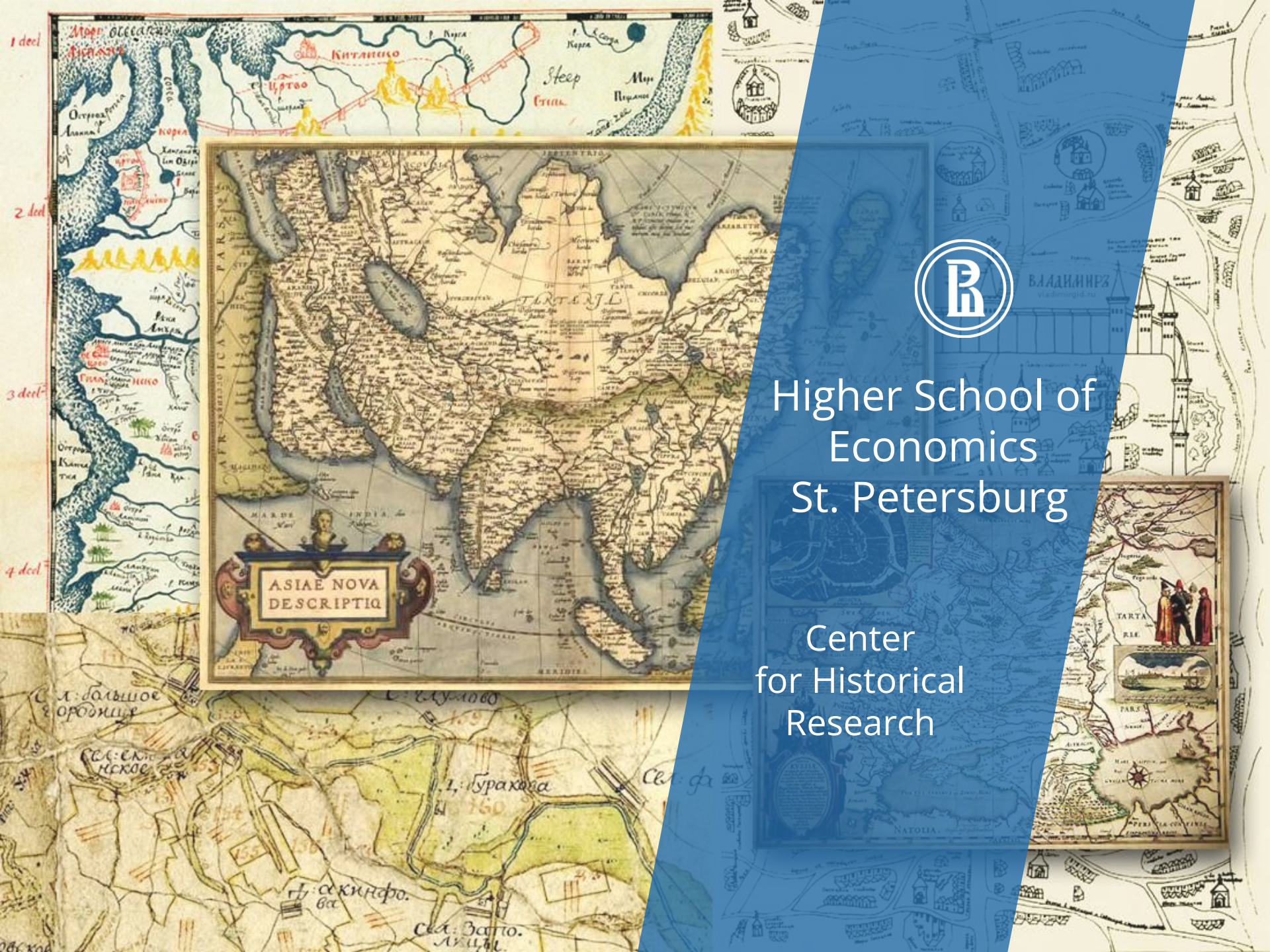




# Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg

Center  
for Historical  
Research



The **mission** of the Center is to systematically

develop methodologies and approaches of

global, comparative, and transnational history in

different fields of historical research

### Fields of Historical Research:

The Russian Empire and the Soviet Union

Comparative history of empire, colonialism, and nationalism

Environmental and technological history

Social and cultural history of borders and borderlands

Intellectual history and history of science

History and anthropology of religion

Historical Geography, digital humanities, and GIS

THE CENTER FOR  
HISTORICAL RESEARCH



Center for Historical Research  
<http://sh.spb.hse.ru/en/chr/>  
**Prof. Alexander Semyonov**  
**Director**



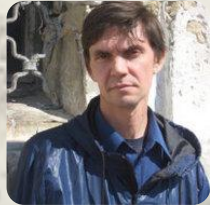
Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History  
<http://sh.spb.hse.ru/en/chr/eth/>  
**Assoc. Prof. Julia Lajus**  
**Head**

**International Advisors:**  
**Prof. Catherine Evtuhov (Columbia University, NY)**  
**Prof. Sverker Sörlin (KTH, Stockholm)**

THE CENTER FOR  
HISTORICAL RESEARCH  
WHO WE ARE



Alexander  
Semyonov  
**Director**



Adrian Selin  
**Senior  
Research  
Fellow**



Evgeniy  
Anisimov  
**Principal  
Investigator**



Matthias  
Battis  
**Junior  
Research  
Fellow**



Ivan Sablin  
**Senior  
Research  
Fellow**



Anton  
Kotenko  
**Research  
Fellow**



Inna  
Zakharova  
**Manager**



Yana  
Kitaeva  
**Research  
Assistant**



Alexander  
Korobeinikov  
**Research  
Assistant**



Nikita  
Fomin  
**Research  
Assistant**



Margarita  
Pavlova  
**Research  
Assistant**

THE LABORATORY FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL HISTORY  
WHO WE ARE



Julia Lajus  
**Leading  
Research  
Fellow**



Margarita  
Dadaykina  
**Research  
Fellow**



Maria  
Ukhvatova  
**Manager of  
the  
Laboratory**



Ekaterina  
Kalemeneva  
**Junior  
Research  
Fellow**



Elena  
Kochetkova  
**Junior  
Research  
Fellow**



Aleksandra  
Bekasova  
**Senior  
Research  
Fellow**



Kseniya  
Venediktova  
**Research  
Assistant**



Marina  
Loskutova  
**Senior  
Research  
Fellow**



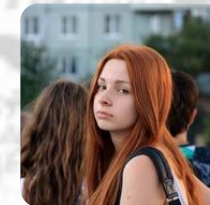
Vasily  
Borovoy  
**Junior  
Research  
Fellow**



Tatiana  
Borisova  
**Senior  
Research  
Fellow**



Maria  
Kulikova  
**Research  
Assistant**



Irina  
Fedorova  
**Research  
Assistant**



Anton  
Khoroshavi  
n  
**Research  
Assistant**

RESOURCES IN RESEARCH  
ST. PETERSBURG FOR  
VISITING SCHOLARS

Besides the main libraries and archives in Saint Petersburg, the city has to offer a great variety of other less known resources for research:



The Library of the Russian  
Academy of Sciences



The Kunstkamera  
(The Peter the Great Museum of  
Anthropology and Ethnography  
Russian Academy of Sciences)



The Archive of the Saint  
Petersburg Institute of  
History of Russian Academy  
of Sciences



The Institute of Oriental  
Manuscripts



The Richard Stites Memorial  
Historical Library  
(HSE St Petersburg)



The Russian  
Geographical Society

## THE “BOUNDARIES OF HISTORY” SEMINAR

- Since 2012 the Center hosts the regular research seminar “**Boundaries of History**”
- The Center’s strategic partners in organizing the seminar are the Deutsches Historisches Institut (DWHI) Moskau, the Norwegian University Center in St. Petersburg, the Netherlands Institute in Saint Petersburg
- The seminars discuss the opportunities and potentialities of historical research across the boundaries of national history and beyond; the history of diversity and the policies of difference; the porous boundaries between the discipline of history and adjacent fields of the social sciences as well as the potentialities of the cross-disciplinary research; the imagined boundary between the past and the present and the relevance of historical knowledge for public and expert debate in contemporary societies.
- Since 2012, the Center has held more than 60 seminars, 27 of which were international.



## CONFERENCES

**October, 1-4, 2014.** The First History Student Conference of Higher School of Economics “From Huge Comparisons to Thick Descriptions: Historical Research and Interpretation”

**November, 21- 22, 2012.** International round table “The Borders, Cross-Border Communication and Mobility in the Baltic Region of Europe. Past and Present”

**September 5, 2012.** International workshop “The Circulation of Knowledge in a Divided World: Attraction, Confrontation, Cooperation, Expert Communities During the Cold War”

**March 21-23, 2017** International Research Seminar “Early 17th Century Smolensk Archives Research Results”

**June 5-6, 2015.** Research conference “Regionalism, Autonomism, and Federalism: Alternative Political Imagination for the Modern World”

**December 19-21, 2014.** Workshop “Imagining Post-Imperial Order: New Historical Study of the Imperial Crisis”

**August 23, 2014.** Workshop “Society and Politics in the Time of Imperial Crisis”

**May 27-28, 2013** International research conference “When Postcolonial Meets Postimperial: Sovereignty, Politics of Difference and Composite Society in Comparative Perspectives”





## Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)

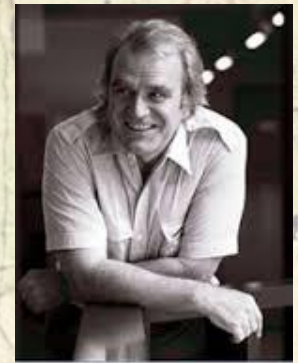
Summer School “The Topography of Imperial Power: the Political Space of St. Petersburg” organized in partnership with DAAD (2015-2017)

## International Research Project “Comparative Historical Studies of Empire and Nationalism”

Summer school “Comparative Studies of Power and Diversity in Historic Empires” (June, 2015)



THE RICHARD STITES  
MEMORIAL  
HISTORICAL  
LIBRARY



Richard Stites

(02.12.1931 – 07.03.2010)

Since 2015, the **Center for Historical Research** is equipped with the **Richard Stites Memorial Historical Library**. Named after the influential historian of Russian culture and professor of history at Georgetown University, the library contains more than 1600 books on subjects such as International History; World History; History of Europe and Eurasia (pre-revolutionary Russia and the USSR); Women in History.

**The Richard Stites Memorial Library** has been set up with the generous support from the **American University Washington D.C. Carmel Institute of Russian Culture and History** and the **Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)**, the latter having recently helped to expand the library's holdings of literature in German.



The Center for Historical Research runs a program for [International Associate Research Fellows](#) (mainly Ph.D. students and junior researchers). In the period between 2012 and 2017, the Center has hosted seventeen researchers. Fellows are granted access to the Center's research facilities and are invited to take part in seminars and conferences.

*"My experience as an International Associate Research Fellow at the HSE in 2014 played a key role in advancing my career. Thanks to the support of the HSE, I not only finished dissertation research but also met several renowned historians. The fellowship allowed me to interact closely with Russian and foreign colleagues at the HSE, especially at the very stimulating "Boundaries of History" research seminar, where scholars presented their work on tsarist imperialism and other topics related to my own research."*

**Stephen B. Riegg**  
Ph.D. Assistant Professor  
Department of History, Texas A&M University, College Station



**INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATE  
RESEARCH  
FELLOWS  
(2012-2017)**



Gayle  
Lonergan  
**Oxford  
University**



Helena  
Holzberger  
**Ludwig  
Maximilian  
Universität**



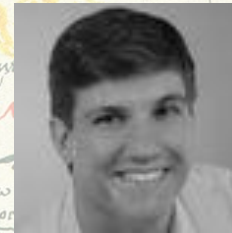
Stephen  
Riegg  
**Texas A&M  
University**



Sandrin  
Maioraz  
**Basel  
University**



Elizabeth  
Stern  
**Princeton  
University**



Henner  
Kropp  
**Regensburg  
University**



Robert  
Kindler  
**Humboldt  
University**



Jason  
Seaply  
**Stanford  
University**



Andrey  
Zayarnuk  
**University of  
Winnipeg**



Anna  
Oberg  
**Royal  
Institute of  
Technology in  
Stockholm**



Brandon  
Schechter  
**University of  
California**



Kimberly  
Powers  
**University of  
Michigan**

**INTERNATIONAL CAREERS OF  
THE SOME OF THE CENTER'S  
FELLOWS**



**Matthias Battis**

*Junior Research  
Fellow  
Center for  
Historical Research  
HSE St-Petersburg*

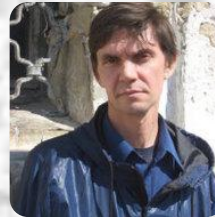
*Appointed research  
fellow at the  
University College  
London*



**Ivan Sablin**

*Research Fellow  
Center for Historical  
Research  
HSE St-Petersburg*

*Appointed research fellow  
at the  
Helsinki Collegium  
for Advanced Studies*



**Adrian Selin**

*Senior Research Fellow  
Center for Historical  
Research  
HSE St-Petersburg  
Academic Supervisor,  
History program*

*Member of the editorial  
board "Rossica Antiqua"  
Journal*



**Adrian Selin**

*Senior Research Fellow  
Laboratory for  
Environmental and  
Technological History*

*Fellowship  
Wissenschaftskolleg  
zu Berlin*



**Alexander Semyonov**

*Chair of the Department of  
History  
Director of the Center for  
Historical Research*

*Member of the editorial  
board "Ab Imperio"  
Journal  
Honorary Research  
Associate  
Graduiertenschule für Ost-  
und Südosteuropastudien*



**Julia Lajus**

*Leading Research Fellow  
Laboratory for  
Environmental  
and Technological History  
Head of the MA Program  
"Usable Pasts"*

*Member of the editorial board  
"Environment and History"  
Marie Curie Research Fellow  
University of Birmingham*



**Anton Kotenko**

*Research Fellow  
Center for Historical Research  
HSE St-Petersburg*

*Appointed research fellow  
at the Eugene and Daymel  
Shklar Research Fellow in  
Ukrainian Studies  
at the Ukrainian Research  
Institute ,  
Harvard University*

CENTER'S FELLOWS AS  
MEMBERS OF EDITORIAL BOARD  
IN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

**Adrian Selin**

Journal "Rossica Antiqua"

<http://rossica-antiqua.ru/index.php/rossica/index>



**Alexander Semyonov**

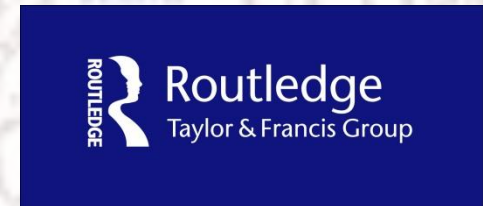
Journal Ab Imperio

[http://abimperio.net/cgi-bin/aishow.pl?state=index\\_rus&idlang=2](http://abimperio.net/cgi-bin/aishow.pl?state=index_rus&idlang=2)

monograph series

"Imperial Transformations" (Routledge)

<https://www.routledge.com/Imperial-Transformations-Russian-Soviet-and-Post-Soviet-History/book-series/IT>



**Julia Lajus**

Journal "Environment and History"

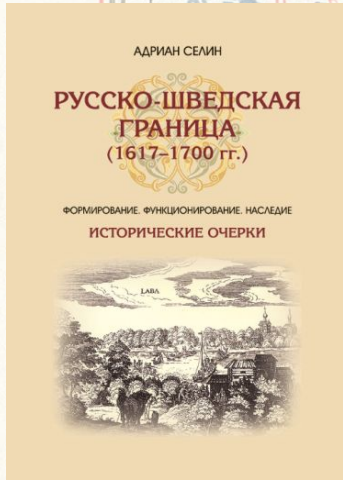
<http://www.whpress.co.uk/EH.html>

Journal "Global Environment"

<http://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/collection/10794>

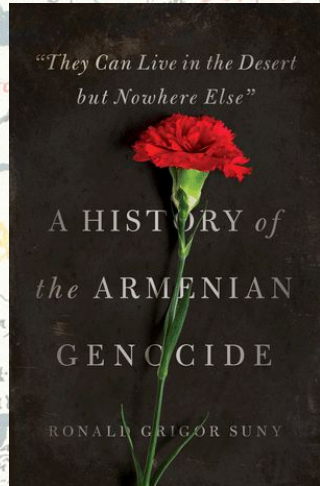


PUBLICATIONS

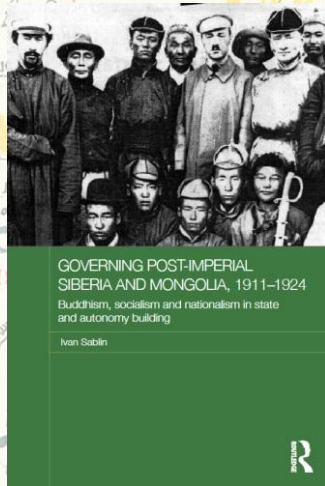


"Russian-Swedish Border (1617 – 1700)"

Adrian Selin



"They Can Live in the Desert but Nowhere Else: A History of the Armenian Genocide" Ronald Suny



"Governing Post-Imperial Siberia and Mongolia, 1911-1924: Buddhism, Socialism, and Nationalism in State and Autonomy Building" Ivan Sablin



"Russian Art Through the Eyes of a Historian" Evgeniy Anisimov



Journal Ab Imperio Alexander Semyonov (co-founder and -co-editor)

INTERNATIONAL  
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH  
PROJECTS

- “Global Histories of Empire” (in partnership with Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, University of Turin)
- “Transformation of Regimes of Governing Diversity: The Russian Empire and the USSR” (in partnership with University of Eastern Finland, Karelian Institute)
- “Comparative Modern Constitutional History” (in partnership University of Göttingen - Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)
- Research project “Comparative Historical Studies of Empire and Nationalism” (co-directed by Ronald G. Suny, University of Michigan)





- Basic Research “Transformation of Regimes of Governing Diversity: Continuity of Imperial Practices and Ruptures of Post-imperial Political Imaginaries in the History of Russia”
- “Living together. Questions of diversity and unity in contemporary Russia: historical legacy, modern state, and society”
- “History of the End of the Cold War, the Diaries of Teymuraz Stepanov-Mamaladze”



**Фонд  
Поддержки  
Либерального  
Образования**

**ЕЛЬЦИН  
ЦЕНТР**

## SELECT RESEARCH RESULTS

- The Center has contributed to the development of a global approach to the history of imperial collapse and imperial transformations of the Russian and Ottoman empires. Research will be published in the book series “Imperial Transformations” with Routledge (series’ editors: Alexander Semyonov and Ronald Suny).
- The Center has helped to create a comparative methodology for the understanding of modern constitutional history and of the dynamics of post-imperial political development (to be reflected in the datasets of the Comparative Constitutions Project)



- “Natural Resources in the History of Russia: Economic Institutes, Communities of Experts and Infrastructures”, Russian Science Foundation, 2016 – 2018
- Historical Heritage (industrial, cultural and natural) and Tourism in the Past and Present”, HSE, 2017
- “New Governance for Sustainable Development of the European Arctic”, in partnership with Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, 2014 – 2018



Российский  
научный  
фонд



- Cooperation with **Rachel Carson Center, LMU, Munich, Prof. Christof Mauch**

Julia Lajus will be a fellow at the **Rachel Carson Center** in the summer of 2017.

She is also a member of the Board for the **Arcadia** on-line project.

- Collaboration with **EcoGlobReg Project** ("Contemporary environmental history of the Soviet Union and the successor states, 1970-2000. Ecological globalization and regional dynamics", **Prof. Klaus Gestwa, University of Tuebingen**)

- Together with **Prof. Suzanne Frank** the **from Humboldt University**, HSE organized a Summer school at the Solovki Islands in 2016.

