

"Krynki, 1780"

Between Giants:

local responses
to global power
dynamics.

Eastern Europe,
Caucasus
and Central Asia

**INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER SCHOOL**

Online Application



September 8 – 13, 2025

**Warsaw – Białystok
Poland**



90th anniversary
of the Institute
of Ethnology and
Cultural Anthropology



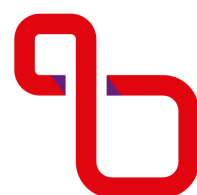
Faculty of History
University of Warsaw



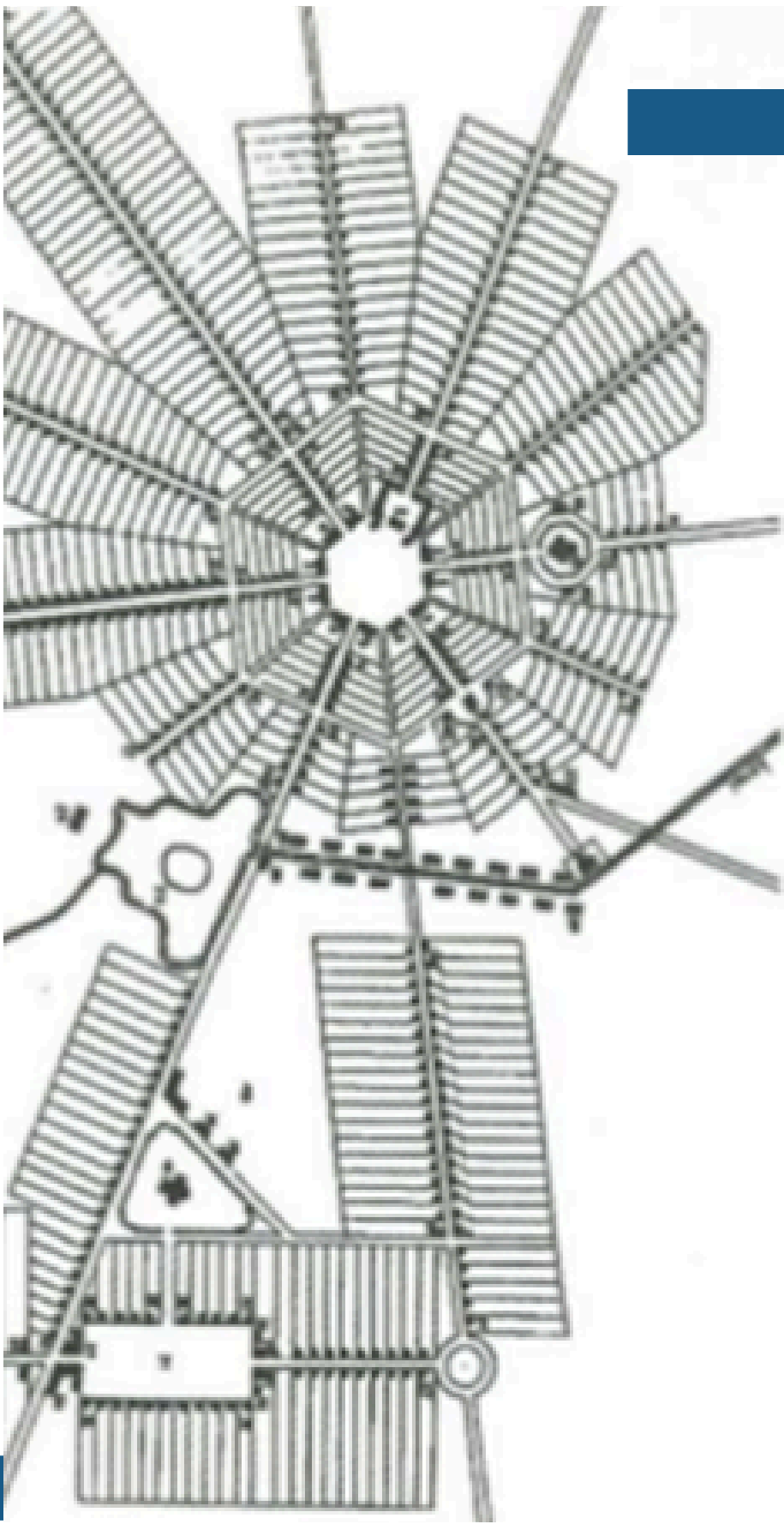
**Center for Research
on Social Memory**



**UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW**



**RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY**
EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE



This summer school is to bring together students in social sciences and humanities from Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia to discuss the **long-term and hidden social, cultural, historical, and political consequences affecting societies situated between empires.**

We will explore the subjectivity of individuals and communities inhabiting these **in-between spaces** or **imperial peripheries** from diachronic and synchronic perspectives, while also examining their agency both within and against imperial structures.

- How have they used the available cultural repertoire?
- How have they shaped their sense of identity and understanding of the world around them?
- In what ways have they taken advantage of the opportunities that come with being part of an empire?

We will also discuss the **impact of major political transformations of the 20th century** on local communities and individuals, as well as analyse **the effects of Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine** on communities bordering the Russian Federation.

JOIN US TO

- 📍 analyse regional and global interactions from global, glocal and local perspectives
- 📍 understand discourses of historical appropriation and reinterpretation in public spaces
- 📍 examine models and concrete forms of self-conception and self-imagination
- 📍 decolonize knowledge on historical, social, political and cultural processes taking place in between the empires

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

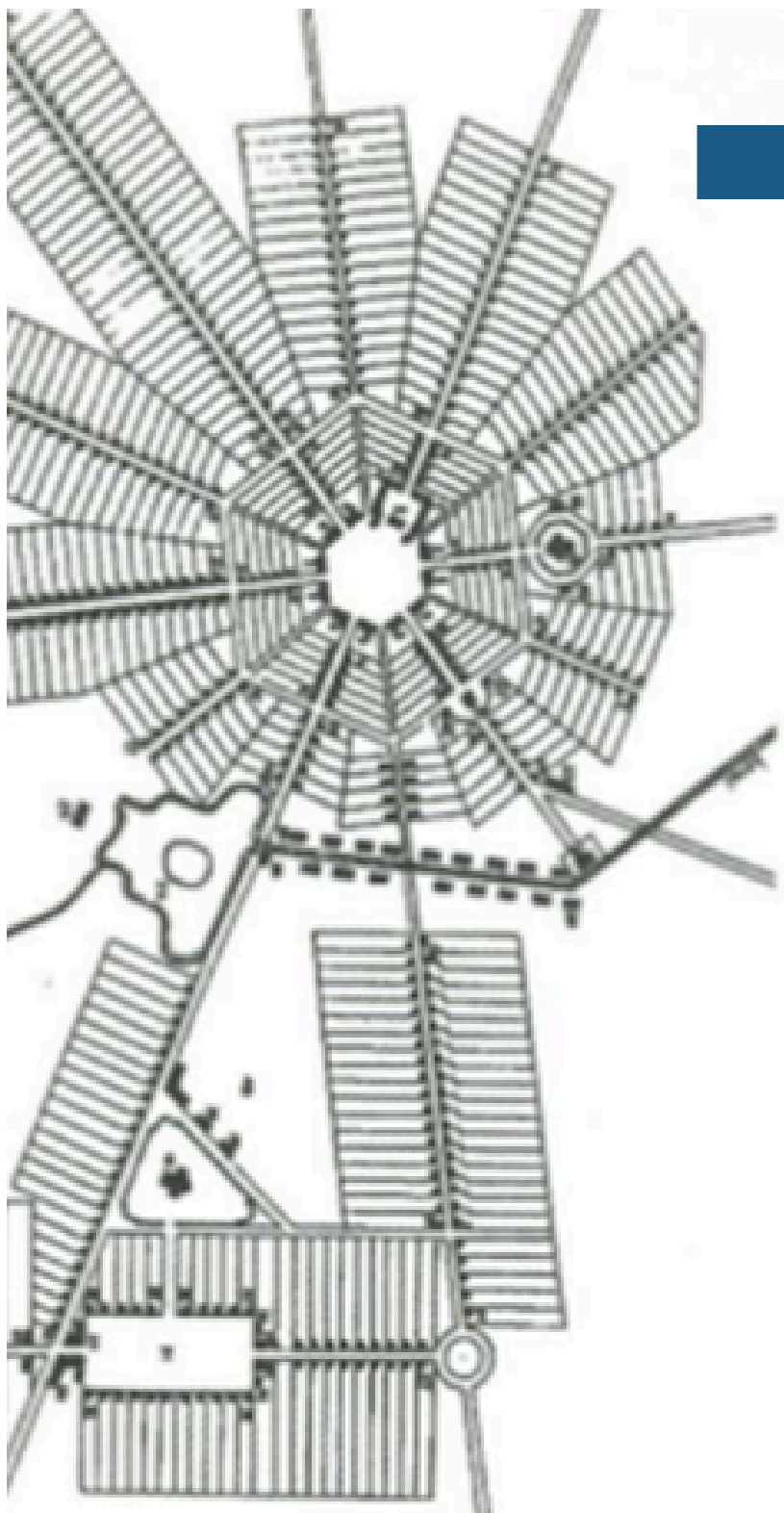
Timur Dadabaev, University of Tsukuba

Iwona Kaliszewska, University of Warsaw

Ivan Peshkov, Adam Mickiewicz University

Andrii Portnov, European University Viadrina

Tomasz Zarycki, University of Warsaw



Invited experts will present **keynote lectures** in their respective fields **on Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and their historical and anthropological connections to the wider world**, including the rival imperial powers to Russia.

A two-day **field trip to** Podlasie and Kurpie, located in the **northeastern part of Poland**, will serve as a practical “laboratory” for discussing the core themes of the summer school.

Discussion panels with students’ presentation based on their research will be discussed by an expert who will provide feedback and moderate an extended Q&A session.

Prior to the summer school, students will be assigned compulsory **readings** in English.

WHERE

Poland: Warsaw & Białystok

WHEN

September 8 - 13 (Monday-Saturday), 2025

COST

free of charge; organisers cover travel expenses, accommodation and part board

REQUIREMENTS

- MA or Ph.D. student
- fluent English
- paper in English (max. 10 pages) to be submitted **by June 15, 2025**
- 20min presentation

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your paper **abstract** (1000 words) and biographical statement (300 words) **by March 1, 2025**

ONLINE APPLICATION



The participants for the summer school will be selected by the academic committee and notified **by March 15, 2025**

In case you have any questions, please contact

Zuzanna Bogumił: z.bogumil@uw.edu.pl (Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, UW)
Natalia Królikowska-Jedlińska: nkrolikowska@uw.edu.pl (Faculty of History, UW)

The summer school is part of the project “Global history – non-European contexts of the Modern World,” which has received funding in the framework of the Excellence Initiative Research University programme, no. I.3.13.