



UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies
Ostrogorski Centre
Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum

in partnership with

The Journal of Belarusian Studies

**5th Annual 'Belarusian Studies in the 21st Century' Conference
&
Annual London Lecture on Belarusian Studies**

21-22 February 2020

This programme is not final and is subject to change

Please use hashtag #BelStudies

Supported by:



Speakers

Dr Ryhor Astapenia
Chatham House, United Kingdom

Yahor Azarkevich
University of Glasgow, United Kingdom

Prof Thomas Bohn
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, Germany

Paula Borowska
School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, United Kingdom

Jim Dingley
Anglo-Belarusian Society, United Kingdom

Dr Aleh Dziarnovich
National Academy of Sciences, Belarus

Dr Sándor Földvári
Debrecen University, Hungary

Dr Joanna Getka
University of Warsaw, Poland

Tadeusz Giczán
School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, United Kingdom

Dr Yuras Hetsevich
National Academy of Sciences, Belarus

Prof Grigory Ioffe
Radford University, United States of America

Ekaterina Keding
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany

Dr Alena Marková
Charles University, Czech Republic

Prof Arnold Barratt McMillin
School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, United Kingdom

Dr Angela Espinosa Ruiz
Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

Dr Anton Saifullayeu
University of Warsaw, Poland

Dr Nataliia Steblyna
Donetsk National University, Ukraine

Yuliya Yarmak
Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno, Belarus

Moderators

Prof Yarik Kryvoi (conference co-chair)
Ostrogorski Centre

Prof Andrew Wilson (conference co-chair)
UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies

Peter Braga
UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies

Dr Karalina Matskevich
Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum

Conference Programme

Friday, 21 February 2020

Venue: UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies, 16 Taviton Street,
London, WC1H 0BW

9:15 – 9:45

Registration. Coffee/Tea

9:45 – 10:00

Conference Opening and Welcome Address

History 1

Moderator: **Peter Braga**

10:00 – 11:30

Yuliya Yarmak, *Belarusian Jewess on the Political Arena in The Jewish Pale of Settlement (late 19th - early 20th century)*

Dr Joanna Getka, *Missing Chain? Challenges for Contemporary Researchers of the History of the Belarusian Language of the 18th century*

Dr Anton Saifullayeu, *The Masculinity of the Medieval Times in the Belarusian Post-Soviet Historiography*

History 2

Moderator: **(TBC)**

11:30 – 13:00

Dr Aleh Dziarnovich, *In Search of a Homeland: “Litva/Lithuania” and “Rus’/Ruthenia” in the Modern Belarusian Historiography*

Dr Sándor Földvári, *Influence of Belarusian Book- and Church Culture toward the West: Contacts Between the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Habsburg Empire*

13:00 - 14:00 **Networking lunch**

Elites

Moderator: **Prof. Andrew Wilson**

14:00 – 15:30

Dr Nataliia Steblyna, *“President speaking!” Post-Soviet Regimes Measurement with Formal Analysis of Belarusian and Ukrainian Politicians’ Speeches*

Dr Ryhor Astapenia, *All Lukashenka’s Men: Belarusian Ruling Elites and What Do They Think About the West*

Tadeusz Giczán, *Belarus’ Single-Pyramid Patronal System in Comparative Perspective. Dynamics, Distinctive Features and Key Threats to Its Stability*

Yahor Azarkevich, *Belarusian Political Elites since 1990: Between Soviet Legacy and Patronage*

Society

Moderator: **Prof. Yarik Kryvoi**

15:30 – 17:00

Prof. Grigory Ioffe, *Life on an historical frontier: Polish minority in Belarus*

Dr Alena Marková, *The Belarus language policy reflected in the public’s letters to the authorities during the 1990s*

Paula Borowska, *From atheism to “choosing God and the nation”: the narratives on converting in the post-Soviet Belarus*

17:00 – 18:00

Prof Thomas Bohn, *Bagpipe Player and Painted Birds. Belarusian Histories of the People in the Marshes (The Annual Lecture on Belarusian Studies)*

19:00 – Close

Reception

Saturday, 22 February 2020

Venue: Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum, 37 Holden Road, London,
N12 8HS

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch and Tour of the Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum

Literature

Moderator: **Dr Karalina Matskevich**

14:00 – 15:30

Jim Dingley, *Translating Bacharevič: who is Alindarka?*

Prof. Arnold Barratt McMillin, *Between religion and sensuality.
The gentle and mysterious strength of the lyric poetry of
Valiancina Aksak*

Angela Espinosa Ruiz, *Migratory Birds: Exophonic Authors in
Contemporary Belarusian Literature*