The EU, the US, and the Crisis in Ukraine

Columbia: February 8
Anna Bokun

When the Crisis in Ukraine erupted in 2013, the European Union and the United States joined forces to try to contain and resolve the crisis. This close cooperation, however, has not been without its tensions. On February 8, speakers at a roundtable discussion at Columbia’s European Institute addressed EU and US approaches to the Crisis in Ukraine, presenting their visions of possible outcomes to the conflict.

“While this is a deep problem of historical legacy and geopolitics, I’d like to focus on 2007 and beyond,” said Pierre Vimont, Senior Associate at Carnegie Europe, former Secretary-General of the European External Action Service, former Ambassador of France to the United States and Permanent Representative of France to the EU.

Ukraine’s potential accession to the EU, Vimont argued, was seen by Russia as threatening. Taking a stance similar to John Mearsheimer (see NYT Op-Ed “Getting Ukraine Wrong”), Vimont described Russia’s fears of being encircled, compounded by beliefs of a conspiratorial and perennial nature of Europe vs. Russia, manifesting themselves in the annexation of Crimea.

EU diplomacy and politics, especially with new member states, has undermined relations with Russia. Europe, taken aback by sudden military maneuvers and land grabs reminiscent of an old-world order, has to address the following three challenges if it is to move forward. First, the EU has to acknowledge is is not a cohesive, single unit, but a disparate and fractured one, as exemplified by the kaleidoscopic reactions across the member states to Russia’s involvement in Ukraine. Second, the EU has not fully accepted Russia as a partner and vice-versa; Europe essentially bypassed the Minsk Agreement in 2014. Third, the EU has faced external pressure from the US to take a hard stance with Russia. Instead, as Vimont sees it, the EU has muddled through the Crisis, utilizing little more than sanctions and international shaming to contain it.

Tarik Amar, Assistant Professor of History at Columbia, expanded on Vimont’s views, bringing attention to Ukraine’s tumultuous post-communist transition and the EU’s inability to create a unified, geopolitical vision.

“After Maidan, Ukraine’s GDP shrunk by 12% (2015). Most importantly, there...
has been an increase in blocking reform measures. For one, Ukraine continues to have many state-owned enterprises. In contrast to somewhere like Poland, privatization had not been successful in Ukraine. For the past three years, Ukraine’s Corruption Score has been stagnant at 27/100,” said Amar.

Alexander Cooley, Director of the Harriman Institute and Professor of Political Science at Barnard College quipped, “But what is Ukraine? From the Western perspective it appears to be clear cut. It’s a binary: one nation seizes another nation’s land. Yet at the local level, there are fluid boundaries.” Putin, exploiting Ukraine’s legacy with Russia, has called it “novorossiya,” creating an image of Slavic brotherhood and compatriotism. Cooley explained the deep ties between the two, as in the case of historically recruiting secret police members from Donbass.

All three speakers concluded by calling for “smart sanctions,” more fine-tuned to deal with individual banking and an increase in foreign direct investment in Ukraine.

“The EU has granted Poland a budget of 106 billion euros, while Ukraine is slipping away,” said Amar. “Russia is - and has been - trying to hermetically seal Ukraine from the West.”

“It was a big mistake for NATO to promise Ukraine member status,” said Vimont. “NATO does not guarantee national sovereignty. That is something that must come from within.”

Confronting Italy’s Colonial “Adventure” in Ethiopia

NYU: February 11
Kyle Walker

The most startling moment in “If Only I Were That Warrior”—and there are many startling moments—might be when Giuseppe, an Italian agronomist and military history enthusiast, offers a short catalogue of “Italian” habits adopted by Ethiopians in the years since the Fascist occupation of Ethiopia. The Ethiopians took their “love of food and coffee” and the “social bustle in the evenings” from Italians, Giuseppe tells us.

It’s strange that a history buff and specialist on tropical agriculture should be so obviously unaware of the terrible irony of this statement: Coffee originated in Ethiopia. Giuseppe’s slip, though it is the most surreal, is hardly the most horrifying example of contemporary deafness to history that surfaces in “If Only I Were That Warrior.”

Valerio Ciriaci’s film moves between the Italy and Ethiopia of today and those of 1935–1941, focusing on a controversy in the small Italian town of Affile, which raised a monument to the notorious Fascist commander Rodolfo Graziani in 2013. Graziani had a long military career under Mussolini: he fought campaigns in Libya, Ethiopia and Italy and served as the colonial governor in Libya, Somalia and Ethiopia.

After Italy defeated the central government of Emperor Haile Selassie, Graziani embarked on colonial rule, suppressing frequent rebellions. In response to an attempt on his life, Graziani organized wholesale executions to weaken the resistance, culminating in the murder of three hundred monks and laypeople of the monastery Debre Libanos.

“If Only I Were That Warrior” is an effective reckoning with this history, in part because it gives Graziani’s defenders enough rope to hang themselves. There is no voiceover. On-screen text is limited to the recitation of necessary historical context. The rest of the time, we listen to the voices of historians, activists, witnesses and—most discomfitting—Fascist and colonial apologists.

Like the Affile bar owner whose business is decorated with Mussolini paraphernalia. The camera lingers for a moment on a plaque bearing the dictum: “He who knows not how to make war knows not how to make peace.”

I saw the movie at Casa Italiana on Thursday, February 11. The question that stuck with me was raised by Ruth Ben-Ghiat, a professor of history at NYU. She pointed out that the “Warrior” of the film’s title could refer to many of its characters: Mulu or Kidane, the emigre Ethiopian activists pressing for removal of the Graziani monument; Nicola, the justice-seeking grandson of a Fascist colonist; or Giuseppe, who seems to wish he’d been there.

The film’s sympathies are obvious and commendable: it sides with the victims of colonialism and against the romanticizing of Fascism. But this bit of ambiguity in the title does something more valuable than merely condemning the Italian “adventure”—after all, what other argument could be made?—It makes us very aware that the problem is
Blogspotting: Tour the “Deteriorating Russian Zeitgeist,” Resist the Pollocracy

NYU: February 10
Anna Bokun

Shortly before Russia’s 2011–2012 “Snow Revolution,” in which journalists and dissidents rallied against a flawed election process (“flawed” sounds like an understatement to be honest), Thomas Campbell began to follow the rise of a vigorous social movement germinating in Russia’s blogosphere. By translating activists’ work from Russian to English, Campbell hopes to lift the curtain on Putin’s Russia and expose the perennial nomenklatura. I learned about Campbell’s blog at a talk he gave last week at NYU’s Jordan Center.

“What have I learned from 8 years of blogging in St. Petersburg?” Campbell asked. “Most of my pieces fall under the purview of the Russian ‘history wars’ of the last decade. When I first started, there was a greater degree of freedom for activists and journalists. Now, voices are being suppressed in favor of an official, state narrative flowing from the pens and keyboards of the Kremlin spin doctors and other ‘authority figures.’”

Having been involved in dozens of collaborations in the early 2000s, Campbell solidified his role as defender and distributor of the Russian blogosphere in English by writing and translating the Chtodelat News (now defunct). Since 2007, he has been running The Russian Reader. What began as a personal project has evolved into an influential and open conversation space on protest movements, urban redevelopment, political prisoners, Soviet nonconformist art, and Leningrad counterculture.

“There was and continues to be a proliferation of Russian bloggers,” Campbell said. “The scene is booming. So I thought to myself, the world needs to know what is happening here. Part of my job is to translate the work of Russian activists that would not be accessible otherwise; another part is to translate reports and opinion pieces from pockets of both the Russian mainstream and alternative media; the last part is to comb the Internet in search of op-ed writers. They have carved out a nice niche for themselves on Facebook, focusing on the deteriorating Russian zeitgeist.”

Acknowledging that his current blog, The Russian Reader, operates with a leftist bias, Campbell stressed his avoidance of an obsessive focus on Putin. Despite the ongoing “cold civil war” between activists and the government, Campbell prefers to approach his work holistically. When categorizing each article, Campbell employs a bit of literary license, opting to use a medley of traditional and original topic tags such as: “pollocracy,” “petrograd,” “putinism,” “rural,” and “lgbt.”

Recommended reading from The Russian Reader
“The Hipster’s Dream Debased (Portlandia)”:
Campbell visits Portlandia, an oddly named convenience store in a redeveloped part of St. Petersburg:
I had not been back to that site of class warfare camouflaged as “redevelopment” since that grey unpleasant day in May four years ago, although whenever I was in the vicinity it had been hard to avoid catching sight of Paradny Kvartal towering on the horizon over its older neighbors. Not only had the elitist high-rises probably been built in violation of the height regulations for the historic center, but the whole estate, I discovered when I revisited it a few weeks ago, has been erected on a one-storey-high pile of landfill, probably to accommodate lots of subterranean parking.

Hipster convenience store Portlandia proved quite hard to find amid the vast pseudo-Petersburgian, semi-ghost town that is Paradny Kvartal.

Campbell goes on to visit this Petrograd paradise, only to see it for what it is. Built on the bones of a neighborhood that should have been protected by preservation laws, the store’s nearly empty shelves contained three cases of exceedingly expensive craft beer and a bottle of mineral water.

“It is an inconvenience store at best and catastrophic urban redevelopment at its worst,” said Campbell. Extra

There’s a Giuseppe in each of our families. How do we address that person?
Anthony Teasdale, the secretary-general of the European Parliamentary Research Service, gave a talk on February 8 at Deutsches Haus NYU, replacing Klaus Welle, who had been scheduled to speak. Welle, secretary-general of the European Parliament, was called back to Brussels on short notice to begin negotiations over David Cameron’s proposed European reforms.

It’s fitting that Teasdale should step in at precisely this moment—when the apparent shortcomings of the European Union seem to widen the channel every day—to offer an optimistic view. In his estimation, the European Union does not get nearly enough credit for the efficiency with which it completes its routine tasks, and is therefore unfairly cast as a doomed polity.

“I am somewhat allergic to the defeatist or declinist kind of assumptions and philosophy which we very often find in public discussion about the European Union,” he said. “I have been surprised and encouraged by the ability of the member states to work together. This is not a Panglossian view about how the EU operates, don’t get me wrong, [but] we should always bear in mind the underlying resilience that the system seems to have established.”

Also in that vein: “Back to the Future: Why Putin Criticizes Lenin,” by Alexander Reznik. Also takes up Putin’s attitude toward Lenin and Stalin and his marked preference for the latter.

Campbell continues to translate and editorialize, recently drawing his materials from a variety of blogs, including but not limited to: La Russophobe, The Interpreter, Meduza, and Left East.

From: https://therussianreader.wordpress.com/tag/portlandia-tv-show/
A Cinematic Introduction to Sápmi

Scandinavia House: February 19
Kyle Walker

The arctic landscapes of Sápmi bear a surprising resemblance to my native New Mexico. The sky opens up; the vegetation retreats, as though satisfied to play a supporting role in the visual drama; in both places, the uninterrupted vista is the star. But here, I think, the similarities probably end. Sápmi is a land of fjords, lakes, rivers and marshes. New Mexico is a desert with but one big(ish) river and a small ensemble of other streamlets.

I have never been to Sápmi, the Sámi homeland that stretches through the northern reaches of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia’s Kola peninsula. I made my strange comparison through the magical (and distorting) lens of cinema. Scandinavia House, the New York home of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, is screening new films from Scandinavia all spring, and Friday’s selection was 7 Sámi Stories, a project of the International Sámi Film Institute.

Each of these seven short films was shot in Sápmi during the same short period in 2015 by seven Sámi directors. They form a curious mixture (as is common for short film collections). Here you have small excerpts from the universal human drama—the ambivalent relationship between parent and child, the sting of loss, the call of adventure—next to political or historical accounts of the Sámi struggle for autonomy. And each of these films is keenly attuned to the power of place.

In almost the first scene of the first film, the landscape makes its appearance. Elle Sofie Henriksen’s Sámi Boja (Sámi Boy) opens the suite of films with a beautiful shot of the wide, snow-covered landscape in which Mikkel, a reindeer herder, plies his trade despite the dark presence that haunts him. Áile Ja Áhkku (Áile and Grandmother), by Silja Somby, follows a teenage girl as she learns of the medicinal bounty of the land from her grandmother. The title characters of Ann Holmgren’s Edith & Aljoşja confront the landscape directly: in an eight-minute anti-tragic reprise of the classic tale of Montagues and Capulets, Sámi Edith and Swedish Aljošja fall for each other despite the river that divides them. Hilbes Biigá (O.M.G.: Oh Máigon Girl), by Marja Bál Nango, takes place during the short period of time each year when, north of the Arctic Circle the sun doesn’t set.

Two films address directly the history of cultural repression that the Sámi endured at the hands of their neighbors to the south. Ellos Sápmi (Long Live Sápmi) is a satirical account of the creation of the first Sámi parliament in Norway. Iðitsilba (Burning Sun) shows a frightening encounter between a Sámi tribe and a Christian priest come to cleanse them of a sinful practice: the wearing of a hat that’s shaped, he says, like the Devil’s own horns.

“New Nordic Cinema” is on every Wednesday and Friday at Scandinavia House (58 Park Avenue).
Berlin Cultural Transformations

NYU: February 16
Anna Bokun

Berlin is a place of true cosmopolitanism,” opened Arjun Appadurai, (NYU Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication). On February 16, NYU’s Deutsches Haus presented a conversation between Bernd Scherer, Director of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt (the House of World Cultures) in Berlin, Ulrich Baer (NYU’s Vice Provost for Faculty, Arts, Humanities, and Diversity), Manthia Diawara (Professor of Comparative Literature, Africana Studies), and Nick Mirzoeff (Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication) on cultural interventions in Berlin.

“Berlin is a laboratory for change,” said Scherer. “It offers many narratives, not just one.”

As the centerpiece of the Cold War, Berlin reemerged onto the cultural stage after 1989. One need to only visit a place like New York’s Neue Galerie to see the juggernaut of Berlin artistry between 1890 and 1940. In spite of its political and financial significance, (over the past two years, more start-ups were founded in Berlin than in London), it remains an evolving city, with many undefined spaces and co-existing personalities.

Offering a unique academic structure, financed to a large extent by the federal state and city itself, Berlin draws a diverse crowd of students, artists, professionals, and laborers. In contrast to other western cities, Berlin’s housing market is characterized by reasonable rents, making it affordable for the creative middle class (although housing costs have increased approximately 20% in the past year, suggesting Berlin may be following in London’s pricey footsteps). The House of World Cultures co-opts the city’s vibrant art-fueled energy to transform itself from an institution representing non-Western art to an institution which creates ideas in the making.

“Berlin has catapulted to the top of the list in terms of construction projects in Europe,” said Scherer. “21st century Berlin has re-defined itself as open to experimentation as well as social and cultural initiatives. London and Paris represent the establishment; Berlin is gritty yet sexy, new yet old. Kind of like Brooklyn,” remarked Scherer.

The idea of Germany reckoning with its past is something that has been openly discussed since the end of WWII. Yet the case of a particular Prussian castle - the Palace of the Republic - speaks to Germany’s desire to tackle official amnesia and the reconstruction of past power in a strange way; East Germans bulldozed the palace in 1952 as a way of destroying vestiges of Prussian militarism. Now, the palace is being rebuilt, and at 600 million euros, it is Europe’s most expensive cultural endeavor. Rechristened as Humboldt Forum, it is intended to be a museum to Germany’s colonizing past, which was three times longer than the Third Reich.

“Because of WWII and the Holocaust, we completely forgot that Germany also was a colonizer. It is short, but in those few years, terrible things happened,” said Diawara.

“This time of deep transformation for Berlin, and on a grander scale Germany as whole, (Greece debt, migrant crisis, Russia’s foray into Ukraine), requires new strategies and the recalibration of academic institutions,” said Baer. “This decade has seen a surge in public questioning of the representational role of art, and most tellingly, the art market and role of the classical museum. Do we want to remain a ‘cabinet of curiosities,’ or develop a better aesthetic language that is more closely connected to our transforming reality?” asked Baer.

“Germans have had their own way of talking about their past so it’s good they want to address it more comprehensively. We are excited to see what Berlin, the incubator of German art forms, will bring,” said Mirzoeff.
The EU and the US: Data Privacy with Max Schrems

Columbia: February 22
Katherine Whittaker

On Monday, February 22, Max Schrems addressed a crowded auditorium of what seemed to be mostly law students at Columbia University to talk about data privacy in the United States and Europe following the case he brought to the European Court of Justice.

“I think privacy is a highly cultural issue,” began Schrems. He said that someone from Germany has very different standards for what’s private when compared to someone from the United Kingdom or Scandinavia, and so it becomes important to consider privacy on a case-by-case basis. Referring to Facebook, the impetus for his data privacy lawsuit, he said that global networks “have to come up with some kind of global solution” that balances the US’s dominance in these online companies with the EU’s Fundamental Right to data protection.

He then described a bit about his background with Facebook. He said that Facebook came to speak with his law school about privacy, saying openly that Europe does not enforce privacy laws.

Around this time, Edward Snowden began to make the news, and it became a big media story in Europe. He talked about the political reaction to Snowden, which started out with political outrage, but did not result in concrete action. But Max decided to act.

Max summarized the legal argument by describing how Facebook would work in Europe. If he connects in Austria, he would technically be on Facebook in Ireland because of a contract with an Irish company, not a US company. The data physically flows to the US and goes to the PRISM system. Also, “Facebook is subject to US and EU law,” said Schrems, meaning that it is a clash of jurisdiction. He also said that EU law regulates third country transfers, and the EU law has to be interpreted in the light of European courts, including the CFR and the ECHR.

He also spoke about Safe Harbor, which he described as a one-sided decision by the EC to grant the US an adequacy standard,” meaning that data can’t be sent outside the European Union. As an example, he said that “Switzerland has the same law as we do, so it’s accepted as a country where you can freely send data.” But the problem with this, Schrems said, is there is no general data protection law in the US, and the solution given by the EC was a “one-sided decision to say ‘this is adequate.’”

Basically, Schrems’ case managed to overturn Safe Harbor (Schrems said it was overturned almost “overnight”) by bringing it to the Irish High Court. Schrems said, “My case was the first time this court found a violation of the essence of a right.”

After Schrems’ discussion, the panel discussed the implications for this case and addressed questions from the audience. Julia Angwin, a journalist at ProPublica, said that she initially thought Max was crazy for bringing a case against Safe Harbor. “Nobody read it or enforced it,” she said, referring to Safe Harbor. She acknowledged how big of an issue the commercial aspect of mass surveillance is, and said that “Here in the US, we have no baseline protections at all.” She suggested that the US raise commercial protections to match Europe instead of fighting the national surveillance fight, because unfortunately, she does not believe they will stop.

For more a more comprehensive look at Safe Harbor and the implications of Schrems’ case, check out CEMS newsletter editor Kyle Walker’s post in the New York Transatlantic.
EUROPE IN NOVEMBER

February 2: UN releases a statement saying one-third of refugees sailing to Europe are children.

February 4: A Zika virus pregnancy case is confirmed in Spain, and it is the first in Europe.

February 5: A rare Ferrari sells at an auction for 32 million euros in Paris.

February 6: The anti-Islam movement Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamisation of the West (PEGIDA) stages protests across Europe.

February 7: A refugee center in Prague is fire-bombed after an anti-Muslim protest.

February 11: Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev describes Moscow-Berlin relations as “ailing but curable.”

February 12: The EU orders Greece to accept more migrants.

February 13: French Prime Minister Manuel Valls rejects a permanent quota system for refugees.

February 14: Furniture behemoth Ikea is accused of dodging $1.1 billion in taxes.

February 15: The EU launches a new European Medical Corps to respond more quickly to emergencies.

February 17: A terrorist attack rocks Ankara, and the blast kills at least 28 in the explosion in the Turkish capitol.

February 18: A Polish magazine’s ‘Islamic Rape of Europe’ cover sparks outrage.

February 19: European leaders strike a deal to try to keep Britain in the EU.

February 21: London Mayor Boris Johnson announces his support for a “brexit.”

February 22: Across Europe, gay migrants face abuse in asylum shelters.

February 23: Hamburg, Germany, bans coffee pods, such as those used in Nespresso and Keurig machines, in an effort to make the city more environmentally friendly.

February 24: Ukraine and Russia decide to lift bans on cargo truck transit.

February 25: Europe’s free travel will end unless Turkey is able to stem the migrant flow.

February 26: Switzerland’s Gianni Infantino is chosen to lead FIFA into a new era.

February 27: Thousands of refugees are stranded at the Greece-Macedonia border.

February 28: A Russian mine accident leaves 36 dead.

February 29: Clashes have broken out in the French port of Calais, where demolition teams are dismantling huts in part of a migrant camp known as the ‘Jungle.’
UPCOMING EVENTS

—New York University—

CENTER FOR EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES
285 Mercer St., 7th floor
All events take place at the center unless otherwise noted
212.998.3838
cems.as.nyu.edu

KING JUAN CARLOS I OF SPAIN CENTER
53 Washington Square South
All events take place at the Center unless otherwise noted.
212.998.3650
nyu.edu/pages/kjc

DEUTSCHES HAUS
42 Washington Mews
All events take place at the Haus unless otherwise noted
212.998.8660
nyu.edu/deutscheshaus

LA MAISON FRANÇAISE
16 Washington Mews
All events take place at the Maison unless otherwise noted
212.998.8750
nyu.edu/maisonfrancaise

GLUCKSMAN IRELAND HOUSE
1 Washington Mews
All events take place at the House unless otherwise noted
212.998.3950
www.irelandshouse.fas.nyu.edu

WEDNESDAY, March 2 at 12:30 PM
Talk: “Urban Culture and Politics at the Margins: Homeownership, Immigration, and Protest in Contemporary Madrid,” by Sophie Gonick. This talk will take place at 19 Washington Square North, 1st floor.

FRIDAY, March 11 at 4:30 PM

THURSDAY, March 31 at 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 3 at 6:00 PM
Screening: “Los Sures,” a documentary about Latina/o life in pre-gentrified Williamsburg. Discussion follows.

WEDNESDAY, March 9 of 6:30 PM
Talk: “Beyond Sorrow: Rethinking Flamenco for the 21st Century,” a discussion with flamenco singer Marine Heredia, choreographer Paloma McGregor, cultural theorist Josefina Saldana-Portillo (NYU), arts SEbastian Calderon Bentin (NYU) and K. Meira Goldberg (CUNY).

THURSDAY, March 10 of 7:00 PM
Reading: “Poetas Neoberraco: Noel Jardines, Gabriel Jaime Caro y Blas Comas.”

TUESDAY, March 1 at 7:00 PM
Talk: “Money, or the Other Side of Images: Towards a Deleuzian Iconomy” with Peter Szendy (Université de Paris Ouest Nanterre).

WEDNESDAY, March 2 at 6:30 PM
Talk: “Peut-on être gay loin de Paris? Ethnographie de la vie homosexuelle dans un département rural français,” with Colin Giraud.

THURSDAY, March 3 at 7:00 PM
Concert: “New Works from France: Buquet, Grätzer, Marchand, Paris,” with the Chamber Players of the League/ISCM.

MONDAY, March 7 at 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 10 at 7:00 PM
THURSDAY, March 3 at 6:00 PM
Drama: “Death for Five Voices: The Making of a New Musical Drama about Carlo Gesualdo, Renaissance Musician and Murderer” with composer Peter Mills and writer/director Cara Reichel.

WEDNESDAY, March 9 at 6:00 PM
Concert: “Dancing Europe (Traditional Music from Europe)” with LassatilAbballari.

THURSDAY, March 10 at 6:30 PM
Talk: “Making News: The Sonzogno Affair and the Cultural Politics of Citizenship in Liberal Italy” with Silvia Valisa (Florida State University).

WEDNESDAY, March 23 at 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, March 29 at 6:30 PM
Music: “Adventures in Italian Opera with Fred Plotkin: A Conversation with Matthew Polenzani.”

FRIDAY, March 4 at 3:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 2 at 12:15 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 2 at 6:00 PM
Talk: “The Euro in the Global Economy. 2016: A New Financial Crisis?” with Willem Buiter (Citigroup), Perry Mehrling (Columbia), Jan Svejnar (Kennan Institute) and E. Wayne Merry (American Foreign Policy Council).

MONDAY, March 7 at 6:30 PM
Talk: “Putin, Russia and the West—No Middle Ground?” with Mark Seddon, journalism and former communications aide to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

MONDAY, March 7 at 12:00 PM

TUESDAY, March 8 at 12:00 PM
Talk: “Visual Images and Politics in the Post-Yugoslav World” with Mitja Velikonja (University of Ljubljana) and Aleksandar Boskovic (Columbia).

TUESDAY, March 8 at 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 9 at 4:00 PM
Talk: “Havel at 80: Reflections on his Thoughts and Legacies.” This panel discussion and Q&A will take place at the Italian Academy Library (1161 Amsterdam Ave.).

WEDNESDAY, March 9 at 5:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 10 at 12:00 PM
Book Talk: “Roots of Russia’s War in Ukraine” with Elizabeth A. Wood (MIT), William E. Pomeranz (Kennan Institute) and E. Wayne Merry (American Foreign Policy Council).

THURSDAY, March 10 at 4:15 PM
Book Talk: “Stalin and the Struggle for Supremacy in Eurasia” with Alfred J. Rieber (Central European University).

THURSDAY, March 10 at 6:00 PM
Talk: “Empire and Legitimacy in Central and Inner Asia: Chinese and Russian Claims to Rightful Rule” with Joseph MacKay (Columbia).

FRIDAY, March 11 at 12:00 PM
Talk: “Empire and Legitimacy in Central and Inner Asia: Chinese and Russian Claims to Rightful Rule” with Joseph MacKay (Columbia).

MONDAY, March 21 at 6:00 PM
Exhibit Opening: “Overstate, Understate, Tell the Truth: Paintings from Saint Petersburg, New York, and Yerevan.” Paintings by Benjamin Lussier, PhD candidate at Columbia’s Department of Slavic Language and Literatures. Exhibit runs through May 2.

THURSDAY, March 3 at 7:00 PM
Exhibit Opening: “Dawn of Manned Space Exploration, Photographed by Leonid Lazarev,” presented by the Kolodzei Art Foundation.

TUESDAY, March 22 to March 23
Exhibit Opening: “Enclave” by Goran Radovanovic, from the UN” with H.E. Dr. Ion Jinga, Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations. RSVP at europe.columbia.edu/events.

TUESDAY, March 7 at 1:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 2 at 12:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 2 at 6:00 PM
Talk: “The Euro in the Global Economy. 2016: A New Financial Crisis?” with Willem Buiter (Citigroup), Perry Mehrling (Columbia), Jan Svejnar (Kennan Institute) and E. Wayne Merry (American Foreign Policy Council).

MONDAY, March 7 at 6:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 3 at 5:30 PM
Screening: “Enclave” by Goran Radovanovic.

THURSDAY, March 3 at 7:00 PM
Exhibit Opening: “Overstate, Understate, Tell the Truth: Paintings from Saint Petersburg, New York, and Yerevan.” Paintings by Benjamin Lussier, PhD candidate at Columbia’s Department of Slavic Language and Literatures. Exhibit runs through May 2.

FRIDAY, March 4 at 12:00 PM
Talk: “Putin, Russia and the West—No Middle Ground?” with Mark Seddon, journalism and former communications aide to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

MONDAY, March 7 at 12:00 PM

TUESDAY, March 8 at 12:00 PM
Talk: “Visual Images and Politics in the Post-Yugoslav World” with Mitja Velikonja (University of Ljubljana) and Aleksandar Boskovic (Columbia).

TUESDAY, March 8 at 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 9 at 4:00 PM
Talk: “Havel at 80: Reflections on his Thoughts and Legacies.” This panel discussion and Q&A will take place at the Italian Academy Library (1161 Amsterdam Ave.).

WEDNESDAY, March 9 at 5:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 10 at 12:00 PM
Book Talk: “Roots of Russia’s War in Ukraine” with Elizabeth A. Wood (MIT), William E. Pomeranz (Kennan Institute) and E. Wayne Merry (American Foreign Policy Council).

THURSDAY, March 10 at 4:15 PM
Book Talk: “Stalin and the Struggle for Supremacy in Eurasia” with Alfred J. Rieber (Central European University).

THURSDAY, March 10 at 6:00 PM
Talk: “Empire and Legitimacy in Central and Inner Asia: Chinese and Russian Claims to Rightful Rule” with Joseph MacKay (Columbia).

FRIDAY, March 11 at 12:00 PM
Talk: “Empire and Legitimacy in Central and Inner Asia: Chinese and Russian Claims to Rightful Rule” with Joseph MacKay (Columbia).

MONDAY, March 21 at 6:00 PM
Exhibit Opening: “Dawn of Manned Space Exploration, Photographed by Leonid Lazarev,” presented by the Kolodzei Art Foundation.

TUESDAY, March 22 to March 23
Exhibit Opening: “Enclave” by Goran Radovanovic, from the UN” with H.E. Dr. Ion Jinga, Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations. RSVP at europe.columbia.edu/events.
Conference: “Global Sexual Violence During Conflict: From the Balkans to Africa and the Middle East.” This event will take place in the 3rd floor Lecture Hall of Pulitzer Hall and at the Kellogg Center in the International Affairs Building.

THURSDAY, March 24 at 12:00 PM
Talk: “The Evolution of Discourses on Roma and Related Policies in the Czech Republic” with Filip Pospisil.

THURSDAY, March 31 at 6:30 PM
Talk: “Beyond the Shoe: Rethinking Khrushchev at the 1960 UN General Assembly” with Alessandro Iandolo (LSE).

LA MAISON FRANÇAISE
Broadway at West 116th Street,
Buell Hall, 2nd Floor
All events take place at Buell Hall unless otherwise noted
212.854.4482
maisonfrancaise.org

THURSDAY, March 3 at 4:30 PM

TUESDAY, March 8 at 6:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 10 at 6:30 PM
Screening: “Job Center Please Hang On (Pôle emploi ne quittez pas)” by Nora Phillipe. Q&A with the director to follow.

WEDNESDAY, March 23 at 6:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 24 at 6:30 PM
Screening: “300 Men (300 Hommes) and Etre Vivant.” US premiere and Q&A with director Emmanuel Gras.

MONDAY, March 28 at 4:00 PM
Screening: “Far From Men (Loin des hommes),” screening followed by Q&A with lead actor Viggo Mortenson. Online RSVP required.

MONDAY, March 28 at 7:00 PM
Drama: “The Human Crisis by Albert Camus, 70 years later,” a dramatic reading by actor Viggo Mortenson of a speech by Albert Camus, followed by a roundtable discussion.

THE ITALIAN ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN AMERICA
1161 Amsterdam Avenue
All events take place at the Academy unless otherwise noted.
212.854.1623
http://italianacademy.columbia.edu/

FRIDAY, March 4 at 9:30 AM
Symposium: “Robotics: Law and Ethics.”

WEDNESDAY, March 30 at 7:00 PM
Concert: “March Rosen, cello, with Momenta Quartet.”

WEDNESDAY, March 23 at 5:30 PM

DEUTSCHES HAUS
1130 Amsterdam Avenue
All events take place at the Haus unless otherwise noted.
212.854.3202
http://www.columbia.edu/cu/german/deutsches-haus/

THURSDAY, March 24 at 8:00 PM
Talk: “The Moorish Style in European Synagogue Architecture: A Sicilian Connection” by Michele Cometa.

SATURDAY, March 26
Workshop: “Sound Figures—Sonic Effects in Art and Science since the 18th Century.”
EUROPE•NYC Newsletter Staff

Editors
Katherine Whittaker
Anna Bokun
Kyle Walker

Staff Editor
Anastasia Skoybedo

Center for European and Mediterranean Studies
New York University
285 Mercer St, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10003

Larry Wolff, Director
Mikhala Stein, Assistant Director
Anastasia Skoybedo, Administrative Aide

EUROPE•NYC provides information on upcoming events sponsored individually and collectively by the member institutions of the New York Consortium for European Studies.

SUBSCRIBE: The Center for European Studies hosts EUROLIST, an electronic medium through which the NYU community can be kept aware of information and events relating to Europe. To subscribe to EUROLIST, please go to http://forums.nyu.edu/cgi-bin/nyu.pl?enter+eurolist and click on join eurolist. It is also possible for subscribers to submit messages to the list.