

Changing the Discourse of Power in the conditions of the war in Ukraine, Russia and other countries

Online seminar

November 28, 2022, 16:00-18:00

Prof. Catriona Kelly (Trinity College Cambridge)*

"A Decision Born out of Suffering", or, The Twists and Turns of the "Special Path"

This lecture will address the discursive trope of 'historical compulsion' or 'history as fate' relative to Russia as employed both before and after the beginning of the invasion of Ukraine, not only in Russia, but among historians and other public intellectuals in the Anglophone world.

**Bio: Catriona Kelly, is a British academic specialising in Russian culture. From 1996 to 2021, she was Professor of Russian at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of New College. In 2021, she was elected Senior Research Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge and Honorary Professor of the University of Cambridge. Kelly is the author of many books about Russian history and culture, including Refining Russia: Advice Literature, Polite Culture, and Gender from Catherine to Yeltsin (Oxford University Press, 2001), Comrade Pavlik: The Rise and Fall of a Soviet Boy Hero (Granta Books, 2005/Moscow, 2009), a study of the boy hero Pavlik Morozov, and articles for professional journals and for the general press.*

Prof. Gasan Guseinov (currently visiting scholar at Jesus College, Cambridge)*

"The pyramid of hatred and the rhetoric of violence"

[Об одном невольном эксперименте в русской политической риторике XXI века — Журнальный зал \(gorky.media\)](#)

[Оправдание государственного терроризма. Гасан Гусейнов о том, как сотрудников ВШЭ превратили в свидетелей обвинения \(theins.ru\)](#)

[Реконкиста клоаки. Филолог Гасан Гусейнов о том, как из него делают «врага народа» \(theins.ru\)](#)

**Bio: Gasan Gusejnov is philologist, currently visiting scholar at the Jesus College Cambridge. Gasan does research in Classical Philology, Literary Theory and Russian Political Rhetorics. He is the author of books on Greek Comedy, and in the two decades of this century on late Soviet and Post-Soviet Russian Political Discourse (Карта нашей Родины: идеологема между словом и телом (Helsinki, 2000), Советские идеологемы в русском дискурсе 1990-х (Moscow, 2003), Нулевые на кончике языка: Краткий путеводитель по русскому дискурсу (Moscow, 2012), Язык мой - Wrack мой (Kyiv, 2017). Gasan is a columnist on Russian language at the Radio France International and other periodicals. Co-founder and professor of the Free University / Brīvā universitāte (since 2020).*