

Conference

**Life in the Face of War:
Political Challenges, Social Responses, Cultural Shifts**

April 13-14, 2023

presented by

Gagarin Center at Bard College,
Bard College Center for Civic Engagement,
Harriman Institute at Columbia University

Thursday, April 13, 2023
Columbia Maison Française
Buell Hall, East Gallery
515 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10027

8:45 am Coffee

9:00 - 9:15 am Welcome

- Jonathan Becker, Bard College
- Vincent McGee, Andrew Gagarin Trust
- Valentina Izmirlieva, Harriman Institute at Columbia University

9:15 – 10:30 am Panel 1: The War in Historical Context
Moderator: Victor Apryshchenko, Bard College

- Aleksei Gilev, Gagarin Center Fellow
Russian Institutional Degradation Before the War: the Case of Local Government
- Andrei Rodin, University of Lorraine
Universal Values and the East-West dispute in the Russian War against Ukraine
- Ilia Kalinin, Princeton University
"Iconography of the Deed": Memorialization of the "Special Military Operation" Heroes and the Visual Landscape of Russian Cities

10:30 – 10:45 am Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:15 pm Panel 2: The War & Education

Moderator: Jonathan Becker, Bard College

- Peter Rutland, Wesleyan University
Social Science in the Mirror of Ukrainian War
- Danila Raskov, Helsinki University
The Rise and Fall of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Russia: On the Fragility of Parallel Spaces
- Philip Fedchin, Bard College Berlin
The Catastrophe of a Specialized World of Russian Education: Why Generalists Would Be Needed in the Future?
- Vera Shengelia, Bard College
Liberal Arts in Catastrophic Times: the Power of Community Education

12:15 – 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 – 2:45 pm

Panel 3: Trauma, Conflict, and Morality

Moderator: Olga Voronina, Bard College

- Mikhail Allakhverdov, Gagarin Center Fellow
Role of Cognitive Biases in the Person's Evaluation of War-Related Events
- Arseniy Kumankov, Princeton University
The Moralization of War and Opposition to Immoral War
- Yulia Kim, Columbia University
'A Prisoner of Words: a Poetic Case of Political Polysemization'

2:45 – 4:00 pm

Panel 4: War and Visual Arts

Moderator: Tatiana Efremova, Columbia University

- Denis Skopin, Bard College Berlin, Gagarin Center Fellow
Exploring Photographs of Political Life in Russia after February 24, 2022
- Margarita Kuleva, New York University
Philosophers' Uber: How Translocal Communities of Cultural Workers Against the War Use Media and Technology to Survive and Resist
- Natalia Fedorova, Paris 8 University Vincennes-Saint-Denis, Gagarin Center Fellow
Distance is a Crisis of Immediate Dialog

Friday, April 14, 2023
Columbia Maison Française
Buell Hall, East Gallery
515 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10027

8:45 am **Coffee**

9:00 – 10:15 am **Panel 5: War & Politics**
Moderator: Alexander Semyonov, Amherst College

- Sergei Medvedev, Helsinki University
Politics of the Body. The Role of Biopower in the Making of Russia's War on Ukraine
- Anna Gurinskaya, Michigan State University
Why Do Citizens in Russia Comply with Mandatory Military Draft Requirements? Insights from the Criminal Justice Theories of Compliance
- Evgeny Roshchin, Princeton University
Exile and 'Voice': Reflections from a Russian Experience

10:15 – 10:30 am **Coffee Break**

10:30 – 11:45 am **Panel 6: Images of the War**
Moderator: TBD

- Anna-Karin Selberg, Södertörn University
Modern Lying: the War's Role in Political Image-Making
- Sergey Toymentsev, Saint Louis University
Memes at War: Social Media Response to Russia's Invasion of Ukraine
- Elizaveta Volkovskaia, University of Arizona
Memes and Construction of Identity during the Russo-Ukrainian War

11:45 – 1:30 pm **Roundtable 1: Moral Aspects of the War: Cynicism, Hysteria, Resentment**
Moderator: Artemy Magun

- Greg Yudin, Princeton University
- Ilya Budraitskis, University of Berkeley
- Nikita Savin, Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences
- Mark Lipovetsky, Columbia University

1:30 – 2:30 pm **Lunch**

2:30 – 4:00 pm

**Roundtable 2: Research/Investigation/Activism:
Digital Tools for Justice and Understanding***

Moderator: Ilya Venyavkin, Russian Independent Media Archive

- Masha Gessen, Bard College
- Anna Nemzer, Russian Independent Media Archive
- Christo Grozev, Bellingcat Project

** The Russian Independent Media Archive project (RIMA) is a joint initiative of PEN America and The Gagarin Center at Bard College, made in collaboration with Internet Archive (Wayback Machine). RIMA launches in April 2023.*

For registration and more information please visit smolny.org
If you have any questions email at gagarincenter@smolny.org

Gagarin Center



 COLUMBIA
HARRIMAN
INSTITUTE
Russian, Eurasian, and
East European Studies

The organizers would like to thank
The Andrew Gagarin Trust and The U.S. Russia Foundation,
whose generous support made this conference possible.