INTERNATIONAL OPEN SEMINAR

EAST CENTRAL EUROPE
BETWEEN NATIONALISM AND INTEGRATION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2017, 12.30–2.30 PM
COLLEGIUM ARTES LIBERALES, DOBRA 72, WARSAW
CONFERENCE HALL
East Central Europe has recently paved its way from the role of a "democratic apprentice" running through belated modernization and democratization within the EU to a European deviant that has made a U-turn away from European integration towards rooted parochialism aimed at enforcing national sovereignty. Either way, it is commonly perceived as an economic and political periphery of the "civilized world." However, the current rise of right-wing nationalism throughout the Western world – Brexit and the US elections being the turning points herewith – arguably pushes East Central Europe to the forefront of the urgent discussion.

The goal of the seminar is to place the region in a broader context of the endangered EU and fragile liberal democracy. The main cleavage is between the unfolding tendency of neotribalism (Zygmunt Bauman), that is bordered local/national communities, and alternative universalist projects of united Europe. The main options to be discussed are a sort of multiplication of "illiberal democracy" (as Victor Orban coined it) on the one hand and grass-root European integration through pan-European demos (DiEM2025) and the "European republic" (Ulrique Guerot) on the other.
Prof. Andre Liebich

Honorary Professor of International History and Politics, Graduate Institute, Geneva; Visiting Professor, Global Studies Institute, University of Geneva. Ph.D, Harvard and Doctor honoris causa, Babes Bolyai. Previously, professor of political science at the Université du Québec à Montréal and at Canadian, American and European universities. Research appointments, St Antony’s and Nuffield College, Oxford; Russian Research Center, Harvard; Hoover Institution; Kennan Institute; Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton; Institute for Historical Research, London; Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Vienna. Author: From the Other Shore. Russian Social Democracy after 1921 (HUP 1997, pb 1999, Romanian translation 2009; Fraenkel Prize); Les Minorités nationales en Europe centrale et orientale (Georg 1997); Beyond Ideology and Utopia. Politics and Philosophy of August Cieszkowski (Reidel 1979). Editor: Construire l’Europe (PUF 2008), Citizenship, East and West (Keagan Paul 1995), Le Libéralisme classique (PUQ 1985) and Selected Writings of August Cieszkowski (CUP, 1979; pb 2009).

Prof. Tomasz Zarycki

Associate Professor and Director of the Robert Zajonc Institute for Social Studies at the University of Warsaw, Poland. He holds “habilitation” degree in sociology from the Institute for Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. His research focuses on sociology of politics, sociology of culture, sociology of knowledge, critical sociology and discourse analysis with particular focus on Polish and Eastern European societies. His latest book is Ideologies of Eastness in Central and Eastern Europe (Routledge, 2014).

Prof. Valeria Korablyova

Visiting Fellow of FIAL Open Society Foundations Global Dialogues Project at the University of Warsaw. She has been Visiting Fellow at the IWM, Vienna (Ukraine in European Dialogue Project, 2015-16) and at Stanford University (Carnegie Research Fellowship Program, 2014-15). Valeria Korablyova holds a PhD in Philosophy from V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (2006), where she subsequently worked as Assistant Professor and Associate Professor. In 2015 she obtained the Habilitation from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Her latest book Social Senses of Ideology (Kyiv University, 2014) covers ideological transformations of European modernity, including the rise of market rationality and emerging alternatives to it, revealing the Maidan uprising in Ukraine as a peculiar case herewith. Her scholarly interests include ideology studies, political philosophy, and post-Communist transformations. Her current research focuses on region-building in East Central Europe and the EU project of ‘Europe.’