

WORKSHOP

New Environmental Histories of Northern Eurasia

2 June 2022, Via Zoom

Abstract

A new environmental history is a historical subdiscipline which focuses on the changing natural resources that humans extract for their needs; on the environmental damage connected to this extraction; on various countermeasures that helped or did not help the disturbed environment; and on economic, political and cultural outcomes of human use of the extracted elements of nature. In the age of the Anthropocene, a new environmental history is a complex but indispensable body of knowledge which would gain from a broader definition and multidirectional implications. This workshop has invited a mixed group of distinguished and junior scholars. We will survey the shapes and genres of new environmental histories, looking at Northern Eurasia – a part of the world endowed with natural resources, damaged by their extraction, depended on their trade, and unstable because of these intersectional processes.

Programme

- 14.00 Alexander Etkind (EUI)
Russia against Modernity: Resource Dependency, Climate Denialism, and the Russo-Ukrainian War
- 15.00 Bohdan Shumylovych (Lviv Catholic University/Center for Urban History, Ukraine)
Transnational History of Oil and Gas Extraction in the USSR
- 16.00 Bathsheba Demuth (Brown University)
Mistaking Whales: The Pasts Seen from Eurasia's Edge
- 17.00 Katja Bruisch (Trinity College Dublin)
More-Than-Human Histories of Extraction: Labour at the Margins of Russia's Fossil Economy
- 18.00 Oleksandr Polianichev (Sodertorn/Riksbankens, Sweden)
How Tsarist Russia Created its Own Tropics
- 19.00 Georg-Henri Kaup (EUI)
Turning the Russian Rivers: An Unaccomplished Soviet Project