



17th Annual Aleksanteri Conference  
**RUSSIA'S CHOICES FOR 2030**  
25–27 October 2017, University of Helsinki, Finland

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## RUSSIA'S CHOICES FOR 2030

Time and venue: 25-27 October 2017, University of Helsinki, Finland

Organiser: Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki and Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies "Choices of Russian Modernisation"

The Aleksanteri Institute at the University of Helsinki will hold the 17th Annual International Aleksanteri Conference on 25-27 October 2017. The conference will bring together scholars, experts and advanced graduate students from a variety of disciplines such as economics, political science, sociology, geography, history, law, and cultural studies.

Where Russia will be in 2030 is no longer as clear as it seemed a while ago. Some years ago, 'emerging powers' and the BRICS countries, including Russia, seemed to be on a path to experiencing strong economic growth, delivering well-being to their citizens, shaping global cultural trends, and ultimately challenging the prevailing balance of power. For many reasons, such expectations have proved somewhat one-dimensional. As a response to this changing trajectory, the Russian Government has initiated a new development strategy until 2030. World leaders in economy and politics, in academia and outside continue related debates. The 17th Aleksanteri Conference will focus on Russian actors, who are making the choices on the way to 2030; explore the multiple structures and environments within which these actors are making these choices; and analyse the legacies of the pre-Soviet, Soviet, and post-Soviet periods which, in turn, are shaping Russia's choices.

While we particularly welcome paper, panel, and roundtable proposals addressing this forward-looking agenda, we also wish to see proposals examining any current or historical developments that can be relevant for understanding Russia's choices and the contexts within which they are made. We also welcome proposals that address the choices of less central actors in Russia, as well as Russia's neighbours in Europe, Asia, and elsewhere that have a bearing on Russia.

The 2017 Aleksanteri Conference will also be the closing conference of the Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies "Choices of Russian Modernisation".

The conference committee suggests the following sub-themes for consideration:

- Russia's economic development and strategies
- Russia's industrial policy, industry 4.0, and global supply chains
- Science, innovation, and technology policy in Russia
- Energy and sustainability
- Russia's welfare regime
- Russia in global and regional governance processes
- Russia and global transformations
- Russian foreign policy
- Institutions and decision-making in Russia and post-Soviet states
- Authoritarianism and development
- Pre-Soviet, Soviet, and post-Soviet legacies
- The intertwining of culture and economy
- The Russian state's new cultural policy
- Russian cultural statecraft

### Confirmed keynote speakers:

- Professor Georgi Derluguian, NYU Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- Dr. Irina Dezhina, Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Russia
- Professor Barry W. Ickes, Pennsylvania State University, USA
- Professor Wolfgang Knöbl, Hamburg Institute for Social Research, Germany
- Professor Tatiana Romanova, St. Petersburg State University / National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia
- Professor Li Xin, Shanghai Institute for International Studies, China

In addition to plenary sessions, roundtables and panels will be gathered together on the basis of the call for papers. Individual proposals for papers are also welcome.

### Conference schedule and deadlines:

- Deadline for submitting paper, panel, and roundtable proposals: 15 May 2017
- Notification of acceptance: 16 June 2017
- Online registration and registration fees due by: 25 August 2017
- Conference programme published: 10 September 2017
- Conference: 25-27 October 2017

### Registration rates:

Paper presenters, chairs, and discussants	100 €
Graduate students, participants from ex-Soviet countries or with an income of less than 30,000 euros	50 €
Accompanying persons and observers not presenting a paper (partial participation in the conference allowed)	25 €

### Submissions:

The deadline for submitting paper, panel, and roundtable proposals is 15 May 2017.

Paper proposals: Please submit your individual paper abstracts of max. 300 words via the [abstract submission form](#). The organisers will form thematic panels from individual proposals. If you submit a paper for an organised panel, please do not submit it as an individual paper proposal.

Panel proposals: Panels should consist of 3-4 paper presenters, a chair, and a discussant. Panels must aim for an international composition. Preferably, one or more panel members should represent different countries of origin; at the very minimum, the discussant must represent a different country of origin to those of the speakers. The conference organisers may be able to nominate chairs and discussants for speaker-only panel proposals. Please submit your panel proposal including an abstract of max. 500 words via the [panel proposal submission form](#).

Roundtables: Each roundtable features a structured discussion on a timely theme or problem, which requires a more open format of debate than a conventional paper session. Roundtables must have a chair and 3-5 speakers. Please submit your roundtable proposal including an abstract of max. 500 words via the [roundtable proposal submission form](#).

Notification of acceptance for paper, panel, and roundtable proposals will be sent by email by 16 June 2017. The abstracts of accepted papers / panels / roundtables will be published on the conference website.

### Guidelines for sessions:

Panel sessions will last 90 minutes each:  
Panellists: 15-20 minutes each  
Discussant: 10 minutes  
Q&A

The chair will introduce the panel and its participants. Each panellist will have a maximum of 15-20 minutes for their presentations. The discussant will have 10 minutes to give their comments. The papers will be circulated amongst the panel chairs and discussants prior to the conference.

Roundtables will also last 90 minutes. Please be mindful of the time constraints and the fair allocation of time between participants.

### General information:

The working language of the conference is English. Unfortunately, no translation can be provided.

There is a PC and a projector in every lecture hall.

Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for travel and accommodation and cover the costs related to participation. Information on hotels will be provided later on the conference webpage. For Helsinki hotel and tourism information, please see [www.visithelsinki.fi/en/come/tourist-information/helsinki-city-tourist-information](http://www.visithelsinki.fi/en/come/tourist-information/helsinki-city-tourist-information).

Participants and observers who do not wish to give a paper or organise a panel or a workshop are also welcome to take part in the Conference. All conference participants are required to register. Please see the 'Registration rates' section above for details.

Please consult our website for information and discussion:

<http://www.helsinki.fi/aleksanteri/conference2017/>

For further information, or if you wish to ask any questions, please contact the conference organisers at: [fcree-aleksconf@helsinki.fi](mailto:fcree-aleksconf@helsinki.fi)

### Welcome!

*On behalf of the organising committee,*

Chair: Pami Aalto, Professor of International Relations, University of Tampere & Cluster Leader, Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies

Coordinator: Anna Lowry, Postdoctoral Researcher, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki  
Markku Kivinen, Director of the Aleksanteri Institute & Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies

*The Aleksanteri Conference is an annual, multidisciplinary, international conference organised by the Aleksanteri Institute, the Finnish Centre for Russian and Eastern European Studies, affiliated with the University of Helsinki. Aleksanteri Conferences have attracted broad interest among researchers and policy-makers in a wide variety of disciplines, both in Finland and abroad, who are interested in the development of post-socialist countries. The 2017 Conference is organised in cooperation with the Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies "Choices of Russian Modernisation".*

*Interested in past Aleksanteri Conferences? The keynote presentations from the 2015 and 2016 Aleksanteri Conferences are available on the [Aleksanteri Institute's YouTube channel](#).*