



## REPORT FORM FOR NETWORK ACTIVITIES

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*Confidential*

### 1. Lead Applicant

Surname		
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Title (Dr, Professor, etc)	Professor	
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### Present appointment and employing institution

Professor of Russian Studies, University of Manchester
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### Role in activity

Project Co-ordinator (with Dr Natalya Rulyova, University of Birmingham)
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### 2. Activity details

#### Type and title of activity

Post-Soviet Media Research Methodologies Workshop and Establishment of online Post-Soviet Media Information and Discussion Forum (submitted under 'Workshops' category, but the project extends beyond this category since it involved staff costs associated with the establishment of the online forum)
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#### Location

The Workshop took place at the University of Birmingham; the website is hosted jointly by the Universities of Manchester and Birmingham, with a link to the CEELBAS website
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#### Date

From:	March 28 <sup>th</sup> 2008	To:	March 28 <sup>th</sup> 2008 (Workshop component)
	October 31 <sup>st</sup> 2007		March 31 <sup>st</sup> 2008 (Website component)

Brief Description of activities carried out (please include or attach a confirmed list of participants)

The website is now fully operational and includes information about, and resources for the study of, Post-Soviet media, organised by type (Radio, TV, Print, Media Monitoring), and by country covered (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus). It also incorporates an online discussion forum for which individuals can register. The website can be viewed at <http://www.lmc.manchester.ac.uk/subjects/russian/CEELBASPost-SovietMediaForum/> from where there are links to the resources section, to the forum section, and to CEELBAS. The work was carried out by Mr Ian Appleby (University of Manchester) under the supervision of the project leaders (Hutchings and Rulyova), and with the help of the University of Manchester IT Department

The workshop took place as planned on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2008. The speakers were Professor Julian Cooper (University of Birmingham), Dr Olessia Koltsova (St Petersburg Higher School of Economics), Dr Stephen Lovell (Kings College, London) and Dr Sarah Oates (University of Glasgow). The event lasted for 2.5 hours and was attended by approximately 25 people (excluding the speakers). The presentations were recorded and are being uploaded onto the website described above, along with Powerpoint Presentations and short summaries

### 3. Achievement of stated aims and objectives

Please summarise how the stated aims and objectives of the activities proposed have been achieved and how these have helped to further the aims and objectives of CEELBAS.

The stated aims and objectives were as follows:

- (i) to establish a post-Soviet media forum on a permanent footing
- (ii) to extend its remit beyond Russia to other CIS countries
- (iii) to further, through 'live' one-day workshops and follow-up online discussions, interdisciplinary discussion of approaches to the study of post-Soviet media
- (iv) to facilitate original, cutting-edge research and scholar-practitioner exchange in the field.

(i) The forum has been established and is fully operational; in order for it to be embedded on a more permanent basis we intend to apply for a further 6 months of CEELBAS funding, as envisaged in the original application we submitted

(ii) The remit of the forum already extends beyond Russia and includes lists of resources for Belarus and Ukraine. We would like, in the project's next phase, to extend this to Kazakhstan, and to the Russian-speaking post-Soviet diaspora communities, as well as supplementing the existing Russian Belarusian and Ukrainian materials

(iii) The one-day workshop was very successful (it included 2 presentations on researching the post-Soviet internet, 1 on print media research tools, and 1 on researching Soviet radio). The presentations are currently being uploaded onto the new website and we are anticipating online discussions in response to them.

(iv) The University of Manchester is submitting an AHRC application for the June 2008 bidding round entitled 'Mediating Post-Soviet Difference: An Analysis of Russian Television Representations of Inter-Ethnic Cohesion Issues' (bid total: £600,000). Assuming the bid is successful, the project (3 years in duration) would exploit the CEELBAS-funded website as a repository for project outcomes, for a dataset based on a catalogue of extended headlines for Channel 1 news bulletins (a resource for researchers in numerous fields, and for the user community) and, most importantly, as a forum for cross-cultural discussion of issues relating to national media and ethnic cohesion in multicultural societies, following a series of live debates with academics and journalists from Russia and the UK. The application makes specific provision for oversight and maintenance of the CEELBAS-funded web resource (this is costed into the budget)

(v) Dr Rulyova and I have longer-term plans to submit another large AHRC grant application to examine 'New Cold War' discourse in the Russian and British media

Additionally, and in line with the CEELBAS mission, the workshop and website have brought together the combined strengths of two CEELBAS member institutions (Birmingham and Manchester); addressed

issues relating to countries/regions listed under CEELBAS research objectives; adopted a strongly multidisciplinary approach (the workshop speakers spanned cultural studies and the social sciences) and a strongly comparative framework (Belarus, Ukraine, Russia); will bring benefit to the user community beyond academia (we have brought the project to the attention of journalists in Russia and elsewhere); have touched upon several CEELBAS key research themes (contemporary cultural processes: film, media, consumption; migration and diaspora citizenship: Russia-speaking diaspora media constitute part of our focus; political and economic processes: the forum is aimed at fostering democratic debate and integration.

#### 4. Outcomes

Please indicate the outcomes and 'value for money' of activities carried out.

The outcomes are as stated above: the establishment of the post-Soviet media website; the successful completion of the workshop (with follow-up in the form of the uploading of presentations onto the website as a stimulus for discussion) and the submission of a large research grant application to the AHRC. Even if the AHRC application is unsuccessful (and we would almost certainly want to resubmit it in this case), we are confident that the outcomes represent value for money (the website can serve as a permanent resource for researchers and other users in our field for the indefinite future).

Since Professor Ellen Mickiewicz was unable to attend the workshop and we replaced her with Dr Olessia Koltsova (from Russia), we did not have to pay transatlantic flight and hotel expenses. We therefore underspent on the original award (£3342) by around £400

#### 5. Breakdown of total costs for workshops (please attach evidence of expenditure)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Key speakers (Travel, accommodation and subsistence)</b>	
	£618.65
	£145.46
	£39.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£803.61</b>
<b>Postgraduate participation</b>	
<b>Room/equipment hire</b>	
<b>Administration costs</b>	
£300 (miscellaneous: IT support; Research Office Support; Finance Office Support; photocopying)	£517.59
<b>Printing and publicity (including conference packs)</b>	

£150	£150
Other (please specify	
Total expenditure	
Total contribution invoiced to CEELBAS	

6. Breakdown of total costs for projects (please attach evidence of expenditure)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Staff costs (for work on setting up website and for coordinating workshop)	£1870.80
Equipment/technical costs	
Administration costs	
Other (please specify	

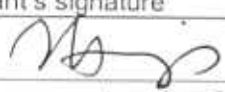
Total expenditure	
Total contribution invoiced to CEELBAS	£3342.00

### 7. Dissemination and further research

Please give details of dissemination of the outcomes of the workshop/project and any further research planned.

The outcomes of the workshop have been disseminated on the website we have established for the project. The establishment of the website has been announced twice on the RUSSIAN STUDIES email list, at BASEES, and in other fora. In June we are submitting to the AHRC a large grant application which draws substantially on the CEELBAS web resource (it has been repeatedly referenced in the application). Dr Rulyova and I wish to apply for a further 6 months funding to further embed and extend the web resources and to widen participation in the discussion forum (the AHRC grant, which has support for the website costed into its budget for 3 years, can start no earlier than March 2009, so further bridging funds from CEELBAS would be extremely welcome). The person who has worked on the technical aspects of the project (Mr Ian Appleby) has done an extremely good job and is available for at least a further 6 months, so everything is in place for the continuation phase.

### 8. Signature and date

Applicant's signature

Date: 7/7/08

Institutional authorisation (if required) <span style="float: right;">*</span>
N/A
Position:
Date:

Institutional CEELBAS Network Primary Contact
Date:

*\* Applicant is School Director  
of Research*

This form must be accompanied by an invoice from the applicant's institution, supported by receipts or other evidence of the expenditure incurred.

Please send the completed form to the CEELBAS Administrator, SSEES, UCL, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT.

