



# Slavic – Caucasian – Asian – Baltic – Soviet Entanglements Revisiting Disciplinary Borders

*A Slavic Seminar Winter School on the shifting boundaries  
of Slavic and East (Central) European Studies*

**12 – 14 February 2026**

## WINTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2026

**10:00 – 10:30** *Lecture hall 037*

**Opening, Welcome Speech**

*Dr. Aleksandra Konarzewska, Anastasiia Sergeeva*

**10:30 – 12:00** *Lecture hall 037*

**Destalinization as Decolonization**

*Keynote lecture & Discussion with  
Prof. Dr. Botakoz Kassymbekova (Zürich)*

**13:00 – 15:00** *Room 426*

**PANEL I: RETHINKING**

**DISCOURSES AND PARADIGMS**

*Dr. Diana Kudaibergenova (London):*

**Postsoviet no more or Multiple Pasts?**

*Dr. Galyna Spodarets (Potsdam):*

**Cancel Culture: Rethinking an Imported  
Concept through a Postcolonial Lens**

*Prof. Alima Bissenova (Astana):*

**Nation-building and Postcolonial Discourses  
'from below' and Changing Linguistic and  
Cultural Hierarchies in Kazakhstan**

**15:30 – 17:00** *Room 426*

**PANEL II: LITERATURE, CULTURE AND  
NATION (RE-)BUILDING IN THE CAUCASUS**

*Natso Beridze (Tübingen):*

**Neither Voice nor Exit:**

**Medea and the Limits of Postcolonial Agency**

*Sona Mnatsakanyan (Berlin):*

**Mkrtich Armen's Yerevan (1931)**

**and the Limits of Soviet Anti-Orientalism**

**18:00 – 19:30** *Lecture hall 037*

**Book Presentation: *Routledge Handbook  
of Contemporary Belarus (2026)***

*Presented by its editor Prof. Aliaksei Kazharski (Prague)  
and Dr. Aleksandra Konarzewska (Tübingen)*

FRIDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2026

**10:30 – 12:00** *Lecture hall 037*

**Hegemony without the State: Cultural  
Sovereignty in Nineteenth-Century Georgia**

*Keynote lecture & Discussion with Dr. Zaal Andronikashvili (Berlin)*

**13:00 – 15:00** *Room 426*

**PANEL III: PERSPECTIVES FROM CENTRAL ASIA**

*Dr. Aksana Ismailbekova (Berlin):*

**The Politics of Kinship Concepts: Uruu, 'Clan,'  
and the Afterlives of Soviet and Western Knowledge**

*Yultus Savrova (Berlin):*

**The Geopoetic Symbolism of Cities in Ziya Samedi's  
Historical Novel 'The Mystery of the Years':  
A Uyghur Soviet Writer's Perspective**

*Jonas Wieschollek (Cambridge):*

**Russian Legal Orientalism: International Law  
and the Conquest of Central Asia (1850–1910s)**

**15:30 – 17:00** *Room 426*

**Panel IV: History and Memory**

*Evgeny Zavadskiy (Tartu):*

**The Image of the Border between the Empire of the  
'Red Dictator' and Europe (Based on Material from Russian  
Newspapers in Estonia of the early 1930s)**

*Dr. Aleksandra Konarzewska (Tübingen):*

**World War II and the Blind Spots  
of Western Modern Memory**

**18:00 – 19:30** *Lecture hall 037*

**Facing epistemic imperialism:**

**Focusing literature's locatedness**

*Keynote lecture & Discussion with Prof. Dr. Susanne Frank (Berlin)*

For visitors, registration in advance at: [slavistik@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:slavistik@uni-tuebingen.de)



**Baden-Württemberg  
Ministry of Science,  
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