

Ukraine Decolonial Studies Network Participants at ASEES 2025: Panel Highlights

As an affiliated society of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, we are delighted to offer this digest with a selection of panels at the 57th ASEES Annual Convention. The digest includes sessions organized by Ukraine Decolonial Studies Network, panels and roundtables featuring our esteemed participants, as well as selected highlights of events that intersect with our mission and thematic interest in the development of postcolonial/decolonial approaches to Ukraine.

Ukraine Decolonial Studies Network Affiliate Group Meeting

- 📍 Thu, November 20, 7:00 to 8:30pm EST, Washington DC Hilton, Floor: T, Columbia 2
- 🎤 Organized and moderated by Svitlana Biedarieva (Independent Scholar), Olha Korniienko (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam, Germany), Kateryna Yeremieieva (Ludwig-Maximilians-U Munich, Germany), Oksana Nesterenko (Union College, New York), John Vsetecka (Nova Southeastern U), and Sandra Joy Russel (Mt Holyoke College)

Contested Memory and Resistance to Neocolonialism in Ukraine's Culture I

Panel series sponsored by Ukraine Decolonial Studies Network

- 📍 Sun, November 23, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: T, Columbia 6
- 📚 Svitlana Biedarieva (Independent Scholar): *Neocolonialism, Memory, and Cultural Resistance: Ukrainian Art under Attack*
 - Masha Shpolberg (Bard College): *Ukrainian Cinema Post-2022: Haunting Pasts and Insistent Presents*
 - Kateryna Yeremieieva (Ludwig-Maximilians-U Munich, Germany): *Decolonising Laughter: Ukrainian Bloggers' Revision of Humour and Cultural Memory*

Chair: Oksana Nesterenko (Union College); Discussant: Ksenia Kiriya (Turkova) (Independent Scholar)

Contested Memory and Resistance to Neocolonialism in Ukraine's Culture II

Panel series sponsored by Ukraine Decolonial Studies Network

- 📍 Sun, November 23, 12:00 to 1:45pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 6
- 📚 Olha Korniienko (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam, Germany): *Fashion as Resistance: Ukrainian Identity from Late Socialism to Wartime*
 - Sandra Joy Russell (Mt Holyoke College): *Intimate Resistance: The Kharkiv School of Photography and the Politics of the Body in Late Soviet Ukraine, 1971-1991*
 - Lia Dostlieva (Independent Artist): *Art as a Decolonial Tool: Family (Her)stories in the Practice of Contemporary Female Artists*

Chair: Mariia Shynkarenko (Institute for Human Sciences, Austria); Discussant: Yuliya Yurchuk (Södertörn U, Sweden)

Ambicoloniality and War: The Ukrainian-Russian Case, by Svitlana Biedarieva (book roundtable)

📍 Sat, November 22, 8:00 to 9:45am EST, Floor: T, Columbia 11
👤 Svitlana Biedarieva (Independent Scholar), Vitaly Chernetsky (U of Kansas), Oksana Dovgopolova (Kyiv School of Economics, Ukraine), Oksana Lutsyshyna (U of Texas at Austin)
Chair: George G. Grabowicz (Harvard U)

Music and Memory II: Style and National Identity (panel)

📍 Sun, November 23, 12:00 to 1:45pm EST, Floor: 1st, U Street
👤 Oksana Nesterenko (Union College): *Erased Christianity: Distortions of Historical Memory in Brezhnev Era Ukraine*
• Mohammad Geldi Geldi Nejad (Brown U): *Bardic Lineages: Rethinking the Classification of Turkmen Bardic Styles in Soviet and Post-Soviet Turkmenistan*
• Kathleen Manukyan (U of Pittsburgh): *Epic as Device: National and Temporal Identities in Gogol's and Lysenko's 'Taras Bulba'*
Chair: Harlow Loomis Robinson (Northeastern U); Discussant: Kiril Tomoff (UC Riverside)

Citizenship in the Shadow of Empire: Enforced and Contested (panel)

📍 Fri, November 21, 8:00 to 9:45am EST, Floor: T, Embassy
👤 Yevhenii Monastyrskyi (Harvard U): *Forced Citizenship: Political Migration to the Soviet Union, Belonging and Passportization in 1930-50s*
• Nazerke Mukhlissova (Yale U): *Migration, Subjecthood and Citizenship in Imperial and Soviet Central Asia: The Case of Hadj*
• Dafna Rachok (UNC at Chapel Hill): *Deadly Care: Citizenship and Access to Medicine on the Russia-Occupied Territories of Ukraine*
• Ruslana Koziienko (Central European University): *Reterritorialization of Citizenship, Wartime Mobilities, and Gender during Russia's Full-Scale War against Ukraine*
Chair: Eric Lohr (American U); Discussant: John Vsetecka (Nova Southeastern U)

Donbas: Memory of the Region and Regions of Memory (panel)

📍 Fri, November 21, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: T, Gunston West
👤 Tetiana Klynina (National Aviation U, Ukraine): *Reconstruction of Pre/War Donbas in the Memories of Internally Displaced Persons*
• Serhii Stukanov (Center for Content Analysis, Ukraine): *Memory and Identity in Donbas: The Battle of Narratives in 2004-2014*
• Andrei Vazyanau (European Humanities U, Lithuania): *Beyond Identities: Disintegration of Public Transport Activists' Community in the Donetsk Region after 2014*
• Mariya Rohozha (Taras Shevchenko National U of Kyiv, Ukraine): *Witnesses of Mariupol Siege: A Case Study of City Media Channels*
Chair: John Vsetecka (Nova Southeastern U); Discussant: Yevhenii Monastyrskyi (Harvard U)

Eco-Mnemonics as Colonial Critique in Literature and the Arts (panel)

📍 Sun, November 23, 8:00 to 9:45am EST, Floor: C, Georgetown West

 Sidney Eric Dement (Binghamton U): *Epistemic Wrong in Sergei Lebedev's The Lady of the Mine*

- Azhar Dyussekenova (U of Michigan): *Central Asian Eco-Queer Imagination: On Drought and Water*
- Grace Ellen Mahoney (U of Michigan): *Stone Masters Dismantled: Eco-Queering Ukraine's Colonial Monuments*

Chair: Sandra Joy Russell (Mt Holyoke College); Discussant: Naomi Caffee (Reed College)

Gender and Sexuality Representations in (Post)Soviet Space: Celebrating Dan Healey's Work on Queer History (panel)

 Sat, November 22, 12:00 to 1:45pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 2

 Julie A. Cassiday (Williams College): *'I loved you like a father': Russophone Boys Love and Russia's Queer Archive*

- Janis Ozolins (Art Academy of Latvia, Latvia), Karlis Verdins (Art Academy of Latvia, Latvia): *Queering the Fairy-Tale: Bathhouse Sex and the Little Devil of Money in the Periphery of the Russian Empire*
- Megi Kartsivadze (U of Oxford, UK): *Silenced Voices of the Soviet Periphery: Georgian Female Writers and Stalin's Cult of Personality*

Chair: Vitaly Chernetsky (U of Kansas)

Bringing Central Asia into the Classroom (roundtable)

 Sun, November 23, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: T, Columbia 8

 Jessica K. Graybill (Colgate U), Andrea Lanoux (Connecticut College), Elizabeth Lee Roby (Friends School of Baltimore), Renee Stillings (SRAS), Olga Y. Voronina (Bard College)

Chair: Max Elan Shelton (American Councils for International Education)

Daring, Subversive, Transgressive: Strategies of Self-Representation in 20th-Century Central Asian Art (panel)

 Thu, November 20, 3:00 to 4:45pm EST, Floor: L, Piscataway

 Georgy Mamedov (U of Melbourne): *Painting Subjects: Self-Portrait as an Egodocument in Early Soviet Central Asian Art*

- Saltanat Shoshanova (U of Regensburg): *Performing the East: M. Butterfly and the Politics of Queer (In)Visibility in Central Asia*
- Dilda Ramazan (Sorbonne U): *Barbarism as Resistance Strategy in the Early Post-Soviet Contemporary Art of Kazakhstan*

Chair and Discussant: Tatsiana Shchurko (U of South Florida)

What Did the Socialist Sweater Look Like, and Why Does it Matter?: New Perspectives on Socialist Materialities (panel)

 Fri, November 21, 1:30 to 3:15pm EST, Floor: T, Embassy

 Patrick H. Patterson (UC San Diego): *The Right Stuff, Wrapped and Ready: The Effect of International Packaging Styles and Trends in Communist Eastern Europe*

- Katarzyna Jezowska (U of New South Wales, Australia): *Socialist Design Front?: The East European Design Networks in the 1960s*

- Victor Petrov (U of Tennessee): *Ancient State, Modern Instruments: Interkosmos-22 and Image-Making in Socialist Bulgaria*
- Vladimir Kulic (Iowa State U): *The Bones of Socialist Buildings: The IMS System as an Archive of Worldmaking*

Chair and discussant: Christina Elizabeth Crawford (Emory U)

Land, Property, Ownership at the Imperial Crossroads II (panel)

-  Fri, November 21, 3:30 to 5:15pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 1
-  Madeline Stull (Indiana U Bloomington): *A Tale of Two Cities: 'Slumming' It in an Imagined Belgrade*
- Ecem Saricayir (University of California, Santa Cruz): *Late Ottoman and Russian-Built Environments from the Perspective of Property*
- Jonathan Dewes McCombs (U of Wisconsin-Eau Claire): *On Slow Dispossession: Post-Transition Authoritarian Governmentality and the Racial Politics of Private Property in Budapest*
- Guénola Inizan (Lumière U Lyon 2, France): *From 'Ownerless Property' to Municipalization: Dwelling Appropriation in Russia-Occupied Cities in Ukraine*

Chair: Sierra Nota (Naval Postgraduate School), Discussant: Christina Elizabeth Crawford (Emory U)

Mediators: Translations and Translators in Soviet International Relations (panel)

-  Sun, November 23, 8:00 to 9:45am EST, Floor: T, Columbia 10
-  Benjamin Musachio (Princeton U): *John Updike as a Translator of Russian Poetry*
- Thomas Jesús Garza (U of Texas at Austin): *'I Wanna Hold Your Komsomol Membership Card': Soviet Translations of Western Rock Lyrics and Mid-Century Soft Power*
- Alexey Kotelvas (U of Florida): *Showing Moldova: Romanian-speaking Tourist Guides as Actors of Identity Politics (1965-1989)*
- Sarah Drue Phillips (Indiana U Bloomington): *'I Translated the Word "Bastard" Eighteen Different Ways': Rita Rait-Kovaleva's Cold War Literary Diplomacy*

Chair: Francine R. Hirsch (U of Wisconsin-Madison), Discussant: Lisa A. Kirschenbaum (West Chester U)

Invisible Revolutionaries: Women's Participation in Ukraine's Euromaidan, by Olena Nikolayenko (book roundtable)

-  Sat, November 22, 8:00 to 9:45am EST, Floor: C, Jefferson West
-  Jack Andrew Goldstone (George Mason U), Erik Herron (West Virginia U), Olena Nikolayenko (Fordham U), Ann-Mari Sätre (Uppsala U, Sweden), Sophia Wilson (Southern Illinois U Edwardsville)

Chair: Sarah Drue Phillips (Indiana U Bloomington)

Foundations and Milestones: Maxim Tarnawsky's Legacy in Ukrainian Studies (roundtable)

-  Sat, November 22, 2:00 to 3:45pm EST, Floor: C, Georgetown West
-  Mark Roman Andryczyk (Columbia U), Marta Dyczok (Western U, Canada), Natalia Khanenko-Friesen (U of Alberta, Canada), Taras Koznarsky (U of Toronto, Canada)

Chair: Larysa Bilous (U of Alberta, Canada)

Memory, Heritage, and Grassroots Diplomacy in the Context of Ongoing War Remembering the Present: Memorialization of Russo-Ukrainian War in Memorials, Museums, Literature and Rituals II (panel)

- 📍 Sat, November 22, 2:00 to 3:45pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 6
- 👤 Valentyna Kharkhun (Mykola Hohol State U of Nizhyn (Ukraine)/American University): 'More than a Museum': Amateur Musealization of Russo-Ukrainian War
- Yuliya Yurchuk (Södertörn U, Sweden): *Memory, Heritage, and Grassroots Diplomacy in the Context of Ongoing War*
- Yeva Yakubovska (Pilecki Institute Berlin, Germany): *Shaping Memory, Defining Communities: Soviet War Memorials in Berlin and Their Role in Perceptions of Ukrainian and Eastern European Identity in Germany*

Chair: Anton Liagusha Kyiv School of Economics, Ukraine); Discussant: Valeria Korablyova (Charles U in Prague, Czech Republic)

Cinemas in Crisis Post-2022 (roundtable)

Panel sponsored by Working Group on Cinema and Television

- 📍 Thu, November 20, 1:00 to 2:45pm EST, Floor: C, Georgetown West
- 👤 Jeremy Hicks (Queen Mary, U of London, UK), Anastasia Kostina (Columbia U), Masha Shpolberg (Bard College), Justin Allen Wilmes (East Carolina U)

Chair: Justin Allen Wilmes (East Carolina U)

Reframing Gender and Sexuality in Slavic Literary Modernisms and Avant-Gardes (panel)

- 📍 Sat, November 22, 2:00 to 3:45pm EST, Floor: 1st, Tenleytown East
- 👤 Carleton Bulkin (Independent Scholar): *Jiří Karásek ze Lvovic: Coding, Class, and Queer Literary Expression*
- Alexander Wöll (U of Potsdam, Germany): *Queer Embodiment in the Czech Proto-Avant-Garde: Comparing the Poetry of Otokar Březina and Jiří Mordechai Langer*
- Ivan Sokolov (UC Berkeley): *A Gay Futurity or a Queer Death Drive?: The Case of Ivan Ignatyev*
- Tatiana Krasilnikova (Columbia U): *Feminizing the Slavic Avant-Garde: Embodied Writing and a Fluid Self in Nina Khabias and Mila Elin*

Chair: Jonathan Craig Stone (Franklin & Marshall College); Discussant: Vitaly Chernetsky (U of Kansas)

Welfare Nationalism in Europe and Russia: The Politics of 21st Century Exclusionary and Inclusionary Migrations, by Linda J. Cook (book roundtable)

- 📍 Sat, November 22, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: C, Jefferson West
- 👤 Linda J Cook (Brown U), Tomasz A. Inglot (Minnesota State U), Mitchell A. Orenstein (U of Pennsylvania), Michael Rasell (U of Innsbruck, Austria), Oxana Shevel (Tufts U)

Chair: Dmitry Primus Gorenburg (Harvard U)

Memory in Creation: The Artistic Legacy of the Soviet Past, Present, and Future (panel)

- 📍 Sun, November 23, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: T, Columbia 5
- 👤 Ksenya Gurshtein (Independent Scholar):

The Legacy and Memory of Socialist Realism Globally

- Mary A. Nicholas (Lehigh U): *Distortions and Other Post-Soviet Memories of Moscow Conceptualism*
- Sven Spieker (UC Santa Barbara): *Memories of the Future: The Soviet Past in Works by Contemporary Artists from Central Asia*
- Joanna Matuszak (University of Texas at Tyler): *Memory Making on the Subway: Daria Serenko's #Quiet Picket*

Chair: Liisa Bourgeot (U of Helsinki, Finland); Discussant: Klavdia Smola (U of Dresden, Germany)

Resilience and Reinvention: Contemporary Ukrainian Theatre in Times of War (roundtable)

- 📍 Fri, November 21, 3:30 to 5:15pm EST, Floor: L, Holmead West
- 🗣️ Oksana Dudko (U of Toronto, Canada), Mayhill C. Fowler (Stetson U), Anna Hodel (U of Basel, Switzerland), Aniko Szucs (CUNY Queens College), Oleksandra Wallo (U of Kansas)

Chair: Markian Dobczansky (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Old Ways Everlasting: Reassessing the Results of Soviet Modernization in Ukraine (panel)

- 📍 Thu, November 20, 3:00 to 4:45pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 10
- 📚 Artem Kharchenko (National Technical U of Ukraine "KPI", Ukraine): *Orphans into Soviet Citizens: Ambiguity of Modernization in State Care in Soviet Ukraine in the 1930s*
- Iryna Skubii (University of Melbourne): *'Melting Down' of Ukrainian Material Culture in the Early 1930s*
- Kristina Hook (Kennesaw State U): *Soviet Modernisation Under Anthropological Review*
- Daria Mattingly (U of Chichester, UK): *Breaking Modern: Soviet Modernization and Famine in Contemporary Ego-Documents*

Chair: Marta Baziuk (Holodomor Research & Education Consortium, Canada); Discussant: Ronald Grigor Suny (U of Michigan)

Ecocide in Ukraine: The Environmental Cost of Russia's War, by Darya Tsybalyuk (book discussion)

- 📍 Sun, November 23, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: C, Monroe
- 🗣️ Michał Murawski (U College London, UK), Iryna Skubii (University of Melbourne), Maria Sonevitsky (Bard College), Darya Tsybalyuk (U of Chicago)

Chair: Faith C. Hillis (U of Chicago)

Tradition in Flux: What Folklore Contributes to Area Studies (roundtable)

- 📍 Sat, November 22, 8:00 to 9:45am EST, Floor: L, Holmead West
- 🗣️ Benjamin Gatling (George Mason U), Carol T. Silverman (U of Oregon), Iryna Voloshyna (Indiana U Bloomington)

Chair: Sarah Craycraft (Harvard U)

Peasant Revolts, Agrarian Resistance, and Social Upheaval in Revolutionary and Post-Imperial Contexts (panel)

- 📍 Fri, November 21, 10:00 to 11:45am EST, Floor: L, Holmead East

 Larysa Bilous (U of Alberta, Canada): *Fire and Rebellion: Peasant Uprisings and Estate Burnings in Revolutionary Ukraine (1917-1920)*
• Aleksandra Pomiecko, King's College London): *Upheaval and Instability from Below in Belarus, 1917 – 1925*
• Oksana Dudko (University of Toronto, Canada): *A Grain of Contention: Colonial Expansion, National Self-Determination, and the Quest for Calories in Ukraine, 1918*
Chair and Discussant: Matthew Pauly (Michigan State U)

Health and Demographic Issues in the Post-Soviet Space (roundtable)

Roundtable sponsored by the Association for the Study of Health and Demography in the Former Soviet Union

 Thu, November 20, 1:00 to 2:45pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 2
 Cynthia J. Buckley (U of Michigan), Elizabeth J King (U of Michigan), Tricia Starks (U of Arkansas), Judyth Lynn Twigg (Virginia Commonwealth U)
Chair: Daniel Goldberg (Institute for Defense Analyses)

The Blow of Program Cuts: Defending the Field, Protecting Yourself (roundtable)

 Sat, November 22, 2:00 to 3:45pm EST, Floor: T, Columbia 5 & 7
 Lisa M. Di Bartolomeo (Independent Scholar), Cynthia J. Buckley (U of Michigan), Beth C. Holmgren (Duke U), Scott M. Kenworthy (Miami U of Ohio), Eve Levin (U of Kansas)
Chair: Christine Diane Worobec (Northern Illinois U)

Moral Inversion: Value Change, Memory and Culture after Communism, 1990 Onwards (panel)

 Fri, November 21, 3:30 to 5:15pm EST, Floor: T, Gunston West
 Francis Kirk (Centre for Contemporary History, Germany): *From Outlaws to Icons: Crime, Identity and Memory after Communism in Southern Ukraine, 1990*
• Balazs Apor (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland): 'It is as if the 80s had never ended': Punk, Transition and Memory in (Post-)Communist Hungary
• Kateryna Chernii (European U Viadrina, Germany): *Ukrainian Post-Soviet Football: Between Professionalization and Criminalization*
Chair and Discussant: Maria Sonevytsky (Bard College)