Y-Conference

May 22–24, 2026

Annual Conference of
Yerevan Center for International Education

Yerevan Center for International Education (YCIE) is dedicated to promoting international academic and research cooperation in the social sciences and humanities across Armenia and the wider region. The Y-Conference brings together scholars who work in or focus on the Caucasus and Eurasia to present their latest research and discuss their ongoing projects. Conceived as an inclusive and safe space, the conference fosters dialogue across academic disciplines and national borders — a gathering where new concepts and collaborative projects can emerge and take shape.

The theme of the second Y-Conference is SPACES. We envision an interdisciplinary exploration of this fundamental and conceptually rich category of the social sciences and humanities. Space is never neutral; it is always produced, contested, inhabited, imagined, and politicized. From Henri Lefebvre's "The Production of Space" to Doreen Massey's "For Space", scholars have long emphasized that space is not merely a container in which social life unfolds—it is constitutive of social life itself. In this sense, Y-Conference's focus on "SPACES" invites scholars to engage with space as a theoretical object, a lived experience, and a site of power, memory, resistance, and transformation.

About YCIE

The Yerevan Center for International Education (YCIE) is an independent hub for Eurasian studies in the humanities and social sciences located in Yerevan, Armenia and established in May 2022. Our mission is to provide a platform for education and research that welcomes students and scholars from all regions and cultures.

3 Aram Khachatryan,
033 Yerevan, Armenia
Tel: +384 55 31 05 11
info@yerevancenter.org

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Time	May 22			May 23			May 24		
09:15 – 09:45	Registration								
09:45 – 10:00	Welcome speech								
10:00 – 11:30	*[* Keynote *]* Catriona Kelly			**P22.1**	**P18**	**P27.1**	**P21**	**P26.1**	**P27.2**
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break			Coffee break			Coffee break		
12:00 – 13:30	**P14**	**P07**	**P02**	**P22.2**	**P33**	**P04**	**P05**	**P26.2**	**P03**
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch			Lunch			Lunch		
14:30 – 16:00	**P13**	**P24**	**P20**	**P01**	**P09.1**	**P32**	**P31**	**P17**	**P19**
16:15 – 17:45	**P12**	**P06**	**P15**	**P16**	**P09.2**	**P11**	**P28**	**BP**	**P30**
17:45 – 18:15		**DS**		Coffee break					
18:15 – 19:45				*[* Keynote *]* Mathijs Pelkmans			Ցտեսություն Dinner		

Time	May 22, 2026 Ibis Hotel, 5/1 Northern Ave		
09:15 – 09:45	Registration		
09:45 – 10:00	Welcome speech **Jeanne Kormina**		
10:00 – 11:30	***[*** Keynote ***]*** **Catriona Kelly**		
11:30 – 12:00	*]* Coffee break *[*		
	Blue track	***Yellow track***	***Pink track***
12:00 – 13:30	***[P14]*** Governing Space, Regulating Bodies: Gender, Morality, and the Politics…	***[P07]*** City Landscapes and Memory: The Case of Jewish Sites	***[P02]*** After the Break: Urban Spaces Between "No Longer" and "Not Yet"
13:30 – 14:30	*]* Lunch *[*		
14:30 – 16:00	***[P13]*** Founded Spaces, Founding Spaces: Images and Stories of Displacement…	***[P24]*** Political Spaces in the South Caucasus	***[P20]*** Living Heritage and the Revitalization of Overlooked Urban Spaces…
16:15 – 17:45	***[P12]*** Foucault, Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies…	***[P06]*** Building Political Narratives: Upholding Authority or Channeling Critique?	***[P15]*** Governing Urban Commons in Eurasia: Autonomy vs. Interdependence
17:45 – 18:15		***[DS]*** Documentary screening	

May 22, 2026	**Ibis Hotel, 5/1 Northern Ave**
09:15 – 09:45	Registration
Ararat Hall 09:45 – 11:30	**Plenary session**
09:45 – 10:00	**Welcome speech** **Jeanne Kormina** (Director of Yerevan Center for International Education, Armenia)
10:00 – 11:30	***[* Keynote speech *]*** **Catriona Kelly** *Socialist, National, Local: Late Soviet Spaces* Moderator: Simon Franklin
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P14. Governing Space, Regulating Bodies: Gender, Morality, and the Politics of Everyday Spaces in Eurasia**
	Conveners: Farangis Davronova and Sona Baldrian **Farangis Davronova** *Hijabs, Miniskirts, and State Morality: The Politics of Women's Dress and Conduct in Tajikistan* **Anna Ivashchenko** *Justice Every Day: How Sharia Polygamy Regulates Relationships in Modern Dagestan* **Sona Baldrian** *An Account from Maddening Silence: Gender, Deindustrialization, and Dewelfareization in Postsocialist Armenia* **Daria Tarkhova** *Embodied Geopolitics and Russian Speakers in Finland*

Sis Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P07. City Landscapes and Memory: The Case of Jewish Sites**

Conveners: Irena Vladimirsky and Svetlana Amosova

Svetlana Amosova *The Sea as Part of the Local Identity of Derbent Jews*

Yulia Oreshina, Giorgi Zazunishvili *Urban and Peripheral Palimpsests of Jewish Memory in Georgia*

Narciss M. Sohrabi *Negotiating Memory in Urban Iran: Jewish Sites as Contested and Lived Spaces*

Irena Vladimirsky *Refracting the "Oriental St. Petersburg": Harbin as a Palimpsest of Russian Imperialism, Jewish Cosmopolitanism, and Cross-Cultural Memory*

Yerevan Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P02. After the Break: Urban Spaces Between "No Longer" and "Not Yet"**

Conveners: Elena Batunova and Albina Davletshina

Marat Nevlyutov *Awaiting the Tide: The Paralysis of Nature-Culture Relations at the Podolsk Reservoir and Hydrotechnical Complex*

Denis Eke *Spatial Deconstruction and Dysfunctionality of Modernist Pedestrian Terraces*

Tenuunjargal Avirmed, Terbish Bayartsetseg *Beyond Formalities in Ulaanbaatar: Re-Creation Of Space in an Intersection of the Pastoralist Past With Urban Resilience*

Burcin Gercek *Tjvjik: A Story of a Lost World, Oblivion and Usurpation*

13:30 – 14:30	Lunch

14:30 – 16:00	Parallel sessions
Masis Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P13. Founded Spaces, Founding Spaces: Images and Stories of Displacement, Creativity and Imagination, the Everyday People and All the Small Things**

Convener: Sonja Lakic

Daria Maltseva, Vadim Ladin, Arina Fedulinskaya, Varvara Lysenko *Projections of the Private: Small Things and the Informal Founding of Space in Post-Industrial Nalchik*

Lina Gergova *Scattered Ashes and Small Things: Reimagining the Submerged World of Zhrebchevo*

Sis Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P24. Political Spaces in the South Caucasus**

Conveners: Stephen E. Hanson and Daniel Maliniak

Yevgenya Jenny Paturyan, Tadamasa Sawada, Uroš Prokić *Clans or Cadres? A Social Network Analysis of Armenian Political Elite Turnover, 2017–2021*

Kelly Chaib De Mares *Post-War Legality and Peace in Online Political Spaces*

Sergei Akopov, Sandra Fernandes *Loneliness Before States? Exploring the Spaces of Ontological Security and Lonely Sovereignty in Portugal and Armenia*

Yerevan Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P20. Living Heritage and the Revitalization of Overlooked Urban Spaces in Post-Socialist Contexts**

Conveners: Harutyun Vermishyan and Julia Wesely

Harutyun Vermishyan, Shushan Abrahamyan *Mapping Border Memory: Living Heritage and Overlooked Urban Space in Meghri*

Maria Gunko *Heritization and Place-(un)Making in a Small Armenian Town*

Irena Šentevska *KPGT: (Y)Utopia Revisited in a Sugar Refinery*

Anna Setaghyan *Cultural Diplomacy and Decentralized Cooperation: Designing Indicators for SDG Achievement*

16:15 – 17:45	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P12. Foucault, Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (The Centennial of Michel Foucault)**

Convener: Oleg Kharkhordin

Eugene Lyutko *The Quest for "Other Spaces" for Russian Orthodoxy in Late Soviet Context*

Philipp Casula *Heterotopia and the Discursive Production of Post-Soviet Spaces*

Olga Okhotnikova *The Heterotopia of Healing: Power, Space, and Military Patients' Tactics in Russia's World War I*

Sis Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P06. Building Political Narratives: Upholding Authority or Channeling Critique?**

Conveners: Magdalena Marija Meašić and Gustav Lundberg

Gustav Lundberg *Nationalism Begins At Home – Intimacy, Individual Responsibility and Latvian Nationhood*

Aleksei Titkov *Memory Narratives and Ritual Commemoration of a Tragic Incident: Social Media vs. Local Memory*

Nikita Balagurov *Spatialising Authority: Art, Cinema, and Architecture in the Moscow Kremlin*

Magdalena Marija Meašić *Operating the Soviet Past: The Opera House as a Site of Identity Construction*

Yerevan Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P15. Governing Urban Commons in Eurasia: Autonomy vs. Interdependence**

Conveners: Andrei Semenov, Marat Nevlyutov, and Nata Volkova
Discussant: Marat Nevlyutov

Andrei Semenov *Urban Governance and Epistemic Networks in Central Asia*

Nata Volkova *Mobile Policies and Changing Commons: Land Use, Polycentricity and Urban Design Code*

Evgeny Manzhurin *Enclosing Meaning: Urban Symbolic Commons Between Empire and Nation-State*

17:45 – 18:15	
Sis Hall 17:45 – 18:15	**DS. Documentary screening**

Anna Cieślewska, Konrad Siekierski *Offering for Saint Mary in Samshvilde: A Georgian-Armenian Village* (cinematography and editing by Rafiq Shahbazov)

Time	May 23, 2026 Ibis Hotel, 5/1 Northern Ave		
	Blue track	***Yellow track***	***Pink track***
10:00 – 11:30	***[P22.1]*** Phenomenology of Affective Spaces: Atmospheres, Affordances…	***[P18]*** In and Out: Russian and Soviet Cinema and Its Migration Flows...	***[P27.1]*** Social Spaces of Language
11:30 – 12:00	*]* Coffee break *[*		
12:00 – 13:30	***[P22.2]*** Phenomenology of Affective Spaces: Atmospheres, Affordances…	***[P33]*** Visual Chronicle of Marginal Spaces: Traces of the Past — Images of the Present	***[P04]*** "Back to the Village": Return Migration to Rural Space as a Reassembly of Identity…
13:30 – 14:30	*]* Lunch *[*		
14:30 – 16:00	***[P01]*** Affective Geographies of Loss: Mapping, Tagging, Graffitizing	***[P09.1]*** Doing Good: Moral Spaces of Postsocialist Citizenship	***[P32]*** The Spaces and Boundaries of the "Artificial": Neural Network Infrastructures…
16:15 – 17:45	***[P16]*** Health, Migration, and the Making of (Un)Welcoming Spaces	***[P09.2]*** Doing Good: Moral Spaces of Postsocialist Citizenship	***[P11]*** Exit Only? Network States, Crypto-Utopias, and the Production of New Political Spaces
17:45 – 18:15	*]* Coffee break *[*		
18:15 – 19:45	***[*** Keynote ***]*** **Mathijs Pelkmans**		

May 23, 2026	**Ibis Hotel, 5/1 Northern Ave**
10:00 – 11:30	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 10:00 – 11:30	**P22.1. Phenomenology of Affective Spaces: Atmospheres, Affordances, and Evocative Objects** Convener: Sergey Sokolovskiy **Tonino Griffero** (presented by Sergey Sokolovskiy) *How Space Acts Upon Us—Atmospherically* **Daria Radchenko** *Touching Memory: Atmospheric Monuments and Haptic Practices* **Valentina Shulgina** *Intersubjective Self: Space of Becoming* **Zhenya Leonov** *Digital Laboratories of Military Grief: How VKontakte Affordances Shape Emotional Practices in Wartime Russia*
Sis Hall 10:00 – 11:30	**P18. In and Out: Russian and Soviet Cinema and Its Migration Flows, (Dis)Connected International Networks and Spaces of Production/Exhibition** Convener: Valérie Pozner **Ekaterina Aretemeva** *Between Empires, Industries, and Cultures: Sergei A. Frenkel and the Geographies of Early Cinema and Emigration* **Elizaveta Zhdankova** "*Disinfecting*" *Western Models: Transnational Transfers and Soviet Cinema Exhibition in the 1920s* **Nataliya Puchenkina** *Actors, Space and Decision-Making in Soviet Film Export in Interwar Europe* **Elvira Sabirova** *Collage in Motion: Soviet Animation of the Thaw and French Artistic World*

Yerevan Hall 10:00 – 11:30	**P27.1. Social Spaces of Language**

Convener: Nikolai Vakhtin

Maria Aristova *Native Language Lessons as a Space for Language Activism: Teaching Strategies and Practices of Forest Nenets Teachers in Purovskiy District (YaNAO, Russia)*

Vlada Baranova *“New Speakers” and Language Revitalization: Creating New Linguistic Spaces in the Kalmyk Community*

Natalia Bichurina *Minority Language Spaces Recreating Imagined "Homelands": A Francoprovençal Minority in Paris*

Kapitolina Fedorova "*Multilingual Islands in a Monolingual Sea*": *Foreign Languages in the South Korean Linguistic Landscape*

11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P22.2. Phenomenology of Affective Spaces: Atmospheres, Affordances, and Evocative Objects**

Convener: Sergey Sokolovskiy
Discussant: Pavel Kuprianov

Pavel Kupriyanov "*Cultural Migrants*" *and Affective Niches in a Russian Provincial Town*

Fedor Korandei *Landscapes of Excess: Affective Placemaking in New Development Sites*

Sergey Sokolovskiy *Phenomenological Legacy of Affective Spaces Research and Anthropological Fieldwork*

Sis Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P33. Visual Chronicle of Marginal Spaces: Traces of the Past — Images of the Present**

Convener: Jan Levchenko

Anastasiia Smirnova *Photography as a Tool for Reading Spaces and Reader-Response Criticism*

Jan Levchenko *Darkened and Distorted: The Feature of Space in the Photographical Chronicle of Eastern Prussia by Dmitry Vyshemirsky*

Alla Myzelev *The Apartment as Archive: Familiar Interiors, Subversive Practices in Soviet Jewish Ukraine*

Boris Stepanov *Moscow Local Studies in Between the Difficult Past and Difficult Present (Case of Nagatino)*

Yerevan Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P04. "Back to the Village": Return Migration to Rural Space as a Reassembly of Identity, Practices, and Discourses**

Conveners: Ekaterina Kapustina and Evgenia Guliaeva

Azhar Ahmad *Between City and Village Selves: Return Migration and the Reconfiguration of Social and Legal Identities in Rural India*

Dina Karavaeva, Angelina Pakhomina *(Old)(New)Sivukhians: Double Migrations from the Highlands to the Plain Territories and the Restoration of an Abandoned "Ancestral" Village*

Maria Gavrilova *Village Revival: The Orthodox "Immortal Regiment" of WWII Heroes in Leontyevo, Nizhny Novgorod Region*

Ekaterina Kapustina, Evgenia Guliaeva *From Central Asia to the Village of Kubachi: Return Migration as a Process*

13:30 – 14:30	Lunch

14:30 – 16:00	Parallel sessions
Masis Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P01. Affective Geographies of Loss: Mapping, Tagging, Graffitizing**

Conveners: Nona Shahnazarian and Amalya Dilanyan

Yuliia Zevako, Natalia Gramatchikova *Affective Mapping of Family Memory in Descendants' Autobiographical Narratives*

Amber Patterson-Ooi *Inter-Surfacing: Love, Grief, Loss and the Making of Home in Singapore*

Jessie Klzi *After the Territory: Small Peoples and the Digital Geographies of Collective Survival*

Blue Pencil *Street Art as an Affective Trace of Russian Emigration in Yerevan (2022–2025)*

Sis Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P09.1. Doing Good: Moral Spaces of Postsocialist Citizenship**

Convener: Ekaterina Melnikova
Discussants: Jeanne Kormina and Asya Karaseva

Elizaveta Zubiuk *Everyday Internationalism: Soviet Travelogues and the Moral Work of Town Twinning*

Olesya Merkulova *The Moral Grounds of Trade: Ethical Citizenship and Collective Experience in a Moscow Agricultural Market*

Diana Kodzokova, Ksenia Ilyina, Buryka Elizaveta *Courtyard Citizenship: Neravnodushie and Moral Space in Postsocialist Nalchik*

Yerevan Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P32. The Spaces and Boundaries of the "Artificial": Neural Network Infrastructures, Emerging Hierarchies, and the Production of Knowledge**

Convener: Evgeniya Popova
Discussant: Olga Bychkova

Andrei Mogoutov *AI-Augmented Deliberation: Hybrid Assemblies, Decision Making, and Knowledge Production*

Vladislava Bobrova *Deep Calculative Spaces of AI in Scientific Practice*

Evgeniya Popova *Reshaping the Laboratory: When AI Arrives in the Thermophysics Lab*

16:15 – 17:45	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P16. Health, Migration, and the Making of (Un)Welcoming Spaces**

Conveners: Ksenia Eritsyan and Daniel Kashnitsky

Anastasia Novkunskaya, Artemy Minakov, Anna Klepikova *On the Margins of Neonatal System: Spaces of Care for "Migrant" Newborn Patients in and Beyond Russia*

Tawafuddin Azimi *Legal Insecurity, Belonging, and Health Among Afghan Migrants in India: A Post-2021 Analysis*

Ksenia Eritsyan *Origin, Destination, and Composition: Structural Determinants of HIV Care Coverage among Migrant Key Populations*

Daniel Kashnitsky *Community as the Driver of HIV Care and Continuity for Migrants from Eastern Europe and Central Asia*

Sis Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P09.2. Doing Good: Moral Spaces of Postsocialist Citizenship**

Convener: Ekaterina Melnikova
Discussants: Jeanne Kormina and Asya Karaseva

Elena Iarskaia-Smirnova, Daria Prisiazhniuk *Education for All as a Public Good? Media Frames of School Exclusion/Inclusion for Children with Disabilities and Migrants in Russia*

Ekaterina Donskikh *Caring through Creative Entrepreneurship in Russian Grant Competitions for Youth*

Jeanne Kormina, Asya Karaseva *Discussion*

Yerevan Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P11. Exit Only? Network States, Crypto-Utopias, and the Production of New Political Spaces**

Convener: Olga Bychkova
Discussant: Evgeniya Popova

Olga Bychkova *Pop-Up Polis: The Sociotechnical Production of Exit Spaces*

Alexander Logachev *Independent Academic Communities in Russia: The Strategy of Exodus from State Universities*

17:45 – 18:15	Coffee break
Ararat Hall 18:15 – 19:45	**Plenary session**

[* Keynote speech *]

Mathijs Pelkmans *Spatial Morphology: How Missionary Encounters Reconfigure Religious Space*

Moderator: Ekaterina Pravilova

Time	May 24, 2026 Ibis Hotel, 5/1 Northern Ave		
	Blue track	***Yellow track***	***Pink track***
10:00 – 11:30	***[P21]*** Memory Management: The Practices of Managing Memoryscapes…	***[P26.1]*** Shaping Religious Spaces: Materiality, Visions, Practices, and Contexts	***[P27.2]*** Social Spaces of Language
11:30 – 12:00	*]* Coffee break *[*		
12:00 – 13:30	***[P05]*** Borders in Action: Concepts in Practical Application	***[P26.2]*** Shaping Religious Spaces: Materiality, Visions, Practices, and Contexts	***[P03]*** Anthropology of Outer Space: Practices and Imaginations
13:30 – 14:30	*]* Lunch *[*		
14:30 – 16:00	***[P31]*** Spaces of Soviet Social Memory	***[P17]*** Houses of Culture, Care and Everyday Life in Post-Socialist Small Towns	***[P19]*** (In)Valuable Nature: Theories and Practices of Nature Valuation in the Late USSR…
16:15 – 17:45	***[P28]*** Soviet Gray Zones: Social Practices Beyond Ideology	***[BP]*** Book Presentations	***[P30]*** Spaces for Science in Eurasia: Research Sites, Cities and Akademgorodki
19:00	*]* Ցտեսություն Dinner *[*		

May 24, 2026 **Ibis Hotel, 5/1 Northern Ave**

10:00 – 11:30	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 10:00 – 11:30	**P21. Memory Management: The Practices of Managing Memoryscapes in the Caucasus and Eurasia**

Conveners: Mare Kõiva and Katre Kikas

Flóra Zsinka *Space, Collective Memory and Social Change*

Maria Żukowska *Managing Soviet Memory in School Space. Narrative and Visual Strategies in Russian History Textbooks (1985–2023)*

Aneta Strzemżalska *Material Ruptures: Geopolitics, Memoryscapes, and Heritage in Post-Soviet Armenia*

Sis Hall 10:00 – 11:30	**P26.1. Shaping Religious Spaces: Materiality, Visions, Practices, and Contexts**

Conveners: Konrad Siekierski and Anna Cieślewska
Discussant: Hayk Hakobyan

Tea Kamushadze *Courtyard Chapels in Tbilisi: Everyday Practices and the Making of Religious Infrastructure*

Konrad Siekierski *Sacred Texts as Religious Infrastructure: Powerful Manuscripts and Their Shrines*

Ilia Toropov *Being (Not) There: Religious Space in the Lives of Armenian Molokans*

Yerevan Hall 10:00 – 11:30	**P27.2. Social Spaces of Language**

Convener: Nikolai Vakhtin

Dmitry Koliadov *Language in a Space of a Transcript: A Place of Turn in a Scene of Action*

Ekaterina Rudneva, Sasha Kurlenkova *On Languaging Without Words: Resources and Strategies of a Participant With Speech and Motor Disabilities and His Familiar Communication Partners*

Ksenia Viktorova *Languages and Dialects in a Translocal Community: Mountain Jews Speaking to Each Other Across Various Borders*

Sonya Yampolskaya *Linguistic Politeness beyond Language Borders: Case Study of Multilingual Haredi Communities*

11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P05. Borders in Action: Concepts in Practical Application**

Convener: Sergey Troitskiy

Ilya Solomeshch *The (Post)Imperial Frontier Reinvented. History Politics, Outpost Syndrome, and Pseudo-Visionary Thinking in 21st-Century Russia*

Anna Lagno *Phantom Borders and Political Discourse in Poland: the 2024 Electoral Campaign*

Sergei Golunov *Governing Transboundary Spaces Through Cross-Border Cooperation: European and Non-European Contexts*

Lilit Mnatsakanyan *Europe Occidentale and Terra Incognita in New Julfa Armenian Trade Network*

Sis Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P26.2. Shaping Religious Spaces: Materiality, Visions, Practices, and Contexts**

Conveners: Konrad Siekierski and Anna Cieślewska
Discussant: Konrad Siekierski

Anna Cieślewska *Guided by a Dream: Ancestry, Religious Infrastructure, and Belonging – A Case Study of an Azerbaijani Sayyid Family in Georgia*

Ksenia Trofimova *Making Space for the Other: Entangled Religioscapes of the Zajde Badži Shrine in Niš (Serbia)*

Sergei Shtyrkov *The Khadzar as an Element of Ritual Infrastructure in Urban North Ossetia*

Yerevan Hall 12:00 – 13:30	**P03. Anthropology of Outer Space: Practices and Imaginations**

Conveners: Ivan Tchalakov and Andrei Kuznetsov

Sean T. Mitchell *Whose Giant Leap? The Anthropology of Outer Space and the Representation of the Human Future*

Gabriela Radulescu *Armenia, Caucasus, and Cold War's Communication with Extraterrestrial Intelligence in Radio Astronomy*

Irina Popravko *When Place Matters: Creating Hierarchies in the Soviet Space Program*

13:30 – 14:30	Lunch

14:30 – 16:00	Parallel sessions
Masis Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P31. Spaces of Soviet Social Memory**

Conveners: Yulia Antonyan and Alexander Agadjanian

Aleksandr Veselov *Strange Nostalgia: Memory of Repression in the Internet Quasi-Soviet Anti-Utopia of Samosbor*

Mikayel Zolyan *Between National Pride and Soviet Nostalgia: "Ararat-73" as a Space of Memory*

Asya Karaseva *Memory Commoning in Kolyma*

Sis Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P17. Houses of Culture, Care and Everyday Life in Post-Socialist Small Towns**

Conveners: Aram Vartikyan and Kerstin Krellenberg

Polina Gundarina *Palaces for Workers: The Longue Durée of Workers' Leisure from Social Condensers to Workshops of Culture (1917–2000)*

Haykuhi Muradyan *Palaces of Culture in Post-Soviet Industrial Cities: The Cases of Charentsavan and Qajaran Cities*

Aram Vartikyan, Kerstin Krellenberg *When the "Stages" Went Silent: The Post-Soviet Lives of Houses of Culture in Armenia*

Roman Korolev *Not Thanks to but in Spite of: House of Culture as Space of Encounter*

Yerevan Hall 14:30 – 16:00	**P19. (In)Valuable Nature: Theories and Practices of Nature Valuation in the Late USSR and Post-Soviet Russia**

Convener: Roman Gilmintinov

Nastya Dmitrievskaya *Nature Valuation and Pedagogy of Krayevedcheskiy Museums*

Roman Gilmintinov *How Was Soviet Environmental Spending Calculated? Planning, Expertise, and the Ecological Crisis in Novokuznetsk and Kryvyi Rih*

Yaroslav Snarski *The Politics of State-Sponsored Environmental Activism in Russia: Evidence from the Presidential Grants Fund (2017–2024)*

16:15 – 17:45	**Parallel sessions**
Masis Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P28. Soviet Gray Zones: Social Practices Beyond Ideology**

Conveners: Igor Kuziner and Maria Starun

Igor Kuziner, Maria Starun *What Were They Doing in the Shadows of Ideology? Soviet Gray Zones as a Historiographical Blind Spot*

Ekaterina Korableva, Konstantin Tarasov *Beyond a Metaphor of "Inner Emigration": Immobility between State Power and Political Migration*

Aleksandr Reznik *Normalizing "Normal Life": The "Post-Ideological" Political Discourse in Late Soviet Russia, 1987–1991*

Mikhail Zimirev *Western Siberia in the 1960s–1970s as a Late Soviet Heterotopia: The Last Great Project of Communism or a Consumer Paradise for Settlers?*

Yerevan Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**P30. Spaces for Science in Eurasia: Research Sites, Cities and Akademgorodki**

Conveners: Mikhail Piskunov and Timofey Rakov

Mikhail Piskunov *Boundary Spanners of Soviet Big Science: Rise and Fall of Laser R&D in Troitsk (1960s–1980s)*

Timofey Rakov *How Not to Create a Scientific City: The Projects and Developments of Leningrad State University's Petergof Campus*

Irina Antoshchuk *Big Launch and Quiet Development: Innovation Cluster Projects at the Leading Technical University*

Victoria Myznikova *Science City in Times of Economic Transition: Environment, Security, and Sustainability in Apatity (1990–2025)*

Sis Hall 16:15 – 17:45	**BP. Book Presentations**

Moderator: Jeanne Kormina

Provocative Landscapes: Urban Peripheries of the Urals and Trans-Urals, presented by **Fedor Korandei**

The City with a Shield: Peripheral Agency and Social Imagination in Soviet Civic Symbols, presented by **Evgeny Manzhurin**

The Birth of the Patient: Multiple Entities of Newborns in Russian Neonatal Care, presented by **Anastasia Novkunskaya**

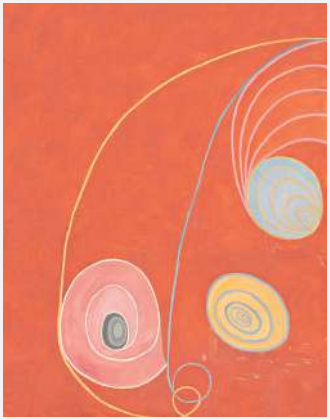
Varpet's Playbook: Guide to Organizational Culture and Leadership, presented by **Anna Setaghyan**

Cultural Policy of Soviet and Post-Soviet Armenia, presented by **Haykuhi Muradyan**

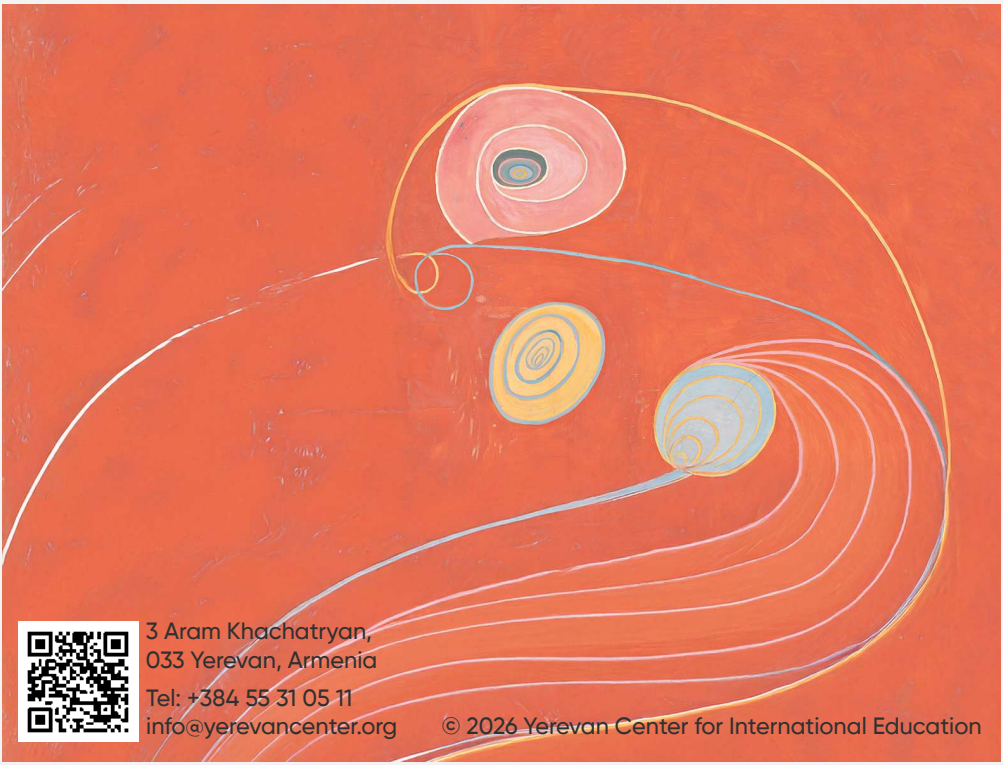
Stiliagi and Soviet Masculinities, 1945–2010, presented by **Alla Myzelev**

The Twists and Turns of Forgiveness and Reconciliation, presented by **Maria Żukowska**

The Jews and Their Muslim Neighbours in Early Soviet Georgia, presented by **Yulia Oreshina and Giorgi Zazunishvili**



Original Painting: Hilma af Klint - The Ten Largest No. 3 - Youth 1907



3 Aram Khachatryan,
033 Yerevan, Armenia
Tel: +384 55 31 05 11
info@yerevancenter.org

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