

Research meeting: **Sociolinguistic and cultural practices among Russian-speaking diasporas**

December, 14-15, 2016, University of Jyväskylä

Puutarhurin talo (Gardener's House)

Seminaarinkatu 15

The goal of the research meeting is to establish a multidisciplinary research network of international scholars who will join their efforts in investigating the ideologies and practices of the use of Russian language in diasporic communities. The aim of the meeting is to provide a forum for discussing the theoretical and methodological issues associated with a multidisciplinary approach to the study of Russian diasporas. Hopefully, the meeting will allow to identify our common scholarly interests and outline the strands of the future networking and research cooperation.

In order to familiarize ourselves with each other's work, we invite the participants to give a brief (15 minutes max.) overview of their current research interests in this field. Instead of prepared papers, we would rather welcome informal presentation based on your on-going research. We would also like to ask everyone to try to identify 'wicked questions', that is, unsolved, controversial or much discussed questions in the field of your study. We would also welcome a critical discussion of the conceptual vocabulary used in the study of Russian-speaking diasporas, including the concepts of language ideology, identity, migrant and so forth. It is important to consider whether and to what extents these concepts are understood similarly in different disciplines, e.g., language studies and sociology. We would also like to address the question of research methods from the point of view of how different methods and types of data affect our understanding of the phenomenon.

Schedule:

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

- 2.15-3 pm Lara Ryazanova-Clarke: Overview of research on Russian-speaking diasporas
- 3-4.30 pm Research interests of the participants
- 4.30 pm Coffee
- 5-6.30 pm Brainstorming: "Wicked questions" in the field
- 7.30 pm Dinner (Hotel Scandic)

Thursday, December 15, 2016

- 10.15-11 am Thor Sawin: Introduction to the theoretical and conceptual problems associated with the study of diasporas
- 11-12.45 pm Discussion of theoretical and methodological problems (conceptual vocabulary, data, methods etc.)
- 12.45-1.15 pm Lunch
- 1.15 - 3 pm Future collaboration (e.g. possibilities for EU or other international research funding)