



FILOZOFICKÁ FAKULTA  
Univerzita Karlova



**Boris Nemtsov**  
**Foundation for Freedom**

# RUSSIAN STUDIES

**BORIS  
NEMTSOV**  
**EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMME**

Master's degree programme of Charles University (Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Social Sciences) supported by Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom

# KEY FACTS

## EUROPEAN MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

accredited at Charles University

## 2 YEARS

duration

## RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH

language of instruction

## FOCUS

Comprehensive study of Russian politics and society as well as the environment of the post-Soviet world provided by highly qualified scholars with vast experience in the region


# PROGRAMME MISSION

**1** Advancing knowledge of Russia and the post-Soviet region

**2** Fostering interaction between Russian and international scholars and students

**3** Educating new generations of researchers, politicians, and journalists with a critical view of Russian history, politics, and social structure


# LEARNING OVERVIEW



Russian history, society, and politics after 1991



Multidisciplinary approaches for the comparative study of Russia, post-Soviet Central and Eastern Europe, and Eurasia



Understanding of Russian regime evolution and failed democratic transition, economic transformation, patterns of foreign policy, external and internal colonialism, social fragmentation, work of propaganda and independent media



# PROGRAMME DESIGN

The programme consists of 7 core courses and a range of elective courses

**7** core courses

## CORE COURSES

introduce key areas of study

## ELECTIVE COURSES

aim to expand knowledge of Russian politics, society, culture and media

## GUEST LECTURES

by policymakers, entrepreneurs, journalists, and intellectuals

List of elective courses to be updated every semester according to the academic needs of students

# CURRICULUM

## CORE COURSES



Evolution of Russia's political system after 1991



Russia's foreign policy in post-Soviet Russia



Research methodology



Comparative analysis of political regimes in the region



Russian society after 1991



The role of media in post-Soviet Russia



Post-Communist transition

# CURRICULUM

## ELECTIVE COURSES

Students will choose courses from 4 “baskets”

1

Society, Domestic  
Policy, and  
Economy of Post-  
Soviet Russia

2

Russia’s Foreign  
Policy after the  
Collapse of the USSR

3

Language and Symbols  
of Contemporary  
Russian Politics and  
Culture, Problems of  
Identity

4

Journalism and  
Media Landscape in  
Modern Russia

\*The list of courses will be revised every semester to meet academic needs and interests of students

# CURRICULUM

## ELECTIVE COURSES (examples)

Putinism and Authoritarian Revanchism in Russia

Disinformation, Sanctions, Foreign Agents

Religion and Confessions in Modern Russia

Central Asia in the Post-Soviet Period

Nationalism, Minorities, and Identity  
Conflicts in Russia

The Role of Russia in International  
Organizations (UN, OSCE, Council of Europe)

Historical Consciousness and Identity in  
Russia: From The Empire To The Putin Era

Understanding Digital Authoritarianism

Russia and its Neighbors

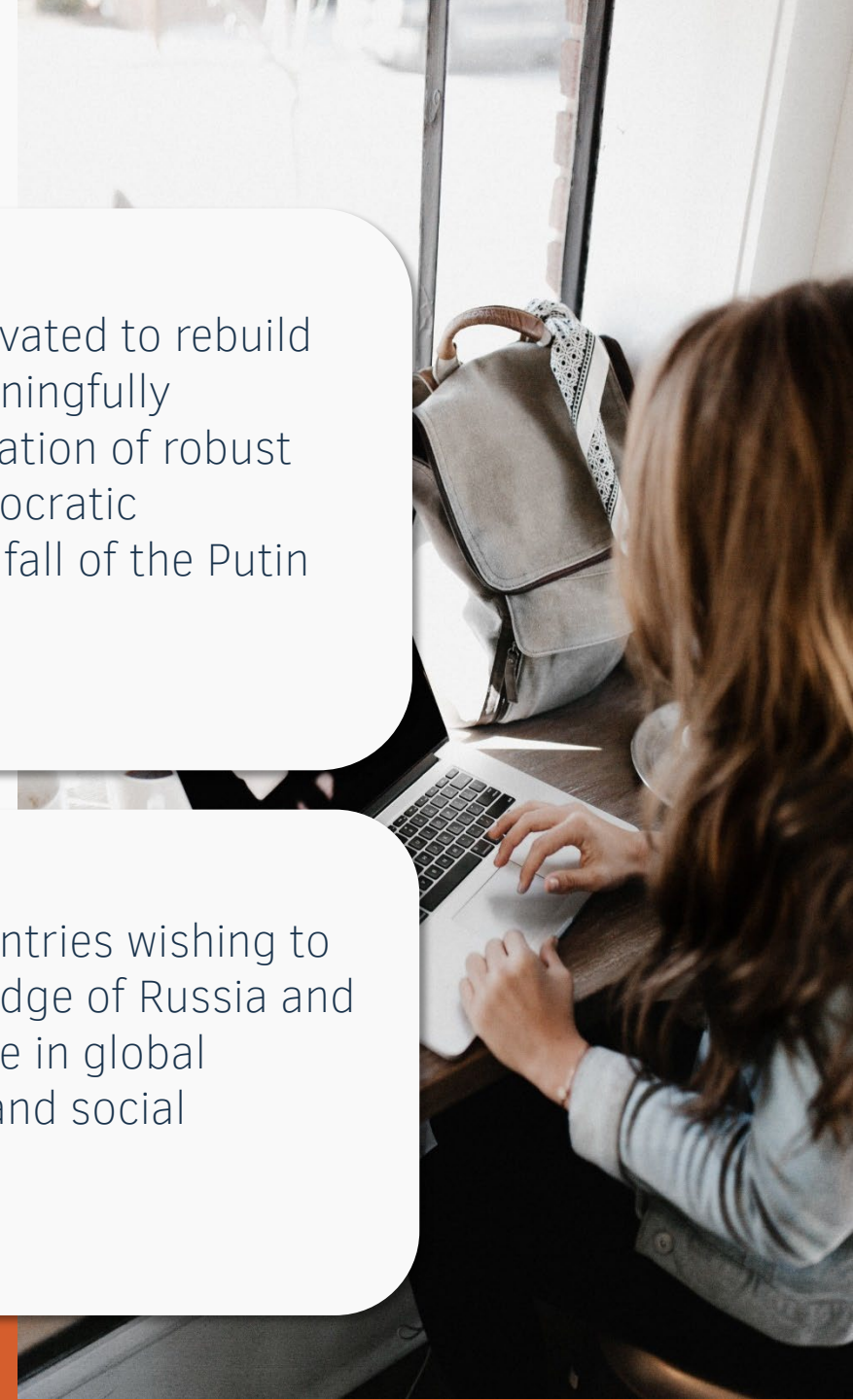


# APPLICANTS

We expect our alums to use gained expertise for the benefit and development of their countries and the whole world

Young Russians motivated to rebuild the country and meaningfully contribute to the creation of robust and sustainable democratic institutions after the fall of the Putin regime

Citizens of other countries wishing to improve their knowledge of Russia and the region and its role in global political, economic, and social developments



# ADMISSION PROCESS

**30** applicants  
to be admitted

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- **BA DIPLOMA**  
or **EQUIVALENT**  
required documents
- **MARCH 31 2024 /**  
**AUGUST 12 2024**  
application deadline for  
the 1<sup>st</sup> ad 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds
- **[SUBMIT](#) »**  
application form

## ADMISSION EXAM

- **ORAL EXAM**  
discussion on Russian  
history, politics, and  
society in English and  
Russian
- **MAY 21, 22, 28 2024**  
exam dates for the 1<sup>st</sup>  
round applicants
- **AUGUST 26-30,**  
**SEPTEMBER 2-4 2024**  
exam dates for the  
2<sup>nd</sup> round applicants

in-person or online

## FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS



admission process contact  
[prijimacky@ff.cuni.cz](mailto:prijimacky@ff.cuni.cz)

# ADMISSION EXAM

SUBJECT	SCORES	LANGUAGE
Post-Soviet Russian Politics and Society	40	Russian
Russian History	40	Russian
Motivation	20	English

**50** threshold score

the **passing score** is determined by the results of the admission campaign



# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1

Russian language skills — C1, C2

2

English language skills — B2

3

Knowledge of the post-Soviet Russian history, politics, and social dynamics

# TUITION FEES

In the Czech Republic, academic programmes taught in foreign languages are required by law to charge tuition fees

**140,000 CZK** annual  
**≈ 5700 EUR** tuition fee

# SCHOLARSHIPS

We want all interested, qualified students to be admitted and not be deterred by the tuition fees

## up to \$1000 USD/month

the Nemtsov Foundation will provide 500 and 1000 USD/month stipends for 6 months (can be extended for 6 months extra)

## up to 15 APPLICANTS

- ✓ high scores on the entrance exam
- ✓ can prove financial need



[Application form for scholarship and visa support from the Nemtsov Foundation](#)



Scholarships and visa support contact email  
[russianstudies@nemtsovfund.org](mailto:russianstudies@nemtsovfund.org)

# COOPERATION WITHIN ERASMUS+

ERASMUS+ framework will allow us to invite guest professors teaching special courses on sociology, transitional justice, public policy & good governance, and media and send our students to European universities for one or two semesters

Sciences Po and Ruhr-Universität Bochum are our key ERASMUS+ partners with more partnerships in development



# COLLABORATION WITH STANFORD

The Stanford U.S.-Russia Forum (SURF) is a student exchange program that brings together around 25 Russian and American students to work on joint projects.

The program implies project work coached by relevant faculty and annual student-to-student conferences in 2024, 2025, and 2026

SURF program overview

<https://cddrl.fsi.stanford.edu/content/surf-program-overview>



“ *In cooperation with the Boris Nemtsov Educational Foundation's MA program, the SURF program will produce collaborative research by students from both countries on core issues of mutual interest to American and Russian participants. Now more than ever there is an increased need for better mutual understanding and opportunities for person-to-person dialogue on common areas of interest. The SURF program anticipates a time when relations between the US and Russia are eventually more productive and constructive. We seek, therefore, to build a foundation in the expectation that at some point, we will return to a time when the Russian and American governments and societies can constructively collaborate* ”

**KATHRYN STONER,  
MOSBACHER DIRECTOR OF CDDRL AT STANFORD**



# LEADERSHIP



Dr. Eva Lehečková

Dean of the Faculty of Arts,  
Charles University



Zhanna Nemtsova

Co-Founder, Boris  
Nemtsov Foundation



Dr. Marek Prihoda

Co-Director, Boris Nemtsov  
Academic Center for the Study  
of Russia (Faculty of Arts,  
Charles University)

# FACULTY

- Russian-speaking scholars at risk
- Czech professors
- Guest lecturers from Europe, the United States, and Israel

Part of our mission is to support qualified scholars-at-risk from the region



# KEY FACULTY



Alena Markova,  
PH.D

- Modern History of Central and Eastern Europe
- Studies of Nationalism and National Identity
- Language Policy
- Post-Soviet Transformation Processes



Maria Kuznetsova,  
MA

- History of Post-Soviet Russia
- Historical Politics and Memory Research
- Totalitarianism and Post-Totalitarian Society



Sergei Medvedev,  
PH.D

- Political History of Russia
- Theories of Social and Political Transformation

# KEY FACULTY



Marek Prihoda,  
PH.D

- Russian History



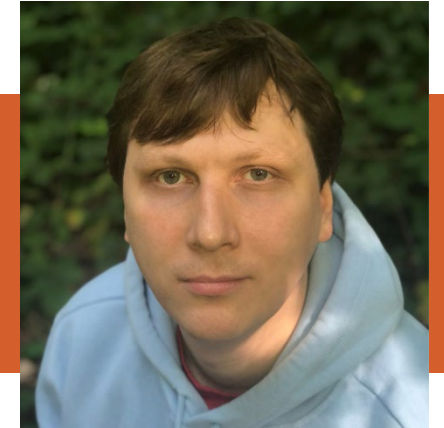
Ekaterina Rycheva,  
PH.D

- Modern Russian Language and Media Language
- The Language of Advertising and Politics
- The Language of Modern Russian and Soviet Cinema



Dmitry Dubrovsky,  
PH.D

- Human Rights
- Minority Studies
- Academic Rights and Freedoms in Russia



Ivan Fomin,  
PH.D

- Methodology and Research Methods of Political Science and Economics

# VISITING PROFESSORS

Leading international experts on Russia and the region will teach short-term courses

TIMOTHY  
FRYE



PhD in Political Science, Professor  
at Columbia University, USA

- Post-Communist Political and Economic Transition
- Comparative Political Science

OLGA  
SOLOVYEVA



Lecturer in International Business  
and Technology, Regent's  
University London

- Understanding Digital Authoritarianism

ANDREJ  
RICHTER



PhD, professor at Comenius  
University in Bratislava, Slovakia

- International Standards for Media Regulation
- Legal Foundations of Internet Journalism

# CONTACTS

- Secretariat of the Academic Center,  
Scholarships and visa support contact email  
[russianstudies@nemtsovfund.org](mailto:russianstudies@nemtsovfund.org)
- Admission process contact  
[prijimacky@ff.cuni.cz](mailto:prijimacky@ff.cuni.cz)
- [Boris Nemtsov Foundation](#) »
- [Boris Nemtsov Academic Center](#) »



## ZHANNA NEMTSOVA

co-Founder of the Nemtsov  
Foundation for Freedom,  
Administrator of the Master's  
Programme

[zhanna.nemtsova@nemtsovfund.org](mailto:zhanna.nemtsova@nemtsovfund.org)