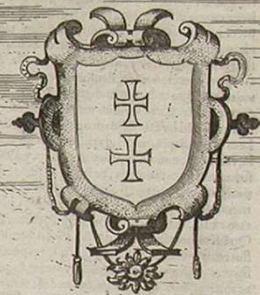




Dantsig



Organizers:

Baltic Geopolitics Network (BGN) members:

<https://www.cfg.polis.cam.ac.uk/networks/baltic>

Cambridge University, CU – Centre for Geopolitics

<https://www.cfg.polis.cam.ac.uk/>

University of Gdańsk, UG – Faculty of History
and International Border Studies Center

<https://en.historia.ug.edu.pl/> ; <https://ibsc.ug.edu.pl/>

Lech Walesa Institute, ILW

<https://www.ilw.org.pl/en/>

European Solidarity Centre, ECS

<https://ecs.gda.pl/title,Jezyk,pid,21,lang,2.html>

Museum of Gdańsk, MG

<https://muzeumgdansk.pl/?L=1>

Partner:

Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre, GTS

<https://teatrshakespearewski.pl/en/about-gts/>



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Gdańsk-Danzig-Gduńsk

within the Baltic Borderlands

8 – 9 OCTOBER 2021

under the Honorary Patronage:

PATRONAT HONOROWY
REKTORA UNIwersYTETU GDAŃSKIEGO:



HONORARY PATRONAGE
**Mayor of the City
of Gdańsk**

PATRONAT HONOROWY:
MIECZYSLAW STRUK
MARSZAŁEK
WOJEWÓDZTWA POMORSKIEGO

DAY 1 • 8.10.2021 • FRIDAY

Part I: Opening • Location: European Solidarity Centre, ECS

9:30–10:00	Rector of the University of Gdańsk Basil Kerski, ECS Charles Clarke, BGN Arkadiusz Janicki, UG	Official opening of the conference Welcoming remarks
10:00–11:00 CET	Norman Davies The Baltic. Tour d’horizon.	ECS Library (zoom) moderated by Anna Mazurkiewicz Live stream: UG campus, Faculty of History, room 1.46 moderated by Magdalena Nowak
11:00–11:45	Cambridge University delegates meeting with President Lech Wałęsa hosted by: Adam Domiński, ILW Official photograph	
12:00–13:00	Visit to the ECS exhibit	
13:00–14:00	Lunch Walk to Artus Court (ca. 30 minutes)	

DAY 1 • 8.10.2021 • FRIDAY

PART II: Academic Sessions • Location: Artus Court

Event free & open to all. Sanitary restrictions apply.

Welcome by Waldemar Ossowski, MG

Session 1: At the crossroads of international commerce in Baltic Sea region

14:30–16:00 Moderator: Anna Mazurkiewicz, UG

Beata Możejko, UG

Late medieval Gdańsk – between the Hansa and the Kingdom of Poland

Hugo Bromley, CU

Naturalising commerce: law, political economy and the transformation of Baltic mercantile networks, 1762-1796

Brendan Simms, CU

British policies of pre-emption in the Baltic

Thomas Peak, University of Vilnius

Marta Grzechnik, UG

Gdynia 20–30: Poland's Gateway to the World

Discussion

16:00–16:15 Coffee break

Session 2: Russian expansion in the Baltic Sea region

16:15–17:45 Moderator: Alexander Drost, University of Greifswald

Arkadiusz Janicki, UG

Russian Expansion in the Baltic in the 18th century

Iwona Sakowicz, UG

Russia as an Expansionist Empire in the Eyes of the British Press
(second half of the 19th century)

Michalina Petelska, UG

Poland: the Country between Denmark and Russia.
Georg Brandes' way to Russia at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Centuries

Discussion

DAY 2 • 9.10.2021 • SATURDAY

Part III: Academic Sessions • Location: Artus Court

Event open to all. Sanitary restrictions apply.

Session 3: Great Britain, Poland and Gdańsk in the 20th century

10:00–12:00 Moderator: Brendan Simms, CU

Donatas Kupciunas, CU/University of Vilnius

The Prussians on the Thames? Reasons for British resistance to Polish claims to Gdansk (Danzig) after the Great War

Miłosława Borzyszkowska-Szewczyk, UG

Jewish Refugees from Pomerania: Kindertransports of 1938 and 1939 to UK

Jacek Tebinka, UG

Gdańsk in the context of British foreign policy during the Cold War

Jacek Kołtan, ECS

Solidarity Movement. Between Socialism and Neoliberalism

12:00–13:00 Lunch break

Session 4: Art and Architecture I

13:00–15:00 Moderator: Marta Grzechnik, UG

Andrzej Woziński, UG

What did the panel painting the ship of church from the Artus Court say about Late Medieval Gdańsk?

Anna Sobecka, UG

Art and Science in Early Modern Danzig

Rosalind Polly Blakesley, CU

Portraying Russian Regality around the Baltic Sea

Mirosław Kruk, UG

So-called modern iconoclasm in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and in the Baltic region

Volha Barysenka, UG

The protestants in the legends related to Marian images in the Great Duchy of Lithuania since the 17th century to the present day

Małgorzata Omilanowska, UG

Gdansk: Specificity of its Architecture in the modern era. The Question of National and Regional Identity

DAY 2 • 9.10.2021 • SATURDAY

Part IV: Sightseeing

15:00–17:00	Tomasz Torbus, UG	Historic Gdańsk – walking tour
17:00–18:00	Magdalena Hajdysz, GTS	Visit in the Shakespeare Theatre

DAY 3 • 10.10.2021 • SUNDAY

(optional)

Part V: Sightseeing

10:00–12:00	Visit to Westerplatte
12:00–16:00	Visit: Museum of the Second World War

Keynote: Norman Davies – doctor honoris causa by UG, 2000

Born in 1939 in Bolton (Lancashire) was educated at Bolton School, Magdalen College, Oxford, the University of Sussex and at several continental universities including Grenoble, Perugia and Kraków. His formative years created a lifelong European outlook. His special interest in Central and Eastern Europe was unusual among contemporaries. It started in 1958 when four school-leavers drove from Lancashire to Istanbul and back in an ex-US Army Jeep. It was consolidated by further adventurous travels: by intensive Russian courses and by post-doctoral study at the Jagiellonian University, where he obtained a Ph.D. Unlike most academics, Norman Davies began his career as a school teacher. During a four-year spell, he worked at every level from primary to Sixth Form, at a girls' school and then at St. Paul's. These experiences honed his skills as a lecturer and educator, and primed the arts of simple narrative and clear analysis. As a pupil of AJP Taylor and the nephew of a well-known Lancastrian sportsman and broadcaster, Davies was always familiar with the worlds of publishing and the media. He emerged as a historical author with "White Eagle, Red Star" (1972) which was written during a research fellowship at St. Antony's College. He found his way into radio and later TV via the BBC World Service to which he made contributions relative to current affairs in the Soviet Bloc. Davies' academic career centered on the School of Slavonic Studies, University of London, where he was successively Lecturer, Reader and Professor. A quarter of a century in London was supplemented by regular assignments abroad at Columbia, Mc Gill, Hokkaido, Stanford, Harvard, Adelaide and the ANU in Canberra. He was elected Fell of the British Academy in 1997. The stay at Stanford was particularly eventful. It started with the prospective offer of an endowed chair and ended when the offer was mysteriously cancelled before it could be formalized by Board of Trustees. Stanford's decision, which contradicted the unanimous recommendation of its own Search Committee, remained unsubstantiated for months, and since all grievance procedures were refused, became the subject of a lengthy but inconclusive law suit. It eventually emerged that an unnamed group of critics had taken offense at one chapter in Davies' prize-winning history of Poland, "God's Playground" (1981). Davies remembers the episode stoically - as evidence of academic small-mindedness and of fate awaiting anyone who confronts entrenched opinions and prejudices. Nonetheless, the budding author surged ahead. After the collapse of Communism, "God's Playground" (OUP, 1981) was adopted by Poland's Ministry of Education as compulsory reading for all history students in state schools and universities. "Europe: A History" (OUP, 1996) became a Number 1 best-seller in Britain and "The Isles: A History" (Macmillan, 1999) confirmed Davies' reputation as an iconoclast. "Microcosm: A Portrait of a Central European City" (Jonathan Cape, 2002) written with Roger Moorhouse, presents the little known history of a Central European city, Wroclaw / Breslau; whilst "Rising '44" (2004) has eclipsed all previous studies of the Warsaw Rising. According to the author, "Europe at War" (2006) was bound to encounter turbulence, as it did. "Vanished Kingdoms" (Penguin, 2011) was long in gestation and editing, but repaid the meticulous attentions of its editor with a long series of scintillating reviews. Over the years, Norman Davies has received many prizes and honors. He was awarded the CMG by Queen Elizabeth II in 2001 for 'services to history', and has collected several Polish distinctions including the Orders of Polonia Restituta, of Merit, and of the White Eagle. He is an honorary citizen of several cities, including Wroclaw: and the holder of numerous honorary degrees, most recently a D Litt from Sussex. Though formally retired from his academic post, Norman Davies continues to write, publish and teach. When not travelling, he lives in Oxford and Cracow with his wife Maria, and has two sons, Daniel and Christian. From 2000 - 2006 he was a Supernumerary Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford: and In 2006 to 2008 a Visiting Fellow In Cambridge at Clare Hall and Peterhouse. In Cracow, he holds the position in the UNESCO Chair of Translation Studies and a part-time lectureship in the Oriental Institute. In Warsaw, he presents periodic lectures at the European College in Natolin. In 2011, he returned to St. Antony's College, Oxford, where is an Honorary Fellow. In the first part of 2012, for the purposes of stimulation and relaxation, he travelled round the World on a lecture tour that took him to a dozen countries including UAE, Malaysia, Tasmania, New Zealand and Tahiti. Source: <http://www.normandavies.com/author/?lang=en>

Participants (in alphabetical order):

Rosalind Polly Blakesley – Professor of Russian and European Art at the University of Cambridge, a Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and co-founder of the Cambridge Courtauld Russian Art Centre. A syndic of the Fitzwilliam Museum and former Trustee of the National Portrait Gallery in London, she has curated exhibitions in Britain, Russia and the USA, including *Russia and the Arts: The Age of Tolstoy and Tchaikovsky* at the National Portrait Gallery in 2016. She has taught art history at the University of Cambridge and been a Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge since 2002, and has been Professor of Russian and European Art since 2018. She previously worked at Queen's College, Oxford, the Russian Institute of Art History, Newcastle University, and the University of Kent.

Miłosława Borzyszkowska-Szewczyk – Associate Professor, German philologist, university lecturer; supervisor of the Research Lab for Memory Narratives of Borderlands at the University of Gdańsk (since 2012) <http://www.narracjepogranicza.eu/>; studied German Philology at the Jagiellonian University, University of Leipzig and University of Gdańsk, Ph.D-student at the University of Gdansk and the Ruhr-University of Bochum: Ph.D thesis (2008): *The Prussian Ethos and Culture of Memory. Autobiographical Texts of Prussian Nobility from Pomerania and East Prussia after 1945* (published as *Pamięć dla przyszłości [...]*, Wrocław: ATUT 2009; *Zrozumieć Niemcy*). 2008–2021 Adiunkt [Assistant Professor] at the Institute for German Philology at the University of Gdańsk, 2018–2019 visiting professor at Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz (Germany). President of the Günter Grass Association in Gdańsk (since 2017), vice-president of the Kashubian Institute (since 2015). Research interests: borderland studies, multicultural literature, autobiographical narrations (especially of authors of Jewish background and nobility), literature from German-Polish borderland(s), collective memory in borderland after 1989, identity and border issues, literary imagology.

Hugo Bromley – PhD student studying English cloth producers and the rise of protectionism in late seventeenth and early eighteenth century Britain. His work focuses on the impact of global trade and transnational migration, and how global encounters situated in England shaped the development of English and later British political economy. Before the PhD, he did an MPhil here at Cambridge, on the history of British trading companies in the Baltic in the late seventeenth century. He received my BA in International History from the London School of Economics.

Alexander Drost – Dr. phil., interdisciplinary historian and academic manager at the University of Greifswald. After studying history and German literature at Greifswald and Joensuu (Finland), he focussed on the research of cultural exchanges between Europe and Asia in the early modern period. His doctoral thesis on “Colonial Sepulchral Culture in Bengal” (2007) is based on archival research in London, The Hague, Kolkata and field trips to the burial grounds in India. His follow-up research on “European Borders in Asia” provides the basis for studying two maritime regions from a comparative perspective, namely the South China and Baltic Sea regions. The latter has been his research focus since 2006 after he began to manage the research activities and graduate programmes on the Baltic Sea region. Following a brief teaching stint at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena from 2009-2010, he managed the interdisciplinary and international research programme on “Baltic Borderlands: Shifting Boundaries of Mind and Culture in the Borderlands of the Baltic Sea Region”. This programme has yielded fresh impulses in the study of the Baltic Sea region and moreover strengthened the institutional support frameworks for studying this region. These primordial structures have now been consolidated in the Interdisciplinary Centre for Baltic Sea Region Research, which Alexander Drost presently manages. His most recent publications include *Collapse of Memory – Memory of Collapse: Narrating Past, Presence and Future about Periods of Crisis*. (2019, together with O. Sasunkevich, J. Schiedermaier und B. Törnquist-Plewa), “Borders: A narrative turn. Reflections on Concepts, Practices and their Communication”. (2017) and “Bordering jenseits territorialer Grenzen: Intersektionelles Denken und Ungleichheitsphänomene in "Niederländisch-Indien" im 17. Jahrhundert” (2018).

Marta Grzechnik – Assistant Professor at the Institute of Scandinavian and Finnish Studies, University of Gdańsk, Poland. She is a historian with research interests in the Baltic Sea region and Northern Europe, borderland studies, regional history, and colonial history. She obtained her PhD in History and Civilisation from the European University Institute, Florence in 2010. In 2012–2016 she was a postdoctoral researcher in the programme “Baltic Borderlands: Shifting Boundaries of Mind and Culture in the Borderlands of the Baltic Sea Region” at the University of Greifswald; in 2018–2019 German Kennedy Memorial Fellow at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, and Visiting Fellow at Weatherhead Weatherhead Research Cluster on Global Transformations (WIGH), both at Harvard University, USA; in 2020 Visiting Scholar at the Center for Global History at Freie Universität in Berlin. Her publications include: “The Missing Second World: On Poland and Postcolonial Studies”, *Interventions. International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, vol. 27, no. 7 (2019); *Beyond the Sea. Reviewing the Manifest Dimensions of Water as Barrier and Bridge*. Cologne-Weimar-Vienna: Böhlau 2015 (edited together with Heta Hurskainen); and *Regional histories and historical regions. The concept of the Baltic Sea region in Polish and Swedish historiographies*. Frankfurt: Peter Lang 2012.

Arkadiusz Janicki – Dean of the Faculty of History (2020-), Director of the Institute of History (2012-2020). Associate Professor at the Institute of History, Department of History of Political Thought and Culture, UG. A historian and a lawyer, Janicki specializes in the history of the Baltic provinces of the Russian Empire in the 19th and early 20th centuries, history of Polish minority in the east Baltic region, the role of Baltic Germans in the history of Russia and Poland. He also worked on issues related to the education system in the Russian Empire and published works related to the histories of the Polish students at the Tartu (Dorpat) University and Technical University in Riga. He examined the Polish-Livonian noble families and currently works on the Kościuszko Uprising in Lithuania. The recent volume related to Kościuszko that he edited (with Iwona Janicka): *Kościuszko i jego następcy: różne formy walk o Polskę i polskość od końca XVIII do początków XXI wieku* (2020).

Jacek Kołtan – PhD, philosopher and political scientist, Director’s Representative for Research at the European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk, Poland. He studied at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (Poland), Humboldt-Universität and Freie Universität in Berlin (Germany). He has been a fellow of the KAAD scholarship fund in Berlin (2001–2007) and a visiting scholar of the Catholic University of America in Washington DC (2012). His research interests cover social and political theory, history of solidarity idea, social movements, hermeneutics as well as social design and anthropology. He is author of *Solidarity, Democracy, Europe* (co-ed. 2021), *Solidarity and the Crisis of Trust* (ed., 2016), *Anthology. European Solidarity Centre Permanent Exhibition* (ed., 2015), *Solidarność. A Peaceful Revolution* (ed., 2009), *Der Mitmensch. Zur Identitätsproblematik des sozialen Selbst ausgehend von der Frühphilosophie Martin Heideggers und Karl Löwiths* (2012). He teaches at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdansk and the Warsaw University.

Mirosław Piotr Kruk – Associate Professor, History of Art with specialization: Byzantine and Postbyzantine Art working at in the Institute of the History of Art, UG; Curator in the Department of the Orthodox Art, National Museum in Krakow, The Bishop Erazm Ciołek Palace, Krakow. Fields of research: culture and history of art in medieval and modern Europe, especially of Slavic countries and Byzantium; history of the Eastern Church in the former Polish Commonwealth, mainly history of the icon painting. Selected publications: with: A. Sulikowska-Gąska, M. Wołoszyn, *Sacralia Ruthenica. Early Ruthenian and Related Metal and Stone Items in the National Museum in Cracow and National Museum in Warsaw* (2006); *Rome, Constantinople and Newly-converted Europe. Archaeological and Historical Evidence*, ed. M. Hardt, M. P. Kruk, M. Salamon, P. Špehar, A. Sulikowska – Gąska, M. Wołoszyn, I-II, (U Źródeł Europy Środkowo-Wschodniej / Frühzeit Ostmitteleuropas), Kraków – Leipzig – Rzeszów – Warszawa 2012; M. P. Kruk, *Ikony XIV-XVI wieku w zbiorach Muzeum Narodowego w Krakowie = Icons from the 14th–16th centuries in the National Museum in Krakow*. Vol. 1-III, *Katalog = Catalogue*, Kraków 2019.

Donatas Kupčiūnas – Research Associate Centre for Geopolitics, Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS) at the University of Cambridge. Ph.D. Thesis: *The devil's paradise: the Vilnius conflict in European diplomacy, 1919-1923*, University of Oxford.

Anna Mazurkiewicz – Associate Professor, Faculty of History, UG. Cold War historian specializing in American and migration studies. Chair of the Scientific Council of the International Border Studies Center at the UG – an interdisciplinary unit established to foster synergies within, and broaden international cooperation outside of the UG networks. She also serves as a Deputy Dean for Research and International Cooperation for the 2020-2024 term.

Beata Możejko – Professor of History (prof. dr hab.), specializes in medieval history and the auxiliary sciences of history. She conducts research, among others, on late-medieval Gdańsk. She is interested in Gdańsk's maritime contacts in the area of the Baltic Sea and the North Sea. Author of over 130 papers and articles, six monographs, including *Peter von Danzig. The Story of Great Caravel 1462–1475*, Brill 2020). Editor of volume: *New Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Poland and Prussia. The Impact of Prussia* (London and New York 2017), and co-editor *Monetisation and Commercialisation in the Baltic Sea, 1050–1450* (London and New York 2021). Member of the Editorial Committee [*Komitet Wiedzy*] of the Gdańsk Encyclopedia (Gedanopedia, <https://www.gedanopedia.pl/gdansk>); member of the Presiding Office of the Committee of Historical Sciences, within the Polish Academy of Sciences (2020–2023); Corresponding Fellow of the CMS The Centre for Medieval Studies, Prague (since 2021).

Magdalena Nowak – Associate Professor, Faculty of History, UG. Her scholarly interests include: Polish-Ukrainian relations of 19th and 20th centuries; relations between the Latin- and Greek-rite of the Catholic Churches; the development of national consciousness of Poles and Ukrainians; the shaping of national identity of Metropolitan Archbishop Andrei Sheptyts'kyi (1865-1944), history of tourism.

Małgorzata Omilanowska – Professor, art historian. She studied history of art on Warsaw University and history of architecture on Technical University in Berlin. She works as a professor in Institute of Art of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, and in Institute of History of Art on Gdansk University. 2012–2014 she was deputy minister of Culture and National Heritage, and 2014–2015 minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Polish Republic. She specializes in the art and architecture of the 19th and 20th c., publishing works on such issues as the searching for the national style and national and regional identity in the architecture of Central-European countries. She was fellow of many scientific institutions in Europe like British Academy, Herder Institute in Marburg and Institute for Advanced Study in Berlin. She published 11 books on history of art and about 100 articles. She was involved in many exhibition projects, among others 2011 in Berlin (Martin-Gropius-Bau) “Tür an Tür Polen-Deutschland 1000 Jahre Kunst und Geschichte” as an editor of the Catalogue. She is also active in the field of monument preservation and museology. She is member of many scientific organizations and boards, among others member of the Polish ICOMOS Committee, Deutsches Historisches Institut, board of the European Center of Solidarność in Gdańsk and Polish member of CIHA (Comité International d’Histoire de l’Art). She is a member of the Orders: Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (Knight Grand Cross), Order of Orange-Nassau (Knight Grand Cross), Order of the Lion of Finland (Commander Grand Cross) and Ordre des Arts et des Lettres of France (Commandeur).

Thomas Peak – Researcher at the Institute of International Relations and Political Science at Vilnius University (IIRPS). He received his doctorate degree from the Central European University and a master's degree from Oxford University. Before joining IIRPS in 2021, he was a postdoctoral Research Associate at the Centre for Geopolitics, Cambridge University. His book, *Westphalia From Below: Humanitarian Intervention and the Myth of 1648*, was published by Hurst in 2021.

Michalina Petelska –Assistant Professor, historian at the Institute of History, University of Gdansk. The author of one monograph (M. Petelska, *Georg Brandes i Polacy czyli o fenomenie wzajemnego zainteresowania z Polską w tle*, Gdańsk 2017) and many articles devoted to the figure of Georg Brandes, a Danish critic and scholar (in English: M. Petelska, *A Georg Brandes Polish Chronology and His Polish Friends* [w:] *Polsko-skandynawskie stosunki kulturalne, naukowe i polityczne od XVI do XX wieku*, pod red. A. Kłoczyńskiego i G. Majewskiej, Gdańsk 2021, s. 47–77; *Georg Brandes in Poland and in Hungary. A comparative study* – article in the process of publishing). She also deals with the theory and didactics of museology; research interests focused primarily on migration museums, including the Baltic region. In 2019 she implemented a research grant “Immigration from the Polish lands of the XIX–XXI century in the exhibition, educational and publishing activities of the museums of Norway and Sweden”. The project was financed by the National Science Center Poland as a part of the Miniatura 2 funding scheme.

Iwona Sakowicz-Tebinka – Associate Professor at Institute of History, University of Gdańsk. Visiting Professor, Chair of Polish History and Culture at Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2013). She graduated from University of Gdańsk (history 1988). Author of books: *Między autokracją a rewolucją. Liberalizm Konstantego Kawielina w epoce wielkich reform*, Gdańsk 1999; *Imperium barbarzyńców: Rosja Aleksandra II w brytyjskich opiniach prasowych*, Gdańsk 2010. Publications in English: “Russian Political System in British Travelogues and Press”, *The Central and the Peripheral: Studies in Literature and Culture*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing 2013; “Russia and the Russians. Opinions of the British press during the reign of Alexander II”, *Journal of European Studies*, 35, vol. 3 (2005); “Poland”, *Histories of Nations. How Their Identities Were Forged*, ed. P. Furtado, Thames and Hudson 2013. Interests: history of 19th century, history of Russia, Russo-British relations, pilgrims to the Holy Land in the 19th century.

Brendan Simms – Professor of the History of European International Relations. Professor Simms is an expert on European geopolitics, past and present, and his principal interests are the German Question, Britain and Europe, Humanitarian Intervention and state construction. He teaches at both undergraduate and graduate level in the Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS) and the Faculty of History. His MPhil course on the History European Geopolitics (co-taught with Dr Charlie Laderman) uses scenarios as part of the teaching and learning process. He has supervised PhD dissertations on subjects as diverse as Intervention and State Sovereignty in the Holy Roman Empire, Sinn Fein, the American colonist and the eighteenth-century European state system, the Office of the UN High Representative in Bosnia, and German Civil-Military relations. Professor Simms is a frequent contributor to print and broadsheet media. He has advised governments and parliaments, and spoken at Westminster, in the European parliament and at think-tanks in the United Kingdom, the United States and in many Eurozone countries. The Centre for Geopolitics is designed to draw together all these interests.

Anna Sobecka – Assistant Professor at the Institute of Art History and serve as a Deputy Dean for Students and Community Liaison of the Historical Department, University of Gdańsk. As art historian she has worked at the National Museum in Poznań and the Castle Museum in Malbork. She has been a fellow of the Herder-Institut, Herzog-August-Bibliothek and DAAD Scholarship Fund, and the Polish State Committee for Scientific Research. Her research interests focus on early modern art, with a particular emphasis on Northern painting and printmaking, as well as historical collecting and modern museology. She is also interested in the history of art objects made of amber from the most ancient times until today. Her main field of research is the artistic culture of the early modern Gdańsk. Anna Sobecka is a member of the International Council of Museums ICOM, an expert and former President of the International Amber Association, co-editor of *The Amber Magazine* and the *Porta Aurea* journal focused on the art and architecture of the Baltic Sea Region. Her book ‘Picturing Nature in Early Modern Gdansk. On the Collecting Culture of the City’ will be published this year.

Jacek Tebinka – Professor at University of Gdańsk (Chair of Contemporary History in Department of Political Sciences). Visiting Professor, Chair of Polish History and Culture at Hebrew University of Jerusalem – 2006/2007. He graduated from University of Gdańsk (history 1988), (political sciences 1991). Author of books: *Polityka brytyjska wobec problemu granicy polsko-radzieckiej 1939–1945*, Warszawa 1998, *Nadzieje i rozczarowania. Polityka Wielkiej Brytanii wobec Polski 1956–1970*, Warszawa 2005, and *Uzależnienie czy suwerenność? Odwilż październikowa w dyplomacji Polskiej Rzeczypospolitej Ludowej 1956–1961*, Warszawa 2010 and „*Wielka Brytania dotrzyma lojalnie swojego słowa*”. *Winston S. Churchill a Polska*, Warszawa 2013). Edited collections of documents: *Polskie Dokumenty Dyplomatyczne 1941*, Warszawa 2013 and *Brytyjczycy o statusie Szczecina. Tajny raport Rohana Butlera (1965 r.)*, Szczecin 2016. Author of 118 academic publications (80 articles: From “Liberation” do Détente. Britain and anticommunist movement in Soviet Satellites (in:) *Anti-Communist Resistance in Central and Eastern Europe*, ed. by Peter Jasek, Bratislava 2012; *Intelligence in Anglo-Polish Relations 1945-1980/1981* (in:) *Need to know. Intelligence and Politics. Western and Eastern Perspectives*, ed. by Fris T. W., Buřhak W., Odense 2014; *The Movement of Poles to Great Britain during the Cold War. Breaking the Iron Curtain*, “*Journal of European Integration History*”, 2017, issue: *People and Borders. Seventy Years of Migration in Europe*). He is interested in Anglo-Polish relations in 20th Century, Intelligence dimension in diplomacy, Polish Question in Second World War and Cold War History.

Tomasz Torbus – professor in the Institute of Art History at University of Gdańsk. Studied at the Warsaw University and Hamburg University. His PhD on the commendary castles of the Teutonic Order in Prussia was published in 1998 (Oldenbourg-Verlag, Munich). Subsequently worked at the Herder Institute in Marburg and at the Leipzig Centre for History & Culture of East Central Europe (GWZO). Habilitation at Leipzig University in 2009 with a thesis on the royal residences of the Jagiellons in Poland and Lithuania, c. 1500–1550. 2005–2010 research project on Heinrich Graf Brühl's patronage of the arts. Since 2010 professor, 2012–2016 director of the Institute of Art History, University of Gdańsk. Interests: medieval and early modern architectural history, political iconography of art in the 20th century, the problem of the reconstruction of architectural monuments after 1945, processes and interferences of Western art with other cultures.

Andrzej Woziński – associate professor at the Department of History, University of Gdańsk. He is an art historian and a graduate of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, where he obtained his doctoral degree. He began his professional career at the National Museum in Poznań, where in 1998–2000 he held the position of Director for Scientific Affairs. In the years 2003–2008, he headed the Department of Art History at the University of Gdańsk. He is a medievalist studying late medieval and early modern sculpture and painting in Gdańsk, Prussia and on the Baltic coast and astrological iconography.

Ольга Борисенко (Volha Barysenka) – PhD student at University of Gdansk. In 2004 started her higher education at the Philological Faculty of the Belarusian State University in Minsk, Belarus, from which she graduated in 2009. In 2006–2009 studies simultaneously at the Philological Faculty and the Historical Faculty of the Belarusian State University. Her academic interests are miraculous images/icons, sacred art in inter-religious relations.