



# Empire, Nation, Race? Problems of Russian Identity in the Late Imperial Period

Workshop with Prof. Vera Tolz-Zilitinkevic (Manchester) - 3.3.17

While the last decades have seen increased interest in the multiethnic peripheries of the Russian Empire, the national identity of the imperial centre remains remarkably hard to pin down. On the one hand, ideas about the Russian nation were intricately interwoven with different topics such as the state, Empire, the rule of law, or the social order. To make matters more complicated, recent studies have shown that the influence of racial thinking on Russian nationalism was greater than previously assumed. On the other hand, nationalism often remains invisible in the sources because the corresponding ideas felt so self-evident to many politicians and journalists. In order to disentangle the complex interplay of imperial, ethnic, and racial thinking, the workshop aims to discuss both conceptual and concrete problems in the study of Russian nationalism.

Organized by Fabian Baumann and Henning Lautenschläger.

Vera Tolz-Zilitinkevic is Professor of Russian studies at Manchester University. Her research focuses on nationalism, ethnic politics, and Oriental studies in Imperial, Soviet, and contemporary Russia.

When & Where: Friday, 3 March 2017, 9:15 am - 1 pm at the Department of History, University of Basel, Hirschgässlein 21, 4051 Basel, Seminar Room 3

On Thursday evening, Prof. Tolz will give a lecture entitled 'Constructing Heritage in Early Soviet Central Asia: The Politics of Memory in a Revolutionary Context'. Thursday, 2 March 2017, 7:15 pm – 9 pm at the Department of History, University of Basel, Hirschgässlein 21, 4051 Basel, Seminar Room 4.

Registration: no later than 25.2.2017, [bgsh.geschichte.unibas.ch/registration](http://bgsh.geschichte.unibas.ch/registration)  
(for students: additionally via MOnA)

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