

## CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES OF CONTEMPORARY RUSSIA

*University of Padua*

*Department of Politics, Law and International Studies*

*November 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

*Aula Nievo – Palazzo del Bo'*

<http://www.virtualmeeting.info/unipd/russia/index.html>

### **Concept**

Two decades after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia has undertaken profound changes while a transformation is still ongoing. Post-bipolarism has been marked by mistrust, tensions and rivalries. Thanks to a consistent economic growth Russia has returned among the key-powers of the International System. Russia has been able to build up an important network of cooperation relations and to reinforce its influence in different regional scenarios from the post-Soviet space to the Middle East and the Far East. After 'resetting the button' between Washington and Moscow and the current new cooperative climate between Warsaw (and then the EU) and Moscow, the time may now be ripe for restructuring a more stable pan-European space. Although regaining a status of great power Russia is still struggling with its modernization agenda including the consolidation of democracy and diversification of the economy. An unprecedented awakening of the Russian society taking place in the recent months has substantially weakened the legitimacy of the regime and by default created a new and more promising social and political context.

This conference aims to offer a reflection and debate on the challenges and perspectives of contemporary Russia from different viewpoints and through a variety of approaches. The conference will consist on four sections: the first one will deal with Russia Foreign policy, the second one will tackle the economic issues, the third one will focus on domestic transformation while the latest one will discuss society and language developments.

## **Tentative Programme**

**November 9<sup>th</sup>**

**8.30 – 9.00 am - Registration**

**9.00-9.30 am - Opening Session**

**-9.00 – 9.30 pm *Welcoming Remarks:*** Conference Promoters and/or Institutional Representatives

**9.30-13.00 am - Russia in the International system**

Chair: S. Ravagnan (Italian Embassy) (*tbc*)

- **S. Giusti** (ISPI and University of Padua), *Searching for a Post-Imperial Role*
  
- **A. Gromyko**, (Deputy Director of the Institute of Europe of the Russian Academy of Sciences), *Russia between Europe and Asia*
  
- **O. N. Barabanov** (MGIMO), *Russia and the EU*
  
- **M. Nosov** (Russian Academy of Sciences), *Integration Processes in the post-Soviet space*
  
- **S. Vasilyan** (American University at Yerevan), *Russia's Policy Towards The South Caucasus: Triangulation of Domestic, Near Abroad and Foreign Logics*
  
- **T. Zonova** (MGIMO), *Relationships between the Russian Federation and Italy*

**1.00-14.30 pm - Lunch**

**14.30-16.30 pm - Russia internal dynamics: from stability to where?**

Chair: **M. Gobbo** (University of Padua)

- **L. Gudkov** (Levada Center), *La crisi di legittimità del regime di Putin e le proteste di massa in Russia*
  
- **E. Zilio** (University of Padua), *Dealing with upsetting social problems*
  
- **C. Filippini** (University of Milan), *L'organizzazione territoriale del potere in Russia*
  
- **A. Di Gregorio** (University of Milan), *La carta costituzionale russa a vent'anni dalla sua adozione*

**16.30-18.30 am - Russia's economy: the need for diversification**

Chair: *tbd*

**V. Popov** (The New Economic School, Moscow / and U. N.), *Russia – a normal developing country?*

- **L. Asta** (University of Padua), *State and economic system*

- **L. Marcolungo** (University of Padua), *The present occurring dilemmas of the Russian economy*

---

**November 10<sup>th</sup>**

**9.30-12.30 am - A new language for a new society?**

Chair: **R. Benacchio** (University of Padua)

- **D. Possamai**, (University ca' Foscari), *Nuova dinamica della produzione letteraria post-sovietica*

- **P. Cotta Ramusino** (University of Milan), *La lingua russa nei paesi CSI*

- **C. Lasorsa Siedina** (University of Rome III), *L'accelerazione del russo attuale e la politica linguistica delle Federazione Russa*

**12.30 am-1.00 pm Concluding remarks**