

ESCAPES FROM MODERNITY PROJECT

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Second International Winter School

**Transformation of Modern Statehood:
Sovereignty. Memory. Identity.**

*Kääriku, Valgamaa, Estonia
11–17 February 2012*

This International Winter School will bring together an international team of students and teachers, who will gather at the Tartu University conference and training centre in the beautiful Otepää area to discuss the key aspects of the evolution and transformation of modern statehood.

Despite the attempts to declare national sovereignty obsolete in the age of globalisation, there is growing empirical evidence and theoretical support for its continued significance. We have seen the emergence of a number of self-proclaimed states in Europe in recent decades. Each of them is an important empirical phenomenon in its own right, but also significant is the fact these communities most often are at the centre of heated debates about the future of international law and state sovereignty as its key principle.

One key feature of the current resurgence of nationalist politics is the heated debate about history and memory. In particular, we explore the recently intensified attempts to securitize the remembrance of World War II and the Soviet communist legacy, focusing on the interplay of different memory regimes and mnemonic communities in the twenty-first century Europe. Importantly, we conceptualize this rivalry also as a struggle to universalize a particular historical narrative and elevate it to the status of the ‘common memory of Europe’.

This is a crucial facet of the whole debate on national identity where it touches upon the issues of the universal. While the dominant western understanding of universality emphasizes liberal democracy and human rights, there are new increasingly powerful counter-hegemonic discourses that insist on sovereign autonomy as an irreducible component of universal values. We approach this phenomenon in two ways: firstly, by looking at the empirically existing challenges to liberal democratic universalism (such as Russia’s sovereign democracy or South American discourses of social justice) and secondly, by addressing the intricate relationship between cosmopolitanism, patriotism and the political in the contemporary world. In the final analysis, this brings up the question of the inherent fragmentation of the modern international system and the possibility of overcoming it. Is it possible and, indeed, desirable to look for a world community transcending the nation state, or must we concentrate on

finding better ways of accommodation between particularist national interests? Is world community conceivable as global democracy, or must the universal, as some theorists argue, be cleared of any positive predicates? And conversely, is it possible to devise theories of liberal national or patriotic loyalty which would be compatible with cosmopolitan commitments?

These questions will be discussed in the framework of the International Winter School, with the participation of approximately 30 researchers and students from Estonia, Russia and elsewhere. The School will take place in training centre of Tartu University in Kääriku, 50km from Tartu, among the rolling hills, woods and lakes of Valgamaa region. The Centre is equally equipped for sports, leisure and educational activities, with various conference halls, sports facilities and outdoor opportunities like hiking, running and cross country skiing (skis are available from the Centre). Each day will begin with sports events – gym, basketball, cross country skiing, etc. The School will thus live up to the ancient ideal of combining mental and physical training.

SCHEDULE

Saturday, 11 February. INTRODUCTION

- 03:47 Moscow train arrives to Narva
- 04:30 Departure to Kääriku by bus
- 07:30 Arrival. Breakfast. Accommodation
- 13:00–14:00 Lunch
- 14:00–17:00 Introductions. Division into working groups
- 18:30–19:30 Dinner
- 21:00–23:00 Sauna

Sunday, 12 February. THE NATION STATE

- 08:00–09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00–12:30 Free time/sports
- 12:30–13:30 Lunch
- 13:30–15:00 Nation state and empire
Andrey Makarychev / Viatcheslav Morozov
- 15:30–17:00 Systemic transformations and the management of secessionist bids
Eiki Berg
- 17:00–18:30 Group work
- 18:30–19:30 Dinner
- 19:30 – Film screening: *Malev (Men in Arms)*
Discussion

Monday, 13 February. SOVEREIGNTY

- 08:00–09:00 Breakfast
09:00–12:30 Free time/sports
12:30–13:30 Lunch
13:30–15:00 Sovereignty: the debate around the concept
Eiki Berg
15:30–17:00 Challenges to state sovereignty: integration, globalisation, fragmentation
Sergei Medvedev
17:00–18:30 Group work
18:30–19:30 Dinner
19:30 – Film screening: *All My Lenins*
Discussion

Tuesday, 14 February. DEMOCRACY

- 08:00–09:00 Breakfast
09:00–12:30 Free time/sports
12:30–13:30 Lunch
13:30–15:00 Sovereignty and democracy: an uneasy relationship
Sergei Medvedev
15:30–17:00 Democracy, legitimacy and public support
Piret Ehin
17:00–18:30 Group work
18:30–19:30 Dinner
21:00–23:00 Sauna

Wednesday, 15 February. MEMORY

- 08:00–09:00 Breakfast
09:00–12:30 Free time/sports
12:30–13:30 Lunch
13:30–15:00 History and memory and their significance for nation-building
Viatcheslav Morozov / Andrey Makarychev
15:30–17:00 Coming to terms with the past: transitional justice measures in the former Communist space
Eva-Clarita Pettai
17:00–18:30 Group work

18:30–19:30 Dinner
19:30 – Film screening: *Names on the Marble Plaque*
Discussion

Thursday, 16 February. SECURITY AND IDENTITY

08:00–09:00 Breakfast
09:00–10:30 Security beyond Nation States
Andrey Makarychev
11:00–12:30 Placing Security in a Social/Cultural/Humanitarian Milieu
Andrey Makarychev
12:30–13:30 Lunch
13:30–15:00 Group work
15:00–18.30 Group project presentations. Close of the School. Awarding of diplomas
18:30–19:30 Dinner
21:00–23:00 Sauna

Friday, 17 February. DEPARTURE

08:00–09:00 Breakfast
09:00–11:00 Packing up
11:00 Departure to Tartu by bus
12:00–13:00 Lunch in Tartu
13:00–17:00 Tartu walking tour. Visit to the University
17:00 Departure to Narva by bus
20:40 Moscow train departs from Narva