



GHENT UNIVERSITY SUMMER SCHOOL

Ghent, 12-16 September 2022

"UKRAINE AND THE CHALLENGES OF NATIONHOOD, INDIVIDUALITY AND SURVIVAL"

The open invasion of Ukraine by the Russian armed forces set off the largest armed conflict and multi-dimensional crisis on the European continent since the implosion of Yugoslavia and the wars in the former Yugoslav space in the 1990s.

The current situation in Ukraine and its outcomes will not only shape the very nature of the country and its society but also those of Europe in general. The invasion of 24 February 2022, however, was preceded all the way back to the early 2000s by various events, critical shifts and turning points which were formative for both the country and its society. The purpose of this multi-disciplinary Summer School is not only to provide a deeper understanding beyond the clichés of the conflict and the societies and environments involved. It is also to learn participants how to approach these if they are to work with Ukraine in later professional environments or other capacities. Content- and approach-wise, the focus of this event is Ukraine's society and societal dynamics rather than the grand geopolitics. Four aspects, each organised in a thematic day, will be examined in-depth through the input of nine scholars who worked extensively on, and often are from, Ukraine: identity, culture and 'culture wars'; economic-ecological dynamics; the 'humanitarian frontline'; and formal and informal governance.

WHEN? From Monday 12 until 16 September 2022

WHERE? De Krook, Makebaplein 1, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

Unless stated otherwise, all locations and rooms mentioned in the programme below are in this venue.

WORKING LANGUAGE? English

FORMAT? This is a classical-analogue ('in-person') event. No streaming or recording.

1

Opening and keynote

MONDAY 12-09-2022

15:00 - 15:30 | Registration

15:30 - 17:00 | Opening Address

Programme, Purpose and Methodology of the Summer School
by Bruno De Cordier, Ben Dhooge and Anna Sashchenko, Ghent University

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

17:00 - 17:15 | Tea and Coffee Break

17:15 - 18:00 | Participants' Introduction Round

18:00 - 19:00 | Free (Dinner) Slot

19:00 - 21:00 | Public Keynote Lecture

For Summer School participants and external audience
"Dictatorship, revolution, war: the end of the post-Soviet vicious circle?"
Volodymyr Ishchenko, Institute of East European Studies, Freie Universität Berlin

Conference Room
'De Blauwe Vogel'
(floor -1)

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Volodymyr ISHCHENKO

Volodymyr Ishchenko is a Research Associate at the Institute of East European Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. He defended a doctoral thesis in sociology at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. In Ukraine, he lectured at Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and Kyiv Polytechnic Institute as well as initiated and supervised the Ukrainian Protest and Coercion Data project. He used to be a postdoctoral fellow within the 'Comparing protest actions in Soviet and post-Soviet societies' research project coordinated by the Forschungsstelle Osteuropa-Research Centre for East European Studies in Bremen and supported by Volkswagen-Stiftung, and at the Institute of Slavic Studies at the Technische Universität Dresden. His research focuses on protests and social movements, revolutions, radicalization, right and left politics, nationalism, civil society. He authored many peer-reviewed articles and interviews on contemporary Ukrainian politics, the Euromaidan revolution, and the following war in 2013-14 published in Post-Soviet Affairs, Globalizations, New Left Review, among other journals. He has been a prominent contributor to The Guardian and Jacobin.

2

TUESDAY 13-09-2022

Identity, culture
and 'culture wars'

09:00 - 09:15 | Opening by Facilitator

09:15 - 10:45 | Lecture 2.1

Alina Penkala, CESSMIR-Ghent University and UNU-CRIS,
on 'Ukraine's East-West divide' and the power of historical narratives,
imagined communities and collective memories

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 2.1

12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break

at the Krookcafé

13:30 - 15:00 | Lecture 2.2

Anastasiya Pshenychnykh, Vasily Karazin National University in Kharkiv
and KU Leuven, on the question of Soviet-Leninist monuments, memorials
and symbols in Ukraine's public space

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

15:00 - 15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 2.2

16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Facilitator

ABOUT THE
SPEAKERS



Alina PENKALA

Alina Penkala is a PhD Fellow at Ghent University and the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS). Born and raised in Poland she holds a master's degree in political science from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. She has worked for the Polish Ministry of Defence as a security policy expert and later in conflict-affected areas, in Georgia for the EU Monitoring Mission, and in Ukraine for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). She researches return migration and reintegration processes of women returning to Ukraine and focuses on the role of collective memories in their belonging negotiation.



Anastasiya PSHENYCHNYKH



Anastasiya Pshenychnykh is an Associate Professor at the Department of English Philology at the Vasily Karazin National University in Kharkiv, where she teaches the course Media Communications and Multimodal Media Analysis. Her scientific interests are cognitive and discursive studies, multimodal linguistics, the theory of image and perspectives. She has been a participant and a researcher in international scientific projects on media, among which feature the 'Philosophy and media project (Higher Education Support Program)', the 'Crisis, conflict and critical diplomacy: EU perceptions in Ukraine and Israel/Palestine (C3EU)' project, the project 'Contested narratives of climate change: algorithmic flows and human interactions on YouTube' by the National Centre for Research on Europe, and others. Currently, professor Pshenychnykh is working on the project 'Contested heritage: a multilevel analysis of the securitization of heritage and its challenges for EU and UN actorness (COHERE)' at KU Leuven's Faculty of Arts.

ABOUT THE FACILITATOR



Ben DHOOGHE

Ben Dhooge is Associate Professor at the Department of Eastern European Languages and Cultures at Ghent University's Faculty of Arts and Philosophy. Professor Dhooge obtained his PhD in 2007 at Ghent University, dealing with Andrey Platonov's oeuvre. Since then, he has been affiliated with The Institute of World Literature (IMLI) in Moscow, the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at University of Southern California, the Slavic Section of the Department of Languages and Cultures at Ghent University and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at UC Berkeley. Currently, he is program chair of the study program in East European Languages and Cultures. Ben Dhooge's research focuses on early twentieth-century (modernist) Russian literature, both Soviet and émigré. Central in his research are experiments with language, discourse on language and cultural identity. His focus on cultural identity has led him to develop an online, multidisciplinary MA course 'Russia between East and West', focusing on an issue which has induced many heated discussions in Russia in the past and which continues to (co)determine Russia's (cultural) politics until today: is Russia a 'Western', 'Eastern' or a self-contained culture and civilization?

3

Economic-ecologic realities and dynamics

WEDNESDAY 14-09-2022

09:00 - 09:15 | Opening by Facilitator

09:15 - 10:45 | Lecture 3.1

Abel Polese, Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction,
Dublin City University, **on the shadow economy in Ukraine**

Conference Room
'De Laatkomer'
(floor +1)

10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 3.1

12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break

at the Krookcafé

13:30 - 15:00 | Lecture 3.2

Natalia Mamonova, Utrikespolitiska institutet - Swedish Institute of
International Affairs, **on the impact of the war on Ukrainian agriculture
and emerging solidarity initiatives**

Conference Room
'De Laatkomer'
(floor +1)

15:00 - 15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 3.2

16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Facilitator

ABOUT THE
SPEAKERS



Abel POLESE

Abel Polese of the Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction of Dublin City University, is a trainer, researcher and development worker with extensive work experience in Eastern Europe and other regions. He has lived, worked and published extensively in and on Ukraine to the extent that we can consider him 'Ukrainian honoris causa'. Besides (co-)authoring many peer-reviewed articles, readers and books on Eastern Europe and the post-Soviet space, Abel Polese is the author of 'The SCOPUS diaries and the (il)logics of academic survival: a short guide to design your own strategy and survive bibliometrics, conferences, and unreal expectations in academia', a book offering guidance on management of research careers. He regularly trains scholars on publication strategies, fundraising and networking for career enhancement.



Natalia MAMONOVA



Natalia Mamonova is an Associate Research Fellow at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (Utrikespolitiska institutet) and a Research Consultant at the Department of Political Science of the University of Notre Dame. Natalia's research interests primarily focus on contemporary grassroots (rural) politics in post-socialist settings. She studies rural social movements, food sovereignty, everyday (hidden) resistance, right-wing populism and state-society relations in Russia, Ukraine, and some other countries of Eastern Europe. After completing her PhD 'Rethinking rural politics in post-socialist settings' at the Institute of Social Studies of the Netherlands in 2016, Natalia was a visiting researcher and lecturer at the University of Oxford, the New Europe College in Bucharest, and the University of Helsinki. Currently, Natalia Mamonova, together with Brian Kuns, is working on the research projects 'Food security, food sovereignty and solidarity initiatives during the war in Ukraine' and, with Susanne Wengle, 'Ukrainian corn'. She is the principal coordinator of the European team of the Emancipatory Rural Politics Initiative (ERPI Europe), which is a scholar-activist community that aims at understanding, challenging and building alternatives to globalized neoliberal agriculture in rural Europe.

ABOUT THE FACILITATOR



Koen SCHOORS

Koen Schoors is a Belgian economist and Full Professor at the Department of Economics of Ghent University's under Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. In the past, he also taught at the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven), at the Vlerick Business School and at the Higher School of Economics at Moscow. He is ranked in the top 10% of the IDEAS top of economists worldwide. His main field of research is the banking and finance sector, business financing and direct foreign investments, with a particular focus on Russia. Furthermore, he is an expert on economic recessions, a subject he often holds public talks on. Professor Schoors appears on a regular basis in the media as commentator on socio-economic events, recently on the economic sanctions on Russia.

4

The 'humanitarian frontline'

THURSDAY 15-09-2022

09:00 - 09:15 | Opening by Facilitator

09:15 - 10:45 | Lecture 4.1

Bruno De Cordier, Ghent University, on the characteristics of the humanitarian spaces in the Donbas and post-24/2 contexts

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 4.1

12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break

at the Krookcafé

13:30 - 15:00 | Lecture 4.2

Gilles-Emmanuel Jacquet, Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations-École de diplomatie et des relations internationales de Genève, on foreign volunteers and the symbolism of the Donbas and post-24/2 contexts

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

15:00 - 15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 4.2

16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Facilitator

19:00 - 21:00 | Ukrainian film night

Filmzaal Plateau,
Paddenhoek 3 (a 10' walk
from the De Krook venue).

ABOUT THE
SPEAKERS



Bruno DE CORDIER

Bruno De Cordier is Associate Professor and Deputy Head of Department at the Department of Conflict and Development Studies at the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of Ghent University (Universiteit Gent). He teaches Humanitarian Policy there and has previously been an international relief worker for various relief organisations for almost ten years, the bulk in deployment in areas of the former Yugoslavia and the former Soviet Union. De Cordier also has a course in the social history of Central Asia and the world of the steppe, which extends ultimately to the Pontic-Caspian steppe in eastern Europe. He is particularly interested in the extents and ways in which past histories continue to be reflected in present realities and identities, and in ways in which history can inspire ways to deal with the turbulent present and -future. One of De Cordier's latest feats is the co-authoring and editing of the 1,100-something page 'The European handbook of Central Asian studies: history, politics, societies' which was published in autumn 2021 with ibidem Verlag.



Gilles-Emmanuel JACQUET



Gilles-Emmanuel Jacquet is an Assistant Professor at the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations-École de diplomatie et des relations internationales de Genève. He holds a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Geneva and a Master's Degree in European Studies from the European Institute of the University of Geneva. Jacquet worked as an intern at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees in Geneva in 2006, and then was employed by the Ministry of Justice in 2008 and 2010. In 2009, Gilles-Emmanuel Jacquet worked for the Alliance française and for the French embassy's Service d'action et de coopération culturelle in Moldova. Since 2010, he has been a lecturer in International Relations at various private universities in Geneva (Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations, Geneva Business School, International Management School Geneva and the Swiss UMEF University) and abroad. He has also worked as a United Nations press correspondent for Pax Press Agency-EWTN (2014-2019). Since 2018, Jacquet has served as treasurer and analyst at the Geneva International Peace Research Institute (GIPRI). He is the author of the book 'Histoire du conflit moldo-transnistrien (History of the Moldovan-Transnistrian conflict)', which was published in 2017 by Connaissances et Savoirs.



Bruno DE CORDIER

Professor De Cordier will also be a speaker that day.
You can find his bio above.

5

FRIDAY 16-09-2022

Formal and informal governance

09:00 - 09:15 | Opening by Facilitator

09:15 - 10:45 | Lecture 5.1

Honorata Mazepus, Leiden University,
on the agency of Ukrainian citizens in peace and war

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 5.1

12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break

at the Krookcafé

13:30 - 15:00 | Lecture 5.2

Inna Melnykovska, Political Science Department, Central European University,
on the nexus between oligarchs and politics and the impact of the war on it

15:00 - 15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break

Conference Room
'De Verwondering'
(floor +2)

15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 5.2

16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Facilitator

16:30 | Closure of the Summer School 2022 and drinks

ABOUT THE
SPEAKERS



Honorata MAZEPUS

Honorata Mazepus is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Security and Global Affairs of Leiden University. She has been awarded the Leiden University Fund Snouck Hurgronje Grant 2020 for an interdisciplinary project 'Keeping the powerful in check: from small communities to large states'. This project investigates under what conditions (democratic) checks and balances can effectively restrain the power of political leaders. It combines expertise and methods from anthropology, psychology, history, and political science. Honorata Mazepus holds an MA degree in International Relations (Eastern/Russian Studies) from Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznan, an MSc degree in Social Science Research Methods (Politics) from the University of Bristol and a PhD from Leiden University (2016). She has worked as a post-doctoral researcher on the Horizon 2020 EU-STRAT project.



Inna MELNYKOVSKA



Inna Melnykovska is an Assistant Professor in Comparative Political Economy at the Political Science Department at Central European University in Vienna. She received her PhD in Political Science from the Freie Universität Berlin in 2016. She studied International Relations and Economics in Ukraine. Her research is about the interaction of global, regional and local forces in the shaping of modern political regimes and economic systems in developing countries. Inna Melnykovska addresses these issues by focusing on the transition experience of the states in Eastern Europe and Eurasia. She is an expert on the dynamics of state-business relations and crony capitalism in the region. In addition, she works on regional economic integration initiatives driven by the EU, Russia and China as well as foreign policies in Eurasia. Her research has been published in Journal of Common Market Studies, Europe-Asia Studies, and Post-Soviet Affairs, among others.

Her current book project 'Global money, local politics: big business, capital mobility and the transformation of crony capitalism in Eurasia' is supported by the Smith Richardson Foundation and deals with the effects of global capital mobility and 'offshore-ization' of corporate activities on the behaviour of Russian and Ukrainian big businesses in domestic politics in Russia and Ukraine.

ABOUT THE FACILITATOR



Fabienne BOSSUYT

Fabienne Bossuyt is Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science at Ghent University and co-coordinator of the Ghent Institute for International and European Studies (GIIES). She holds a PhD from Aston University and Ghent University based on a doctoral dissertation on the EU's influence in post-Soviet Central Asia. She is a lecturer in the MA Programme in EU Studies and the MA Programme in Global Studies. She is also a Professorial Fellow at UNU-CRIS and is active as an affiliated researcher of EUCAM and a member of the academic board of the European Neighborhood Council. Her main area of expertise is the EU's foreign policy and in particular the EU's relations with the post-Soviet space. Her recent research projects focus on various aspects of the EU's relations with and policies towards Central Asia and other post-Soviet countries, including democracy promotion, development policy and human rights promotion. Most recently, professor Bossuyt has published three edited volumes, namely the Brill book 'Principled pragmatism in practice: the EU's policy towards Russia after Crimea' (with Peter van Elsuwege), the Routledge book 'The European Union, China and Central Asia: global and regional cooperation in a new era' (with Bart Dessein) and the special issue in Eurasian Geography and Economics 'Russia and China in the 21st century: between cooperation and competition at the regional and global level' (with Marcin Kaczmarski).