europe beyond an area studies approach.

With the addition in 2018 of the new thematic area of youth in Eastern Europe, ZOiS has explicitly positioned itself in a comparatively new research field. Through our own data collection and analysis – for example, on the attitudes, political behaviour, and mobility of younger generations – we hope to use our East European focus to generate empirical and conceptual momentum for a more systematic and comparative understanding of youth broadly. We also plan to establish soon a fifth research area on the issue of *Political Economy*.

Basic research and research communication

Although the term ‘basic research’ stems from the natural sciences, it also has a place in the social sciences. Basic research is not primarily determined by what is current or relevant in the political news cycle. However, our focus on one region provides many logical connections between individual research projects and the researchers’ expertises developed over many years of contemporary developments in Eastern Europe.

Research communication plays a particular role at ZOiS (see pages 88–96), and is incorporated into every research project from the outset. Each long-term project generates regular interim results, which are communicated to the public through specially developed publication and event formats as well as our presence on social and traditional media. Aside from communicating new data and findings, we provide clear insights into our research work and methodologies. Research communication involves more than transferring knowledge: it is also about building up networks and structures that allow regular exchanges in different directions.

An interdisciplinary meeting point

ZOiS brings together researchers from different social-science subjects, including political science, sociology, social anthropology, and economic and social geography. Our team also embraces researchers from other academic disciplines, such as cultural studies, regional studies, and theology, which nevertheless engage with social-science topics and methods, while also offering important new perspectives.

Academia places an increasing value on interdisciplinarity. Yet the promise of an interdisciplinary approach is often hard to achieve in practice. Aside from topical and methodological overlaps between individual subjects from the social sciences or humanities, interdisciplinary work requires structures and timeframes that are mostly absent in the day-to-day life of universities and researchers' career plans. The employment market in academia is almost universally built on separate disciplines. East European studies, and regional studies generally, are fundamentally thought of in interdisciplinary terms, although this does not necessarily mean that all individual researchers work in an interdisciplinary way. Apart from having regional expertise, building up a profile in one of the academic disciplines that make up university structures is

more important than ever for an academic career. For interdisciplinary research, with or without a regional focus, publication opportunities and appraisal criteria are less clearly defined and thus often a luxury that especially younger researchers can hardly afford.

The logic of interdisciplinary work also requires a bandwidth of methodological skills as well as conceptual and empirical knowledge that lends itself to teamwork. At the same time, interdisciplinary research is always an experiment with uncertain end results. It can broaden researchers' horizons, encouraging them to ask new and different questions and apply methodological tools more flexibly and in new constellations.

Thanks to its size and research focus, ZOiS, with its conscious mixture of different disciplines, offers the potential to create a space for interdisciplinary discussions. The ZOiS research and lecture seminars, as well as the many daily team interactions, are significant in this regard. Despite the difficulties associated with realising interdisciplinary projects, the uniqueness and challenges of an interdisciplinary institutional daily routine should not be underestimated. This shapes the conception of our public events, workshops, and annual conferences as well as our first joint publication projects such as edited volumes or special editions of academic journals. A broader understanding of interdisciplinarity also includes the combination of academia with perspectives from other areas, such as journalism and the NGO sector or architecture and art. These perspectives, too, are regular components of ZOiS events.

I hope that on this basis, ZOiS will steadily consolidate its standing as an interdisciplinary meeting point with a focus on Eastern Europe. ◀

Prof. Gwendolyn Sasse

The Mission Statement

ZOiS is always evolving: since 2018, a mission statement has formed part of our regulations. It sets out the most important functions, objectives, values and principles of our work. Our Administrative Director Christian Schaich explains why this is important and how the document can be filled with life.

Why does ZOiS need a mission statement?

In my view, mission statements are very helpful when people work together in an organisation that does not pursue commercial objectives. A mission statement sets out certain principles that relate to and guide the detailed work being performed day to day. In an organisation like ZOiS, capturing these principles in a statement based on a consensus among staff makes absolute sense and fosters cooperation.

What was important to you in developing the mission statement for ZOiS?

First, I felt it should not be a purely aspirational statement of intent, in the sense of »this is how it should be but we're not there yet«. Second, and closely related to this, the mission statement has to be consensus-based and not simply imposed from above, which meant developing it in collaboration with all of ZOiS's employees. It was a consultation and dialogue process whose ultimate goal was to ensure that everyone's views are reflected in our guiding vision.

To what extent were ZOiS's employees involved?

At ZOiS's first staff retreat in January 2018, which was attended by all our permanent employees, we started the process by thinking about ZOiS – who we want to be and how we want

to work. What is important to us as an organisation? What is important to us day to day? What kind of image do we want to convey? It was a very long and intense discussion. We then noted down the various points raised and assigned them to thematic categories. After that, we compiled a clean version of the outcomes and held a further discussion at one of our regular weekly meetings. Finally, we drew up a preliminary draft and took it back to the weekly meeting. We constantly received additional feedback and ideas, which were very important, so we amended the text accordingly.

How will you ensure that these principles are genuinely lived?

That's the most challenging aspect of any mission statement. First of all, the text must be accessible to ZOiS staff on our intranet, as well as to the public on our website. In other words, the values are visible both internally and externally, allowing our progress to be monitored. The document will also be given to every new employee so that they are aware of the principles guiding our work. And in the event of any conflict or divergence of interests, it should serve as a basis for developing options for moving forward. And last but by no means least, the mission statement should be regularly reviewed, perhaps at our staff retreat, to check whether it is genuinely being implemented by all ZOiS's employees in keeping with our ethos.

ZOiS's Mission Statement

Basic research

ZOiS is a research institute that engages in social science basic research on Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia. ZOiS is politically independent and determines its own research agenda, driven by academic curiosity and openness.

Academic best practice

The basis of all research activity is the honesty of the researchers towards themselves and others. In our work we are committed to the rules of academic best practice, as defined by the German Research Foundation (GRF), the Leibniz Association, and other research and research support organisations. To put these principles into practice, ZOiS issues its staff and guest researchers with concrete guidelines, which are aligned with those of the GRF.

Communication of research

ZOiS communicates the outcomes of its research to both a specialist audience and the wider public. We see it as our mission to raise interest in, and knowledge of, the region of Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia and to foster societal discussion. Our approach is independent, objective, and nonpartisan.

Interdisciplinarity

Research at ZOiS is multi- and interdisciplinary and attaches great importance to the diversity and combination of research methods.

Support of young researchers

Support and the development of young researchers and interested youth is an essential element of the work of ZOiS. We see ourselves as an active part of the rich scientific landscape in the region of Berlin-Brandenburg and as an equal partner in national and international research on the region of Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia.

Equal opportunities

ZOiS supports the careers of all members of staff and values the compatibility of family and career. We reject any form of discrimination on the basis of nationality, cultural background, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, or religious conviction.

Team spirit

Cooperation and respect among staff and with external colleagues are fundamental requirements of our work. As a team we have a joint obligation to implement the elements of this mission statement. ◀



Staff

MANAGEMENT



PROF. GWENDOLYN SASSE | Director

Gwendolyn Sasse, director of ZOIS, is Professor of Comparative Politics at the Department of Politics and International Relations and at the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies at the University of Oxford, a professorial fellow at Nuffield College and non-resident associate at Carnegie Europe. Her academic career spans the study of History, Slavonic Studies and Political Science at the University of Hamburg and an MSc and PhD in Political Science at the London School of Economics. After gaining her doctorate, she first took up a post as assistant professor at the Central European University, and then as lecturer / senior lecturer at the London School of Economics before moving to Oxford in 2007. Gwendolyn Sasse is interested in contemporary art and, in this context, the linkages between science and culture. ◀



DR CHRISTIAN SCHAICH | Managing Director

Christian Schaich is responsible for all matters relating to the Centre's administration and finances. He first trained as a bookseller in Cologne, then studied Law in Passau, Odesa (Ukraine) and Berlin from 1992 to 1998. After taking the first state examination in law, he completed a doctorate on an aspect of Russian administrative law at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. From 2004 to 2016, he was an advisor and later director for the Central and Eastern European region at the German Research Foundation (DFG). This included several years as head of the Foundation's Moscow office. From 2011 to 2015, he also worked as a lecturer in Administrative and Constitutional Law at the Foundation for International Legal Cooperation. When not at work at ZOIS, Christian Schaich enjoys spending time with his family; his other interests are reading and cinema. ◀



LEJLY AGAMURADOVA | Management Assistant

Lejly Agamuradova completed her Master's degree in East European Studies at Freie Universität Berlin in 2015. She then went to work for the German Association for East European Studies (DGO), which had been commissioned by the German Federal Foreign Office (AA) to set up ZOIS. At the DGO, she was responsible for coordinating the ZOIS project. In addition to providing management assistance at ZOIS, Lejly Agamuradova is responsible for human resources, data protection and the organisation of research projects and events. She commenced her part-time studies for a Master's degree in Higher Education and Research Management at the German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer in March 2017. From a musical family, she enjoys singing in her free time. ◀

SENIOR RESEARCHERS AND RESEARCHERS



DR TSYPYLMA DARIEVA | Senior Researcher

Tsypylma Darieva, a social anthropologist at ZOIS, is developing a research project on the transformation of urban spaces and religious pluralisation in Eurasian cities. She is an associate member of the Caucasus Studies Programme at Friedrich Schiller University Jena and a board member of the Berlin Centre for Independent Social Research. After receiving her PhD from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Tsypylma Darieva worked at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle before becoming a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for European Ethnology at Humboldt-Universität. She then moved to Japan, where she was an associate professor at the University of Tsukuba. Before joining ZOIS, she coordinated an international research project at Friedrich Schiller University. When not at work, Tsypylma Darieva enjoys hiking in the mountains and cooking for her friends. ◀



DR NADJA DOUGLAS | Researcher

Nadja Douglas's research project at ZOIS focuses on the relationship between public initiatives and state power structures in the post-Soviet region. She studied Political Science at the University of Bonn and International Relations at Sciences Po Paris. She obtained her PhD from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in 2016. Nadja Douglas has worked as an advisor on security and defence policy in the German Bundestag, and as a research fellow in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in Copenhagen (Denmark). During the German OSCE Chairmanship in 2016, she worked as a liaison officer for the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova. She has also been a member of the editorial team of *Russland-Analysen*. In her free time, she organises a Café Philosophique in Berlin's Sprengekiez district. ◀



DR REGINA ELSNER | Researcher

Regina Elsner is a Catholic theologian whose research focuses on Russian Orthodox social ethics in post-socialism. At ZOIS, she heads the project *Morality Instead of Peace*, which investigates the dynamics of Russian Orthodox social ethics since the demise of the Soviet Union. From 2010 to 2013, she was a research associate at the University of Münster's Ecumenical Institute. She has also worked as a research analyst for German MP Katrin Göring-Eckardt. Fluent in Russian and with deep insights into Russian life from Kaliningrad to Kamchatka, she was well-placed for her role as coordinator of a nationwide addiction project for Caritas Russia in St Petersburg from 2006 to 2010. In her free time, she is active in Quarteera, a non-profit volunteer association working for LGBTI*-sensitive refugee and foreign policies. ◀



DR BEATE ESCHMENT | Researcher

Beate Eschment obtained her PhD in Russian history at the University of Hannover in 1992. Since then, her research has focused on the history and, above all, the contemporary development of the former Soviet republics of Central Asia. She has worked at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), the Central Asia Seminar at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Institute for Oriental Studies at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, and the Research Centre for East European Studies at the University of Bremen. In 2008, Beate Eschment became the editor of *Zentralasien-Analysen* and has continued to edit this publication since its affiliation to ZOIS, where she is now a researcher, in 2017. In her free time, Beate Eschment enjoys choral singing and going to concerts and the opera. ◀



DR NINA FRIESS | Researcher

Nina Frieß studied Political Science and Slavonic Studies in Heidelberg, St Petersburg and Potsdam. From 2009 to 2016, she was a research fellow at the Department of Eastern Slavic Literatures and Cultures at the University of Potsdam, where she was responsible for the International Bachelor's programme in Interdisciplinary Russian Studies. In 2015, she completed her doctorate on the contemporary memory of Stalinist repression in Russia. Her thesis was awarded the Klaus Mehnert Prize of the German Association for East European Studies (DGO). In 2017, she completed her Master's degree in Science Marketing at Technische Universität Berlin. The title of her project at ZOIS is *Literature and Power in the Post-Soviet Space*. In her free time, she loves to cook and especially enjoys making good food for her friends. ◀



ANN-SOPHIE GAST | Researcher

Ann-Sophie Gast is a researcher at ZOiS and member of the editorial board of the *Zentralasien-Analysen*. Besides, she is a doctoral fellow at the Berlin Graduate School for Transnational Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. Her PhD focusses on Eurasian integration and Russian foreign policy interests in Central Asia. Ann-Sophie Gast did her BA in European Studies at the Otto von Guericke University in Magdeburg and the State University in Saint Petersburg. She also holds a double degree in International Relations from Freie Universität Berlin and the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. During her PhD, she was a visiting research fellow at the Danish Institute for International Studies in Copenhagen, at the School of International Relations in Saint Petersburg as well as at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. From 2015 to 2016, she worked as a freelance consultant for the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). ◀



DR TATIANA GOLOVA | Researcher

At ZOiS, Tatiana Golova is working on a research project on public political mobilisation in Russia's regional centres. She studied Sociology at St Petersburg State University, the University of Bielefeld and the European University at St Petersburg. She gained her first research experience at the Institute of Sociology of the Russian Academy of Sciences in the field of youth sociology. In 2009, she was awarded a doctorate at the Otto von Guericke University in Magdeburg for her thesis on the link between spatial and identity construction in radical left-wing milieus. She then worked as a researcher at the Institute of Sociology in Magdeburg and at the Institute for East European Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. In addition to her research and teaching activities, she has been engaged in developing international academic contacts. When not at work, Tatiana Golova enjoys listening to classical music, especially the works of Dmitri Shostakovich. ◀



DR FÉLIX KRAWATZEK | Senior Researcher

Félix Krawatzek is a political scientist and since September 2018 a senior researcher at ZOiS. He is also an Associate Member of Nuffield College (University of Oxford). Previously, Félix Krawatzek held a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Oxford's Department of Politics and International Relations. He finished his doctorate in 2015 at the University of Oxford and was a visiting fellow at Sciences Po Paris (Centre d'études et de recherches internationales) and at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University. His research project at ZOiS centres on youth as a political agent and a social imaginary. With a focus on Russia, he analyses the political mobilisation of young people alongside the social imaginaries which the idea of youth exposes. He also maintains a long-standing interest in questions related to collective memory in particular in the European context and is increasingly interested in the legislation of historical recall. He also maintains an active research agenda in the field of migration and political transnationalism in a historical perspective as well as the role of time and ideas about the future in contemporary politics. In his spare time, Félix Krawatzek enjoys cooking. ◀



DR JULIA LANGBEIN | Researcher

Julia Langbein is a researcher at ZOiS and scientific coordinator of the EU-STRAT research project at the Center for European Integration at Freie Universität Berlin. She has a degree in Political Science from Freie Universität Berlin and a Master's in Russian Studies from the European University at St Petersburg. After receiving her PhD from the European University Institute in Florence, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Kolleg-Forschergruppe *The Transformative Power of Europe* at Freie Universität Berlin. She also held visiting fellowships at the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels, the International Centre for Policy Studies in Kyiv and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow. In her free time, Julia Langbein likes escaping to the countryside and cooking for family and friends. She also enjoys Eastern European cinema, especially at Cottbus Film Festival. ◀



DR SABINE VON LÖWIS | Senior Researcher

Sabine von Löwis studied Geography at Technische Universität Dresden and obtained a doctorate at HafenCity University in Hamburg. From 2011 to 2017, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin, where she was involved in a joint research project about phantom borders in East and Eastern Central Europe. Her research investigates stability and transformation in social and spatial structures in urban and rural Central and Eastern Europe. As a geographer, she naturally has an interest in exploring and understanding new countries and contexts, especially daily life in local communities. At ZOIS, she is developing a project on microgeographies of conflict constellations in the southwestern post-Soviet space. When not in the office, Sabine von Löwis enjoys sewing and experimenting with textiles. She sees fashion and clothing traditions as an expression of social self-awareness, with great relevance to the analysis of cultural geographies. ◀

COMMUNICATIONS



DR STEFANIE ORPHAL | Communications Director

Stefanie Orphal studied German Literature, Media Studies and Business Management and completed internships in editing and publishing. She then decided to pursue her research interest in poetryfilm, a genre of short films based on poetry. In 2013, she completed her PhD at Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School for Literary Studies at Freie Universität Berlin and then switched to academic public relations. From 2013 to 2016, Stefanie Orphal worked at Halle Institute for Economic Studies (IWH) as a public relations officer. Now communications director at ZOIS, she manages the publications / PR interface and develops the events programme. When not at work, she enjoys reading, mainly literature from Eastern Europe at present. ◀



STEPHANIE ALBERDING | Communications Coordinator

Stephanie Alberding is responsible for managing ZOIS's social media presence and supporting its governing bodies. She read History, Drama, Film and Television Studies and German Philology at the University of Cologne and also spent a semester reading East and Central European Studies at Prague's Charles University, which sparked her interest in Eastern Europe. She completed her studies with a Master's degree and a thesis on the political death cult in National Socialism. The early part of her career was spent working for a foundation. This won her over to the non-profit sector and motivated her to sign up for an Executive Master's programme in Non-Profit Management and Governance in Münster, which she completed in February 2017 with a thesis on civil society organisations in the culture of remembrance. She acquired her skills as a communications professional in the Jewish Museum Berlin's press department. In her free time, Stephanie Alberding is a keen museum goer. ◀



JULIA BRAUN | Communications Coordinator

Julia Braun studied International Relations at the Kazakh-German University in Almaty and then read East European Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. For her Master's degree, she looked at possible explanations for the differences in the East European countries' contributions to UN peacekeeping operations. Her previous employers include the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, where she worked in the Events team, and the ATOM Project, an international disarmament initiative. She gained experience in press and PR at a US-based agency with global operations and through her work on various journals, including Kulturaustausch – Zeitschrift für internationale Perspektiven at ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen). In September 2018, she joined ZOIS, where she is responsible for events management and administration. In her spare time, Julia Braun enjoys doing yoga. ◀



ANJA KRÜGER | Communications Coordinator

Anja Krüger's main areas of work are event organisation, managing ZOiS's social media presence, internal communications and diversity issues. After being awarded her Bachelor of Arts in East Slavic Studies, Media Sciences and Politics at the University of Leipzig, she completed a Master's degree at the Institute for East European Studies at Berlin's Freie Universität in 2014. She also gained experience in project coordination and the planning and management of overseas trips. An internship in the German-Russian meeting centre in St Petersburg, Russia, gave her a first insight into the work of foundations. During her student work experience at the German Bundestag, she became familiar with the parliamentary routine and the working practices of a large administration. A Berliner by choice, Anja Krüger is interested in politics and society, media / communication and digitalisation. ◀



YVONNE TROLL | Communications Coordinator

Yvonne Troll studied Cultural Anthropology, Early Modern and Modern History and English Language and Literature at the University of Freiburg. In 2010, she was awarded a Master's degree for her thesis on cultural identity in a globalised work environment, based on research she conducted for several months in multinational companies in Mexico City. She has also lived in London and Ecuador where she worked for a non-governmental organisation. She spent two years as a trainee in the Public Relations Department at the University of Freiburg. There, she qualified in editorial and PR work, and gathered experience in managing events. As a communications coordinator at ZOiS, Yvonne Troll's main responsibilities are publications, website editing and events. Her leisure interests include street art, poetry and going to concerts. ◀

ADMINISTRATION



THOMAS BERTHOLD | Head of Finance

Thomas Berthold is responsible for finance, accounting and procurement at ZOiS. After vocational training in wholesale and export trade, he worked in the private sector. He then moved to Fachinformationszentrum Chemie GmbH, one of the organisations in the Leibniz Association, where he initially worked as a bookkeeper and then served as executive manager of the administration for many years. His leisure interests include economics, Scandinavia and numismatics. ◀



TETIANA FARCHMIN | Administrator

Tetiana Farchmin is responsible for finance, accounting, travel organisation and travel expenses at ZOiS. From 1999 to 2003, she studied Business Administration at Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University. In 2007, she completed a further course of study in Public Administration. She then worked at the registry and trade supervisory authority in the city of Severodonetsk in Eastern Ukraine. She was born and grew up in Eastern Ukraine and has lived in Germany for some years. She is interested in Eastern European politics, travel and sport. ◀



TONI FRITZSCHE | IT System / Network Administrator

Since July 2018, Toni Fritzsche has been system and network administrator in the IT department of ZOiS. He trained as an IT specialist in system administration and has been working in the IT sector for several years. From 2012 to 2018 he worked for CLS 4-Text GmbH – A Lionbridge Company, a leading language services provider, where he was responsible for the two Berlin branches. At ZOiS, his main focus is on maintaining the existing network and server infrastructure as well as providing new services. Toni Fritzsche's hobbies include swimming and the construction of model railways. ◀



THOMAS JUNGE | Chief Information Officer

Thomas Junge is a qualified IT systems specialist and has worked in IT for over 20 years. From 2009 to 2016, he played a key role in several IT projects for the restructuring and migration of various IT infrastructures and the implementation of IT security concepts at euroscript Deutschland GmbH and CLS 4-Text GmbH – A Lionbridge Company, two leading language services providers. At ZOiS, he is responsible for establishing and maintaining the IT infrastructure and IT operations. Thomas Junge's leisure interests include cooking and listening to music. ◀

RESEARCH AND STUDENT ASSISTANTS

- ▶ VIKTORIA BRUHL
- ▶ ANASTASIIA DMITRICHENKO
- ▶ VALENTIN JANDT
- ▶ ILJA KOBRIN
- ▶ ALICE LACKNER
- ▶ IRINA MOGELNITZKI
- ▶ RICHARD SCHMIDT
- ▶ JILE SOROUT
- ▶ TAISSIYA SUTORMINA
- ▶ MARYNA VOITSEKHOVSKA

INTERNS

- ▶ HENRI KOBLISCHKE
- ▶ LUDMILA MAMELINA
- ▶ KSENIYA SEMYKINA
- ▶ PHILIPP TÜRMER
- ▶ NATALIA ZHEBRAK

Structure and Finances

ZOiS is financed through an institutional grant from the German Federal Foreign Office. Individual researchers also raise third-party funds. The not-for-profit limited company is overseen by a foundation of the same name. An Academic Advisory Board of international researchers provides advice to ZOiS on research questions.

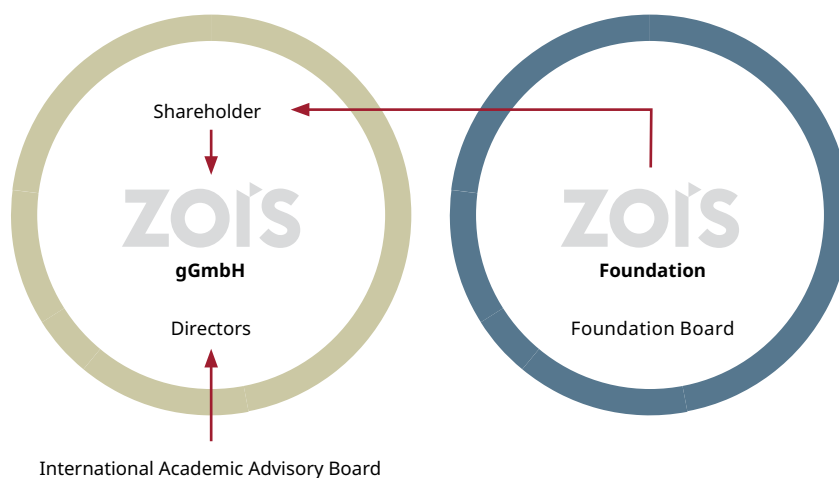
Structure

ZOiS was established in 2016 following a decision by the German Bundestag. Institutional financing is provided by the German Federal Foreign Office. In addition, ZOiS seeks to diversify its funding through third-party-supported projects within the framework of research grants. The institute is a not-for-profit limited company, which is supported by an independent foundation of the same name. The foundation's board is chaired by Dr Jan Kusber, a historian at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz. An academic advisory board assists the institute on research matters.

All researchers have sole responsibility for carrying out individual projects they have selected themselves. The institute's research programme is set by the management and approved by the Academic Advisory Board. Donors have no influence on the research work or its findings.

According to the articles of association of the ZOiS not-for-profit limited company, the Academic Advisory Board is composed of at least five and at most twelve members. The panel currently consists of nine respected academics. Its composition is international and represents an array of disciplines and research regions. The board's chairman is Timm Beichelt, Professor of European Studies at European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder).

The Academic Advisory Board fosters a lively culture of discussion, even across geographical distance, and comes together about twice a year. It is continuously involved in conceptual development processes, staffing decisions, events, publications, and the broader growth of the ZOiS network.



Academic Advisory Board members

- ▶ **Prof. Margarita M. Balmaceda**
Professor of Diplomacy and International Relations, Seton Hall University, USA
Research Associate, Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University, USA
- ▶ **Prof. Timm Beichelt (Chairman)**
Professor of European Studies, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder), Germany
- ▶ **Prof. Mark Beissinger**
Henry W. Putnam Professor of Politics, Princeton University, USA
- ▶ **Prof. Katharina Bluhm**
Professor of Sociology, Institute for East European Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- ▶ **Ivan Krastev**
Chairman of the Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia, Bulgaria
Permanent Fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna, Austria
- ▶ **Prof. Sebastian Lentz**
Director of the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography and Professor for Regional Geography at the University of Leipzig, Germany
- ▶ **Prof. Mikhail Minakov (Deputy Chairman)**
Senior Fellow at the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C., USA
Guest Professor at European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder), Germany
- ▶ **Prof. Catherine Poujol**
Director of the French Institute for Central Asian Studies, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- ▶ **Prof. Silvia von Steinsdorff**
Chair of Comparative Political Sciences and the Political Systems of Eastern Europe, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

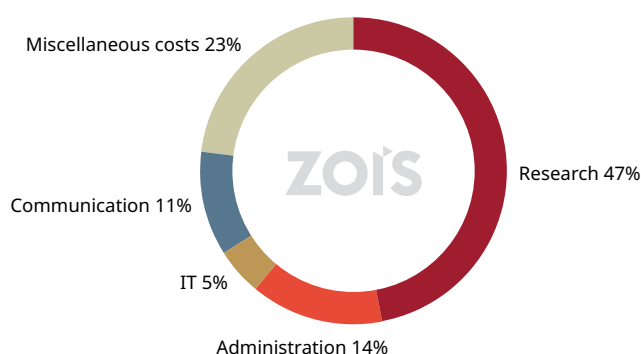
Finances

ZOiS expenditure in 2018 totalled €2.2 million. This amount was divided into five spending categories: research, administration, communication, IT, and miscellaneous costs. Research activities represented by far the largest share. Aside from staff costs for the researchers, much of this spending went towards visits to the region, as on-the-ground research is a fundamental component of the academic approach at ZOiS.

Communication is inseparable from that research: ZOiS sees it as its duty to make research findings available, offer new perspectives on issues and regions, and engage in dialogue with those interested in Eastern Europe. The ZOiS finance plan therefore places an emphasis on events and publications. The administration covers functions that support the research.

In 2018, the institute's IT system was updated to reflect an increased number of researchers. Support for research projects was also upgraded with new IT infrastructure, allowing researchers to handle the more comprehensive data sets that are typical in the social sciences. IT security was especially important in all of these updates.

Miscellaneous costs include institute-wide expenditure such as the rent of the institute's premises. ◀



Research Area

Societies Between Stability and Change

Concepts such as ‘democracy’ and ‘authoritarianism’ suggest clear defining criteria and boundaries, but they fall short of capturing the nature of political and social reality. Both concepts and the societies they seek to describe are in flux – in Eastern Europe and beyond. This research area focuses on the grey zones and overlaps between these often rigid classifications. The two concepts of stability and change highlight, on the one hand, the dynamics of social, political, economic, and cultural changes and, on the other hand, the processes that prevent or limit change. A range of local, national, and international actors are examined against a backdrop of societal and institutional structures. Centre stage are contested spaces – areas in which political, normative, and historical claims and expectations, as well as identities and memories, are disputed. The projects in this research area are multidisciplinary and cover a wide range of political and cultural themes that have been under-represented in academic and public debates. This research area also analyses, among other issues, the dynamics of social protests, the relations between state institutions and societal initiatives, local politics and processes of decentralisation, the Orthodox Church between its internal values discourse and politics, and the political content of Russo-phone literature outside Russia.



Public Initiatives and State Policies – A Post-Soviet Comparison

In one of ZOIS's first research projects, political scientist Nadja Douglas is exploring the dynamics and interaction between public initiatives and state policies, with particular reference to various recent social protests. In times of accelerated social change, there are growing demands for more transparency, accountability and legitimacy, particularly in relation to the state's executive bodies and the police in post-Soviet countries, as elsewhere. While civic actors are seeking wider freedoms, the state often resorts to traditional forms of repression. This is manifested in declining or stagnating trust in the state's institutions. The research project focuses on a comparative case study of Armenia, Belarus and the Republic of Moldova, and consid-

ers the recent and highly diverse political and social changes taking place in these three countries. Three main questions are addressed:

- 1) To what extent are police structures and practices perceived by the populace to be legitimate, particularly in relation to the maintenance of public order at demonstrations and protests?
- 2) What is the relationship between civil society and the police / other structures embodying state power?
- 3) How do the police / other state structures fit into the broader picture of political and social change in these various countries?

The theoretical framework for the project brings together concepts from social movement research and »protest policing« with research on trust and legitimacy in relation to state institutions. The methodology applied in the comparative case study involves tracing differences and commonalities at various levels to gain insights into the overall status of state-society relations in the region.

Nadja Douglas was on parental leave from March to December 2018. ◀



Peaceful revolution in Armenia: former opposition leader Nikol Pashinyan was elected prime minister in 2018.



»Don't vote for the oligarchs. They're criminals.« In Moldova, protests against government corruption continued in 2018.

Morality Instead of Peace. The Social and Ethical Discourse of the Russian Orthodox Church Between Theological Sovereignty and Political Adaptation

This project investigates the dynamics of Russian Orthodox social ethics since the demise of the Soviet Union. Theologian Regina Elsner is analysing the interaction between the changing positions and priorities of the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC), on the one hand, and socio-political developments in Russia, on the other.

The project's starting point is the observation that Russian Orthodox social ethics – in other words, the theological discourse about social welfare – has changed dramatically since the collapse of the Soviet Union. This applies, firstly, to its thematic priorities: until the 1980s, peace – partly dictated by the state – was the dominant motif, giving way in the 1990s to a focus on freedom of religion and conscience. However, since the 2000s, its social and ethical positions have been increasingly influenced by the discourse around traditional moral values.

Secondly, the dynamics of the ROC's social and ethical discourse also impact on socio-political processes. From a social ethics perspective, an orientation towards the society in which the ROC is embedded is constitutive, but at the same time, the Church seeks to bring influence to bear on this society with its Christian message. The opportunities and limits of this interaction are mutable and depend on how the Church positions



Patriotism, a »traditional value« promoted by the government, is leading to a new proximity between the Church and the military in Russia.

itself in the nexus between state, (civil) society and the private sphere. This position has changed considerably since the fall of the Soviet Union, accompanied by shifts in the ROC's stance on social and ethical issues.

The purpose of the research project is to conduct a systematic analysis of the dynamics of the ROC's social and ethical discourse since perestroika, focusing on both content and chronological development. Regina Elsner focuses, firstly, on the theological foundations of the ROC's current socio-political orientation, the development of its social

and ethical positions, and alternative theological social and ethical concepts. Secondly, she aims to investigate and determine what parallels and ruptures may exist between the Church's social and ethical positions and socio-political developments, and what convergences and divergences there are between state and Church interests. With this approach, her intention is to draw more definitive conclusions concerning the question whether there is any evidence of the Russian Orthodox Church's social and ethical positions influencing socio-political dynamics with regard to internal and external conflicts.

Three questions to...



Regina Elsner
Theologian

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

The establishment of Ukraine's new Orthodox Church and the associated conflicts in World Orthodoxy have dominated my work since summer 2018. There has been a significant increase in media interest in the Church's role in developments within Russian and Ukrainian society, and as a specialist in this field, I was invited to give numerous interviews and provide background. At the same time, this unplanned and intensive preoccupation with Ukraine influenced the focus of my own research.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

As a result of attending conferences and holding discussions with colleagues, I realised that there is very little research on the social ethics of the Orthodox Church, particularly Orthodox thinking about the ethics of peace. In fact, this topic is rarely considered in the social sciences or even in theology itself. In that sense, peace differs from other aspects of social ethics, such as human rights. During my stay in Kyiv, it became clear to me just how much theological thinking in Ukrainian Orthodoxy differs from its Russian counterpart, even though they both belong to the same theological tradition and post-socialist society. Both these realisations showed me how important it is to focus more intensively on Ukrainian Orthodoxy, particularly against the backdrop of the war with Russia.

What was your highlight in 2018?

Attending the theological summer school in Kyiv in July, because it showed me just how vibrant, engaged and socially embedded Orthodox theology has become in Ukraine. And of course, the publication of my PhD thesis in March – holding the fruits of years of labour in your hands and being able to share it with others is a very motivating and uplifting experience. ◀



Outside the Russian cities, the Church has more influence than politics in people's daily lives.

In 2018, analysing the ethics of peace in Russian Orthodox theology was the main focus of interest. After conducting archival research in Zurich in February 2018 and studying key texts of relevance to the conceptualisation of peace and war in Russian Orthodoxy since perestroika, Regina Elsner presented her initial findings at various international conferences. However, the escalation of the conflict over an independent Orthodox Church in Ukraine shifted the focus of her research towards current events.

Her analysis of positions and events in Ukraine and Russia since 2014 revealed that political entanglements in Church-state relations in Russia differ markedly from the ecclesial situation in Ukraine. Human dignity plays a central role as an analytical category in relation to the social ethics discourse, as discussions with other experts have shown; however, in Orthodoxy, particularly in the post-socialist context, it is highly diffuse and contested. It is essential to explore this aspect in greater depth during the fur-

ther course of the project. Since summer, the conflict around Orthodoxy in Ukraine has highlighted the media's substantial need for specialist knowledge of this field. Besides authoring an academic article on peace ethics as one of the direct outcomes of the project, Regina Elsner gave numerous interviews and was available to share her expertise and discuss the background to the conflict. ◀

Literature and Power in the Post-Soviet Space

In her project, Nina Frieß – a scholar of Slavic literatures and cultures – is investigating the role of Russian and Russophone literature in the contemporary post-Soviet space. She starts from the premise that relevant discourses in society continue to be reflected in its literature. The question of which function these literatures perform today is of particular interest, bearing in mind that literature has lost its status as a key form of societal communication – a role which, it is hypothesised, would allow it, particularly in non-democratic regimes, certain freedoms which are absent in film, TV and the Internet.

Taking three countries – Kazakhstan, Latvia and Belarus – as examples, the project begins by taking stock. What literature exists? Who is writing? What are the circulation figures? This is followed by an analysis of the topics and functions of selected texts, based on more detailed study of their content and social dimension. The first of these processes is performed using text analysis; the second involves a study of the discourses around the texts and, for better categorisation, interviews with experts and writers.

Since the project began, Nina Frieß has immersed herself in the research on post-Soviet literatures. In the process, she has observed that the extant literary

and cultural research focuses primarily on developments in Russia. This Russocentrism can be seen both in the theoretical discourses (e.g. on the topic of post-colonialism) and in the literature itself. Russian or Russophone literature produced outside Russia since the demise of the Soviet Union is rarely studied. By exploring this under-researched area, the project attempts to close this gap. As her own research can merely make a contribution to this process, Nina Frieß attaches great importance to networking with other scholars working in this field. One of her main tasks, after her return from parental leave in Sep-

tember 2018, was therefore to organise an international workshop on Russophone literature, which was held at ZöIS in March 2019. In 2018, Nina Frieß also completed work on an article which, among other things, presents the findings of her first field visit to Kazakhstan in 2017. The text, entitled *The Young Russophone Literature in Kazakhstan and the 'Russian World'*, will be published in an interdisciplinary anthology on Eurasianism and the Russian World, which she is co-editing.

Nina Frieß was on parental leave from October 2017 to mid-September 2018. ◀



Three questions to...



Nina Frieß

Scholar of Slavic Literatures and Cultures

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

In terms of my own project, it is regrettable that the prestigious Russian Prize (*Russkaya Premiya*) for literature is no longer being awarded. From 2005 onwards, it recognised outstanding Russian-language writing produced outside Russia. The lead partner was the Yeltsin Center. For authors, the prize guaranteed attention from the Russian-speaking community worldwide, while for literary studies researchers, it offered an interesting insight into this community. In 2017, financial difficulties of an unspecified nature suddenly arose and the award was suspended – and was not resumed in 2018. One possible reason, according to some past laureates, is that the texts honoured with the award did not chime with the »Russian values« propagated by the Russian government.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

That it is sometimes worth giving a work of literature a second look, even if it does not appear to be anything out of the ordinary first time round. Reading it a second time may well reveal quite unexpected depths of meaning. A story that on the face of it seems to be a straightforward romance might reveal itself to be highly critical of the regime.

What was your highlight in 2018?

Participating in *Der Nachhall des Gulag* (Echoes of the Gulag), a performance of music and the spoken word featuring the Bochumer Symphoniker, was the highlight for me. Rarely have I learned so much at an event in which I myself was part of the panel as I did that evening. Finding out more about the lives and works of musicians who were persecuted under Stalin and then hearing their music performed – some of it for the first time in Germany – made a profound impression on me. ◀

Grassroot Public Spheres and Activism in Russian Federal Cities

How are civic engagement and public mobilisations in large Russian cities structured by communication processes that are embedded in everyday life? This question is not only of relevance to mobilisations that are explicitly pro-democratic or focus pragmatically on local mismanagement or abuses. In her project, which began in October 2016, sociologist Tatiana Golova starts from the premise that action by conservative and loyalist campaigns can be better understood by analysing how horizontally organised communication processes, beyond top-down mobilisation via state-controlled mass media and the logic of co-optation, influence the willingness to become engaged.

The research project explores this key question by analysing three dimensions:

1. **Everyday life:** Which collective interpretive frames are being (re-)constructed in the day-to-day communication by members of different socio-cultural milieus?
2. **Mobilisation:** How do mobilised public spheres, i.e. communication networks which are oriented towards collective action for specific causes, emerge? How do such networks relate to each other?
3. **Hybridisation:** How are different offline and online arenas for public communication and mobilisation connected?

The project focuses on large federal cities, which are significant in representing the periphery compared to Moscow and are regional power centres which concentrate human, financial and admin-

istrative resources. With a diverse population and a less complex local activist scene, they allow communication networks within and between the various activist milieus to be traced, both in their symbolic connections and in their practical interactions.

of which are targeted against intrusion into the lives of »ordinary people« in Russia. In a situation in which space for public debate, even online, is becoming ever more restricted and political repression is expanding to include »non-political« activists as well, cooperation is



»We want to live long enough to enjoy our pensions – time for change at the top!« 2018 saw nationwide protests against the Russian government's pension reform plans, including in Novosibirsk, a focus of the project.

The empirical research uses a range of methods and data sources to provide a variety of perspectives on the development of public groups in a federal Russian city. As part of the fieldwork (2017), Tatiana Golova conducted interviews with activists from various political and socio-cultural milieus. In 2018, she increasingly focused the project on the question how different activists from civil society and the individual/collective political opposition organise their cooperation in specific campaigns, many

associated with specific risks and challenges. It is assumed that mobilisations themselves create the basis for cooperation among activists with diverse political positions.

Novosibirsk was selected for the in-depth case study. The third largest city in Russia and largest city in Siberia, Novosibirsk is a regional centre of almost unrivalled significance and has been shaped by diverse forms of activism and political campaigns in the past and pre-

sent. In 2018, Tatiana Golova's work focused mainly on analysing data gathered in-country the previous year. Further data were collected in 2018 from publicly accessible sources; on this basis, documentation was produced on some of the 2017 protests against rising utility prices. Her analysis of documentation relating to these protests focused on the interaction between activists from diverse political milieus and how, in championing their respective causes, they po-

sition themselves vis-à-vis fellow activists, opponents and the general public.

In addition, activist networks engaged in the campaign via the Russian social networking site VK.com were reconstructed (for the methodology, please refer to the project *Post-Soviet Migrants and Transnational Public Spheres on Social Media*). Affirmative connections among activists were studied on the basis of reposts, which document the

flow of information between accounts on the platform. By reconstructing online networks and analysing qualitative structured interviews and protocols, it is possible to arrive at a plausible explanation of how opposition activists create discursive and organisational spaces for cooperation.

Tatiana Golova presented the project findings at various events (see p. 67). ◀

Three questions to...



Tatiana Golova
Sociologist

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

The protests across Russia against the pension reform, particularly the government's proposal to raise the retirement age, and against existing and planned landfill sites and incinerators. The garbage protests in particular are shaking up the relationship between the centre and the periphery: Moscow is no longer seen as an antipode to the local problem-causing power structures; instead, it is shifting its own problems elsewhere.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

Firstly, in these translocal protests, the problems and potential for mobilisation in the city of Novosibirsk, which is the subject of my study, are not confined to individual cases. What I am seeing is the shrinking of the public space and challenges arising when antagonistic actors attempt to cooperate. Secondly, in my project on post-Soviet migrants in Germany and transnational public spheres, I have come to realise to what extent our knowledge of communication on social media is informed by real-world technical solutions.

What was your highlight in 2018?

For me, the highlight was the publication of my ZOiS Report with the preliminary results of my project on post-Soviet migrants and social media. ◀

The Proliferation of Memory Laws and the Return of the Nation

In cooperation with Dr George Soroka (Harvard University)

The legal dimension of how one can publicly speak about historical events has only recently started to be addressed in a concerted fashion by historians and legal experts. Social scientists have by-and-large shunned this topic which is surprising given the undeniable political and social relevance of legislating how the past can be recalled. Many Central and East European countries have adopted legislation in recent years that seeks to regulate the work of historians and the public discourse about history. World War II plays a critical role in these attempts to legislate memory. Such legislation is indicative of a nation-building through the means of state-crafted historical narratives, which shape a new norm about how to view the past. They also illustrate the difficult nation-building projects that have characterised many East European countries after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Contemporary Russia, for example, uses memory and the law for nation-building purposes. A 2014 law is frequently used to punish deviant statements about the country's history. But such laws exist not only in Russia, nor are they an exclusive feature of authoritarian regimes. Instead, countries as varied as Poland, Ukraine, France, Spain, Germany, Chile or a number of states in the US have legal provisions, which determine what can be said in public about different parts of a country's historical past.

This project seeks to understand the political dynamics behind this forceful presence of history and the wider societal implications of it. As part of this project, a database is being compiled on memory laws covering Europe and North and South America including the important political dynamics revolving around such laws. The research also makes use of original survey data related to the societal recall of the past in Russia and France.

Within the project framework, Félix Krawatzek and George Soroka organised the two-day conference *Circulating across Europe? Transgressive Narratives about the Past* at Harvard University in August 2018. One of the outcomes was a podcast consisting of three parts, produced in collaboration with Olga Kuzmina and Daniel Menz from Harvard University, which was made available on the ZOiS website. ◀



Memory in Spain: »Hands off the valley – hands off Franco!« In September 2018, there were mass protests against the Spanish government's decision to exhume Francisco Franco's remains. Every year, on the anniversary of the former dictator's death, his grave in the Valley of the Fallen becomes a place of pilgrimage for the far right.

Three questions to...



Dr Félix Krawatzek
Political Scientist

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

During the Russian presidential elections in March 2018, the mobilisation of young people was right at the top of the regime's agenda yet again. Some really quite offbeat attempts were made to get young people to turn out and vote, such as photo competitions and prize draws. But young people were visible in the protests against corruption and on a range of other issues as well.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

By planning and carrying out surveys amongst young people in Eastern Europe, I learned more and more about the contradictions and complexities of youth in this region. Some of the insights I gained were very much in line with my intuitions, but one of the best moments in your day as a researcher comes when you hold the data from one of your own surveys in your hands. Step by step, you analyse it in more depth: one minute you're despairing and the next you are gaining some useful insights.

What was your highlight in 2018?

For me, the highlight was coming back to Germany at the height of summer last year after almost 12 years away. ◀



Languages of Conflict: Ideas of Europe in European Memory

In cooperation with Dr Gregor Feindt (Leibniz Institute of European History, Mainz), Dr Friedemann Pestel (University of Freiburg) and Dr Rieke Trimçev (University of Greifswald)

The current crisis of the EU has fundamentally challenged how 'Europe' is being imagined. What citizens, politicians and scholars expect from Europe has shifted drastically with the refugee crisis, the ongoing economic and financial in-

stability, Brexit, and the rise of populism. Yet, there is little awareness of what 'Europe' has come to mean over time, by different actors, and within and across countries. This project studies the ideas of Europe through the multi-faceted

debates on 'European Memory' which have underpinned the European project since the 1990s and provided a crucial normative background for political and economic integration. Today's diagnoses of crisis as well as claims on Europe's



Anti-Brexit campaigners march in London for a Europe without nationalism.



»Europe will stay white or be uninhabited«: Polish nationalists in Warsaw protest the European Union's liberal values.

further development bring forward competing, and at times contradictory images of a European past in order to make claims about Europe's future.

This project employs a mixed-method approach of qualitative and quantitative discourse analysis to systematically analyse the languages which have sustained and pressured the Europeanisation of national memory discourses over the last decade. Six major European countries (Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Poland, and the United Kingdom) serve

as the main case studies. The following questions guide this research:

- ▶ Which historical experiences are mobilised for the concept of Europe?
- ▶ What kinds of political demands do actors articulate by drawing on the concept of Europe?
- ▶ What logics constitute the languages of 'European Memory' across public spheres?
- ▶ How do the conflictive languages in 'European Memory' deconstruct normative conceptions in favour of mul-

tifaceted relations of cores and peripheries within 'Europe'?

Through the Genshagen Foundation's Scholars in Residence Programme, the project partners had the opportunity to meet for a week-long residency at Genshagen Palace in December 2018 for the purpose of academic exchange. The Foundation will continue to provide support in future by hosting three project residencies a year at the Palace. ◀

Political Change from Below? Local Politics in Ukraine

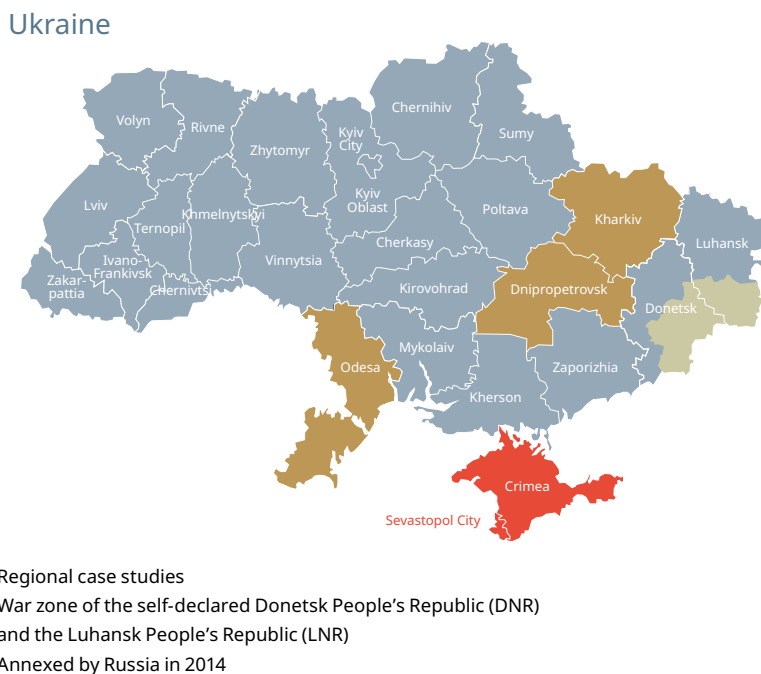
This project seeks to systematically analyse the new political balance of power at the regional/local level in Ukraine, starting with three regional case studies (Dnipro, Kharkiv and Odesa). To date, these regions have in most cases been presented in research and in the Western media in an undifferentiated way as part of (south-)eastern Ukraine. With the political changes since 2014, this understanding has proved inadequate. One fact that is frequently overlooked is that the 2015 municipal elections resulted in a far higher degree of political contestation in local assemblies. In many south-eastern regions, the gap between a conglomerate of reformist forces and the opposition parties was far narrower than was generally assumed. Furthermore, the patterns of cooperation or confrontation behind policy-making at local and regional level are particularly relevant in light of the progress being made with decentralisation reforms in Ukraine.

How do the representatives of the different parties and interest groups negotiate at the local level? Do these dynamics change with the political and economic incentives created by the reform of local government? Where do the patterns of consensus and difference lie between local, regional and national

decision-making processes? From these empirical questions, larger conceptual issues emerge regarding democratisation »from below« and possible tensions between national and local politics.

Building on the pilot study conducted in 2016–17, the data collected on the composition and voting behaviour of local and regional assemblies were updated in collaboration with project partners in Kyiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv and Odesa and

supplemented with expert interviews in the regional centres. In addition, Gwendolyn Sasse began a joint project with the New Europe Center, a think tank in Kyiv, to investigate decentralisation and its effects on local decision-making across various policy fields and public perceptions, based on interviews with elites and experts in selected regional centres. The aim is to present the research findings ahead of Ukraine's local elections in 2020. ◀



Three questions to...



Gwendolyn Sasse
Political Scientist

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

The war in Eastern Ukraine is one of the main topics of my research, so my data collection and analysis are directly influenced by current developments in Ukraine and Russia. There is a need for timely and sound empirical research on conflicts and crises. However, carrying out research in these contexts is often difficult.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

From conducting survey-based projects in Ukraine – which included devising individual questions for inclusion in regular nationally representative surveys and carrying out my own surveys based on face-to-face interviews in the Donbas, as well as telephone surveys in the self-declared Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics – and from online surveys of the younger generation in Russia, Belarus, Latvia and Poland, I have learned a great deal about the methodological challenges and opportunities associated with public opinion research in a variety of political contexts. I have also tried out some innovative interactive elements in the online surveys that generated interesting results.

What was your highlight in 2018?

The positive feedback on the Donbas surveys from people in the region was a highlight for me personally, confirming that sociological research – despite all the difficulties involved – should make efforts to include the perspectives of the people who are directly affected by war and crises. I am also delighted by the general positive response to the empirical research being conducted at ZOIS, reflected in the many invitations to events, discussion sessions and briefings in the public and political arenas. ◀

Conflict Dynamics and Border Regions

The disintegration of the Soviet Union led to the creation of not only the fifteen successor states but also a series of de facto states. At the same time, the relatively permeable borders between the Soviet republics became international frontiers. These changes fundamentally altered the way people lived together in the region. More recently, events in Ukraine show that the post-1991 territorial order in the post-Soviet space has proven less stable than previously assumed. For the region's inhabitants, as well as for regional, national, and international actors, new political realities have emerged.

This research area is dedicated to the study of local state and non-state actors and structures that are affected by, and influence the further development of, conflicts. These actors include refugees from conflict regions, populations of disputed areas, and local decision-makers. The research considers the many changing interactions between local and external actors and investigates the ways conflicts are caused and managed, social-spatial dynamics, the actions of affected populations, and the effectiveness of those actions.

Of particular interest are the many new and old territorial orders connected with changes in borders. These range from contested border demarcations to changes caused by entry into, or association with, economic and/or political organisations. Such shifts trigger uncertainties about individual and societal expectations of economic, social, and political futures and associated social and spatial mobility. Ongoing processes of nation building in the newly created post-Soviet states generate additional tensions.

Confidence-Building and Conflict Settlement: The Case of Transdniestria

In cooperation with Prof. Stefan Wolff (University of Birmingham)

This project focuses on a review of the broad spectrum of confidence-building measures (CBMs) that were applied during past efforts to achieve a resolution to the conflict between the Republic of Moldova and Transdniestria.

The lack of progress towards a settlement of protracted conflicts on the territory of the former Soviet Union is variously attributed to local intransigence and geopolitical blockage. This has given rise to the idea that a meaningful settlement process needs to address both of

these issues by building bridges across local divides in the protracted conflicts and across the deepening divide between Russia and the West.

In the context of this project, the dynamic between the international and local arenas is explored and testable hypotheses developed about the impact of the former on the latter in the context of confidence-building. In the analysis of past CBMs, a particular focus is placed on economy and trade on the one hand and on security policy and military transpar-

ency on the other. Methodologically, the project is based on an extensive document analysis, CBM process tracing over two different periods (2010 to 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 to today), qualitative interviews with various stakeholders involved in the negotiation process and co-variation of events at the local and international level.

Nadja Douglas was on parental leave from March to December 2018. ◀



Children play on the Tank Monument, erected in the central square of the capital Tiraspol as a memorial to the 1992 war.

Three questions to...



Nadja Douglas
Political Scientist

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

The peaceful regime change in Armenia in early 2018 was particularly significant for my current research project. The previous year, I had collected data and looked at public and civil society perceptions of the state's institutions, particularly the police, in what was then a semi-authoritarian regime. With the political and social changes brought about by the Velvet Revolution, I had to make some conceptual adjustments.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

I learned that even sociologists and regional experts can be taken by surprise or caught unawares by events at the local level!

What was your highlight in 2018?

My highlight in 2018 was a very personal one: the birth of our daughter Phyllis. ◀

The Influence of War, Annexation and Displacement on Political Identities in Ukraine

This project examines the effects of war, annexation and displacement on the affected population. Based on a series of surveys, the project focuses on the Donbas region, Crimea and the areas in Ukraine and Russia where there is a high concentration of displaced persons from the Donbas. It thus generates data on regions and people who currently tend to be overlooked in most surveys and debates, even though they are potentially of great importance for society and politics in Ukraine, as well as for external actors who support the reform processes. According to official estimates, the total number of displaced from the Donbas is approximately 2.8 million. The survey conducted by ZOIS in 2016 is one of the few studies on the demographic and political profile of those who fled the conflict zone. The 2016 surveys also assessed everyday lived experiences and identities in the Donbas region, including in the territories outside Kyiv's control, and also in Crimea (2017).

Work continued on the statistical analysis of the 2016 Donbas survey data. A major question explored was whether – as proposed in comparative conflict research – war leads to a polarisation of (ethnic) identities, and whether there are differences in terms of political preferences between the four parts of the former Donbas (i.e. the population of the Kyiv-controlled Donbas, the self-declared Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, the internally displaced, and refugees in Russia). The 2016 data do not re-

veal any clear polarisation, but point to a strong presence of »mixed« ethnic and linguistic identities. A first academic article on this topic appeared in 2018 in a special issue of the journal *Post-Soviet Affairs*, edited by Olga Onuch, Henry E. Hale and Gwendolyn Sasse. A second article on political attitudes among the displaced is currently in preparation for

The surveys conducted in both areas of the Donbas were reviewed and will be repeated in early 2019. In addition, and for the second time, selected questions will be included in a countrywide survey by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS), an opinion research company based in Ukraine. Comparison of the 2017 and 2018 results shows that



A woman flees her home near the front line in Luhansk, Eastern Ukraine.

publication. Displaced persons tend to be seen primarily in terms of their role as victims; here, the aim is to gain a better understanding of the displaced as persons with agency, capable of influencing political processes. Gwendolyn Sasse also collaborated with an international research group on a special issue of a journal on refugees.

the more inclusive identification with the Ukrainian state has replaced »ethnic Ukrainian« as the most important category of identity. Gwendolyn Sasse made two visits to Ukraine (Kyiv and Lviv) in autumn 2018 and discussed the Donbas study with academics and think tank representatives. ◀

Everyday Life in Conflict – Scopes of Action and Coping Strategies in De Facto States

In her project, social geographer Sabine von Löwis explores how conflicts in the post-Soviet space, which are mainly negotiated and monitored at the international level and in geopolitical discourse, are reflected in the everyday lives of affected communities and what role they play there. Her aim is to ascertain what scopes of action are available to individuals in their daily lives and what form they take. The project will identify selected coping strategies in the spheres of education, the workplace, healthcare, culture, etc. in response to non-recognis-

ed statehood, and how these strategies influence or, indeed, alter the conflict constellations.

The macro and meso perspectives form a key entry point and framework for understanding conflicts; however – and this is central to the approach adopted here – all levels are interactive. In order to improve our understanding of the geographical space and the people living there, it is important to consider and analyse their knowledge, experience and attitudes. This project therefore focuses

on the micro level and analyses everyday life in conflicts. How does everyday life continue in conflict settings, and what is its relationship to the relevant conflict-related geopolitical discourses and negotiations?

The project will explore the perspective of the communities that are confronted with and live within the political conflict constellations. These communities' norms, values and practices will be a key focus of Sabine von Löwis's study, with an emphasis on the different gene-



In the Transnistrian town of Bender, a soldier helps a woman to pack grain.



A Polish transport company advertises for workers. Many residents of Transnistria look for work in other countries due to the lack of prospects at home.

rations' experience and how they interact and are transformed as a result of changing constellations of governance, both formal and de facto. She will also seek to identify the frameworks that these governance structures establish for everyday life. Guiding the research is the question if and how the findings will change attitudes towards these conflicts and contribute to their resolution.

Based on an empirical approach, Sabine von Löwis is planning to collect data in case study regions in the south-western post-Soviet space. This will involve spending longer periods in-country for the purpose of conducting participatory observation, qualitative interviews, open discussions, expert interviews

and source research. Sabine von Löwis made a first exploratory research visit in October 2018 in order to begin her fieldwork and establish initial contacts. This proved to be quite straightforward. Fellow researchers at the Taras Shevchenko Transnistria State University in Tiraspol were very open, interested and willing to explore options for cooperation.

Interesting insights of direct relevance to the research project were gained at a forum event with artists from Transnistria, featuring an exhibition and discussion of their photos of everyday life in their country. It provided a fresh perspective on some of the issues and problems of daily life which may be attributed to the specific circumstances

of non-recognised statehood in Transnistria but can also be observed in other post-Soviet states. This offers very useful starting points for further work.

Simultaneously, Sabine von Löwis made contact with a UK-US research group, which conducted surveys in post-Soviet de facto states in 2009 / 2010 and 2014 and is now engaged in further work in this field. ZOIS will be involved in the current study and plans to contribute research questions of its own. At the same time, Sabine von Löwis will have access to the data obtained from the previous surveys, which she will evaluate to gain further insights in addition to the micro perspective provided by the case study. ◀

Three questions to...



Sabine von Löwis

Social Geographer

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

The politically charged and ideologised mood in Ukraine makes it difficult and sometimes impossible to bring Ukrainian and Russian academics together around the table. If you include your Russian colleagues, you have to leave out the Ukrainians and vice versa. That is very sad, and it causes problems when you are studying the dramatic developments in Ukraine. I initially postponed a field trip on everyday life in the conflict in Crimea because travelling via Ukraine is difficult and unsafe. Travelling via Russia is much easier but causes problems with Ukraine. Another issue is that research findings obtained there can quickly get caught up in the crossfire of ideologised debates.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

I study border regions and conflict dynamics. In the area of conflict dynamics, it became clear, during my first field trip and in exploratory talks in Transnistria, that the people living there certainly do think and express themselves critically. Contrary to the frequent assumption, they are not a faceless mass that can be easily manipulated, with no will of their own. This encouraged me to engage with them more intensively. Post-Soviet borders are similar in many ways to international borders but they also have their own particular features resulting from the pre-Soviet, Soviet and post-Soviet past and earlier territorial arrangements. These features need to be analysed systematically if we are to gain an understanding of the specific demarcation and conflict dynamics.

What was your highlight in 2018?

A highlight was organising and running the workshop *Borders from Below. Processes of Re- and De-Bordering within the Post-Soviet Space* together with Beate Eschment. We were able to bring together academics from a variety of disciplines and post-Soviet contexts to discuss sometimes very sensitive topics, such as de facto borders, in a professional and scholarly manner, with some very exciting outcomes. ◀

Research Area

Migration and Diversity

Migration and diversity are closely connected issues, but the extent and forms of transnational life and cultural diversity in East European and Eurasian societies are yet understudied. This ZOiS research area considers the simultaneity and complexity of personal identities, networks, and the mobilisation of social and political engagement in transnational fields.

It focuses, on the one hand, on migrants in Germany with an East European background and, on the other hand, on migratory processes and their effects on societies within and outside Eastern Europe. The internal diversity of so-called migrant groups, different conditions and forms of living together in spaces shaped by migration, non-linear integration and identification processes over longer periods of time, and mutual dynamics of transnational relations are important issues in this regard. This research area also examines questions of religious and ethnic diversity, drawing on the examples of East European and Eurasian cities.

Transformation of Urban Spaces and Religious Pluralisation in the Caucasus

In collaboration with Prof. Ketevan Khutsishvili (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia), Prof. Manuchar Loria (Batumi State Maritime Academy, Georgia), and Dr Rajab Sattarov and Yulia Aliyeva (Centre for Sociological Research, Azerbaijan)

Urban space functions both as a stage where political power is manifested and as a laboratory of social change. Post-Soviet regional metropolises in the South Caucasus are crucial arenas for the manifestation of centralised state power – arenas in which religion is a new resource but also a source of tension. This project intensifies the focus on urban

spaces in Eastern Europe and Eurasia and aims to develop a new research perspective at the intersection of urban, diversity and religious studies. Post-socialist cities are a laboratory of diversity in which visible religiosity and atheistic lifestyles imprint themselves on politics and daily life without triggering conflicting reactions.

The project seeks to define and compare different patterns of religious pluralisation in the South Caucasus. Over the last two decades, religious pluralisation in this region has found its expression not only in a visible revival of traditional mainstream faiths and institutions (Orthodox Christianity and Sunni and Shia Islam), which underwent significant changes during the Soviet period, but also in the arrival of new promises and practices, such as Protestant and charismatic churches, new »purist« Muslim communities, popular folk beliefs, and small »foreign« communities such as Krishna and Bahai.

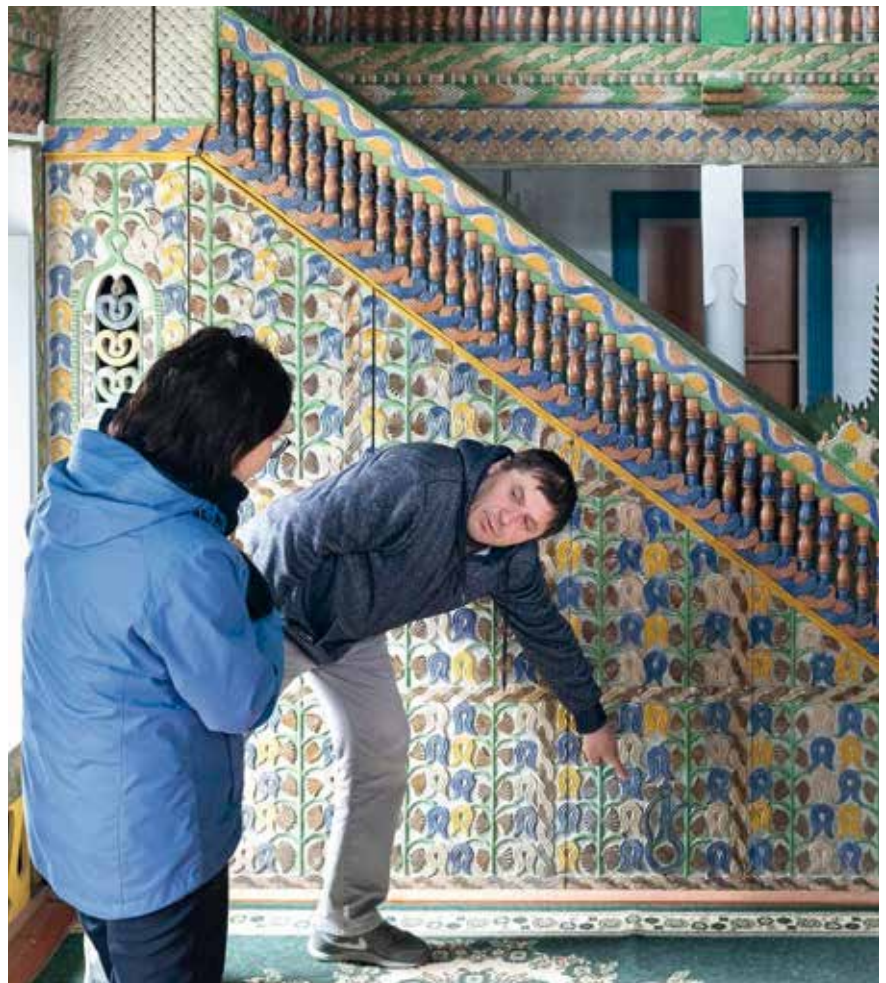
On the one hand, the project investigates the trend of creating spectacular new places of worship such as megamosques and mega-churches in regional metropolises. On the other hand, it also explores informal, alternative and hybrid religious practices and the use of urban spaces. How do local authorities in cities of the South Caucasus regulate emerging religious diversity in spatial and institutional terms? How are urban spaces and infrastructures accessed and experienced by religious and secular actors as venues of contact, tension, and affirmation of local and transnational identities?



Christian symbols at a small roadside shrine in Batumi, Georgia: informal religious sites such as this can be found at crossroads and railway stations, in parks and domestic courtyards across Georgia.

In May 2018, Tsypylma Darieva spent four weeks conducting fieldwork in Georgia and Azerbaijan. Through ethnographical study, observations and interviews, this first field visit aimed to gain an overview of urban policies, discourses and local administrative practices relating to religious and cultural diversity in Baku (Azerbaijan) and Batumi (Georgia). The questions posed in the structured interviews with academics, policy-makers and religious activists focused on the dynamics of urban development, secularism and the growth in internal religious pluralisation in the context of neoliberal authoritarian and less authoritarian societies. The visit also offered an opportunity to gain some initial ethnographical insights at specific places of worship. During her visit, Tsypylma Darieva was able to deepen her existing contacts with local academics and build new cooperation networks in the target regions, e.g. with Baku Research Institute, the Centre for Sociological Research in Baku, Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University and Ivane Javakhsishvili Tbilisi State University.

In November 2018, Tsypylma Darieva took the project a step further by intensifying her research collaboration with local scholars in Baku in regard to data collection, workshops and joint publications. She is also planning to expand and diversify her research and data collection methods by introducing a combination of quantitative surveys at selected



The Director of the Museum of Historical Ethnography in Adjara, which is housed in a former mosque, shows Tsypylma Darieva the ancient Georgian symbol of the sun, known as the borjgali. It still appears on official documents, including passports, and on coins in Georgia today.

locations and more in-depth expert interviews, to be undertaken in collaboration with local academics and students. She plans to conduct 300 flash interviews

and 60 expert interviews and collect visual images of religious diversity in secular cities such as Baku and Batumi. ◀

Three questions to...



Tsypylma Darieva
Social Anthropologist

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

2018 was an eventful, exciting and surprising year for the South Caucasus region. It gave me a lot to think about: peaceful mass protests and post-revolutionary expectations in Armenia, local protests and uncertainty around the elections in Georgia, and not least the road closures in Azerbaijan's capital Baku for the Formula 1 race in May 2018, while I was there doing field research.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

There was one specific moment when I was looking at various forms and agents of urban activism in Eastern European cities and realised that there was a research gap here. Cooperation between civil society initiatives, the centralist municipal authorities and neoliberal architects in Eastern Europe does not always work – the gap between them is simply too wide. Nevertheless, new trends, bargaining processes and practices are emerging in the region and narrowing the gap. We are seeing a varied repertoire of tactics and strategies being adopted with both political and non-political goals in relation to the shaping of the urban space. I am pleased to have the opportunity to publish some of the results of our discussions on urban activism together with colleagues from the fields of architecture and spatial planning research.

What was your highlight in 2018?

There were two: after a phase of intensive writing, I finished my book project – which I had been working on for several years – on transnational engagement and mobility of returnees with reference to the Armenian diaspora. That was immensely satisfying on a personal level. Going deeper in our ZOIS research project on religious pluralism in urban areas of the South Caucasus was another highlight. This involved broadening our methodologies and putting into practice an idea for cooperation with academics from the region. I have been working closely with two research teams in Georgia and Azerbaijan since November 2018. We will be able to report more fully on our experiences of this research collaboration in 2019. ◀

New Test Conditions in the »Laboratory of Peoples' Friendship«: The Situation of National Minorities in Kazakhstan

The Republic of Kazakhstan is a multi-ethnic state. Although large numbers of non-Kazakhs have left the country in the past 25 years, minority nationalities – of which there are more than 100 – still make up around 30 per cent of the population, coexisting peacefully despite the occasional localised conflicts that arise in daily life.

Since 1991, research has focused almost entirely on the situation of the country's two largest nationalities, i.e. the Kazakhs and the Russians, with »Kazakhisation« increasingly becoming the keyword. However, very little research has been done on the fine detail of the government's official nationalities policy, how it has impacted on the situation of the

many other stakeholders, and how it is viewed by these stakeholders. What's more, very little is known about the highly diverse starting points and development of many of Kazakhstan's minority nationalities. In her project, Beate Eschment investigates the role played by national interest representation and the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan



Uyghurs at the Spring Festival in Almaty.

(Assambleya Naroda Kazakhstana – ANK) in achieving peaceful interethnic relations and serving as a focal point for identity formation. The project applies a combination of methods, particularly including interviews with experts and representatives of various nationalities, discourse analysis of publications and speeches, and participatory observation at the local level.

The project's objective is to foster an understanding of official nationalities policy, to shed light on the current status of selected minority nationalities, and to make a well-founded assessment of the prospects for continued interethnic stability in Kazakhstan.

In April 2018, Beate Eschment became the first international scholar to have the opportunity to speak at the annual session of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan, thereby familiarising her to potential interlocutors. During a first field visit lasting around four weeks in September / October 2018, she was then able to conduct interviews with representatives of some of the minority nationalities' ethno-cultural associations and to gain access to books on the history and current status of individual national minorities that are only available in Ka-

zakhstan, as well as to newspapers and brochures. She also held meetings with some of Kazakhstan's own experts on the situation of the national minorities and official government policy. In Astana, she attended a nationwide conference of

Kazakhstani Germans, which enabled her to gather data on interethnic relations from many diverse localities and regions across the country. The findings of her fieldwork resulted in a refocusing of the project topic. ◀



A member of the Dungan Chinese Muslim minority at a private celebration in Almaty.

Three questions to...



Beate Eschment
Central Asia Expert

Which recent developments influenced your work in 2018?

During my fieldwork in Astana and Almaty, it became clear to me that nationality policy and interethnic relations are very sensitive issues in Kazakhstan today.

What did you learn in the context of your projects?

Naturally, I learned a lot from my fieldwork, but what fascinated me most is how diverse the various national minorities' connections to their respective historical homelands are, while their official representatives express an equally strong commitment to Kazakhstan.

What was your highlight in 2018?

My project highlight in 2018 was being invited to give a brief speech in Astana at the annual session of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan, to an audience of around 1,200 delegates, including President Nazarbayev and members of the government. I was the first international scholar to be given this opportunity. It had practical significance for my fieldwork as it familiarised me to potential interlocutors from national minorities of interest to me. ◀

Post-Soviet Migrants and Transnational Public Spheres on Social Media

The project looks at media usage among Russian-speaking migrants in an everyday context, based on an analysis of communication on the Russian social networking site VK.com. Tatiana Golova is studying how open groups and public pages associated with Russian-speaking migrants in Germany interact with other collective resources in Germany, Russia and the rest of the post-Soviet space. In light of the 2017 Bundestag elections in particular and the attempted mobilisation of ethnic Germans from Russia by the populist far right, the question guiding the project is to what extent transnational and politicised communication networks between Germany and Russia are developing and gaining in relevance through the engagement of post-Soviet migrants living in Germany.

In 2018, the following steps were taken in data gathering and analysis:

- 1) Development of a system for the collection, storage, processing, analysis and visualisation of interaction and text data from VK.com.

- 2) Sampling of collective resources such as open groups and public pages on VK.com and OK.ru.

- 3) Collection of data via the VK.com programme interface, testing of various procedures for analysis of interaction and text data, analysis of links between groups on social networks, visualisation of graphs.

- 4) Networks of open groups and public pages of post-Soviet migrants and other stakeholders with a connection to Germany were reconstructed with reference to reposts or published content. This enabled Tatiana Golova to map the transnational information flow from »East« to »West« and back and to empirically track the links between politicised post-Soviet migrants groups, the German far right and groups on the left of the political spectrum.

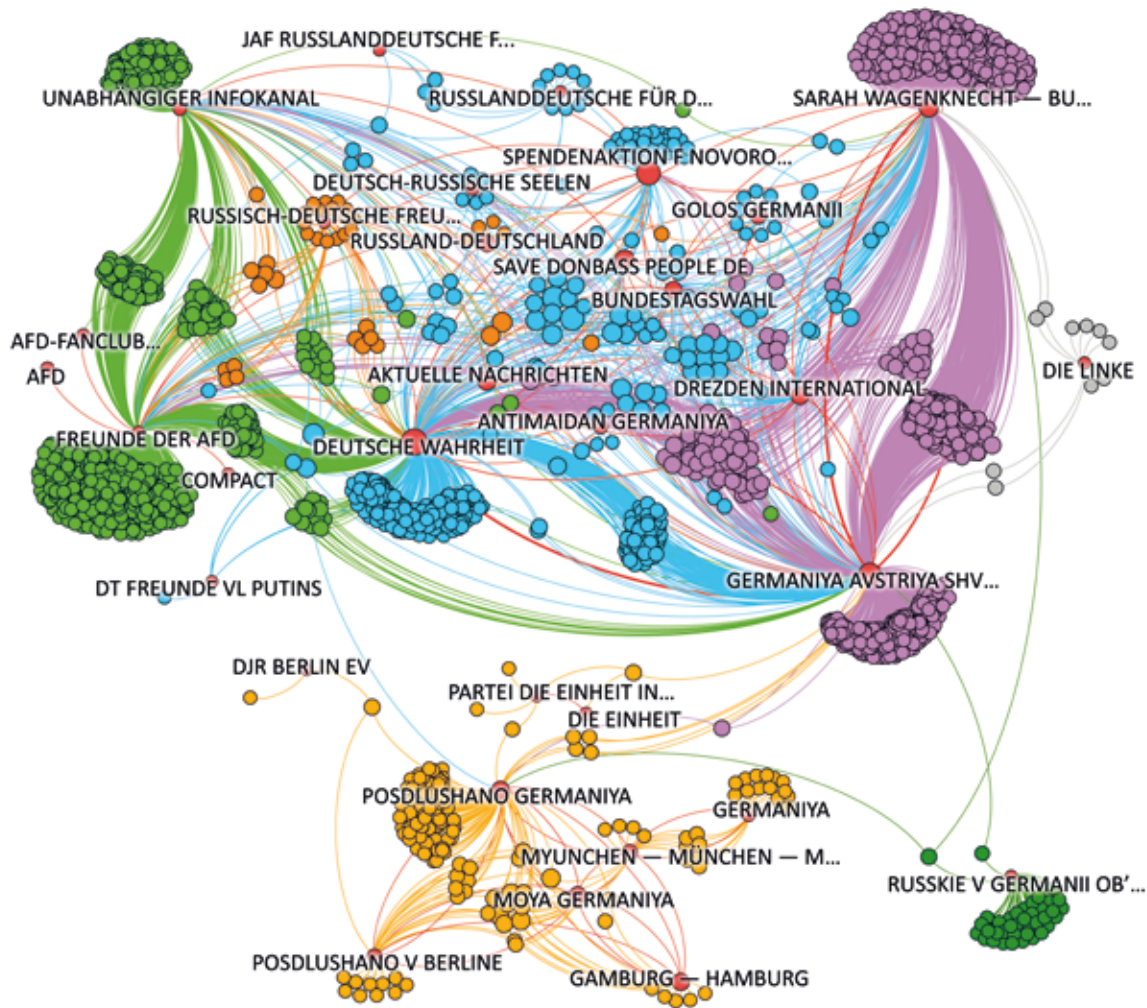
Initial project findings were published in ZOIS Report 2 / 2018, entitled *Post-Soviet Migrants and Transnational Public*

Spheres on Social Media. An academic paper was prepared and will be submitted for publication in early 2019. Tatiana Golova also presented her research findings at conferences and in lectures to academic audiences and the general public.

About the graphic

This graphic represents networks of groups and public pages (collective resources geared towards public communication) centred on Germany on the Russian social network VK.com (VKontakte) surveyed between January 2015 and June 2018. The connections were reconstructed on the basis of reposts and therefore show the information flow between the selected accounts and from other sources to those accounts, and hence the broader contours of transnational communication.

Some groups in the sample are directly connected to one another in that one refers directly to the other (or both refer to each other). In other cases the connec-



tion is indirect in that groups repost content from the same source(s). This leads to the creation of locally influential structural positions. What matters are not individual influential nodes but positions in the network: B is such a position if resources A and C both repost content from nodes B1, B2, B3, etc.

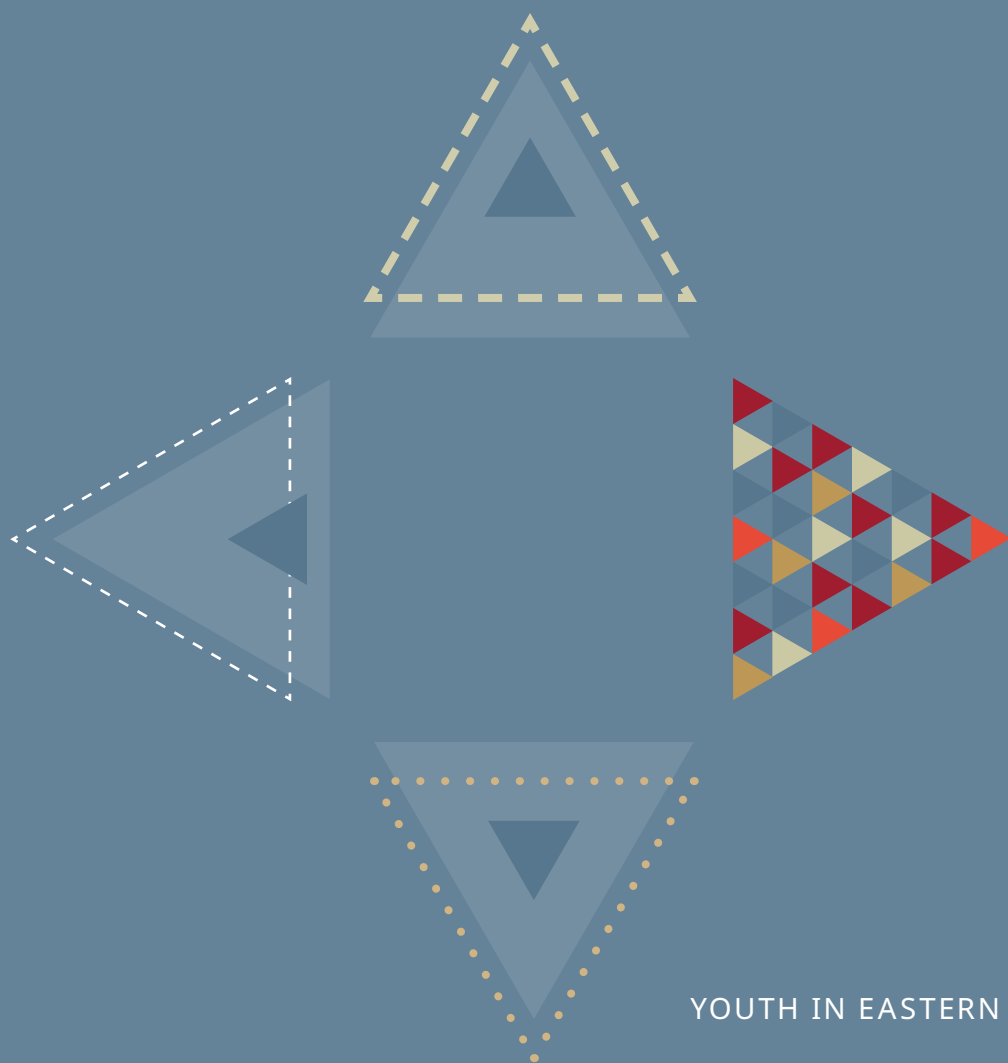
How to read the diagram

- ▶ By the colours of the nodes and lines (module classes): These are closely connected segments of nodes. The nodes in the sample are marked in red.

- ▶ By the size of the nodes (in-degree): The more groups repost from a node, the larger the circle.
- ▶ By the thickness of the lines: The more individual reposts from one node to another, the thicker the connection.
- ▶ By the direction of the links: The curved lines go clockwise from the reposter (A) to the source of the repost (B). Reading the lines anti-clockwise shows the information flow from B to A.

Segments with closely connected nodes are colour-coded.

- ▶ **Green:** German right-radical and right-populist groups
- ▶ **Blue:** Novorossiya / Anti-Euro-aidan / political mobilisation in Germany
- ▶ **Pink:** Transnational politicised groups and entertainment
- ▶ **Yellow:** Local networks of post-Soviet migrants and entertainment
- ▶ **Orange:** Russian-German relations
- ▶ **Grey:** The Left party (unofficial account)



YOUTH IN EASTERN EUROPE

Research Area

Youth in Eastern Europe

Youth plays a key role in the constant changes that politics and society undergo. On the one hand, young people may become politically active, on the other hand, youth provides a highly contested imaginary of a country's experiences and expectations. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, young people across Eastern Europe have experienced radical changes in their living conditions including the educational system, economic opportunities, and political conditions. These changes have implications for the relationship between young and old and the role young people play in Eastern Europe today as agents for change or stability. This research area aims to study not only political activism and generational change but also cultural practices, the identities of young people, their economic status as well as government initiated youth policies. The individual projects draw on different methods, such as surveys, interviews, focus groups, discourse and text analysis, and network analysis.

Youth as Political Actor and Social Imaginary

When do young people take to the streets to challenge or support the political regime in place? How do political regimes respond to the challenges emanating from youth mobilisation? In today's Russia, young people have taken to the streets on numerous occasions, both to pressure the existing regime and, at times, to express their support for it. Meanwhile, the symbol of youth in Rus-

sia enjoys a high visibility, and the media and politicians draw upon it, for example when referring to the role of the youthful Red Army during the Second World War or when they talk about expectations for the country's future.

This research project studies the political activism of young people in contemporary Russia. It builds an event history

database of pro- and anti-regime mobilisation in order to understand young people's protest behaviour, the drivers of and obstacles to their political engagement, and the relationship between those taking to the streets and the regime in place. To that end, young people's political participation is also analysed in its historical and cultural context. This project seeks to map the differ-



Anti-government: Young Russians protest the government's pension reforms.



Pro-government: The pavilion of Yunarmiya, a Russian organisation established by presidential decree in 2016 to provide military and patriotic education for the nation's youth.

ent and contradictory forms of engagement of young people and pays attention to how young people themselves understand the political space they inhabit.

Moreover, the project takes a closer look at the international diffusion of youth mobilisation. Taking Russian youth movements as a starting point, the project explores, through a number of case studies, how ideas, networks, and practices of mobilisation diffuse between Russia and Western Europe. This emphasis on diffusion also calls into question essentialising notions of 'East' and 'West'.

At the start of the project, Félix Krawatzek focused on preparing the collection of

data on the behaviour of young Russians during protests. The aim of the data collection, which will take place in 2019, is to quantitatively map the protest actions of different political streams, with a focus on Yekaterinburg and Saint Petersburg. The database records various types of mobilisation, the numbers of participants, their motivations, and cooperating groups, and captures the slogans employed and the public reaction. Focus group interviews will also be carried out in these cities in 2019 to enrich the findings from the database. The focus of these interviews will be twofold: first, the perception of protests among young people with different political views; and second, aspects such

as political and personal expectations of the future or memories of Russian and Soviet history.

As a result of his long-standing engagement with the political mobilisation of young people and the meaning of youth in moments of crisis, Félix Krawatzek's monograph *Youth in Regime Crisis: Comparative Perspectives from Russia to Weimar Germany* was published in autumn 2018. Drawing on contemporary Russia, Russia at the time of perestroika, France in and around 1968, and the Weimar Republic, he takes a comparative perspective that includes different political systems as well as linguistic and historical contexts. ◀

Surveying the Attitudes and Behaviour of Youth Across Eastern Europe

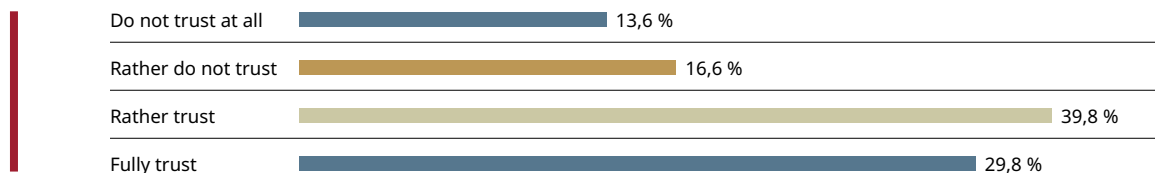
Based on a number of online surveys conducted across Eastern Europe, this project taps into the attitudes and behaviour of a generation that remains poorly understood. Through these surveys we identify the larger patterns of how young people perceive the political and social worlds they inhabit, how they identify with their countries' pasts, and what aspirations they have for their own futures. The first two surveys cover the Russian Federation (April 2018/April 2019) and are conducted among young(er) people aged 16 to 34 in fifteen regional capitals. Youth plays an important role in the official discourse

of the Russian government and has been shown to be loyal to the regime and to identify with conservative values. But young people have also been very visible in the protests in 2017–18, in particular the anti-corruption protest movement around Alexei Navalny. This contradiction within the young generation is not unique to Russia. Through a series of surveys across a range of countries (e.g. Belarus, Latvia, Poland), this project wishes to gain a deeper understanding of the features that explain the diversity of views among the young. We probe a range of different issues, such as the level of political interest, knowledge, and

public engagement of young people, their sources of information, personal networks, expectations, trust, and values. The online questionnaires combine novel survey techniques, including factual and picture quizzes as well as vignette and list experiments.

Félix Krawatzek and Gwendolyn Sasse focused on data collection through questionnaires among young people in Belarus, Poland, and Latvia. New survey data will also be gathered in Russia. For the purposes of the comparison, all surveys will have a similar focus, with adaptations for local needs. The surveys will

To what extent do you trust the Russian president?



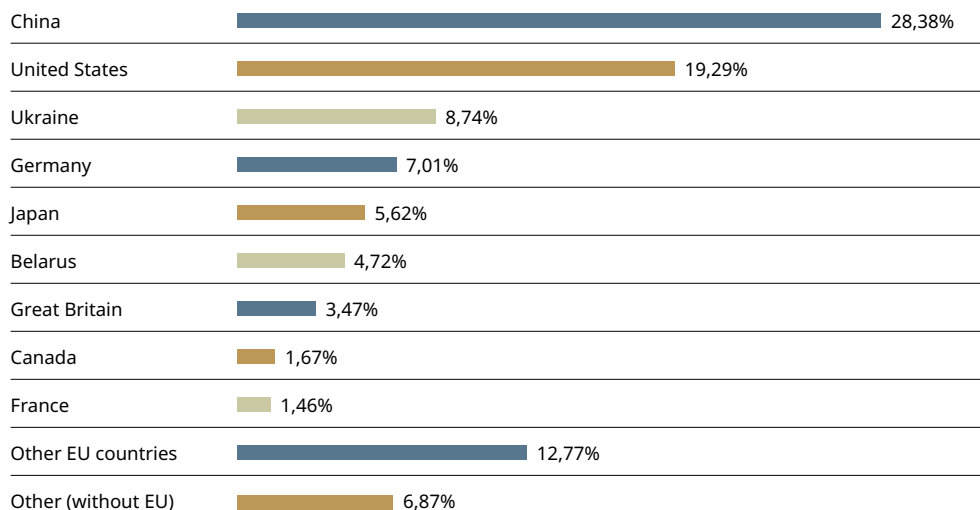
concentrate on political behaviour, social values, historical perceptions, and contacts with friends and family across national borders.

As part of the project, the first *Schule@ZOiS* (School@ZOiS) event took place in October 2018, entitled *What does Russia's youth think?* Ninth-grade students from Berlin and their teachers

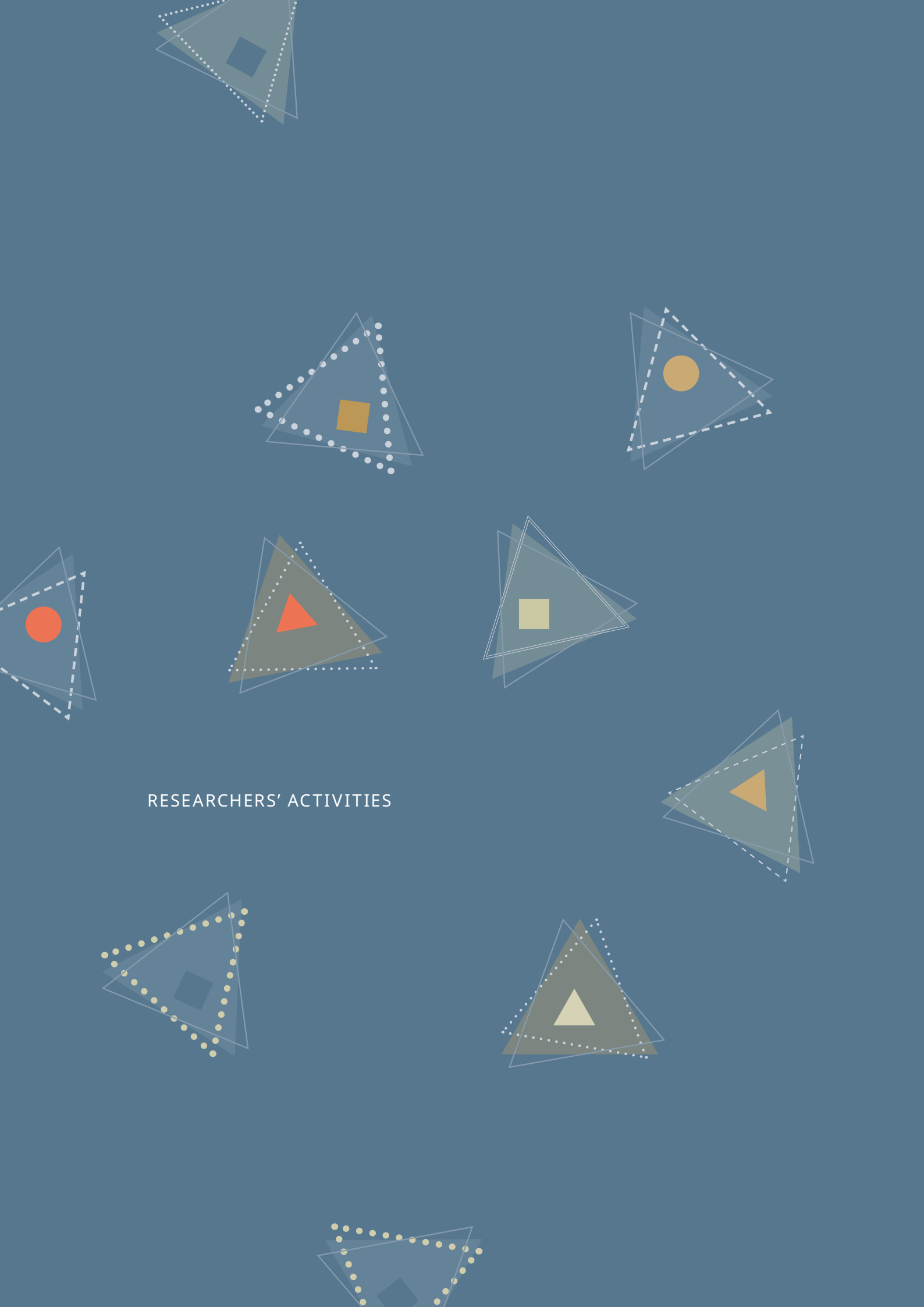
visited ZOiS and discussed various issues connected with the post-Soviet space with researchers. Félix Krawatzek and Gwendolyn Sasse presented the results of a survey of young Russians carried out in spring 2018. On the basis of these findings, they discussed with the students the meaning of youth in official Russian discourse and daily political life, the political engagement of young peo-

ple, their main sources of information, their foreign policy perspectives, their understanding of values, their potential for migration, and other issues. During the event, the students used their smartphones to take part in a live survey in which they answered some of the same questions that were asked of their Russians counterparts within the project. ◀

Which country would you like to see Russia develop closer relations ?



RESEARCHERS' ACTIVITIES



Researchers' Activities

DR TSYPYLMA DARIEVA

PUBLICATIONS

► Academic

- *Sacred Places-Emergent Spaces. Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus*, co-edited with Florian Mühlfried and Kevin Tuite, New York: Berghahn Books, 2018.
- 'Introduction'. In: *Sacred Places-Emergent Spaces. Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus*, co-edited with Florian Mühlfried and Kevin Tuite, pp. 1–18. New York: Berghahn Books, 2018.
- 'Between 'Great' and 'Little' Traditions? Situating Shia Saints in contemporary Baku'. In: *Sacred Places-Emergent Spaces. Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus*, co-edited with Florian Mühlfried and Kevin Tuite, pp. 19–45. New York: Berghahn Books, 2018.
- Book review: Siekierski, Konrad und Troebst, Stefan. *Armenians in Post-Socialist Europe*. In: *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas, E-Reviews*, Volume 8 (2): pp. 69–72, Köln: Böhlau, 2018.

► ZOiS knowledge transfer

- 'Migration and a new patriotism in Armenia'. ZOiS Spotlight 2 / 2018 (24 January 2018)
- 'Azerbaijan celebrates its secular legacy'. ZOiS Spotlight 23 / 2018 (20 June 2018)
- 'State authorities try to either appropriate and control or abolish hybrid sacred places'. ZOiS Meet the Author (17 July 2018)

EVENTS

► Academic

- **Prisma Ukraina, Forum Transregionale Studien (Berlin, 01 / 2018)**
Workshop *Religious Intersections in post-socialist Europe*
Panelist at *Religion as a Source of Conflict and Means of Reconciliation: the Case of Central-Eastern Europe*

- **Prisma Ukraina, Forum Transregionale Studien (Berlin, 01 / 2018)**
Workshop *Soviet Student Dormitories: Structures and Legacies*
Presentation *Spatial Structures of Student Dormitories: Privacy in Public*
- **Lund University (Lund, Sweden, 03 / 2018)**
Workshop *Migration and Informality in Central and Eastern Europe*
Panelist at *Informality and State: Governance of Migration and Politics*
Paper on *Root' Migrants between Informality and State Regulations*
- **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
ZOiS Annual Conference *Contested Spaces*
Co-organisation of the panel *Public Spaces between Secular and Religious Claims*
Presentation *Religious Pluralisation: Popular Beliefs and Informal Practices in Azerbaijan*
- **Baku State University (Baku, Azerbaijan, 05 / 2018)**
Conference *Azerbaijan Democratic Republic – 100: The First Parliamentary Republic in Muslim East*
Presentation and paper on *Transformation of Sacred Places in Azerbaijan*
- **The Working Group on Religion in the Black Sea Region (Kyiv, Ukraine, 06 / 2018)**
Workshop *Everyday Diplomacy: Religious Encounters from the Baltics to the Black Sea*
Panelist at *Overlapping Sovereignities and Identities: The Ethnicities of Immediacy after Violence*
- **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Book presentation and discussion of *Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus (Tsypylma Darieva)*
- **European Association of Social Anthropologists (Stockholm, Sweden, 08 / 2018)**
15th Biennial EASA Conference
Presentation on *Saint and the City. De-Secularization Processes in Urban Azerbaijan*

- ▶ **Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia, 09 / 2018)**
Conference *Cross-Cultural Studies. Emic-Etic Correlation in Research and Teaching*
Keynote lecture and chair of the panel discussion *Comparing Multiculturalism Debates and Crossing Cultures in the Caucasus*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Co-organisation of the workshop *Overcoming the Distance – »Urban Pioneers« in Eastern Europe*
Chair of the panel discussion *Plurality of Research Methods. Empirical Studies of Urban Youth and Social Change from Below*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 12 / 2018)**
Organisation of the book presentation and panelist at *Mobilities, Boundaries, and Travelling Ideas. Rethinking Translocality beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus*
- ▶ **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Berlin, 12 / 2018)**
Workshop *Translocal Ethnographies of Mobilities and Boundaries*
Presentation »Journey to the Future«: *a New Generation of Diasporic Philanthropy Transactions in Armenia*
- ▶ **Knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 09 / 2018)**
Panelist at the ZOiS Forum *Grenzländer – was wird aus den Staaten des Südkaukasus?* (in cooperation with Inforadio / rbb)
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Organisation of the ZOiS Forum *Urban Pioneers: Change »From Below« in Russia*
 - ▶ **German Federal Parliament (Berlin, 12 / 2018)**
Expert discussion with a member of the German parliament on *Secularity and Religious Diversity in Azerbaijan*

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *Es wäre noch zu früh über eine außenpolitische Wende in Armenien zu sprechen*
Interview for CaucasusWatch (12 May 2018)
- ▶ *Am Rande Europas: Was wird aus den Staaten des Südkaukasus?*
Panel discussion for a radio report by Inforadio / rbb (30 September 2018)

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Lectureship *Migration and diaspora research in the Caucasus and Central Asia* (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, summer semester 2018).

- ▶ Supervision of a master thesis on *Patriotic and pragmatic. Transnational Involvement of Current and Former International Students from Kazakhstan in the US* (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, winter semester 2018 / 2019).
- ▶ Mentor of a postdoctoral student sponsored by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, working on the research project *Trauma of Forced Migration and Narrative. Deportation of the Kalmyks (1943–56)*.

DR NADJA DOUGLAS

(On parental leave from March to December 2018)

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ 'Top-down or bottom-up? – Public control of the armed forces in post-Soviet Russia'. In: *Armed Forces & Society*, 2018.
- ▶ **ZOiS knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ 'Putin recognises the military's potential to foster patriotism'. ZOiS Meet the Author (17 January 2018)
 - ▶ 'Economic Confidence-Building Measures and Conflict Settlement«, with Stefan Wolff. ZOiS Work-in-Progress 1 / 2018 (10 January 2018)
 - ▶ 'The culture of policing in Armenia'. ZOiS Report 3 / 2018 (8 August 2018)
- ▶ **Other publications**
 - ▶ *Armenian Presidential elections. Unexciting at first sight, but potentially momentous in the long run*. *Baltic Worlds* (7 March 2018)

EVENTS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
ZOiS Annual Conference *Contested Spaces*
Presentation *Evolving Protest Culture and Trust in Institutions in the Armenian Context*
- ▶ **Knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ **German Federal Parliament (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
Participation in the General Assembly of the German-Moldovan Forum
Presentation *Confidence-building and Conflict Settlement in the Case of Transnistria*
 - ▶ **The Academic Association for Security Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
Lecture *Europe's Precarious Borders: The Conflict in Transnistria*

- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
World Café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Security Policy and Conflicts in the post-Soviet Space* together with Gwendolyn Sasse
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 04 / 2018)**
Organisation of the ZOIS Forum *The Arctic: Potential for Conflict and Cooperation*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Transnistria through the Lens of Art and Scholarship*

DR REGINA ELSNER

PUBLICATIONS

▶ Academic

- ▶ *Die Russische Orthodoxe Kirche vor der Herausforderung Moderne. Historische Wegmarken und theologische Optionen im Spannungsfeld von Einheit und Vielfalt*, Würzburg: Echter Verlag, 2018.
- ▶ 'Mit Gottes Hilfe – Die Russische Orthodoxe Kirche und der Sport'. *Religion & Gesellschaft in Ost und West* (RGOW) 4–5/2018: pp. 46–48.
- ▶ 'Wie ökumenisch sind »konservative christliche Allianzen«?' *Religion & Gesellschaft in Ost und West* (RGOW) 10/2018: pp. 18–20.
- ▶ 'Ein politisches Projekt? Der Konflikt um die orthodoxe Kirche in der Ukraine'. *Herder Korrespondenz* 12 / 2018: pp. 32–34 (10 December 2018).

▶ ZOIS knowledge transfer

- ▶ 'To the Church, protest and revolution are a catastrophe'. ZOIS Meet the Author (1 August 2018)
- ▶ 'An independent church in Ukraine: peace-maker or warmonger?' ZOIS-Spotlight 31 / 2018 (19 September 2018)

▶ Other publications

- ▶ *Wahlen in Russland: Nicht die Menschen mit dem System verwechseln*. Article for the feuilleton Feinschwarz (19 March 2018)
- ▶ 'Bystro #5: Schisma in der orthodoxen Kirche?' Online magazine Dekoder (17 October 2018)

EVENTS

▶ Academic

- ▶ **Prisma Ukraina, Forum Transregionale Studien (Berlin, 01 / 2018)**
Workshop *Religious Intersections in Post-Socialist Europe*
Panelist at *Religion as a Source of Conflict and Means of Reconciliation: the Case of Central-Eastern Europe*

- ▶ **Evangelische Akademie Loccum (Rehburg-Loccum, 02 / 2018)**
Participation in the conference *Neue Entspannungspolitik? Die Kirchen als friedenspolitische Akteure im Ukraine-Russland Konflikt?*
- ▶ **European Academy of Religion (Bologna, Italy, 03 / 2018)**
Annual Conference 2018
Presentation »Living Tradition«? *Changing and Conserving Tradition in Current Russian Orthodox Social Ethics – The Case of Peace-Ethics*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
ZOIS Annual Conference *Contested Spaces*
Chair of the panel discussion *Public Spaces between Secular and Religious Claims*
- ▶ **Annual Convention of the Association for the Study of the Nations (New York, USA, 05 / 2018)**
Presentation »Blessed are the Peacemakers«: *Russian Orthodox Ethics of Peace and War in the Face of the Ukrainian Crisis*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Chair of the book presentation and panel discussion *Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus (Tsypylma Darieva)*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Book presentation and discussion of *Die Russische Orthodoxe Kirche vor der Herausforderung Moderne (Regina Elsner)*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 07 / 2018)**
ZOIS Research Colloquium
Presentation *Ethics of Peace vs. Theology of War. Dynamics of Russian Orthodox Peace Ethics in Times of War in Ukraine*
- ▶ **Evangelische Akademie Meißen (Meißen, 10 / 2018)**
Participation in the conference *(Post-)Sozialismus und Religion*
Presentation and chair of the workshop *Religion und Kirchen in und nach der UdSSR*
- ▶ **Knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
World Café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Church and Society in Russia*
 - ▶ **Kieznerds (Berlin, 04 / 2018)**
Conversations about religion as part of the *March for Science Berlin*
 - ▶ **German Bishops' Conference (Magdeburg, 04 / 2018)**
Meeting of the working group *Kirchen des Ostens*

- ▶ **101. German Catholic Convention (Münster, 05 / 2018)**
Presentation and panelist at *Russische Welt – Europäische Werte. Fragen an die Friedensethik der Russischen Orthodoxen Kirche*
- ▶ **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Presentation *Ist Russland ein europäisches Land?*
- ▶ **German Federal Parliament (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Briefing of a member of the German parliament on *Religion in Russland und der Ukraine*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Press briefing on *Die Russische Orthodoxe Kirche: Bollwerk gegen westliche Werte?*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Press briefing with freelance journalists on *Russisch-Orthodoxe Kirche und Sport*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Press briefings with Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Die Zeit, Deutsche Welle and Radio Free Europe on the situation of the Orthodox churches in Ukraine
- ▶ **Federal Foreign Office (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Briefing of the Ukraine division on the conflict of the Orthodox churches in Ukraine
- ▶ **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Participation in the conference *Russland und Europa: Historische Wege der Interaktion*
- ▶ **Federal Foreign Office (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Briefing of the Policy Planning Staff on conflict of the Orthodox churches in Ukraine
- ▶ **German Bishops' Conference (Bonn, 11 / 2018)**
Meeting of the working group *Kirchen des Ostens*
- ▶ **Pro Oriente (Vienna, 11 / 2018)**
Participation in the constitution of the new Commission for the Orthodox-Catholic Dialogue
- ▶ Interviews for Bayerischer Rundfunk on the situation of the church in Ukraine and the relationship between the state and the church in Russia, for Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung on the role of the Russian Orthodox Church in memory of the assassination of the Tsar in 1918, and for Hessischer Rundfunk as part of the Funkkolleg series »religion, power, politics«.

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *FIFA WM 2018: Verteidiger im Namen Gottes*
Interview for Deutschlandfunk (26 June 2018)
- ▶ *Осень патриархов: как РПЦ может ответить на автокефалию Украине*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (13 September 2018)
- ▶ *Der Bruderzwist in der orthodoxen Kirche droht zu eskalieren*

- Assessment for Neue Zürcher Zeitung (21 September 2018)
- ▶ *Das mächtige Moskauer Patriarchat wird schrumpfen*
Assessment for Die Zeit (21 September 2018)
- ▶ *Beben von historischem Ausmaß erschüttert die orthodoxe Kirche*
- ▶ Assessment for Süddeutsche Zeitung (22 September 2018)
- ▶ *Kiew und Moskau liegen über Kreuz*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (10 October 2018)
- ▶ *Beten verboten!*
Assessment for Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (17 October 2018)
- ▶ *Moral statt Freiheit?*
Interview for Publik-Forum (26 October 2018)
- ▶ *Elsner: CPC i MPC neće brzo do priznanja autokefalnosti*
Interview for Radio Free Europe Balkan Service (29 October 2018)

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Lecture on *Individual and community: understandings of human rights in Eastern and Western Christendom and Christian social ethics as a dialogue between church and society* as part of the Kyiv Theological Summer School (Lishnya, Ukraine, 07 / 2018).
- ▶ Participation in the event *Living Books. In conversation with researchers from the social sciences and humanities* (Freie Universität Berlin, 10 / 2018).
- ▶ Lecture *Between patriarchy and Pussy Riot: men, women, and gender in the Russian Orthodox Church* as part of the lecture series *Religion and gender: construction, media, experiences* (University of Erfurt, 12 / 2018).

DR BEATE ESCHMENT

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ *'Usbekistan auf Reformkurs?'* Religion & Gesellschaft in Ost und West (RGOW) 46 / 2: pp. 12–14, 2018.
- ▶ **ZOiS knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ *'All obstacles removed?'* ZOiS Spotlight 5 / 2018 (14 February 2018)
 - ▶ *'Prestige project in Tajikistan – the Rogun hydropower plant'*. ZOiS Spotlight 41 / 2018 (28 November 2018)
- ▶ **Other publications**
 - ▶ Editorial director of Zentralasien-Analysen: Nr. 121, *Tadschikistan und die chinesische »Belt and Road«-Initiative* (26 January 2018)
 - Nr. 122, *Die neue Außenpolitik Usbekistans* (23 February 2018)

- Nr. 123, *Kirgistan's Mitgliedschaft in der Eurasischen Wirtschaftsunion* (29 March 2018)
- Nr. 124, *Arbeitsmigration und Feminisierung der Landwirtschaft in Tadschikistan und Usbekistan* (27 April 2018)
- Nr. 125, *Expertenmeinungen zur Situation in Turkmenistan* (1) (25 May 2018)
- Nr. 126, *Expertenmeinungen zur Situation in Turkmenistan* (2) (29 June 2018)
- Nr. 127–128, *Umgang mit zentralasiatischen Arbeitsmigranten in Russland; Die Wahrnehmung der Europäischen Union in Zentralasien* (27 July 2018)
- Nr. 129, *Anpassungsprobleme afghanischer Kirgisen an das Leben in Kirgistan* (28 September 2018)
- Nr. 130, *Säkularer Staat und Islamismus in Tadschikistan* (26 October 2018)
- Nr. 131, *Terrorismusbekämpfung via Internet in Zentralasien* (30 November 2018)
- Nr. 132, *Flüchtlingsschutz in Zentralasien* (21 December 2018)
- ▶ Editor of »Länder-Informations-Portal (LIPortal)« of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

EVENTS

▶ Academic

- ▶ **Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Germersheim, 01 / 2018)**
Presentation *Erfahrung in der Vermittlung von Wissen über Zentralasien*
Working group *Russian and Slavic Studies*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Co-Organisation of the workshop *Borders from Below. Processes of Re- and De-Bordering within the Post-Soviet Space* in cooperation with the Viadrina Center of B / ORDERS IN MOTION
Chair of the panel discussion »Contested« *Borders*

▶ Knowledge transfer

- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
World Café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Central Asia together with Ann-Sophie Gast*
- ▶ **Federal Foreign Office (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
Meeting of Central Asia experts on *Fokus der neuen Zentralasien-Strategie der Europäischen Union*
- ▶ **26th Session of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan (Astana, Kazakhstan, 04 / 2018)**
Comment on the nationality policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- ▶ **Akademija Gosudarstvennogo Upravlenija pri Prezidente RK (Astana, Kazakhstan, 04 / 2018)**
Participation in the roundtable *Model' nacional'noj identichnosti Kazakhstana*

- ▶ **Academy for International Cooperation GIZ (Bonn, 05 / 2018)**
Briefing of a Foundation employee ahead of her work in Kazakhstan as well as a GIZ employee ahead of his work in Kyrgyzstan
- ▶ **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, 06 / 2018)**
Participation in the conference *Zentralasien vor einem neuen Great Game? Herausforderungen für die Sicherheits-, Energie- und Geopolitik*
- ▶ **n-ost (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Diktatoren, Öl und Seidenstraße. Zentralasien in der deutschen Öffentlichkeit*
- ▶ **Deutschlandfunk Kultur (Berlin, 07 / 2018)**
Press briefing on Central Asia
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 09 / 2018)**
Conversation with Golineh Atai about the topic *Zwischen Wasserkrise und gesellschaftlichem Wandel. Eine journalistische Reise durch Usbekistan*
- ▶ **Robert Bosch Stiftung (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Participation in an expert workshop on Central Asia
- ▶ **Federal Ministry, Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs (Austria, Vienna, 11 / 2018)**
Participation in the *EU-Russia-Central Asia Workshop*, organised by the EU-Russia Expert Network
- ▶ Briefing of representatives of the Alliance of Science Organisations in Germany on the situation in Central Asia (07 / 2018) as well as a member of the German parliament on the political situation in Kyrgyzstan (09 / 2018).
- ▶ Meeting with journalists from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan as part of the project *Grenznahe Zusammenarbeit* of the Deutsche Welle Akademie (ZOiS, Berlin, 12 / 2018).

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *Казахстан между хиджабом и светским обществом*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (24 January 2018)
- ▶ *Киргизия, Таджикистан, Узбекистан: борьба с коррупцией или за власть?*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (26 February 2018)
- ▶ *Встреча Мирзиёева и Рахмона: с чем президент Узбекистана прибыл в Душанбе*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (9 March 2018)
- ▶ *Киргизия на пути к политическому кризису: Атамбаев против Жээнбекова*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (13 April 2018)
- ▶ *Киргизия: противостояние старого и нового президентов продолжается*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (25 April 2018)
- ▶ *Через 8 лет после трагедии в Оше: помирились ли киргизы с узбеками?*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (10 June 2018)

- ▶ *Die Kasachen sind die Gastgeber*
Interview for Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung
(22 June 2018)
- ▶ *Станут ли Казахстан и Киргизия союзниками Турции в походе против доллара?*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (7 September 2018)
- ▶ *Как Астана защитит себя от последствий новых санкций США против РФ*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (15 September 2018)
- ▶ *Почему экс-президенты Киргизии могут лишиться неприкосновенности*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (10 October 2018)
- ▶ *В Таджикистане запустили Рогунскую ГЭС. Что дальше?*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (16 November 2018)
- ▶ *Зачем парламент Киргизии отменяет иммунитет экс-президентов*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (20 December 2018)

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Lectureship *Guter Patriotismus, schlechter Nationalismus? Nationalitätenpolitik in den Staaten Zentralasiens* (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, winter semester 2018 / 19).
- ▶ Lecture *Widersprüchliche Entwicklungen – Frauen in Zentralasien zwischen Sowjeterbe, westlicher Moderne und (Re)Traditionalisierung* as part of the seminar *Gender, Staat und Nation in Osteuropa* by Prof. Katharina Bluhm (Freie Universität Berlin, 07 / 2018).

DR NINA FRIESS

(On parental leave from October 2017 to September 2018)

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ 'Wann kommt die Flut? Verschwindende Dörfer in Roman Senčins "Überflutungszone"'. In: *Topografische Leerstellen. Ästhetisierungen verschwindender und verschwundener Dörfer und Landschaften, Rurale Topografien*, Bd. 4, edited by Martin Ehrler and Marc Weiland, pp. 331–348. Bielefeld: transcript Verlag, 2018.
- ▶ **ZOiS knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ 'Of writing and writers from Georgia'. ZOiS Spotlight 34 / 2018 (10 October 2018)

EVENTS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ **Annual Conference of the Görres Gesellschaft zur Pflege der Wissenschaft (Bamberg, 09 / 2018)**
Participation and presentation on *Der Krieg hat ein weibliches Gesicht. Russlands Tschetschenienkriege aus Frauenperspektive*
- ▶ **Knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ **Bochumer Symphoniker (Bochum, 10 / 2018)**
Participation in the conversation *BoSy Fokus 1 – Fremde / Heimat – Komponieren im Exil*
Panelist at *Der Nachhall des Gulag*
 - ▶ **University of Potsdam (Potsdam, 10 / 2018)**
Participation in the expert discussion of the film screening *3 Räume der Melancholie*

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Co-supervision of a bachelor thesis on *The Soviet Union and Russia at the 1957, 1985, and 2017 World Festivals of Youth and Students: a comparison of self-expression* (University of Potsdam, summer semester 2018).
- ▶ Lectureship *Nothing and no one forgotten? The culture of memory and the politics of history in contemporary Russia* (Freie Universität Berlin, winter semester 2018 / 19).
- ▶ *Schule@ZOiS*: A class of the Carlo-Schmid-Oberschule Spandau visited a presentation on *Russian politics of memory* (ZOiS, Berlin, 12 / 2018).

ANN-SOPHIE GAST

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ 'Russlands Rolle in Zentralasien: Ringen um Einfluss und Verbündete'. *Religion und Gesellschaft in Ost und West (RGOW)* 2 / 2018: pp. 6–9.
- ▶ **ZOiS knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ 'Central Asia and Russia's presidential election'. ZOiS Spotlight 8 / 2018 (7 March 2018)
 - ▶ 'Warum Kirgistans Mitgliedschaft in der Eurasischen Wirtschaftsunion bisher kein Erfolg war'. *Zentralasien-Analysen* no. 123: pp. 2–5 (29 March 2018)

▶ **Other publications**

- ▶ 'Zukunft der russisch-deutschen Beziehungen'. In: Russland und Deutschland – Ein Dialog über die Zukunft, edited by T. Chruljowa, I. Gretzkij and N. Wlassow. Petersburg Dialog, 2018.
- ▶ 'Schluss mit dem Augenzwinkern Richtung Moskau!' with Niklas Kossow and Mattia Nelles. IPG-Journal (30 July 2018).
- ▶ 'Kyrgyzstan and the Eurasian Economic Union – A Partnership with Obstacles'. OSCE Policy Brief no. 45. Bishkek: OSCE Academy Bishkek, 2018.

EVENTS

▶ **Academic**▶ **International Studies Associations (San Francisco, USA, 04 / 2018)**

59th Annual Convention

Presentation *Regional Governance in Eurasia: How Russia Rebuilds the Eurasian Region in the panel The Impact of States and Organizations in a Regional Context*Presentation *The Diffusion of Electoral Malpractice: How the Post-Soviet States Use Regional Organizations to Legitimize Elections in the panel Domestic and International Aspects of Electoral Norms and Practices*▶ **European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference (Hamburg, 08 / 2018)**Chair of the panel discussion *Regional Dimensions of Authoritarianism – Cooperation, Diffusion and Power Dynamic*Presentation *The Eurasian Economic Union – A Case of Deep Regional Integration Among Autocratic States?*▶ **Knowledge transfer**▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**World Café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Central Asia* together with Beate Eschment▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 07 / 2018)**Conversation with Thomas Ambrosio about *The Spread of Hereditary Succession in the former Soviet Union: Political dynasties in Central Asia?*▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 12 / 2018)**Chair of the book presentation *Mobilities, Boundaries, and Travelling Ideas. Rethinking Translocality Beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus*▶ **Other activities**

- ▶ Six-week research stay at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, United States (from 1 September to 14 October 2018).

PUBLICATIONS

▶ **Academic**

- ▶ 'Skłoting w Leningradzie/Petersburgu i moralna ekonomia relacji publiczno-prywatnych'. In: Skłoting w Europie Środkowej i Rosji, edited by Dominika Polanska, Grzegorz Piotrowski, Miguel Martínez, pp. 125–148. Gdansk: ESC (polish translation of 'Squatting and the moral economy of public-private relations: Leningrad / St Petersburg'. *Baltic Worlds*, April 2016 Vol. XI: 1–2, Theme: «Squatting in the East», pp. 57–67.)

▶ **ZOiS knowledge transfer**

- ▶ 'Political spaces of Russian opposition'. ZOiS Spotlight 4 / 2018 (7 February 2018)
- ▶ 'Postsowjetische Migranten in Deutschland und transnationale Social Media-Öffentlichkeiten'. ZOiS Report 2 / 2018 (9 July 2018)
- ▶ 'Social media networks of the post-Soviet minority in Germany'. ZOiS Spotlight 26 / 2018 (11 July 2018)

▶ **Other publications**

- ▶ 'Postsowjetische Migranten in Sozialen Netzwerken'. Dossier on Russian Germans, Federal Agency for Civic Education (26 September 2018)

EVENTS

▶ **Academic**▶ **Institute for East European Studies, Freie Universität Berlin (Berlin, 01 / 2018)**Presentation *Mobilisierung von unten: Aktivisten-netzwerke in Novosibirsk*▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03/2018)**ZOiS Conference *Contested Spaces*Co-organisation of the panel discussion *Contested Spaces of Collective Action between State and Society*Presentation *Politics of the Practical: How Do Diverse Activists in Novosibirsk Create Common Ground?*Chair of the panel *Phantomgrenzen in der Ukraine: Sozialräumliche und literaturwissenschaftliche Perspektiven*▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**World café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Civil society in Russia*▶ **4th Eastern Platform (Tartu, Estonia, 03 / 2018)**Conference *All Quiet on the Western Front? EU-Russia Relations in the Age of Populism*Presentation on *Post-Soviet Migrants in Germany and Transnational Illiberalism on Social Media*

- ▶ **Centre for East European an International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Co-organisation of the workshop *Overcoming the Distance – »Urban Pioneers« in Eastern Europe*
Presentation *Speaking with the Activists (Offline)* vs. *Watching them Interact (Online) – How to Learn More from the Combination of Qualitative Interviews and Social Network Analysis on SNS?*
- ▶ **Indiana University Bloomington (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Workshop *Urban Activism and the Development of Civil Society in the Russian Federation*
Panelist at *Political Linkages: Within System and Out-of-System Participation*
- ▶ **Knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ **Centre for East European an International Studies (Berlin, 02 / 2018)**
Organisation of the ZOiS Forum *Regions in Flux: Siberia before the Russian Presidential Election*
Presentation on the topic *Politische Lage und Aktivistennetzwerke in Nowosibirsk*
 - ▶ **Federal Agency for Civic Education (Köln, 05 / 2018)**
Conference *Perzeption – Partizipation – Politische Bildung. Deutsche aus Russland und russischsprachige Gruppen in Deutschland*
Panelist at *Vertrautheit, Unterhaltung, Manipulation – Bedeutung russischsprachiger Medien für Migranten aus dem postsowjetischen Raum*
Workshop *Russische soziale Medien in Deutschland*
 - ▶ **Long Night of the Sciences 2018 (Berlin, 06 / 2019)**
Presentation of her research in the context of a poster session at ZOiS
 - ▶ **Centre for East European an International Studies (Berlin, 07 / 2019)**
Presentation of the ZOiS Report 2 / 2018 *Postsowjetische Migranten in Deutschland und transnationale Social Media-Öffentlichkeiten* in the event series *In conversation with...*
 - ▶ **Federal Agency for Civic Education (Dresden, 09 / 2018)**
Conference *Die neue Mitte? Rechte Ideologien und Bewegungen in Europa*
Workshop *Die radikale Rechte in den postkommunistischen Gesellschaften – ein Ländervergleich*
 - ▶ **Centre for East European an International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Organisation and chair of the ZOiS Forum *Urban Pioneers: Wandel »von unten« in Russland*

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *In Russland regt sich der Wunsch nach einer echten Opposition*
Assessment for *Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung* (13 March 2018)
- ▶ *Nähe im Netz. Rechte Deutsche nehmen medialen Einfluss auf postsowjetische Migranten*
Commentary on the ZOiS Report 2 / 2018 in *Tagesspiegel* (11 June 2018)
- ▶ *Russisch-deutsche Identität im Netz*
Article about the ZOiS Report 2 / 2018 in *taz* (13 July 2018)
- ▶ *So verbünden sich im »russischen Facebook« Rechtsradikale mit Deutschrussen*
Assessment for *Focus Online* (12 July 2018)
- ▶ *Соцсети – инструмент влияния Кремля на постсоветских мигрантов в ФРГ?*
Interview for *Deutsche Welle* (12 July 2018)
- ▶ *Russisch-deutsche Identität im Netz*
Assessment for *taz* (13 July 2018)
- ▶ *ВКонтакте с Альтернативой для Германии*
Interview for *openDemocracy* (4 September 2018)
- ▶ *Angekommen, integriert und unbeachtet?*
Interview for a programme of *Kulturradio / rbb* (19 November 2018)

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Supervision of a master thesis on *Space, identity, and biography in the academic choices of post-Soviet migrants* (Freie Universität Berlin, 2017–18).

DR FÉLIX KRAWATZEK

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ **Academic**
 - ▶ *Youth in Regime Crisis: Comparative Perspectives from Russia to Weimar Germany*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
 - ▶ 'Bringing the Past into the Present: Toward a New Social Scientific Research Agenda', with George Soroka. *Journal of Politics* vol. 80, no. 4, 2018.
 - ▶ Book review: Uladzislau Belavusau and Aleksandra Gliszczynska-Grabias (eds.). *Law and Memory: Towards Legal Governance of History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017). In: *Journal of Law and Society* vol. 45, no. 2 / 2018: pp. 323–29, 2018.

▶ ZOiS knowledge transfer

- ▶ 'Youth in Russia: Outlook on Life and Political Attitudes'. ZOiS Report 1 / 2018, with Gwendolyn Sasse (20 June 2018)
- ▶ 'Historical loyalty? Russian youth and its assessment of history'. ZOiS Spotlight 39 / 2018 (14 November 2018)
- ▶ 'In Russia, youth is not necessarily progressive'. ZOiS Meet the Author (13 December 2018)

EVENTS

▶ Academic

- ▶ **Harvard University (Cambridge, USA, 08 / 2018)**
Co-organisation of the conference *Circulating across Europe? Transgressive Narratives about the Past*
Presentation with George Soroka on the topic *Democratic Backsliding: Memory Laws and Nation-building in a Post-National World*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Workshop *Die Last der Geschichte(n)? Regionalkonflikte und Legitimität im östlichen Europa*
Presentation *The Proliferation of Memory Laws and how (not) to Deal with Painful Histories*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Workshop *Overcoming the Distance – 'Urban Pioneers' in Eastern Europe*
Presentation on the topic *What Surveys Can(not) Reveal: Understanding the Potential for Change Amongst Russian Youth*
- ▶ **Universidad Complutense Madrid (Madrid, Spain, 11 / 2018)**
Conference *Repensar el pasado: La memoria (trans)cultural Europea*
Keynote *European Memory in Light of Brexit*
- ▶ **Harvard University (Cambridge, USA, 12 / 2018)**
Book presentation *Youth in Regime Crisis: Russia in Context (Félix Krawatzek)*
- ▶ **50th Annual ASEES Convention (Boston, USA, 12 / 2018)**
Presentation *What Matters?: Russian Youth and Their Evaluation of National History*
- ▶ **Stiftung Genshagen (Ludwigsfelde, 12 / 2018)**
Research residence at Schloss Genshagen to work on the essay project *Fracturing Europe: Brexit as Critical Juncture of 'European Memory'*

▶ Knowledge transfer

- ▶ **Trilateral Youth Forum Kazan (Kazan, Russia, 09 / 2018)**
Keynote on the topic *Future of Trilateral Relations: Cooperation or Conflict?*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Panelist at the ZOiS Forum event *Urban Pioneers: Change »From Below« in Russia*
Presentation of the ZOiS Report 1 / 2018 *Youth in Russia: Outlook on Life and Political Attitudes* in the Federal Chancellery and the Federal Foreign Office.

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *Studie: Wie die jungen Russen ticken*
Interview for Deutsche Welle (3 July 2018)
- ▶ *Weshalb die »Puteens« für Putin keine Gefahr darstellen*
The article by Gwendolyn Sasse for Neue Zürcher Zeitung refers to the ZOiS Report 1 / 2018 (27 July 2018)

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Schule@ZOiS: A class from the Werner-von-Siemens-Gymnasium visited the presentation *»What does Russia's Youth think?«* and participated in the discussion of the ZOiS youth survey (ZOiS, Berlin, 10 / 2018).

DR JULIA LANGBEIN

PUBLICATIONS

▶ Academic

- ▶ 'Varieties of Social Orders: The political and economic fundamentals of hybrid (in)stability in the post-Soviet space', with Esther Ademmer and Tanja Börzel. EU-STRAT Working Paper No.11, Berlin: Freie Universität Berlin, 2018.

EVENTS

▶ Academic

- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
ZOiS Annual Conference *Contested Spaces*
Chair of the panel *Public Spaces between Secular and Religious Claims*

► **Leuphana University of Lüneburg
(Lüneburg, 05 / 2018)**

Network External Democracy Promotion
Presentation *Varieties of Limited Access Orders:
The Nexus between Politics and Economics in
non-Democracies* with Esther Ademmer

► **German Political Science Association
(Frankfurt am Main, 09 / 2018)**

Co-organisation of the panel *Das »Ende der Geschichte«
in weiter Ferne: Neue Einsichten in die Überlebensfähig-
keit nicht-demokratischer Regime*
Presentation *Varieties of Limited Access Orders:
The Nexus between Politics and Economics in
non-Democracies* with Esther Ademmer

► **Knowledge transfer**

► **Centre for East European and International
Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**

World café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Economy in Russia*

► **Institute for European Politics, Federal Foreign
Office (Berlin, 04 / 2018)**

Participation in a workshop on the topic *Flexible
Nachbarschaften: Intensivierte Partnerschaftsmodelle
für besondere Nachbarn der EU*
Presentation *Politische Beziehungen und institutionelle
Anbindung – ein Rahmenmodell für unterschiedliche
Nachbarn?*

► **European Academy Berlin (Berlin, 05 / 2018)**

Panelist at *Wirtschaftliche und politische Folgen des
EU-Ukraine Assoziierungsabkommens*

► **Annual Conference of the Institute for European
Politics (Berlin, 09 / 2018)**

Panelist at *Reform der EU-Außenbeziehungen: Einbindung
von Nachbarn unterhalb der Mitgliedschaft*

► **Centre for East European and International
Studies (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**

Chair at the ZOiS Forum event *Private Ownership in
Russia: Between Individual Rights and State Control as
part of the book presentation The Tragedy of Property:
Private Life, Ownership and the Russian State (Maxim
Trudoljubow)*

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- Supervision of master theses on the topics *Between
the EU and Russia. The EaP countries through the
glasses of interdependence theory* and *Politicization
in EU Enlargement* (Freie Universität Berlin, summer
semester 2018 & winter semester 2018 / 19).

PUBLICATIONS

► **Academic**

- 'War and Identity: the case of the Donbas in Ukraine',
with Alice Lackner. *Post-Soviet Affairs* vol. 34, no. 2–3:
pp. 139–157, 2018.
- 'Introduction: Studying identity in Ukraine', with Olga
Onuch and Henry E. Hale. *Post-Soviet Affairs* vol. 34,
no. 2–3: pp. 79–83, 2018.

► **ZOiS knowledge transfer**

- *Youth in Russia: Outlook on Life and Political Attitudes*.
ZOiS Report 1 / 2018 with Félix Krawatzek (20 June 2018)
- 'Linking language and security in Ukraine'. ZOiS Spot-
light 17 / 2018 (9 May 2018)
- 'Public Perceptions in Flux: Identities, War, and
Transnational Linkages in Ukraine'. ZOiS Report
4 / 2018 with Alice Lackner (5 December 2018)

► **Other publications**

- 'Krieg – die neue Normalität in der Ukraine?'
Ukraine-Analysen no. 194: pp. 8–10 (25 January 2018)
- 'Ukraine's Youth: Politically Disinterested and Low
Trust in the EU'. Blog post for Strategic Europe
(29 January 2018)
- 'Im Donbass schwelt ein Krieg, der ganz Europa angeht'.
Guest commentary for *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*
(21 February 2018)
- 'Ukraine and the EU: So Close and Yet So Far'. Blog post
for Strategic Europe (26 February 2018)
- 'The EU and Ukraine: Taking a Breath', with Balázs
Jarábik, Natalia Shapovalova and Thomas de Waal.
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
(27 February 2018)
- 'How Divided Is the Population of the Donbas Region?'
Russian Analytical Digest no. 214: pp. 5–8
(28 February 2018)
- 'Krim'. *Gnose*, online magazine *Dekoder*
(16 March 2018)
- 'Putins letzter Coup'. *Russland-Analysen* no. 351:
pp. 9–10 (23 March 2018)
- 'What Does Russia's Presidential Election Mean for
Ukraine?' Blog post for Strategic Europe (26 March
2018)
- 'Ukraine's New Military Engagement in the Donbas'.
Blog post for Strategic Europe (3 May 2018)
- 'Trump and Putin Go Home'. Blog post for Strategic
Europe (17 July 2018)

- ▶ 'Weshalb die «Puteens» für Putin keine Gefahr darstellen'. Guest commentary for *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* (27 July 2018)
- ▶ 'Mythisch und real – vor fünf Jahren kam in Kiew die Maidan-Bewegung in Fahrt'. Guest commentary for *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* (28 November 2018)

EVENTS

▶ Academic

- ▶ **Russia Institute King's College (London, Great Britain, 02 / 2018)**
Presentation *War and Identity: The Case of Donbas*
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
ZOiS Annual Conference *Contested Spaces*
Chair of the panel discussion *Contestation and the Concepts of Space and Time*
 - ▶ **Centre Marc Bloch (Berlin, 04 / 2018)**
Panelist at the book presentation *Ungleiche Brüder – Russen und Ukrainer (Andreas Kappeler)*
 - ▶ **European University Viadrina (Frankfurt / Oder, 06 / 2018)**
Panelist at the book presentation *Die Herstellung von Zivilgesellschaft: Strategien und Netzwerke der externen Demokratieförderung in der Ukraine (Susann Worschech)*
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Panelist at the book presentation *Imagining a Pan-European Common Space – The Role of Ukraine and Eastern Europe (Mikhail Minakov)*
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Workshop *Die Last der Geschichte(n)? Regionalkonflikte und Legitimität im östlichen Europa*
Panelist at *Konflikte in Osteuropa: Wie kann Wissenschaft den politischen und öffentlichen Diskurs schärfen?*
 - ▶ Member of various advisory boards, including a project by the RAND Corporation and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung («The In-Betweens»), the COMPASS project of the University of Kent (funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund in the United Kingdom; mission: building a network of universities in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), FES Regional Office for Cooperation and Peace in Europe, chair of the Academic Advisory Board of the Leibniz ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe – Global Area« (EEGA).
- ### ▶ Knowledge transfer
- ▶ **Center for Liberal Modernity (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Das System Putin und die Russland-Politik des Westens*
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
World café *Russia after the Presidential Election*
Roundtable *Security Policy and Conflicts in the post-Soviet Space together* with Nadja Douglas
 - ▶ **Minsk Dialogue Forum (Minsk, Belarus, 05 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Looking inside the »Black Box« of East European Security*
 - ▶ **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Is Russia a European Country?* by the European Dialogue Expert Group / KAS Moscow
 - ▶ **Institute for European Politics (ZOiS, Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Participation in various discussion panels with representatives and researchers from East European think tanks
 - ▶ **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (ZOiS, Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Presentation of ZOiS and its research to a group of Belarusian researchers and representatives of think tanks
 - ▶ **Center for Liberal Modernity, Federal Ministry of Defence (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Participation in the expert discussion *Neue Systemkonkurrenz? – Russland und der Westen*
 - ▶ **Stiftung Mercator (Berlin, 07 / 2018)**
Input at the panel *Aktuelle Entwicklungen in Osteuropa* as part of the project *Zukunftsforum Türkei Europa*
 - ▶ **Robert Bosch Stiftung (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Die Ukraine vor den Präsidentschaftswahlen* organised by the initiative *Ukraine Calling, Ukraine-Kompetenz im Dialog*
 - ▶ **Körber-Stiftung (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Participation in the conference *Berlin Foreign Policy Forum: Unite or Decline: Europe's Future in an Unruly World*
 - ▶ **Darmstädter Gespräche im Staatstheater Darmstadt (Darmstadt, 12 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Freund oder Feind? Eine Russlandreise*
 - ▶ Participation in various panel discussions with political representatives, including the quarterly Think Tank Roundtable of the Federal Foreign Office's Policy Planning Staff and as a member of the newly established Strategy Group at the Federal Foreign Office on the German Foreign Cultural and Education Policy 2020.
 - ▶ Briefings and participation in discussion groups with various Country Departments and the Planning Staff of the Federal Foreign Office.
 - ▶ Briefings for members of the German parliament, including the working group on Russia and the Eastern Partnership, and the German-Ukrainian Parliamentary Group.

- ▶ Briefings and discussions in the Federal Chancellery as well as participation in discussions in the Federal President's Office.
- ▶ Special guest at the official visit of Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier to Ukraine (05 / 2018).
- ▶ Attendance of the official visit of Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier to Finland (09 / 2018).
- ▶ Briefing of officers and officer trainees of the German Bundeswehr as part of a training day on Russia.
- ▶ Briefings and panel discussions with representatives of the embassies of Finland and the United Kingdom in Berlin, with representatives of the Finnish Government, the Finnish Parliament as well as the Swedish Government.
- ▶ Participation in the Track II Talks about the war in Eastern Ukraine.
- ▶ Participation in various working groups and strategy groups of the German Council on Foreign Relations and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs.

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *Judy Asks: Is the West Selling Itself Short?*
Assessment for Strategic Europe (17 February 2018)
- ▶ *Stadt, Land, Macht*
Interview for a radio programme of SWR2 (1 March 2018)
- ▶ *Russland im Zeichen der Präsidentschaftswahl*
Panel discussion for a radio broadcast of Inforadio / rbb (18 March 2018)
- ▶ *Wladimir Putins Kurs bestätigt*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (18 March 2018)
- ▶ *Steht Putins Russland zu Recht am Pranger?*
Discussant for a radio broadcast of Deutschlandfunk (19 March 2018)
- ▶ *Die Ukraine in den Augen Deutschlands*
Interview for GIZ (4 April 2018)
- ▶ *Petro ohne Land*
Interview for a radio programme of SWR2 (10 April 2018)
- ▶ *Что говорят в Берлине об «убийстве» Аркадия Бабченко*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (31 May 2018)
- ▶ *1:0 für Putin? – Die Wirkung der Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft*
Assessment for Reuters (3 June 2018)
- ▶ *Зустріч «нормандської четвірки» має пожвавити Мінський процес – експерт*
Assessment for Ukrinform (13 June 2018)
- ▶ *Putins Propagandaplattform*
Assessment for Tagesschau.de (14 June 2018)
- ▶ *Judy Asks: Should Germany Dump Nord Stream 2? Can it?*
Assessment for Strategic Europe (14 June 2018)

- ▶ *Почему в Германии с беспокойством ждут встречи Путина и Трампа*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (15 July 2018)
- ▶ *USA und Russland: Beziehung »am Tiefpunkt«*
Interview for a television report of the ZDF / Morgenmagazin (16 July 2018)
- ▶ *Große Show, kaum Ergebnisse*
Interview for a television programme of RTL2 News (16 July 2018)
- ▶ *Что говорят в Германии о выборах и протестах в России*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (10 September 2018)
- ▶ *Немецкие социал-демократы в отношениях с Россией взяли за старое*
Assessment for Deutsche Welle (11 October 2018)
- ▶ *Russland will keinen Frieden*
Interview with TUP (27 November 2018)
- ▶ *Battleship: Russia vs. Ukraine*
Interview for the »Today Explained« podcast of VOX (27 November 2018)
- ▶ *Ukraine-Russland-Konflikt – »Die Russen sind sehr weit gegangen«*
Interview for heute.de / ZDF (28 November 2018)
- ▶ *Ukrainische Häfen stehen fast still*
Interview for a television report of ZDF / Mittagmagazin (4 December 2018)
- ▶ *Німецька дослідниця: За рік зміцнилася державницька ідентичність українців*
Interview for Deutsche Welle (7 December 2018)
- ▶ *Wie sich die EU gegen Fake News wappnet*
Assessment for Tagesspiegel (8 December 2018)
- ▶ *Perspective with Alison Smith*
Interview for a television programme of the Canadian broadcaster CPAC (10 December 2018)

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- ▶ Organisation of the monthly ZOiS Research Colloquium in cooperation with the Freie Universität Berlin, the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder).
- ▶ Presentation of the work of ZOiS and discussion of the research on Ukraine with students from the master programme East European Studies of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München and the Universität Regensburg (ZOiS, Berlin 04 / 2018).
- ▶ Supervision and review of master's and doctoral theses at the Freie Universität Berlin as well as sole doctoral supervision at the University of Oxford.
- ▶ Mentor within the Viadrina Mentoring Programme for Postdoctoral Researchers at the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder).
- ▶ Schule@ZOiS: A class from the Werner-von-Siemens-Gymnasium visited the presentation »What does Russia's Youth think?« and participated in the discussion of the ZOiS youth survey (ZOiS, Berlin, 10 / 2018).

PUBLICATIONS

▶ **ZOiS knowledge transfer**

- ▶ '25 years of the Russian Constitution'. ZOiS Spotlight 43 / 2018 (12 December 2018)

EVENTS

▶ **Knowledge transfer**

- ▶ **The German-Ukrainian Forum of Young Researchers (Berlin, 02 / 2018)**
Consultation of Ukrainian-German research tandems on questions regarding the application for external funding
- ▶ **Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin, 02 / 2018)**
Participation in the Russia discussion group
- ▶ **WissenschaftsForum Berlin (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
Presentation of ZOiS as part of an investigation by the German Science Council on the perception of German peace and conflict research
- ▶ **Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Participation in the Ukraine discussion group
- ▶ **Leibniz ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe – Global Area« (Leipzig, 06 / 2018)**
PostDoc training for a successful application for external funding
- ▶ **Deutsch-Russische Juristenvereinigung e. V. (Munich, 06 / 2018)**
Participation in the annual conference *30 Jahre deutsch-russischer Rechtsdialog*
- ▶ **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Düsseldorf, 11 / 2018)**
Panelist at *Deutsch-russische Beziehungen. Zwischen Konfrontation und Kooperation*
- ▶ **Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Participation in the workshop *Etablierung deutsch-ukrainischer Exzellenzkerne*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 12 / 2018)**
Panelist at the ZOiS Forum event *25 Years of Struggle: The Russian Constitution*

IN THE MEDIA

- ▶ *25 Jahre Verfassung der Russischen Föderation?*
Radio report of Inforadio / rbb (30 September 2018)

PUBLICATIONS

▶ **Academic**

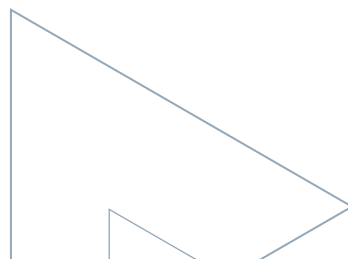
- ▶ 'Performing Space across time. A 520-year anniversary in a Western Ukrainian village'. *European Review of History, Revue Européenne d'histoire*, 2018 (online first).
- ▶ 'Phantom borders and ambivalent spaces of identification in Ukraine'. *CAIRN-Dossier* Nr. 10, April 2018.
- ▶ 'Konfessionelle Räume in der Westukraine: Annäherungen, Abgrenzungen und Überlagerungen'. *Geschichte und Region / Storia e regione* Heft 1 / 2018, no.1, Special Issue »Community of Images«: pp. 129–153, 2018.

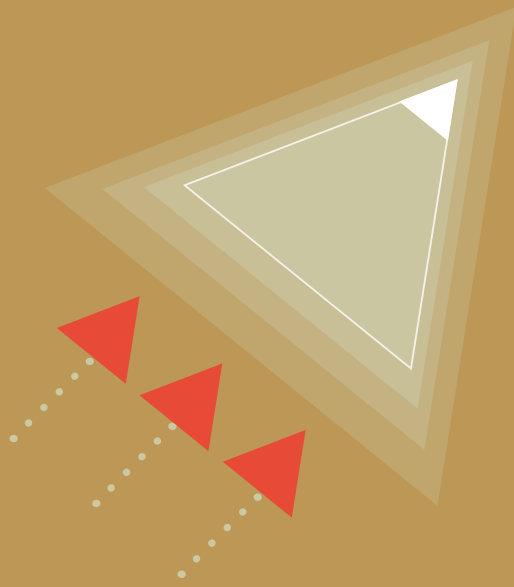
EVENTS

▶ **Academic**

- ▶ **Prisma Ukraina, Forum Transregionale Studien (Berlin, 01 / 2018)**
Workshop *Religious Intersections in Post-Socialist Europe*
Presentation *Crossing Material and Imaginary Borders of Confessions in Western Ukraine – Local Perspectives across Time and Space*
- ▶ **Leipzig University (Leipzig, 01 / 2018)**
Colloquium for East and Southeastern History
Presentation *Kontinuitäten und Brüche sozialräumlicher Strukturen in der Westukraine. Das Phantom der alten Grenze am Zbruč*
- ▶ **Centre for Citizenship, Social Pluralism and Religious Diversity (Potsdam, 01 / 2018)**
Citizenship Lectures Winter 2017 / 18
Lecture on the topic »So haben wir die Ukraine mit Russland vereinigt«: *Verschränkte sozialräumliche Praktiken und Imaginative in der Westukraine*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 03 / 2018)**
ZOiS Annual Conference *Contested Spaces*
Presentation *Phantomgrenzen in der Ukraine: Sozialräumliche und literaturwissenschaftliche Perspektiven*
- ▶ **Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (Leipzig, 03 / 2018)**
Conference »Rural Mediascapes« or »Mediating and Translating«
Presentation *Translating 'Rydneyj Kraj': Dimensions of Motherland Pop in Contemporary Ukraine*
- ▶ **University of Tartu (Tartu, Estonia, 05 / 2018)**
Workshop *Borders and Boundaries within and at the Edges of Europe*
Presentation *Fluid Borders in Western Ukraine*

- ▶ **Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (Berlin, 05 / 2018)**
Greeting at the workshop *MAPA Digital Atlas of Ukraine* at ZOiS
- ▶ **Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow, Russia, 06 / 2018)**
Conference of the Department of Geography *Practical Geography and XXI Century Challenges*
Presentation *Fluid Borders in Western Ukraine. Or: Phantom Borders to Conceptualise Time-Space Relations*
- ▶ **European University Viadrina (Frankfurt / Oder, 06 / 2018)**
Interdisciplinary workshop *Umstrittene Erinnerungs-orte in der Ukraine im Spiegel der deutschen, polnischen, ukrainischen und russischen Literatur und Geschichtsschreibung*
Presentation *Erinnerungsorte in der Ukraine zwischen Ambivalenz und verordneter Eindeutigkeit*
- ▶ **Saint Petersburg State University (St Petersburg, Russia, 10 / 2018)**
Conference *5th International Research Conference »Mechanisms for formation of Cultural Exclusion & Frontier Zones«*
Co-organisation of the Roundtable *Phantomgrenzen und Abgrenzungen in (selbst)Repräsentationen des postsozialistischen Raums*
Presentation on *Grenzen im Fluss – Materialitäten, Diskurse und Praktiken an einer historischen Grenze in der Westukraine*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 10 / 2018)**
Workshop *Die Last der Geschichte(n)? Regionalkonflikte und Legitimität im östlichen Europa*
Presentation *Erinnern und Vergessen im geopolitischen Zwischenraum: Das Fallbeispiel Transnistrien*
- ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Co-organisation of the workshop *Borders from Below. Processes of Re- and De-Bordering within the Post-Soviet Space* in cooperation with the Viadrina Centre B/ORDERS IN MOTION
Chair of the panel *De-facto Borders*
- ▶ **Viadrina Centre B/ORDERS IN MOTION (Frankfurt / Oder, 11/2018)**
Participation in the conference *B / ORDERS IN MOTION: Current Challenges and Future Perspectives*
Panelist at *B / ORDERS IN MOTION – Future Perspectives*
- ▶ **Knowledge transfer**
 - ▶ **Long Night of the Sciences (Berlin, 06 / 2018)**
Presentation *Phantomgrenzen: Auf Spurensuche von Berlin nach Sokyrynci (Ukraine)* at ZOiS
 - ▶ **EU-Russia Civil Society Forum (Berlin, 09 / 2018)**
Introduction to the discussion *Russia after the World Cup: Agenda for the Civil Society* at ZOiS
 - ▶ **Centre for East European and International Studies (Berlin, 11 / 2018)**
Exhibition opening and panelist at *Transnistria through the Lens of Art and Scholarship*
Co-organisation of the exhibition *Transnistria Seen from Within – A Portrait by Young Photographers*
 - ▶ **EU-LISTCO Scenario Workshop (Niemegk, 11 / 2018)**
Expert for the scenario building of the Threat-Scanning Workshop *Mid-Term Risks for Governance Breakdown and Violent Conflict in the European Union's Eastern Neighborhood*
 - ▶ Associate member of the Centre Marc Bloch and member of the working group *Mobilität, Migration, Neuordnung des Raumes* and board member of the St Petersburg border network *Mechanisms for formation of Cultural Exclusion & Frontier Zones (CEFZ)*.





SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Support of Young Researchers

From students to interns to doctoral students, ZOiS has made it a central mission to support the next generation of researchers. Our multipurpose programmes aim to promote interest in Eastern Europe and a career in research or scientific communication, through passing on the required skills, and facilitating access to personal and professional networks.

Internal and external research colloquium

Once a month, ZOiS organises an internal colloquium for colleagues from across different disciplines to discuss one of our publications that is at an advanced stage in the pre-publication process. The aim is to offer authors useful feedback, ideas and encouragement for further work on their texts.

Additionally, ZOiS cooperates in a multi-institutional research colloquium. In 2018, this was done in cooperation with the Freie Universität in Berlin and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Since the 2018–19 winter semester, the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder) has also been a partner in the colloquium. The colloquium serves as a discussion forum for ongoing work by doctoral and postdoctoral students and established researchers working in the social sciences with a connection to Eastern Europe. The aim is to establish a permanent meeting point in the Berlin-Brandenburg area for those engaged in research on Eastern Europe. The research colloquium takes place at ZOiS every second Wednesday of the month during the semester. Topics and ideas for the presentations and discussions are generally gathered from among the participating institutions.

Schule@ZOiS

In autumn 2018, ZOiS launched a new format aimed at school students. *Schule@ZOiS* (School@ZOiS) seeks to strengthen knowledge transfer from ZOiS and spark interest among young people in scientific research, and in Eastern Europe as a region. To that end, ZOiS invites students and teachers to discuss with researchers various issues connected with the post-Soviet space. The events are aimed at students from ninth grade on-

wards, in particular those studying history, politics, and Russian. The format consists of a presentation on a selected topic and the work of ZOiS, followed by a discussion and interactive exercises on the topic. In addition, small groups of students can explore aspects of an issue that they have identified themselves. Two school classes from schools in Berlin visited ZOiS in 2018 and discussed with ZOiS researchers the topics of *What does Russia's youth think?* and *Russia's politics of memory*.

Interns and research assistants

In 2018, ZOiS offered internships for students from the fields of science and communication. The strong growth in demand for internship places shows there is great interest not only in Eastern Europe but also in aspects of scientific communication. ZOiS also filled several positions for research assistants for the institute's research topic areas. In the field of communication, interns were entrusted with tasks including assistance with the production of podcasts, interviews for the *Meet the Author* series, editorial work, and logistical support for events. The interns and research assistants assigned to research projects were tasked with literature and background research, data collection and evaluation, the creation of a literature database, and editorial duties.

Visiting researchers

ZOiS welcomes and supports visiting researchers. From early March to the end of May 2018, Elza-Bair Guchinova, an anthropologist from Yerevan, Armenia, and an associate member of the Faculty of Anthropology at the European University in Saint Petersburg, Russia, was affiliated with ZOiS as a visiting researcher. During this time she worked on her research

project *Trauma of forced migration and narrative: deportation of the Kalmyks (1943–56)* and wrote a ZOiS Spotlight article on *Sobibor today*. Her visit to Germany also allowed her to hold discussions with colleagues on the materials she had gathered and to acquire new methods of interpreting biographical interviews and visual documents. In April 2018, Elza-Blair Guchinova gave a guest lecture at ZOiS, followed by a discussion, on *Narrating a trauma and the politics of memory: the deportation of the Kalmyks (1943–56)*.

From April to June 2018, Yuliya Yurchuk of the History Department of Södertörn University, Sweden, was affiliated to ZOiS through the Transregional Studies forum – Prisma Ukraina. Her research focuses on memory and religion in Ukraine as well as the reactions of historians to the Ukraine–Russia conflict. In June 2018 she wrote a ZOiS Spotlight article on *Memory and history in Ukraine after the Euromaidan*.

Recruitment through third-party-funded projects

In autumn 2018, in the framework of the project *MOBILISE – Determinants of »mobilisation« at home and abroad: analysing the micro-foundations of out-migration and mass protest*, Gwendolyn Sasse successfully secured third-party funding in cooperation with partners from the UK, France, and the Netherlands. For the part of the project in Germany, which is sponsored by the German Research Foundation, a 33-month position for a postdoctoral student was advertised internationally in December 2018. The successful candidate will assist with quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis on the interplay between migration and protests. A position for a doctoral student is expected to be advertised in early 2019.

Cooperation with the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences

The agreement reached at the end of 2017 with the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BGSS) of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin to train young researchers led to the announcement in 2018 of a doctoral student position. After the selection procedure a suitable candidate from Georgia, Diana Bogishvili, was chosen. She will be engaged at ZOiS

from 2019 as a doctoral student in the research area *Migration and Diversity*. At the same time, she will have the chance to take part in the BGSS methodology training programme and continue her own dissertation.

Teaching courses

ZOiS researchers regularly make use of the opportunity to teach courses at universities in the Berlin-Brandenburg region.

At the Central Asia seminar of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin during the 2018 summer semester, Tsypylma Darieva gave a course on *Migration and diaspora research in the Caucasus and Central Asia*.

As part of the lecture series *Religion and gender: construction, media, experiences* at the University of Erfurt, Regina Elsner gave a lecture in the winter semester 2018–19 on *Between patriarchy and Pussy Riot: men, women, and gender in the Russian Orthodox Church*.

In July 2018, as part of the seminar *Gender, state, and nation in Eastern Europe* by Katharina Bluhm at the Free University of Berlin, Beate Eschment gave a presentation on *Women in Central Asia between Soviet heritage, Western modernity, and (re)traditionalisation*. She also led the seminar *Good patriotism, bad nationalism? Nationality politics in Central Asian states* within the Central Asia seminar at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in the 2018–19 winter semester.

In the 2018–19 winter semester, Nina Frieß, a lecturer at the Eastern Europe Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin, gave the seminar *Nothing and no one forgotten? The culture of memory and the politics of history in contemporary Russia*.

Mentoring and dissertation supervision

From 2018 to 2019, Tsypylma Darieva is supervising the master's dissertation of Gaukhar Baltabayeva (Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan, and University of Wisconsin-Madison, US) at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin on *Patriotic and pragmatic: transnational involvement of current and former*

international students from Kazakhstan in the US. She also mentored Elza-Bair Guchinova (Russia / Armenia), a postdoctoral student sponsored by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation whose research project was discussed earlier.

In the 2018 summer semester, Nina Frieß took over the co-supervision of the bachelor's thesis of Sophie Stammmer on *The Soviet Union and Russia at the 1957, 1985, and 2017 World Festivals of Youth and Students: a comparison of self-expression* (Institute for Slavic Studies, University of Potsdam).

From 2017 to 2018, Tatiana Golova supervised the master's thesis of Manuel Rommel on *Space, identity, and biography in the academic choices of post-Soviet migrants* (Institute for East European Studies, Freie Universität Berlin).

In 2018, Julia Langbein supervised two master's theses at the Otto Suhr Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin: Davit Budaghyan's thesis *Between the EU and Russia: The EaP countries through the glasses of interdependence theory* and Jennifer Marti's thesis *Politicisation in EU enlargement*.

Gwendolyn Sasse took part in the Viadrina Postdoctoral Student Mentoring Programme as a mentor for Susann Worschech. She also co-supervised Alice Lackner's master's thesis *Do macroeconomic changes explain changes in attitudes towards income inequality? A comparison of 16 countries during the 1990s* (Institute for East European Studies, Freie Universität Berlin). She was also the second referee for Ann-Sophie Gast's doctoral thesis *Eurasian integration: cooperation among autocracies?* (Berlin Graduate School for Transnational Studies, Freie Universität Berlin).

Gwendolyn Sasse is also the sole supervisor for a number of dissertations at the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford:

- ▶ Chantelle Kimm: *International conditionality in the Western Balkans: vertical and horizontal power flows*

- ▶ Rebecca Fradkin: *Authoritarian regimes and the co-optation of Islam: Kazakhstan and Russia*
- ▶ Susan Divald: *Too much or too little? Explaining the Hungarian quest for autonomy in Romania and Slovakia*
- ▶ Leandra Bias: *Knowledge transfer in post-Communist Russia and Serbia: a contestation of the power relations in transnational feminism*

Training opportunities for researchers

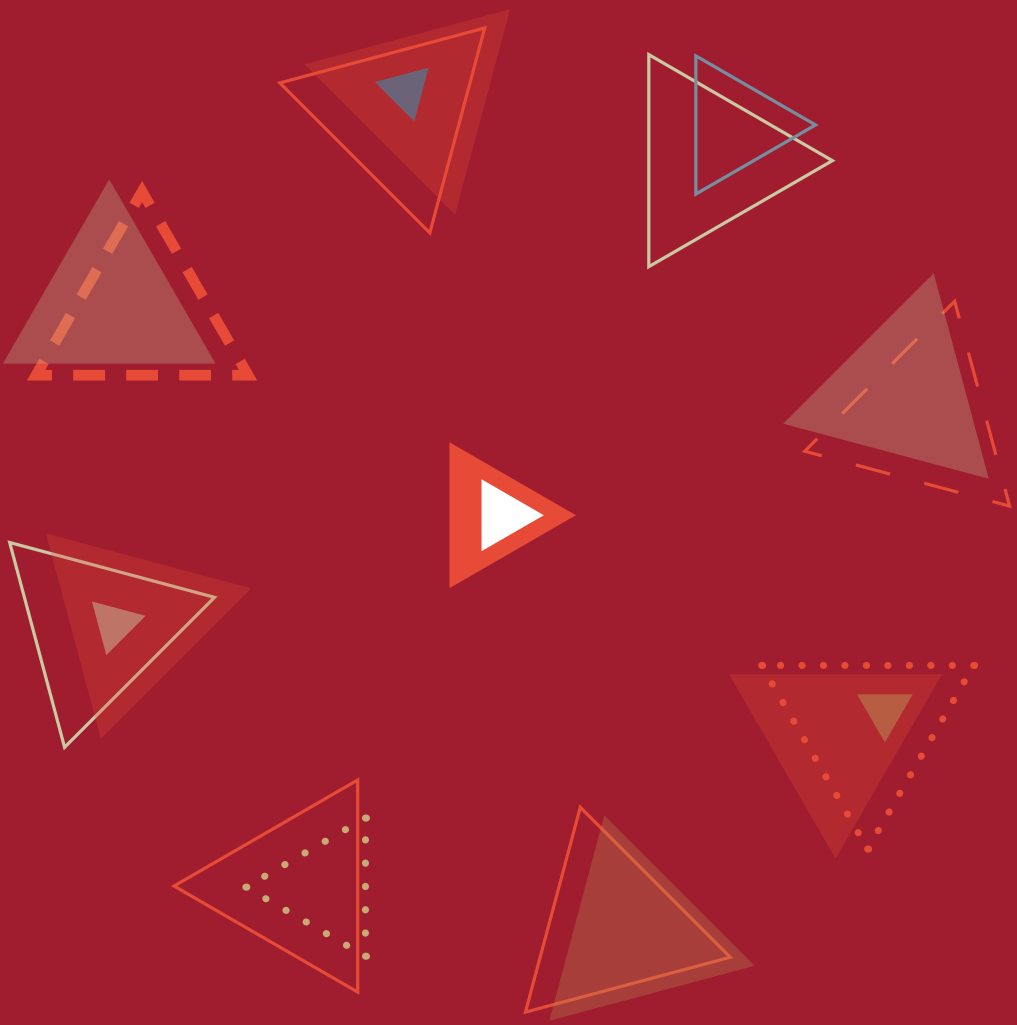
On 31 October and 1 November 2018, researchers at ZOIS took part in a media training course. The course gave the researchers a basic grounding in the work and expectations of the media. A number of practical and individually tailored exercises helped foster the participants' media skills. The exercises were geared towards colleagues' specific research topics and allowed participants to explore issues such as core messaging, ease of understanding, body language, tone of voice, and ways of dealing with critical questions and situations.

Miscellaneous

In July 2018, as part of the Theological Summer School in Kyiv, Ukraine, Regina Elsner gave a lecture on *Individual and community: understandings of human rights in Eastern and Western Christendom and Christian social ethics as a dialogue between church and society*.

In October 2018, she also took part in *Living Books*, an event co-organised by the NGO HUMANPOINT and the Freie Universität Berlin. The aim was to give students the chance to talk to researchers from the social sciences and humanities about their career paths and professional opportunities.

Finally, in April 2018 Gwendolyn Sasse welcomed master's students from Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. She presented the work of ZOIS and discussed with them the institute's research on Ukraine. ◀



EVENTS

Events

Events at ZOiS offer not only an opportunity to present research findings but also a forum for dialogue with experts and those interested in Eastern Europe. Aside from classic academic formats such as workshops, panel discussions, and presentations, ZOiS therefore also organises more unusual event types that combine, for example, social-science research with artistic and cultural perspectives.

ZOIS CONFERENCE 2018 CONTESTED SPACES

This year the annual ZOiS conference turned its attention to socio-political conflict in social, geographical, and discursive spaces. Take two examples: First, a wave of outrage swept Moscow in 2017. As part of plans to redevelop the city, some 8,000 residential buildings, mostly Khrushcheva prefabricated apartment blocks, were to be torn down and replaced by modern new builds. The apartment owners fought back, and tens of thousands took to the streets to successfully protest against the renovation. Second, in western Ukraine, there is a village with two churches. Where once the border ran between Austria-Hungary and Poland, and later the Soviet Union, separate memorials survive to this day. A similar so-called phantom border also cuts through literary descriptions of Ukraine. These two cases show how spatial realities affect political discourse.

In recent years, the paradigm shift of the so-called ‘spatial turn’, which perceives space as a cultural and political factor, has become increasingly prominent in the social sciences. Meanwhile, the term ‘contestation’ – social conflict in the political discourse – has long been a central issue in social-science subjects. With a focus on Eastern Europe, the ZOiS 2018 annual conference provided a meeting point for academic discussions on different types of space and conflicts within these spaces. What spaces are contested? When does spatial conflict manifest itself, and how does it develop over time? Who controls what types of space, and where might there be inbetween spaces that are hard to control?

► Contested spaces between state and society

The first panel of the conference focused on civil-society mobilisations in Eastern Europe that garnered attention when citizens occupied and laid claim to public spaces, but that were also caused in part by conflicts over the spaces themselves. Nadja Douglas (ZOiS) has closely observed civil activism in Armenia and a new generation of Armenian protest culture. She characterised the low level of trust in the police in particular as emblematic of a lack of trust in political institutions and the political regime as a whole.

Tatiana Golova (ZOiS) presented findings from her research project on activism in regional power centres in Russia, especially from her first case study in Novosibirsk. On the basis of network and discourse analysis, she showed that the pragmatism of local protests often serves to establish cooperation with other groups, thus allowing for common political actions in public spaces.

Christian Fröhlich (Higher School of Economics, Moscow) devoted his research to change in urban spaces through urban planning and housing policy. He investigated local grass-roots protests against urban redevelopment in Moscow, which he characterised as an example of post-Soviet urban activism and citizen engagement.

► Religious and secular claims to public spaces

On the second panel, Alexander Agadjanian (Russian State University of the Humanities, Moscow) focused on the bound-

ary between the secular and the religious in Russia. With the aid of case studies he illustrated how this mobile boundary manifests itself in different places, from the physical landscape to the urban environment through to virtual and discursive spaces. He showed that desecularisation is clearly perceptible but also cited factors that run counter to this trend: pragmatism on the part of political elites, constitutional secularism, provisions against Islam, and the modernisation of anticlerical forces.

In the next presentation, Tsypylma Darieva (ZOiS) described how different religious actors lay claim to public spaces in the Azerbaijani capital, Baku. Within the desecularisation process in the post-Soviet Caucasus, there is, on the one hand, a pluralisation within Islam and, on the other, homogenising attempts that combine small, informal religious practices and draw on national narratives. In Baku this can be seen in stronger regulation of informal shrines and Shia Islamic pilgrimage sites.

Catherine Wanner (Pennsylvania State University) investigated how public spaces are used in the Ukrainian capital to give religious form to political declarations. She described how the practices of remembrance for the victims of Ukraine's Euromaidan protests have transformed the public space into a place of death, where those killed are mourned as martyrs with personalised shrines.

► **Controversial borders**

The parallel round-table discussions focused on borders that are contested in various ways. Vladimir Kolosov (Russian Academy of Sciences) and Denis Ekert (Marc Bloch Centre, Berlin) discussed contested borders in the cartography of the post-Soviet space. Imke Hansen (Northeast Institute, Hamburg University) and Ketevan Khutsishvili (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) devoted their work to the relationship between violence and 'normality' in conflict zones. Sabine von



Political scientist Mark Beissinger from Princeton University gives his keynote speech at the ZOiS Conference 2018.

Löwis and Ievgeniia Voloshchuk (European University Viadrina Frankfurt / Oder) concentrated on the concept of phantom borders, exploring the continued existence of former frontiers in Ukraine's social and literary landscape.

► Panel discussion

Gwendolyn Sasse, Mikhail Minakov (Kennan Institute), and Magdalena Nowicka (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) discussed the term 'contestation' in connection with the concepts of space and time. Minakov reported on his research into secessionist movements in Eastern Europe: 'Segregated territories form a radical periphery and function as ideological and social laboratories.' He emphasised the indivisibility of space and time, expressed in the concept of the 'chronotope', after Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht and Mikhail Bakhtin.

'Everything starts with globalisation and an interest in global processes,' said Nowicka, who traced the growing importance of spatial concepts in the social sciences. This she saw as a reaction to the changed role of the nation-state with its function of structuring social relationships. Space is no longer understood as (state) territory but as an arrangement of relationships and the materialities within these relationships. As an alternative approach, in reaction to 'methodological nationalism' or 'territorialism', Nowicka described the method used in her own research work, which draws on the individual biographies of migrants.

► Revolution in urban spaces

In his keynote address, political scientist Mark Beissinger (Princeton University) illustrated how spatial conditions are associated with political events. With new research findings,

he showed that since World War II there has been an uptick in so-called urban civic revolts – uprisings that seek to mobilise large numbers of people on central squares as fast as possible. Unlike armed urban uprisings or rural rebellions, civic revolts in urban spaces have a concrete strategic advantage, which results in a relatively high success rate.

► PechaKucha for master's and doctoral students

In the framework of the annual conference, and alongside the programme on contested spaces, PechaKucha presentations took place for the first time at ZOiS. These follow a strict format: participants give a lecture with the aid of a presentation of twenty slides, each of which is shown for exactly twenty seconds. This format offered master's and doctoral students an opportunity to present their current research projects on Eastern Europe.

From a total of ten presentations, which covered a broad range of topics and disciplines, the audience voted for the best three. First place went to Aleksej Tikhonov, a doctoral student at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin who presented on *Linguistic transfers between Germany and Eastern Europe in the twenty-first century: an analysis of German-Ukrainian-Russian rap music*. In second place was Weronika Zmiejewski, a doctoral student at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena with the topic of *Migrants' sources of certainty between Georgia and Greece*; and third place went to doctoral student Philipp Kröger of the University of Augsburg, whose presentation was entitled *The biopolitical struggle in the East: German nationality statistics and Eastern Europe, 1860–1945*. The three winners repeated their PechaKucha presentations at the Long Night of the Sciences in June 2018 at ZOiS.



At the ZOiS Conference 2018, the audience could vote for their favourite PechaKucha presentation by using wooden balls.



PhD candidate Aleksej Tikhonov won the PechaKucha competition with a presentation on the phenomenon of language transfer in German-Ukrainian-Russian rap.



Peter Haslinger, Christian Lübke, Gesine Dornblüth, Ulf Brunnbauer and Gwendolyn Sasse (from left) discussed the question of what science can contribute to the political and public discourse.

ACADEMIC EVENTS

In addition to the annual international conference, ZOiS organised many other events at which research findings were presented and discussed primarily for an academic audience. Also in 2018, a joint research colloquium was held in cooperation with the Freie Universität Berlin, the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder). Once a month during the semester, the forum offered a platform for young researchers as well as postdoctoral students and established researchers from various social-science subjects to present and discuss their research projects on Eastern Europe.

The year 2018 also saw an increasing number of workshops that were organised by ZOiS researchers in connection with their current research projects. In October, a workshop led by sociologist Tatiana Golova and social anthropologist Tsypylma Darieva, entitled *Overcoming the distance: »urban pioneers« in Eastern Europe*, brought together researchers with practitioners and activists. The aim was twofold: first, to foster international, interdisciplinary dialogue on social change and urban activism in Eastern Europe; and second, to identify applied research methods of practical use for young activists and experts in the region.

In the workshop *Borders from below: processes of re- and de-bordering within the post-Soviet space*, Central Asia expert Beate Eschment and geographer Sabine von Löwis brought together researchers of German, Tajik, Georgian, Ukrainian,

and Russian origin for a joint discussion. The aim was to explore the diversity of new border realities in the post-Soviet space, not only on the level of international relations, but also – and primarily – on the basis of the voices and views and people living in border regions.

One of the academic highlights of the year was the workshop *The burden of history? Regional conflicts and legitimacy in Eastern Europe*, led jointly with the Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO), the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe – Institute of the Leibniz Association, and the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS). Researchers from ZOiS and the three Leibniz institutes presented their research on the politics of memory and conflict as well as historical case studies on dealings with multiethnicity, and discussed how historical imagery influences political perceptions of conflict in the post-Soviet space. The workshop closed with a panel discussion on the role of history and memory in the analysis of regional conflicts. The discussion, which was moderated by journalist Gesine Dornblüth, explored how local knowledge can be incorporated into research and how scientific communication can help prevent stereotypes of Eastern Europe, inappropriate ideas, or unsuitable historical analogies from being invoked to explain local concepts.

In addition, a range of academic panel discussions and presentations took place in 2018, some in cooperation with other academic institutions, such as the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin or the Institute for Advanced Study in Berlin.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Established in 2017 as an event for a specialist audience from political institutions, think tanks, and foundations, the successful series *In conversation with...* continued in 2018. In February, Balázs Jarábik (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) and Alyona Getmanchuk (New Europe Center Kyiv) took a critical look at Ukraine's relations with the European Union. Thomas Ambrosio (North Dakota State University) explored the transfer of political offices and power to family members in post-Soviet states, with a focus on the countries of Central Asia. The conversation with Thomas de Waal (Carnegie Europe) and Sabine Fischer (German Institute for International and Security Affairs) on de facto states was particularly well received.

In 2018, ZOiS began the project *Schule@ZOiS* (School@ZOiS), which offers students an extracurricular opportunity to examine the region of Eastern Europe and acquire new perspectives. The project aims to give students tools to form political opinions as well as knowledge of different political systems from democracy to authoritarianism, processes of social transformation, and regional trends and idiosyncrasies in the post-Soviet space. Two groups of students visited ZOiS in 2018: one gained an insight into the research area of youth in Eastern Europe, while the other discussed Russian politics of memory.

With the ZOiS Forum, the institute in 2018 established a series of events for a wider audience. Thanks to the Football World Cup and the Russian presidential election, the first half of the

year had a clear Russian focus, which continued into the second half of the year. In the winter semester ZOiS began collaboration with partners such as rbb Inforadio, n-ost, or the Cottbus Film Festival, which greatly enriched the content of events and allowed the institute to attract new audiences.

In September, journalist Golineh Atai presented an event at ZOiS with the title 'Between water crisis and social change'. The audience gained an insight into some of Atai's television reports on the social situation in Uzbekistan, the consequences of the growing water shortage, and German water diplomacy in Central Asia. In the following conversation with ZOiS Central Asia expert Beate Eschment, Atai explored the topic in more depth and shared revelatory information about the conditions on the ground.

Besides the institute's participation for the second time in the Long Night of the Sciences, another knowledge transfer highlight was the successful opening of the exhibition *Transnistria seen from within: a portrait by young photographers*. Conceived as a double exhibition with the independent AFF Gallery in Berlin, it showcased pictures by photographers Ramin Mazur and Anton Polyakov at the ZOiS offices. The exhibition offered an artistic perspective on the issue of Transnistria to complement a research project on daily life in the conflict – *Microgeographies of conflict constellations in the southwest post-Soviet space* by Sabine von Löwis – thus raising awareness of ZOiS research among a broader audience of art and Eastern Europe aficionados. ◀



ZOiS Central Asia expert Beate Eschment and Journalist Golineh Atai (right) talked about the water crisis in Uzbekistan.



In autumn 2018, an exhibition representing the photographic perspectives of young people on their homeland Transnistria opened at ZOiS.

ZOiS Events 2018

ACADEMIC EVENTS

► Public lectures and panel discussions

- *The Urban Advantage in Revolution and the Struggle for Control of Public Space (2 March 2018)*
Keynote lecture by Mark Beissinger (Princeton University)
- *Ahead of the Presidential Elections: Do Russians want Change? (5 March 2018)*
Panel discussion with Andrei Kolesnikov (Carnegie Moscow Center), Stefan Meister (German Council on Foreign Relations) and Gwendolyn Sasse (ZOiS)
- *Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus (6 June 2018)*
Book presentation by Tsypylma Darieva (ZOiS) and Florian Mühlfried (Friedrich Schiller University Jena) with Jeanne Féaux de la Croix (University of Tübingen) and Uwe Halbach (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)
- *Die Russische Orthodoxe Kirche vor der Herausforderung Moderne (21 June 2018)*
Book presentation by Regina Elsner (ZOiS) with Detlef Pollack (University of Münster), Evgeniya Sayko (cultural scientist) and Harutyun Harutyunyan (theologian)
- *Imagining a Pan-European Common Space – The Role of Ukraine and Eastern Europe (11 October 2018)*
Book presentation by Mikhail Minakov (Kennan Institute) with Wilfried Jilge (University of St Gallen), Gwendolyn Sasse (ZOiS) and Sabine von Löwis (ZOiS)
- *Konflikte in Osteuropa: Wie kann Wissenschaft den politischen und öffentlichen Diskurs schärfen? (17 October 2018)*
Panel discussion with Ulf Brunnbauer (Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies), Peter Haslinger (Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe), Christian Lübke (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe), Gwendolyn Sasse (ZOiS) and Gesine Dornblüth (journalist)

- *Between State of Exception and Everyday Banality: Precarious Borders in the post-Soviet Space (29 November 2018)*
Lecture by Tatiana Zhurzhenko (University of Vienna)
- *Mobilities, Boundaries, and Travelling Ideas. Rethinking Translocality Beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus (6 December 2018)*
Book presentation by Manja Stephan-Emmrich (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and Philipp Schröder (University of Freiburg) with Tsypylma Darieva (ZOiS), Katrin Bromber (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient) and Ann-Sophie Gast (ZOiS)

► Conferences

- *ZOiS Conference 2018: Contested Spaces (2 March 2018)*

► Workshops

- *MAPA Digital Atlas of Ukraine (16 May 2018)*
Kostyantyn Bondarenko (Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute) and Viktoriya Sereda (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin)
- *Die Last der Geschichte(n)? Regionalkonflikte und Legitimität im östlichen Europa (17 October 2018)*
In cooperation with the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies, the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe and the Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe
- *Overcoming the Distance – »Urban Pioneers« in Eastern Europe (23 October 2018)*
In cooperation with the Center for Independent Social Research Berlin e. V.
- *Borders from Below. Processes of Re- and De-Bordering within the Post-Soviet Space (30 November 2018)*
In cooperation with the Viadrina Center of B/ORDERS IN MOTION

▶ ZOIS Research Colloquium

- ▶ *Revoking the Social Contract? State Power and Public in post-Soviet Societies (10 January 2018)*
Nadja Douglas (ZOIS)
- ▶ *Identity Change and Continuity in the post-Soviet States: European Identity beyond the EU: The Cases of Georgia and Ukraine (14 February 2018)*
Salome Minesashvili (Freie Universität Berlin)
- ▶ *The Illiberal Uploading – Defective Democracies and Hybrid Regimes in the European Union (18 April 2018)*
Daniel Hegedüs (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
- ▶ *A Pluralist Alternative to State TV? Political Content on Russian YouTube during 2018 Presidential Elections (9 May 2018)*
Anna Litvinenko (Freie Universität Berlin)
- ▶ *External Authoritarian Influence on Hybrid Regimes? Scrutinizing Russian Influence in Georgia through the Prism of Gatekeeping Elites (13 June 2018)*
Sonja Schiffers (Freie Universität Berlin)
- ▶ *Ethics of Peace vs. Theology of War. Dynamics of Russian Orthodox Peace Ethics in Times of War in Ukraine (11 July 2018)*
Regina Elsner (ZOIS)
- ▶ *The Eurasian Economic Union - Cooperation among Autocracies? (14 November 2018)*
Ann-Sophie Gast (ZOIS)
- ▶ *Social Innovation in Non-Democratic Regimes – Relations between the State and Society in the Social Innovation Process in Russia (12 December 2018)*
Julia Mierau (Freie Universität Berlin)

ZOIS KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

▶ ZOIS Forum

- ▶ *Zaza Burchuladze: Touristenfrühstück (16 January 2019)*
Zaza Burchuladze (author), Zaza Rusadze (filmmaker) and Stefanie Orphal (ZOIS)
- ▶ *Regions in Flux: Siberia before the Russian Presidential Election (13 February 2018)*
Nadya Bakuradze (producer) and Tatiana Golova (ZOIS)
- ▶ *The Arctic: Potential for Conflict and Cooperation (17 April 2018)*
Christoph Humrich (University of Groningen), Heidi Kassens (Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel), Nadir Kinossian (Leibniz Institut für Länderkunde Leipzig), Volker Weichsel (German Association for East European Studies)

- ▶ *Kicking Off: Power and Football in Russia (12 June 2018)*
Timm Beichelt (European University Viadrina), Martin Brand (University of Bremen), Julia Glathe (Freie Universität Berlin) and Michael G. Esch (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe)
- ▶ *Free Fall: Life in the Altai (4 July 2018)*
Elena Levina (director) and Susanne Schüle (camerawoman)
- ▶ *Urban Pioneers: Change »From Below« in Russia (23 October 2018)*
Anatoliy Breslavskiy (Institute of Mongolian, Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, Ulan-Ude), Alexander Formozov (Center for Independent Social Research Berlin e. V.), Julia Korshunova (Open Bridge Project, Murmansk), Félix Krawatzek (ZOIS) and Tatiana Golova (ZOIS)
- ▶ *Private Ownership in Russia: Between Individual Rights and State Control (13 November 2018)*
Book presentation by Maxim Trudoljubow (Kennan Institute) with Eugenia Kurzynsky-Singer (Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law) and Julia Langbein (ZOIS)
- ▶ *25 Years of Struggle: The Russian Constitution (5 December 2018)*
Panel discussion in cooperation with Inforadio (rbb) with Alexander Blankenagel (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Jurij Starilow (Voronezh State University), Christian Schaich (ZOIS) and Dietmar Ringel (Inforadio)

▶ In conversation with...

- ▶ *Ukraine-EU Relations: Declarations vs. Substance (28 February 2018)*
Balázs Jarábik (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) and Alyona Getmanchuk (New Europe Center Kyiv)
- ▶ *The Spread of Hereditary Succession in the Former Soviet Union: Political Dynasties in Central Asia? (6 July 2018)*
Thomas Ambrosio (North Dakota State University)
- ▶ *Transnational Social Media Networks of post-Soviet migrants: Presentation of the latest ZOIS Report (10 July 2018)*
Tatiana Golova (ZOIS)
- ▶ *Expert Talk with Arseniy Yatsenyuk (5 October 2018)*
Arseniy Yatsenyuk (former Prime Minister of Ukraine)

- ▶ *East European Security: a Belarusian Angle* (16 October 2018)
Yauheni Preiherman (Minsk Dialogue Track-II Initiative), Dzianis Melyantsou (Belarus' Foreign Policy Programme, Minsk Dialogue Track-II Initiative) and Wolfgang Sender (Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung)
- ▶ *Reforming the Ukrainian Energy Sector* (8 November 2018)
Andrian Prokip (Wilson Center)
- ▶ *Engaging with Europe's De Facto States and Separatist Territories* (13 December 2018)
Thomas de Waal (Carnegie Europe) and Sabine Fischer (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)

▶ Press briefings

- ▶ *ZOiS World Café »Russia after the Presidential Election«* (21 March 2018)
With ZOiS researchers Tatiana Golova, Julia Langbein, Regina Elsner, Nadja Douglas, Gwendolyn Sasse, Beate Eschment and Ann-Sophie Gast

▶ Other events

- ▶ *Long Night of the Sciences 2018* (9 July 2018)
With Sabine von Löwis (ZOiS), Gwendolyn Sasse (ZOiS), Martin Brand (University of Bremen), Alice Lackner (ZOiS) and Imke Lichtwark (pianist)
- ▶ *Zwischen Wasserkrise und gesellschaftlichem Wandel* (11 September 2018)
A journalistic journey through Uzbekistan: Journalist

Golineh Atai in conversation with Beate Eschment (ZOiS)

- ▶ *Grenzländer – was wird aus den Staaten des Südkaukasus?* (26 September 2018)
Inforadio (rbb) panel discussion with Edita Badasyan (journalist), Tsypylma Darieva (ZOiS), Uwe Halbach (German Institute for International and Security Affairs), Mirko Schwanitz (journalist) and Dietmar Ringel (Inforadio)
- ▶ *Transnistria through the Lens of Art and Scholarship* (19 November 2018)
Panel discussion and exhibition opening with photographers Carolina Dutca, Ramin Mazur and Anton Polyakov and ZOiS researchers Nadja Douglas and Sabine von Löwis

SUPPORT OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

▶ Schule@ZOiS

- ▶ *What does Russia's Youth think?* (18 October 2018)
The Werner-von-Siemens-Gymnasium attended a lecture by Gwendolyn Sasse and Félix Krawatzek
- ▶ *Russian Memory Politics* (12 December 2018)
The Carlo-Schmid-Oberschule attended a lecture by Nina Frieß

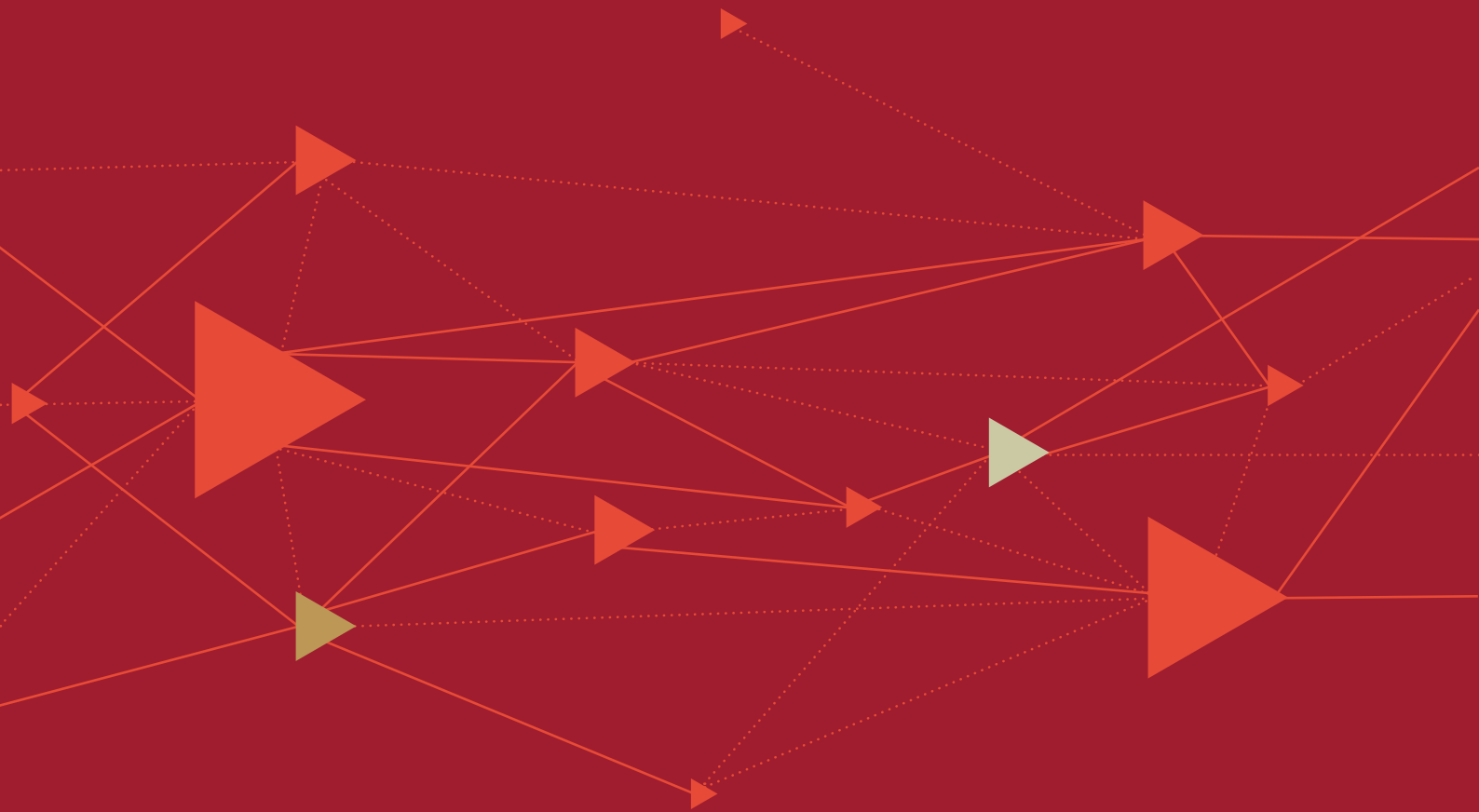
▶ PechaKucha

- ▶ *PechaKucha Night for Graduate Students* (1 March 2018)
Ten young academics from different institutions presented research with a focus on Eastern Europe



The discussion »Border countries – What will become of the states of the South Caucasus« with Dietmar Ringel, Tsypylma Darieva, Uwe Halbach, Edita Badasyan and Mirko Schwanitz (from left) was broadcast by Inforadio / rbb.

RESEARCH COMMUNICATION



Topic: Research Communication

The academic community has a multitude of roles. It can initiate debate, relay facts, clarify errors and strengthen the knowledge society – provided that it communicates well. But how can it reach people who are not academics themselves? And what contribution can ZOiS make here? We talked to Stefanie Orphal, Communications Director at ZOiS.

Tell us about research communication – what does it mean?

Research communication encompasses all forms of external communication aimed at people who are not part of the research community but have an interest in the topic. It ranges from the usual press and PR activities and publications to events for a wider public. It can also include less conventional event formats, such as science slams and PechaKucha, and of course it is increasingly making use of social media and multimedia formats like podcasts and videos.

Why is it so important to share information about research and its findings outside the academic community?

First of all, the public's support for science and research is a great asset. That means explaining what is happening in research, especially if taxpayers' money is involved. This is especially important at a time when fact-based knowledge is increasingly being called into question. It is not only about sharing information on research topics and outcomes; it is also about generating interest and enthusiasm. Research communication should link in with other forms of knowledge-sharing,

such as journalism, teaching, the arts and culture. In the best case, it also raises awareness of the methods employed by researchers in their work. This can promote public debate and is a good way of reaching the next generation of scholars.

What does good research communication need to achieve?

Good research communication should awaken interest not only in topics that are already part of the conversation but also in new ideas. It is a balancing act and it is important to get it right: on the one hand, it is about accessibility, which means translating knowledge into a format that can be understood by non-academics. On the other, it is about conveying the complexity of the research topics and how academics approach them.

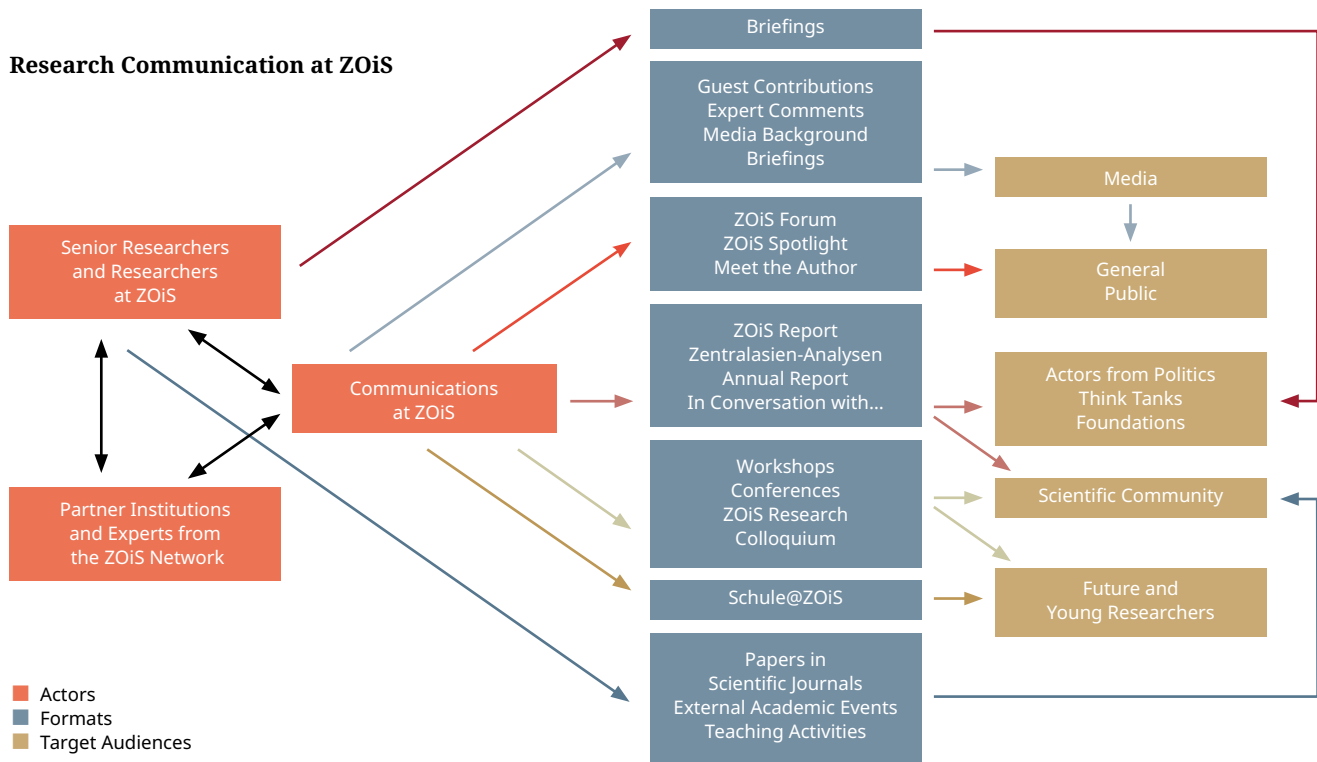
How do you see the situation in Germany compared with other countries, also from the perspective of academics themselves?

There are studies which show that there is less use of social media and the more innovative formats by academics in Germany than in the US or the UK, for example. From what I have



Good research communication should awaken interest not only in topics that are already part of the conversation but also in new ideas.

Stefanie Orphal



observed, I would say that's a fair assessment. One reason is undoubtedly the challenging career situation. Young academics in particular are asking themselves whether it brings any career benefits or recognition if they actively engage in communicating this research to the public. On the other hand, I have noticed more professionalism in research communication in recent years. It is now a clearly defined occupation with a career pathway, training opportunities and conferences. That's a good sign.

How important is the research-public interface for ZOiS?

The contact with the wider public is writ large at ZOiS. Making knowledge accessible to the public in an appropriate format is one of the priorities identified in ZOiS's Articles of Association. It is clear that we are making efforts to fulfil this priority through our publications and events and through social media and other activities. In addition, our researchers often think of ways to address the topic in their own work and come to us with their ideas and initiatives.

What do you see as particular successes in ZOiS's outreach, and how would you like to take this area forward?

One particular success is the visibility that ZOiS has achieved on social media. A small community has formed around ZOiS and we have gained several multipliers of relevance to our field of work. There is also excellent take-up for our ZOiS Forum events series, which is aimed at a wider public, and that's good to see. The response to our weekly blog article – ZOiS Spotlight, which looks at both topical and background issues – is also very positive. Where I think we could do better is linking political and cultural topics with research on a more sustainable basis. That's something we want to achieve with podcast and video formats, for example, which we plan to take forward in 2019. There is also work to be done in relation to our engagement with the media, where I feel we are not yet reaching everyone who could benefit from our expertise. So there is still a lot to do and we are looking forward to the challenge. ◀

Social Media at ZOiS

Social networks are indispensable to the work of research institutes nowadays. For ZOiS, Twitter and Facebook are the two most important means of reaching the various target groups. But what happens behind the scenes? We talked to Stephanie Alberding, Social Media Manager at ZOiS.

Can you tell us about the development of social media at ZOiS in 2018?

Although still a relatively new institution with a very specific research agenda, we have succeeded in expanding our online communities on Twitter and Facebook. These two platforms are still the most important tools utilised to reach our various target groups. We launched on Twitter and Facebook in March and June 2017, respectively. In 2018, we saw an increase of almost 80 per cent in follower numbers compared with the March to December period in 2017. The number of our Facebook followers increased by almost 54 per cent in 2018 compared with the June to December period the year before.

Why did ZOiS decide to use Twitter and Facebook as its main social media channels?

Social media were part of our communication strategy from the start and, along with our website, were the most important tools for building our network, especially in the early days. Of course, we started by looking at all the relevant channels and their target groups and user behaviour. We launched on Twitter first, as we had the impression that this would be the best way of reaching the multipliers and institutions that were important to us. After all, we were a new institute at that time and needed to become established. Later, we started to use Facebook as well, although less intensively than Twitter. Platforms that mainly feature photos and videos, such as Instagram, were less of a priority for us. But that can change and I wouldn't rule out the possibility of this happening at some point in the future.

What does ZOiS aim to achieve with Twitter and Facebook?

We use Twitter to publicise almost everything that is happening at ZOiS, such as our researchers' attendance at conferences, our own events, publications, media coverage and brief statements on topical issues. We also use it to position ourselves

within an Eastern Europe network that we feel very much part of, for example by sharing tweets from other institutes and multipliers. We also see ourselves as a service provider for our followers, so we draw attention to media reports, scholarships, events or job vacancies that may be of interest to them. On Facebook, on the other hand, the aim is mainly to publicise our events: the Facebook Events format is very good for that. We also use it as an opportunity to share photo galleries for various events. Apart from that, we post about our key publications and media reports. Briefly put, on Twitter, we reach a specialist audience at other institutes, as well as journalists and policy-makers, whereas on Facebook, we tend to reach the general public and a younger audience of students and junior academics. Knowledge-sharing features prominently in our Articles of Association and with our choice of social media, we reach the required target groups, which are quite diverse.

What are the greatest challenges in your work day to day?

Our research covers a large geographical area and range of topics, so it is sometimes difficult to maintain an overview of everything at once. With controversial and complex topics, it is essential to consider every aspect of the wording very carefully. Given the limited number of characters per tweet on Twitter, that is not always an easy task.

What were your most positive moments in your work as a social media manager?

Of course, I am always pleased to see notifications that one of our posts has been retweeted, shared or liked. And it's great to get direct feedback. I am always delighted to receive positive feedback when I don't necessarily expect to, perhaps in response to niche topics or factual commentaries, and actually I don't mind receiving criticism if it facilitates fact-based debate. Unfortunately, that doesn't happen very often. In that sense, I do sometimes wish for a more productive culture of debate. ◀

Publications

ZOiS produces a range of publications which present the outcomes of its research, analysis of current events and background. The authors include not only ZOiS's own researchers but also external experts from the ZOiS network. In 2018, ZOiS's various publication formats became more established and met with a positive response from the academic community, the media and the wider public.

► ZOiS Report

ZOiS Report is aimed at an expert readership from politics, administration, the education sector and the media. Produced in medium-length format in English or German, it presents current data from ZOiS studies and surveys through graphics and short explanatory texts, making research findings with societal relevance quickly accessible to the public. It is available in print and on the ZOiS website. Four ZOiS Reports were published in 2018.

Youth in Russia: Outlook on Life and Political Attitudes by Félix Krawatzek und Gwendolyn Sasse is based on an April 2018 survey of teenagers and young adults across fifteen regional capitals in the Russian Federation. Young people have been very visible in recent political protests, but there is also evidence that much of the youth generation is conservative and loyal to President Vladimir Putin. This ZOiS Report (1 / 2018) provides insights into these seemingly contradictory trends and investigates attitudes towards the military, protest, the Church and the mass media.

In Report 2 / 2018, entitled *Post-Soviet Migrants and Transnational Public Spheres on Social Media*, Tatiana Golova looks at how Russian-German public spheres are developing via social media through the engagement of post-Soviet migrants living in Germany. Data collection was undertaken via the VK.com interface (VK is the largest Russian social network). The analysis focuses on the interaction of groups and public pages, which tend to be dominated by key political events and developments in Germany and the post-Soviet space. The study

shows that complex networks exist among the various groups, based on information flows, proximity of content and mutual influence.

Armenia is the topic of ZOiS Report 3 / 2018 by political scientist Nadja Douglas. Entitled *The Culture of Policing in Armenia*, it studies the mass protests which led to the Velvet Revolution and the peaceful transfer of power in 2018, and also revisits earlier protest movements. The author looks at how state-society relations have evolved in Armenia in recent years and what role is played by the state power structures in this context. The report draws mainly on qualitative interviews conducted by Nadja Douglas with grassroots activists and NGOs in 2017. She also interviewed experts and media representatives. The interview data are supplemented by opinion surveys by a local sociological research institute on trust in the police and law enforcement agencies.

In ZOiS Report 4 / 2018 *Public Perceptions in Flux: Identities, War, and Transnational Linkages in Ukraine*, Gwendolyn Sasse and Alice Lackner present the findings of surveys on identity and public opinion in Ukraine (excluding Crimea and the non-government-controlled areas in the Donbas). Against the backdrop of developments in Ukrainian government and politics since the Euromaidan, the annexation of Crimea and the onset of war in the Donbas, the report reveals the changes in public attitudes towards issues of identity, including ethnic, language- and citizenship-based identity. The surveys also looked at political opinions, e.g. on Crimea's status, the Minsk Agreement and EU-Russia relations.

► Meet the Author

For *Meet the Author*, our Communications team conducts short interviews based on five questions about a publication or project. Our aim is to provide an insight into the current academic and cultural debate and show how it relates to topical political and social issues. The interviews are published in English and German on the ZOIS website.

The 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia sparked an array of publications, including the essay *Ersatzfeldspieler* by Timm Beichelt. In the interview with ZOIS, the author explains how football is organised in Russia, with close ties to the state, and draws comparisons with countries such as Ukraine, Germany, England and France. Underlying his observations is the issue of the relationship between football and power.

In his book *Development and Dystopia: Studies in Post-Soviet Ukraine and Eastern Europe*, Mikhail Minakov analyses the challenges faced by post-Soviet societies, with a particular focus on Ukraine. In the interview, he explains why he regards the revolutionary developments in Ukraine as typical of the post-Soviet world, characterising them as »simultaneous modernisation and de-modernisation«.

Alongside other interviews with external authors, the series also featured publications by ZOIS's own researchers. For example, in *Youth in Regime Crisis: Comparative Perspectives from Russia to Weimar Germany*, Félix Krawatzek studies the political mobilisation of young people and the symbolic importance of youth at moments of crisis. Regina Elsner's doctoral thesis, entitled *The Russian Orthodox Church and the Challenge of Modernity*, investigates the tensions between Church and society in 21st-century Russia. In the interview, she talks about the Russian Orthodox Church's significance today and the relationship between Church and state. The interview with Tsypylma Darieva focuses on her co-authored book *Sacred Places – Emerging Spaces: Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus*, which offers insights into the current state of religious affairs in the Caucasus. As well as looking at the special significance of certain sacred places, she comments on de-sec-

ularisation processes in the Caucasus since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

► ZOIS Spotlight

ZOIS Spotlight is a weekly publication featuring analyses, insights and background information on current developments in Eastern Europe by ZOIS researchers and guest contributors. *ZOIS Spotlight* is published on our website each Wednesday in English and German and is shared on Twitter and Facebook.

The peaceful protest movement behind the Velvet Revolution in Armenia, which led to Nikol Pashinyan becoming prime minister, was the featured topic in several issues of *Spotlight*. Another key event in 2018 was the FIFA World Cup in Russia, whose political implications were discussed in several *ZOIS Spotlights*. Two articles about ethnic Germans from Russia and the post-Soviet minority in Germany met with particular interest from readers, as did the results of a study on young Russians' assessment of history. Although *ZOIS Spotlight* generally focuses on current events and issues, such as the presidential elections in Georgia, pension reform in Russia or the conflict between the Russian and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches, it regularly provides background information on specific topics and trends as well. For example, there was a great response to articles on Ukrainian migrants in Poland and on the music of composers in the gulag. Brief and to the point while covering a wide range of regions and topics from a multidisciplinary perspective, *ZOIS Spotlight* became established in 2018 as one of our key publication formats.

► Work-in-Progress

Work-in-Progress is a medium-length format, which provides insights into ZOIS researchers' current projects. The series presents the empirical and conceptual starting points and interim results of individual projects. *Work-in-Progress* aims to contribute to academic debate, but its compact format makes it more accessible to a broader readership than conventional working papers.

Joint Publications

► Zentralasien-Analysen

Zentralasien-Analysen – part of the *Länder-Analysen* journal series – consists of monthly analyses of political, economic, social and cultural developments in the five Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) by international researchers and experts. Since 1 January 2018, the *Länder-Analysen* series has been co-

edited by the following institutions: the German Association for East European Studies (DGO), the German Institute for Polish Studies (DPI), the University of Bremen's Research Centre for East European Studies (FSO), Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO), Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS) and the Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS). The *Zentralasien-Analysen* series is edited by Beate Eschment at ZOiS.

ZOiS Publications 2018

► ZOiS Report

- *Youth in Russia: Outlook on Life and Political Attitudes*
ZOiS Report 1 / 2018 by Gwendolyn Sasse and Félix Krawatzek (June 2018)
- *Postsowjetische Migranten in Deutschland und transnationale Social Media-Öffentlichkeiten*
ZOiS Report 2 / 2018 by Tatiana Golova (July 2018)
- *The culture of policing in Armenia*
ZOiS Report 3 / 2018 by Nadja Douglas (August 2018)
- *Public Perceptions in Flux: Identities, War, and Transnational Linkages in Ukraine*
ZOiS Report 4 / 2018 by Gwendolyn Sasse (December 2018)

► Meet the Author

- *»Central and Eastern Europeans are more aware of the fragility of everything political«*
Meet the Author with Ivan Krastev (9 January 2018)
- *»Putin recognises the military's potential to foster patriotism«*
Meet the Author with Nadja Douglas (17 January 2018)
- *The effects of living through communism*
Meet the Authors with Grigore Pop-Eleches and Joshua A. Tucker (9 April 2018)
- *»The field of football has its own logic«*
Meet the Author with Timm Beichelt (14 June 2018)
- *»State authorities try to either appropriate and control or abolish hybrid sacred places«*
Meet the Author with Tsyplyma Darieva (17 July 2018)
- *»To the Church, protest and revolution are a catastrophe«*
Meet the Author with Regina Elsner (1 August 2018)

- *»Ukraine predicted the future for other post-Soviet countries«*

Meet the Author with Mikhail Minakov
(10 October 2018)

- *»In Russia, youth is not necessarily progressive«*

Meet the Author with Félix Krawatzek
(13 December 2018)

► ZOiS Spotlight

- *Deconstruction of justice in Poland?*
ZOiS Spotlight 1 / 2018 by Tina de Vries
(17 January 2018)
- *Migration and a new patriotism in Armenia*
ZOiS Spotlight 2 / 2018 by Tsyplyma Darieva
(24 January 2018)
- *Protests and political coalitions in Ukraine*
ZOiS Spotlight 3 / 2018 by Olga Onuch
(31 January 2018)
- *Political spaces of Russian opposition*
ZOiS Spotlight 4 / 2018 by Tatiana Golova
(7 February 2018)
- *All obstacles removed?*
ZOiS Spotlight 5 / 2018 by Beate Eschment
(14 February 2018)
- *Unloved Soviet reformers and the Russian longing for stability*
ZOiS Spotlight 6 / 2018 by Jochen Krüger
(21 February 2018)
- *Brest-Litovsk: a peace deal in wartime*
ZOiS Spotlight 7 / 2018 by Nikolaus Katzer
(28 February 2018)

- ▶ *Central Asia and Russia's presidential election*
ZOiS Spotlight 8 / 2018 by Ann-Sophie Gast
(7 March 2018)
- ▶ *Do Russians want change?*
ZOiS Spotlight 9 / 2018 by Andrei Kolesnikov
und Denis Volkov (14 March 2018)
- ▶ *The NATO air strikes in Serbia's memory politics*
ZOiS Spotlight 10 / 2018 by Elisa Satjukow
(21 March 2018)
- ▶ *Russia's independent sociology under pressure*
ZOiS Spotlight 11 / 2018 by Viktor Voronkov
(28 March 2018)
- ▶ *Hungary's parliamentary election: a bottom-up
perspective*
ZOiS Spotlight 12 / 2018 by Chris Hann
(4 April 2018)
- ▶ *Migration flows from Ukraine: changing trends*
ZOiS Spotlight 13 / 2018 by Olga Gulina und
Oleksii Pozniak (11 April 2018)
- ▶ *A new Cold War?*
ZOiS Spotlight 14 / 2018 by Bernd Greiner
(18 April 2018)
- ▶ *Turning Russians into Balts?*
ZOiS Spotlight 15 / 2018 by James Hughes
(25 April 2018)
- ▶ *Russia and the European Convention on Human Rights*
ZOiS Spotlight 16 / 2018 by Caroline von Gall
(2 May 2018)
- ▶ *Linking language and security in Ukraine*
ZOiS Spotlight 17 / 2018 by Gwendolyn Sasse
(9 May 2018)
- ▶ *The politics of homophobia in Eastern Europe*
ZOiS Spotlight 18 / 2018 by Richard Mole
(16 May 2018)
- ▶ *Sobibor today*
ZOiS Spotlight 19 / 2018 by Elza-Bair Guchinova
(23 May 2018)
- ▶ *Svetlana Alexievich and nostalgia*
ZOiS Spotlight 20 / 2018 by Anja Tippner
(30 May 2018)
- ▶ *Armenia, a textbook case of a peaceful uprising*
ZOiS Spotlight 21 / 2018 by Silvia Stöber
(6 June 2018)
- ▶ *The politics of football in Russia: repressive and rational*
ZOiS Spotlight 22 / 2018 by Timm Beichelt
(13 June 2018)
- ▶ *Azerbaijan celebrates its secular legacy*
ZOiS Spotlight 23 / 2018 by Tsypylma Darieva
(20 June 2018)
- ▶ *Memory and history in Ukraine after the Euromaidan*
ZOiS Spotlight 24 / 2018 by Yuliya Yurchuk
(27 June 2018)
- ▶ *The Western Balkan route and European border policies*
ZOiS Spotlight 25 / 2018 by Jelena Tošić
(4 July 2018)
- ▶ *Social media networks of the post-Soviet minority in
Germany*
ZOiS Spotlight 26 / 2018 by Tatiana Golova
(11 July 2018)
- ▶ *No populism: dispute over Russia's new pension reform*
ZOiS Spotlight 27 / 2018 by Katharina Bluhm
(18 July 2018)
- ▶ *How the World Cup made its mark on Kaliningrad*
ZOiS Spotlight 28 / 2018 by Rita Sanders
(25 July 2018)
- ▶ *Neighbourly re-education: the Kazakh minority in China*
ZOiS Spotlight 29 / 2018 by Taissiya Sutormina
(5 September 2018)
- ▶ *Subject choice as a political issue: Russian Germans,
identity and geopolitics*
ZOiS Spotlight 30 / 2018 by Manuel Rommel
(12 September 2018)
- ▶ *An independent church in Ukraine: peace-maker or
warmonger?*
ZOiS Spotlight 31 / 2018 by Regina Elsner
(19 September 2018)
- ▶ *Perceptions of income inequality in Central and
Eastern Europe*
ZOiS Spotlight 32 / 2018 by Alice Lackner
(26 September 2018)
- ▶ *Money laundering in Moldova*
ZOiS Spotlight 33 / 2018 by Sergiu Gaibu
(4 October 2018)
- ▶ *Of writing and writers from Georgia*
ZOiS Spotlight 34 / 2018 by Nina Frieß
(10 October 2018)
- ▶ *War and water in the Donbas*
ZOiS Spotlight 35 / 2018 by Sophie Lambroschini
(17 October 2018)
- ▶ *The certainty of uncertainty: Georgia's presidential
election*
ZOiS Spotlight 36 / 2018 by Kornely Kakachia
(24 October 2018)
- ▶ *Unheard – music by composers in the gulag*
ZOiS Spotlight 37 / 2018 by Inna Klause
(31 October 2018)
- ▶ *Ukrainian migrants in Poland: here to stay?*
ZOiS Spotlight 38 / 2018 by Alexander Chertenko
(7 November 2018)
- ▶ *Historical loyalty? Russian youth and its
assessment of history*
ZOiS Spotlight 39 / 2018 by Félix Krawatzek
(14 November 2018)

- ▶ *Latvia's centenary*
ZOiS Spotlight 40 / 2018 by Eva-Clarita Pettai
(21 November 2018)
- ▶ *Prestige project in Tajikistan – the Rogun hydropower plant*
ZOiS Spotlight 41 / 2018 by Beate Eschment
(28 November 2018)
- ▶ *The Armenian Revolution: nearing completion?*
ZOiS Spotlight 42 / 2018 by Silvia Stöber
(5 December 2018)
- ▶ *25 years of the Russian Constitution*
ZOiS Spotlight 43 / 2018 by Christian Schaich
(12 December 2018)
- ▶ *Romania, an EU success story?*
ZOiS Spotlight 44 / 2018 by Alina Mungiu-Pippidi
(19 December 2018)

- ▶ **Work-in-Progress**
 - ▶ *Economic Confidence-Building Measures and Conflict Settlement*
Work in Progress 1/2018 by Nadja Douglas and Stefan Wolff (January 2018)

- ▶ **Zentralasien-Analysen**
 - ▶ *Tadschikistan und die chinesische »Belt and Road«-Initiative*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 121 with a contribution by Abdugani Mamadasimow
(26 January 2018)
 - ▶ *Die neue Außenpolitik Usbekistans*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 122 with a contribution by Eldor Aripov
(23 February 2018)
 - ▶ *Kirgistans Mitgliedschaft in der Eurasischen Wirtschaftsunion*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 123 with a contribution by Ann-Sophie Gast
(29 March 2018)
 - ▶ *Arbeitsmigration und Feminisierung der Landwirtschaft in Tadschikistan und Usbekistan*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 124 with a contribution by Nozilakhon Mukhamedova
(27 April 2018)
 - ▶ *Expertenmeinungen zur Situation in Turkmenistan (1)*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 125 with contributions by Hannes Meißner, Tatia Chikhladze, Abel Polese and Natalie Koch
(25 May 2018)
 - ▶ *Expertenmeinungen zur Situation in Turkmenistan (2)*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 126 with contributions by Luca Anceschi, Slavomír Horák and Hendrik Meurs
(29 June 2018)
 - ▶ *Umgang mit zentralasiatischen Arbeitsmigranten in Russland*
Die Wahrnehmung der Europäischen Union in Zentralasien
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 127-128 with contributions by Bhavna Dave and Zhanibek Arynov
(27 July 2018)
 - ▶ *Anpassungsprobleme afghanischer Kirgisen an das Leben in Kirgistan*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 129 with a contribution by Eliza Isabaeva
(28 September 2018)
 - ▶ *Säkularer Staat und Islamismus in Tadschikistan*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 130 with a contribution by Musaffar Olimow and Saodat Olimowa
(26 October 2018)
 - ▶ *Terrorismusbekämpfung via Internet in Zentralasien*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 131 with a contribution by Anna Gussarova
(30 November 2018)
 - ▶ *Flüchtlingsschutz in Zentralasien*
Zentralasien-Analysen Nr. 132 with a contribution by Khalida Azhigulova
(21 December 2018)



quartier-110

P
No. 64 - 8007



ZOiS in the Media

- ▶ *Казахстан между хиджабом и светским обществом*
Deutsche Welle (24 January 2018)
Beate Eschment comments on Kazakhstan's fear of an islamisation of the society (Russian).
- ▶ *Russland: Etwas läuft hier schief*
Zeit Online (24 January 2018)
In a report on the growing interest in Russia, ZOiS is mentioned as an expert institute (German).
- ▶ *Ukraine's Youth: Politically Disinterested and Low Trust in the EU*
Carnegie Europe (29 January 2018)
In Judy Dempsey's blog, Gwendolyn Sasse looks at the latest results of a survey of the »Generation Z« in Ukraine (English).
- ▶ *Ukraine's Strategic Challenges in 2018*
Focus Ukraine / Kennan Institute (13 February 2018)
Mikhail Minakov takes a look at »Ukraine's Strategic Challenges in 2018« and cites the ZOiS Reports 2 / 2017 and 3/2017 on Crimea and the Donbas (English).
- ▶ *Judy Asks: Is the West Selling Itself Short?*
Carnegie Europe (17 February 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse provides an assessment of the Munich Security Conference 2018 (English).
- ▶ *Im Donbass schwelt ein Krieg, der ganz Europa angeht*
Neue Zürcher Zeitung (21 February 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse contributes a guest commentary for NZZ on the declining interest in the war in eastern Ukraine (German).
- ▶ *Киргизия, Таджикистан, Узбекистан: борьба с коррупцией или за власть?*
Deutsche Welle (26 February 2018)
Beate Eschment comments on the fight against corruption in Central Asia (Russian).
- ▶ *Stadt, Land, Macht*
SWR2 Journal am Morgen (1 March 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse speaks about the topic of the ZOiS Conference 2018 and explains why »Contested Spaces« matter politically (German).
- ▶ *Встреча Мирзиёева и Рахмона: с чем президент Узбекистана прибыл в Душанбе*
Deutsche Welle (9 March 2018)
A report on Uzbek President Mirziyoyev's visit to Tajikistan, with comments by Beate Eschment (Russian).
- ▶ *In Russland regt sich der Wunsch nach einer echten Opposition*
Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung (13 March 2018)
In the run up to the presidential election in Russia, Tatiana Golova comments on the demand for a real opposition in the country (German).
- ▶ *Donbas Diplomacy: Ukraine Bides Its Time*
Carnegie Moscow Center (16 March 2018)
In a contribution on Ukraine diplomacy, the ZOiS Report on the Donbas is mentioned (English).
- ▶ *Russland im Zeichen der Präsidentschaftswahl*
Inforadio / rbb (18 March 2018)
On the panel, Gwendolyn Sasse and other guests discussed the Russian presidential election (German).
- ▶ *Wladimir Putins Kurs bestätigt*
Deutsche Welle (18 March 2018)
A report on the Russian presidential election with comments by Gwendolyn Sasse in what might influence Putin's fourth term (German).
- ▶ *Russische Präsidentschaftswahl: Stimmung auf der Krim*
Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung (18 March 2018)
An assessment of the public mood in Crimea on the day of the Russian presidential election, citing also from the ZOiS Report 3/2017 (German).
- ▶ *Steht Putins Russland zu Recht am Pranger?*
Deutschlandfunk (19 March 2018)
The broadcast investigates whether Putin's Russia is rightly vilified. Gwendolyn Sasse was a guest on the show (German).
- ▶ *Wahlen in Russland: Nicht die Menschen mit dem System verwechseln*
Feinschwarz. Theologisches Feuilleton (19 March 2018)
For the theological feuilleton, Regina Elsner writes about the Russian election and pleads not to confuse the people with the system (German).
- ▶ *What Does Russia's Presidential Election Mean for Ukraine?*
Carnegie Europe (26 March 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse comments on what the Russian presidential election means for Ukraine (English).
- ▶ *Die Ukraine in den Augen Deutschlands*
Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (4 April 2018)
The GIZ research study examines Ukraine in the eyes of Germany. Gwendolyn Sasse was among the interviewed experts (German).
- ▶ *Ost-West-Konfrontation 2.0*
Deutschlandfunk (4 April 2018)
Together with other experts, Gwendolyn Sasse participated in a discussion about trade wars and the Skripal case (German).

- ▶ *Petro ohne Land*
SWR2 (10 April 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse comments on the visit of the Ukrainian President Poroshenko in Germany (German).
- ▶ *Киргизия на пути к политическому кризису: Атамбаев против Жээнбекова*
Deutsche Welle (13 April 2018)
Beate Eschment comments on the question whether the power struggle between the Kyrgyz President and his predecessor could turn into a real political crisis (Russian).
- ▶ *Areas of (no) conflict in the Arctic*
High North News (24 April 2018)
The Norwegian newspaper covers the ZOIS Forum event »The Arctic: Potential for Conflict and Cooperation« (English).
- ▶ *Киргизия: противостояние старого и нового президентов продолжается*
Deutsche Welle (25 April 2018)
Beate Eschment comments on the political power struggle in Kyrgyzstan (Russian).
- ▶ *Ukraine's New Military Engagement in the Donbas*
Carnegie Europe (3 May 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse analyses Ukraine's new military engagement in the Donbas (English).
- ▶ *Gute Tataren, schlechte Tataren*
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (6 May 2018)
The article reports on Crimean Tatars and also refers to the ZOIS Report 3/2017 »Terra Incognita: The Public Mood in Crimea« (German).
- ▶ *Es wäre noch zu früh, über eine außenpolitische Wende in Armenien zu sprechen*
Caucasus Watch (12 May 2018)
In an interview, Tsypylma Darieva comments on the recent political events in Armenia (German).
- ▶ *Что говорят в Берлине об «убийстве» Аркадия Бабченко*
Deutsche Welle (31 May 2018)
A report on the staged assassination of Russian journalist Arkady Babchenko. With comments by Gwendolyn Sasse (Russian).
- ▶ *1:0 für Putin? – Die Wirkung der Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft*
Reuters (3 June 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse discusses whether a major media event like the FIFA World Cup has a positive impact on Russia's international reputation (German).
- ▶ *Через 8 лет после трагедии в Оше: помирились ли киргизы с узбеками?*
Deutsche Welle (10 June 2018)
On the occasion marking the 8th anniversary of the violent conflict between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in Osh, the article discusses the current situation and perspectives of the city. With comments by Beate Eschment (Russian).
- ▶ *Зустріч «нормандської четвірки» має поживавити Мінський процес*
Ukrinform (13 June 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse comments on the Normandy Four talks, held on 11 June 2018 in Berlin to resolve the conflict in Ukraine (Ukrainian).
- ▶ *Judy Asks: Should Germany Dump Nord Stream 2? Can it?*
Carnegie Europe (14 June 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse addresses the question of whether Germany should dump Nord Stream 2 (English).
- ▶ *Putins Propagandaplattform*
Tagesschau.de (14 June 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse gives an assessment of how much insight the international fans actually get into Russian everyday life during the World Cup (German).
- ▶ *»Die Kasachen sind die Gastgeber«*
Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung (22 June 2018)
In an interview, Beate Eschment talks about Kazakhstan's nationalities policy and the country's international role (German).
- ▶ *Verteidiger im Namen Gottes*
Deutschlandfunk (26 June 2018)
In an interview, Regina Elsner talks about the fact that the Russian Orthodox Church has moved not only closer to the state, but also to sport (German).
- ▶ *Studie: Wie die jungen Russen ticken*
Deutsche Welle (3 July 2018)
A portray of today's youth in Russia, based on the ZOIS Report 1 / 2018 »Youth in Russia: Outlook on Life and Political Attitudes« (German).
- ▶ *Соцсети – инструмент влияния Кремля на постсоветских мигрантов в ФРГ?*
Deutsche Welle (12 July 2018)
In an interview, Tatiana Golova talks about the results of her study on transnational social media networks of the post-Soviet minority in Germany (Russian).
- ▶ *So verbünden sich im »russischen Facebook« Rechtsradikale mit Deutschrussen*
Focus Online (12 July 2018)
A report on Tatiana Golova's research on transnational social media networks of the post-Soviet minority in Germany (German).
- ▶ *Russisch-deutsche Identität im Netz*
taz (13 July 2018)
The article on Russian social networks refers to the results of Tatiana Golova's research (English).
- ▶ *Почему в Германии с беспокойством ждут встречи Путина и Трампа*
Deutsche Welle (15 July 2018)
Ahead of the summit of US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin, Gwendolyn Sasse and other experts provide their expert comments (Russian).

- ▶ *USA und Russland: Beziehung »am Tiefpunkt«*
Morgenmagazin / ZDF (16 July 2018)
In a TV interview, Gwendolyn Sasse comments on the Trump-Putin summit (German).
- ▶ *»Große Show, kaum Ergebnisse«*
RTL2 News (16 July 2018)
In a TV interview, Gwendolyn Sasse analyses the Trump-Putin summit (German).
- ▶ *Trump and Putin Go Home*
Carnegie Europe (17 July 2018)
For Judy Dempsey's blog Strategic Europe, Gwendolyn Sasse analyses the Helsinki summit between Putin and Trump (English).
- ▶ *Weshalb die »Puteens« für Putin keine Gefahr darstellen*
Neue Zürcher Zeitung (27 July 2018)
In a guest commentary, Gwendolyn Sasse characterises the political attitudes of Russian youth and their stance on the Putin regime (German).
- ▶ *ВКонтакте с Альтернативой для Германии*
openDemocracy (4 September 2018)
In an interview, Tatiana Golova talks about results of her study on transnational social media networks of post-Soviet migrants in Germany (Russian).
- ▶ *Станут ли Казахстан и Киргизия союзниками Турции в походе против доллара?*
Deutsche Welle (7 September 2018)
Beate Eschment answers the question of whether Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan will become allies of Turkey in terms of rejecting the dollar as anchor currency (Russian).
- ▶ *Что говорят в Германии о выборах и протестах в России*
Deutsche Welle (10 September 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse takes a look at the outcome and the significance of the mayoral election in Moscow (Russian).
- ▶ *Осень патриархов: как РПЦ может ответить на автокефалию Украины*
Deutsche Welle (13 September 2018)
Regina Elsner answers questions regarding the church-related tensions in Ukraine (Russian).
- ▶ *Как Астана защитит себя от последствий новых санкций США против РФ*
Deutsche Welle (15 September 2018)
Beate Eschment on the possible consequences and reactions of Kazakhstan to the latest US sanctions against Russia (Russian).
- ▶ *Der Bruderzwist in der orthodoxen Kirche droht zu eskalieren*
Neue Zürcher Zeitung (20 September 2018)
The article reports on the tensions regarding the church in Ukraine, quoting ZOiS theologian Regina Elsner (German).
- ▶ *Das mächtige Moskauer Patriarchat wird schrumpfen*
Zeit Online (21 September 2018)
In his column, Michael Thumann discusses the secession of Ukraine from the Russian Orthodox Church. With comments by Regina Elsner (German).
- ▶ *Beben von historischem Ausmaß erschüttert die orthodoxe Kirche*
Süddeutsche Zeitung (22 September 2018)
Regina Elsner comments on the ongoing tensions regarding the church in Ukraine (German).
- ▶ *Am Rande Europas: Was wird aus den Staaten des Südkaukasus?*
Inforadio / rbb (30 September 2018)
On the panel, Tsypylma Darieva and other guests discussed diversity and tensions in the South Caucasus (German).
- ▶ *Почему экс-президенты Киргизии могут лишиться неприкосновенности*
Deutsche Welle (10 October 2018)
Beate Eschment comments on the demand for the waiver of former presidents' immunity by the Kyrgyzstan Supreme Court (Russian).
- ▶ *Kiew und Moskau liegen über Kreuz*
Deutsche Welle (10 October 2018)
Regina Elsner comments Ukrainian autocephaly (German).
- ▶ *Немецкие социал-демократы в отношениях с Россией взяли за старое*
Deutsche Welle (11 October 2018)
The article takes a look at the position paper of the parliamentary group of the Social Democratic Party, which calls for closer cooperation with Russia on political and economic questions. With comments by Gwendolyn Sasse (Russian).
- ▶ *Beten verboten!*
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (17 October 2018)
Regina Elsner comments on the latest developments in the dispute between the Ukrainian church and the Russian Orthodox Church (German).

- ▶ *Putins Werk und Kirills Beitrag*
Publik-Forum (26 October 2018)
Regina Elsner talks about the social ethics of the Russian Orthodox Church since the end of the Soviet Union (German).
- ▶ *В Таджикистане запустили Рогунскую ГЭС. Что дальше?*
Deutsche Welle (16 November 2018)
Beate Eschment comments on the start-up of the first generator at the Rogun Dam in Tajikistan (Russian).
- ▶ *Angekommen, integriert und unbeachtet?*
Kulturradio / rbb (19 November 2018)
Tatiana Golova talks about her research on post-Soviet migrants in Germany (German).
- ▶ *Russland will keinen Frieden*
TUP / AWO (27 November 2018)
In an interview, Gwendolyn Sasse comments on the conflict in eastern Ukraine (German).
- ▶ *Battleship: Russia vs. Ukraine*
Vox (27 November 2018)
The Vox podcast puts the Ukraine-Russia military clash into context. Gwendolyn Sasse speaks about Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea and the situation today (English).
- ▶ *Mythisch und real – vor fünf Jahren kam in Kiew die Maidan-Bewegung in Fahrt*
Neue Zürcher Zeitung (28 November 2018)
In a guest commentary, Gwendolyn Sasse writes about myth and reality of the Euromaidan (German).
- ▶ *Ukraine-Russland-Konflikt: »Die Russen sind sehr weit gegangen«*
Heute.de / ZDF (28 November 2018)
In an interview, Gwendolyn Sasse comments on the current situation between Russia and the Ukraine after the incident in the Sea of Azov (German).
- ▶ *Crimea Annexation 2.0*
Carnegie Europe (29 November 2018)
In Judy Dempsey's blog Strategic Europe, Gwendolyn Sasse gives an outline of the current situation in the conflict between Russia and the Ukraine and comments on the role of Western powers (English).
- ▶ *Ukrainische Häfen stehen fast still*
Tagesschau.de / ARD (4 December 2018)
Gwendolyn Sasse addresses the capabilities and consequences of new EU sanctions against Russia in response to the incident in the Sea of Azov (German).
- ▶ *Исследование: Большинство украинцев отвергают идею особого статуса Донбасса*
Deutsche Welle (6 December 2018)
A report on the latest ZOiS Report which traces the most recent trends and changes in public opinion in Ukraine (Russian and Ukrainian).
- ▶ *Німецька дослідниця: За рік зміцнилася державницька ідентичність українців*
Deutsche Welle (7 December 2018)
In an interview, Gwendolyn Sasse talks about the survey results of the ZOiS Report 4 / 2018 on the public opinion in Ukraine (Ukrainian).
- ▶ *Wie sich die EU gegen Fake News wappnet*
Der Tagesspiegel (8 December 2018)
A report on how the European Union braces itself against fake news. With comments by Gwendolyn Sasse (German).
- ▶ *25 Jahre Verfassung der Russischen Föderation*
Inforadio / rbb (9 December 2018)
On the panel, Christian Schaich and other guests discussed the Russian Constitution (German).
- ▶ *The Escalating, Deadly Conflict Between Russia and Ukraine*
Perspective with Alison Smith / CPAC (10 December 2018)
In an interview with the Canadian broadcaster, Gwendolyn Sasse talks about the continuing tension between Ukraine and Russia in the wake of the Kerch Strait incident (English).
- ▶ *Зачем парламент Киргизии отменяет иммунитет экс-президентов*
Deutsche Welle (20 December 2018)
The article reports on the background of the planned waiver of immunity for the former presidents of Kyrgyzstan. With comments by Bea

Publishing Details

PUBLISHED BY

Centre for East European and
International Studies (ZOiS) gGmbH
Mohrenstraße 60
10117 Berlin

Telefon: +49 (30) 2005949-12
Email: info@zois-berlin.de
Internet: www.zois-berlin.de
Twitter: @ZOiS_Berlin
Facebook: @ZOiS.Berlin

Court of Registry:
Amtsgericht Charlottenburg,
HRB 182254
USt-IdNr. DE 309 833 495

DIRECTORS

Gwendolyn Sasse, Christian Schaich

RESPONSIBLE FOR EDITORIAL CONTENT

Gwendolyn Sasse, Christian Schaich

PHOTO AND TEXT EDITING

Yvonne Troll (lead editor)
Lejly Agamuradova
Stephanie Alberding
Viktoria Bruhl
Stefanie Orphal
Elena Reck

TRANSLATED BY

Hillary Crowe
Ben Yielding

LAYOUT

ultramarinrot
Büro für Kommunikationsdesign

PRINTED BY

vierC print + mediefabrik GmbH & Co.KG

ISSN

2625-3097

PHOTO CREDITS AND REFERENCES

Portrait photos	Annette Riedl
pp. 22 left	ZUMA Press / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 22 right	Nadja Douglas
pp. 23 / 25	Denis Sinyakov / n-ost
pp. 26	Kerstin Siepmann
pp. 28	Nikolay Vinokurov / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 30	Marcos del Mazo / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 32	Hayley Blackledge / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 33	Jacek Kadaj / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 38	FO Travel / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 40	Frank Schultze / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 41	Eddie Gerald / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 42	Sabine von Löwis
pp. 46	Tsypylma Darieva
pp. 47	Jens Liebchen
pp. 49 / 50	Beate Eschment
pp. 56	Nikolay Vinokurov / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 57	Irina Papoyan / Alamy Stock Foto
pp. 81 / 82	David Ausserhofer
pp. 83 / 84	ZOiS
pp. 87	ZOiS
pp. 97	Annette Riedl



Centre for East European and
International Studies (ZOiS) gGmbH
Mohrenstraße 60
10117 Berlin

www.zois-berlin.de
+49 (30) 2005949-12
info@zois-berlin.de