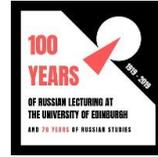




OWRI



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Transnational and Diasporic Russophone Media in the UK and Beyond

International Workshop



(Erik Bulatov, *Freedom is Freedom II*, 2000-2001, Private Collection. Image source: Christie's)

The University of Edinburgh, 28-29 March 2019

The workshop is organised within the AHRC-funded Edinburgh University based project '**Global Russians: Transnational Russophone Networks in the UK**' (2016-2021). (PI: Professor Lara Ryazanova-Clarke).

With around 500,000 Russian-speaking migrants now living in the UK, the Russian-speaking community has a high cultural visibility in British urban landscapes, spanning from the War and Peace-styled Debutante Balls, film and book festivals to Victory Day marches. The project aims to capture the transnational Russian-speaking identity and community construction organised around Russophone cultural entrepreneurship. Combining globalisation theories with the discursive studies approach the project aims to explore the discursive construction, articulation and transmission of transnational Russian-speaking self and community by agents of Russophone cultural production and gatekeepers of Russian cultural flows. In addition, it aims to identify the community building potential of the discourse narratives under question and to establish forms in which Russian speakers culturally engage with the local and super-diverse communities in the UK. In addition, the project will provide insight into 'transnational Britain' itself, contributing also new understandings as to what 'community' might mean in this context.

The 'Global Russians' project is part of the 'Cross-language Dynamics: Reshaping Communities' OWRI Programme (led by Manchester University).

The objective of the workshop is to bring together academics and media professionals working for leading transnational and diasporic Russian-speaking outlets in the UK and beyond. The participants of the workshop will exchange knowledge and experience related to various roles and models of operation accepted by and attributed to, the Russophone media working outside Russia. The workshop will address, but not limit itself to the following questions:

- What media are available and are required for the transnational Russophone community in the UK and elsewhere?
- What are similarities and differences between the diasporic, the transnational and the mainland media?
- How do political pressures, partnerships and social media influence the way transnational Russian-speaking media operate?
- What are the thematic, linguistic and stylistic specifics of the diasporic and transnational media writing, speaking and presenting in Russian?
- To what extent and how do (or do not) the Russophone diasporic media facilitate the construction of the Russian-speaking community and identity? To what extent and how do (or do not) they help to create or maintain the coherence of British society?

Programme

Thursday, 28th March

Venue: Project Room, 1.06, 50 George Sq., the University of Edinburgh

17.45 – 18.15 Registration

18.30 **Keynote lecture: Famil Ismailov (News Editor, BBC Russian Service)**

20.00 **Dinner**, the Elder Room, Old College, the University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, Edinburgh

Friday, 29th March

Venue: Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, the University of Edinburgh, 19 Buccleuch Place.

9.30-11.00 Session 1

Chair: Yulia Lukyanova

9.30-10.00 Anna Kachkaeva (HSE, Moscow). *Русскоязычное медиапространство в эпоху 'гибридных войн' и 'эмоциональных режимов': типология, тематические и стилистические особенности* (via Skype)

10.00-10.30 Hannah Connell (UCL). *Interwar Russian-language émigré publications represented in the British Library's Slavonic Collections.*

10.30-11.00 Floriana Fossato (independent scholar). *Transnational environment and independence - illusion or possibility?*

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-13.00 Session 2

Chair: Angelos Theocharis

10.30-11.00 Steve Hutchings (Manchester). *Media, Agency and Neo-authoritarian States in the Age of the Decentred Centre: Russia (Mis)reports the Salisbury Poisoning.*

12.00-12.30 Triin Vihalemm (University of Tartu). *'They say we are all zombies, because we watch Russian TV.' The Russian-speaking audience in the Baltics amid a political crisis.*

12.30-13.00 Vlad Strukov (Leeds). *Transnational or Meta-national? Russophone media in the globalised world (the case of Meduza).*

13.00-14.00 Lunch at Princess Dashkova Russian Centre

14.00-15.30 Roundtable 1: Transnational Russophone Media in the UK and Beyond

Moderator: Lara Ryazanova-Clarke

Discussants: Famil Ismailov (BBC Russian Service), Aleksandr Polivanov (former Meduza, via Skype), Andrei Ostal'skii (Svoboda, former BBC Russian Service).

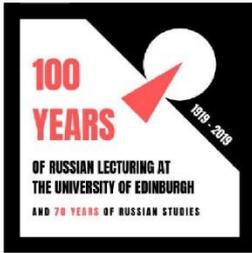
15.40-17.10 Roundtable 2: Diasporic Russophone Media in the UK

Moderator: Andy Byford

Discussants: Ilja Goncharov (Zima), Katia Nikitina (Zima), Carina Cockrell (Buiseness Courier and Kasparov.ru), Elena Lesley (Angliya), Ksenia Dyakova Tinoco (Angliya).

17.10-17.40 Drinks reception and concluding remarks

19.30 Dinner



OWRI



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

The Russian-Speaking International Media Today: Challenges and Dilemmas



Lecture by
Famil Ismailov
News Editor at BBC
Russian Service



Thursday 28th of March, 6:30 pm

Project Room 1.06, 50 George Square, University of Edinburgh

Today, the Russian-speaking international media operate in a very complicated and sometimes confusing space. They have to withstand political pressures, avoid legal pitfalls, and adjust to financial constraints, other numerous challenges notwithstanding. Users' attention is shrinking. Social media want their own say on how stories should be told. New technologies disrupt traditional journalistic methods. Despite all these challenges, Russian-speaking transnational media are very much alive. The road ahead may be not without potholes but is still very exciting. The debate is how are we going to navigate it?

The lecture is a keynote presentation of the 'Transnational and Diasporic Russophone Media in the UK and Beyond' international workshop.

Open to the public but registration is required.

Please book your free ticket on Eventbrite using the following URL.

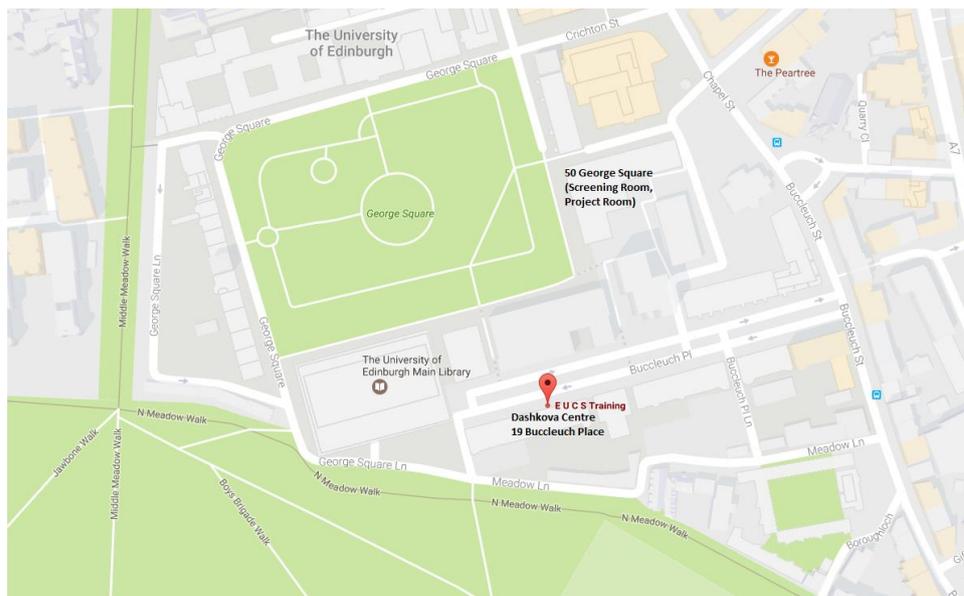
[goo.gl/dF7Tw8](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/goo-gl-df7Tw8)

Practical Information: Venues

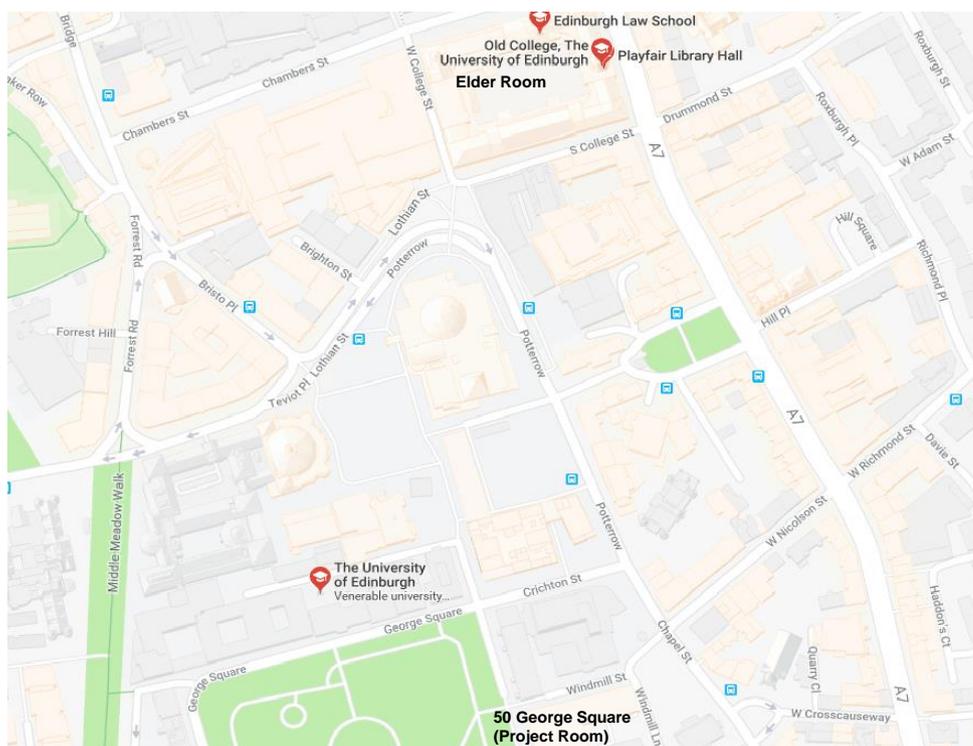
The events of the workshop will take place at three different venues in the University of Edinburgh's Central Area (please see the Programme above for details):

- **Project Room**, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, the University of Edinburgh, 1.06, 50 George Sq., EH8 9LH
- **Elder Room**, Old College, the University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, EH8 9YL
- **Princess Dashkova Russian Centre**, the University of Edinburgh, 19 Buccleuch Place, EH8 8LN

The **Project Room** and **Princess Dashkova Russian Centre** can be found on this map:



The **Elder Room** is inside the Old College, which can be found on this map:



University maps: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/maps>

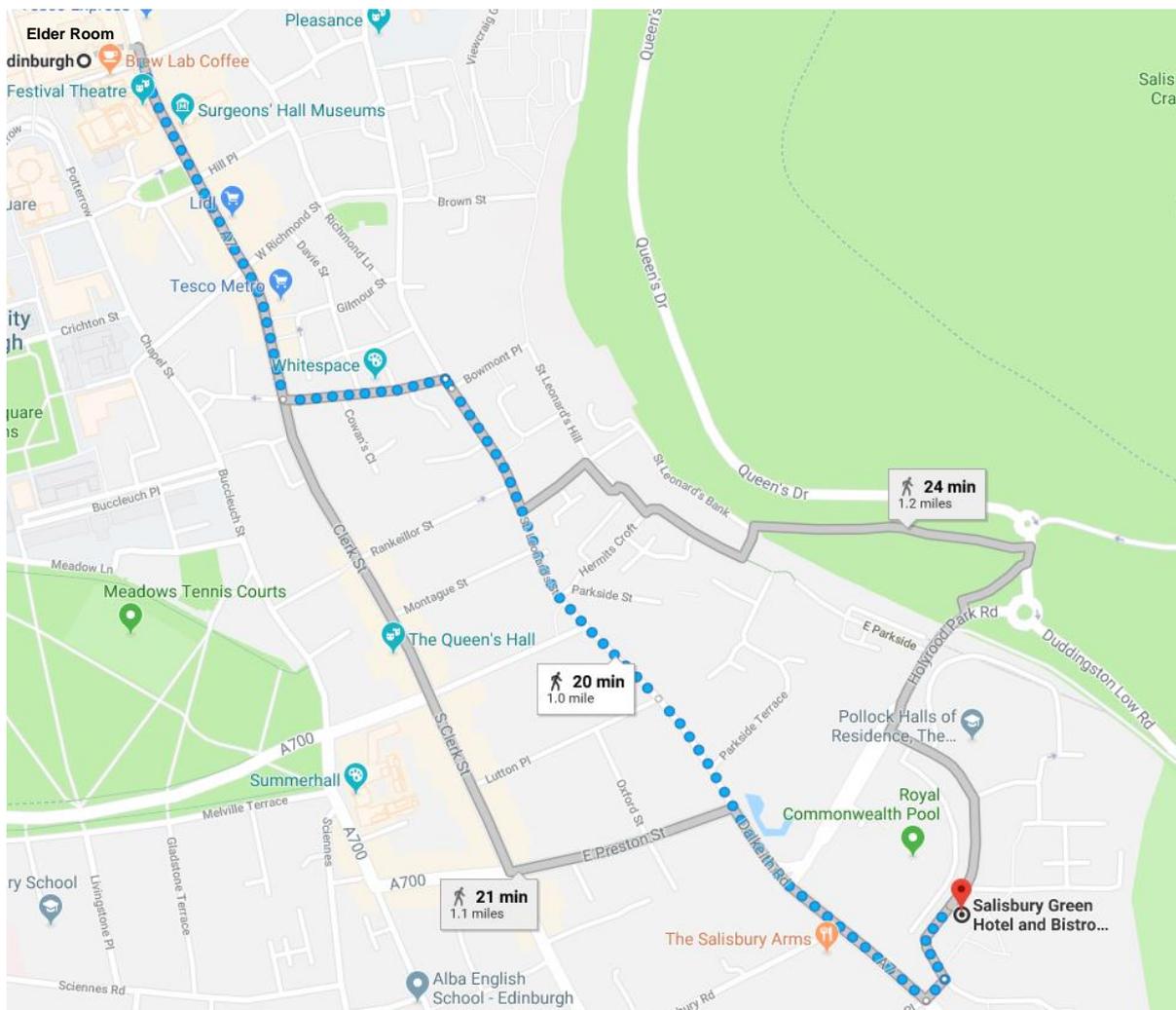
Practical Information: Accommodation details

Accommodation is booked for the workshop participants at **Salisbury Green Hotel, Pollock Halls**. Check-in is guaranteed from 14.00, however, if your room is ready on arrival beforehand, you will be able to check in. Check out time is normally 10.30.

Address and Telephone:

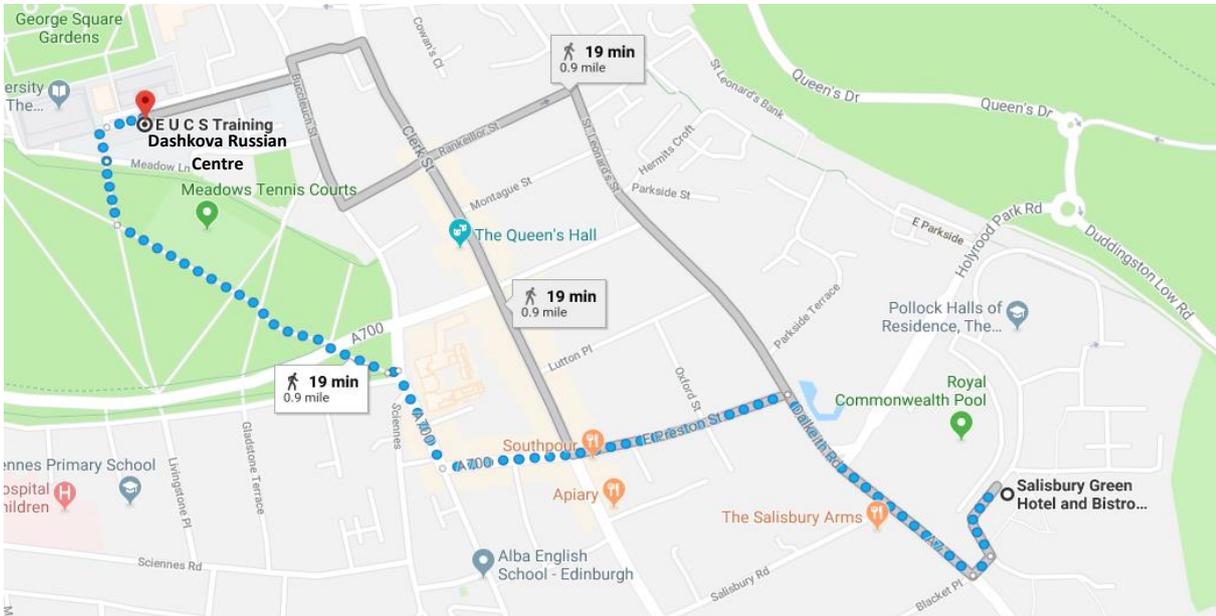
POLLOCK HALLS
18 HOLYROOD PARK ROAD
EDINBURGH
EH16 5AY
DIRECT LINE TO THE HOTEL:
0131 651 2198

To reach the accommodation from the Elder Room, Old College, you can either walk for approximately 20 minutes or take the bus number 14, 30, 33, 51 or X95 from South Bridge bus stop (approximately 11 minutes). Please note that Single Adult bus fare is £1.70 and that drivers do not give change. Please consult the map below.



To reach the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre from the accommodation, you can either walk for approximately 19 minutes or take the bus number 2, 30, 33 or X95 from Commonwealth Pool bus stop (approximately 11 minutes). Please consult the maps below.

Walking:



Taking a bus:

