



REPORT FORM FOR NETWORK ACTIVITIES

Tel: 020 7679 8802
Fax: 020 7679 8755
email: ceelbas-network@ssees.ucl.ac.uk

Confidential

1. Lead Applicant

Surname Yemelianov a	
Forename Galina Title (Dr)	
Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Address for correspondence

Centre for Russian and East European Studies, College of Social Sciences (Muirhead Tower), The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham
Postcode: B15 2 TT
Tel no: 0121 4146362 Email: g.yemelianova@bham.ac.uk

Present appointment and employing institution

Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Russian and East European Studies, The University of Birmingham
--

Role in activity

Organiser of the workshop

2. Activity details

Type and title of activity

A two-day inter-disciplinary workshop 'The Caucasus and Central Asia: Theoretical, Cultural and Political Challenges'

Location

The European Research Institute, The University of Birmingham

Date

From:	To:
03.	04.
07.	07.
09.	09.

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

The workshop attracted 59 participants specialising in the Caucasus and Central Asia from across the University of Birmingham, from other UK Universities- within the CEELBAS network (academics and PhD students), leading international scholars, policy-makers, representatives of NGOs and journalists who work in the region. The workshop consisted of seven panels (four panels on Friday, 3rd of July and 3 panels on Saturday, 4th of July, see attached programme) which approached the region from historical, anthropological, linguistic, political, economic, religious and international relations perspectives. All panels were of high academic standard and generated interesting discussion. Seven papers, which were presented at the workshop, are included in the special issue of the *Europe-Asian Studies* on the Caucasus and Central Asia, forthcoming in the late 2010-the early 2011.

The workshop consolidated cross-CEELBAS collaborative links between academics with research interests in the region. This enabled the workshop's organisers and participants from the University of Oxford and SOAS, London to prepare a joint application for the ESRC funding of a series of workshops under the title 'The Caucasus and Central Asia: Reflections on Twenty Years of post-Sovietism' to be submitted in mid-January 2010.

Overall, the workshop generated a more comprehensive knowledge of the Caucasus and Central Asia. It enhanced the participation of PhD students in the critical political and academic debate on the region and contributed to the rise of number of PhD and MA students with interests in the region. It also strengthened the links between academics and practitioners working in the region. It also enhanced a better understanding of the region by the British public through the media. The workshop strengthened the international profile of UK research especially within the CEELBAS network.

The workshop was co-funded by the ASSC-seed corn fund of the College of Social Sciences, the University of Birmingham (£2,391) and the Department of Political Sciences at the College of Social Sciences, the University of Birmingham (£1,150);

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 organisation of seven multi-disciplinary (areas studies, history, archaeology, theology, geography, social anthropology, sociology, economics, political science and security studies) panels contributed to a better to a more comprehensive knowledge of the Caucasus and Central Asia. Those panels were: (1) 'Language, Narration and State-Building in the Caucasus'; (2) 'Ethno-Nationalism and Politics in the South Caucasus'; (3) 'History of the Caucasus'; (4) 'Central Asia and Caucasus and the Outside World'; (5) 'Traditionalism versus Reformism in Islam'; (6) 'Domestic and Foreign Policies of the Central Asian and Caucasian States' and (7) 'Culture and Society in the Caucasus';

*bringing together historians, anthropologists and linguists specialising in the region and academics and practitioners with expertise in Russia, Iran and Turkey enabled to examine both internal and external factors shaping the cultural, socio-economic and political dynamics of individual countries, as well as wider regional trajectories; and to analyse the region's positioning vis-à-vis the major regional powers (Russia, China, Turkey and Iran), the US and Western Europe;

*the participation in the workshop of academics and PhD students from the UK CEELBAS network Universities institutionalised cross-CEELBAS collaborative links between academics with research interests in the region. The workshop marked the beginning of a workshop series on various aspects of the region's history, culture and politics. In particular, the workshop's organisers and participants from the University of Oxford and SOAS, London, are currently working on the ESRC application for funding of three workshops on the region in 2010-11;

*the workshop promoted an international academic collaboration on the region. In particular, in October 2009 Dr Yemelianova submitted an application for funding to the British Council for the

development of strategic partnership between CREES-based academics working of Central Asia and their colleagues at the Kazakh-British University, Almaty, for the duration of three years. The BC decision is due in December 2009 ;

* the workshop contributed to strengthening the links between academics and practitioners working in the region. It is significant that the workshop's speakers included representatives of the FCO. In October 2009 the UK Ambassador to Uzbekistan Rupert Joy visited the University of Birmingham and made a presentation for the University's staff and students;

*the workshop attracted a significant number of PhD students and stimulated their engagement in the critical political and academic debate on the region;

* the workshop consolidated the international profile of University of Birmingham Research Group on the Caucasus and Central Asia and contributed to strengthening UK research especially within the CEELBAS network on this culturally multifaceted and politically volatile region;

*the participation in the workshop of journalists and representatives of NGOs enhanced a better understanding of the region by the British public and the media.

4. Outcomes

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

The major outcomes of the workshop were:

*promotion of the University of Birmingham Research Group on the Caucasus and Central Asia as one of the leading national academic centre for the study of the region;

* the consolidation of the cross-CEELBAS collaborative links between academics and PhD students with research interests in the region;

*the creation of a forum for discussion through organisation of further national and international workshops and conferences devoted to the region. Thus, since September 2009 the workshop's organisers from the University of Birmingham and the workshop's participants from the University of Oxford and SOAS, London, have been working on the application for the series of workshops on the Caucasus and Central Asia to be submitted to the ESRC in the mid-January 2010. The proposed workshops are to be held in Birmingham, Oxford and London;

*development of international academic collaboration on the region. Drawing on the links which were established at the workshop, in October 2009 Dr Yemelianova, together with Dr Zhanabayeva at the Kazakh-British University, Almaty, submitted to the British Council a proposal for the strategic partnership between academics from the University of Birmingham and the Kazakh-British University for the duration of three years;

*strengthening of links between the academics and practitioners working in the region. Following the workshop, representatives of the FCO (Ambassador Rupert Joy and Dr Christopher Joyce) visited the University of Birmingham and gave presentations for the University's staff and students;

*publications: seven papers, which were presented at the workshop, were amended and included into a special issue of the *Europe-Asian Studies*, which is forthcoming in the late2009- the early 2010.

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

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Key speakers (Travel, accommodation and subsistence) Travel (£2,352.54) Subsistence (£1,509.36)	£ 4,006.68
Postgraduate participation	
Room/equipment hire n/a	
Administration costs	£658.09
Printing and publicity (including conference packs) Conference packs	£25
n/a	
Other (please specify) Translation of the papers,	£300
Total expenditure	£4989.77
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 n/a	
n/a	
Equipment/technical costs n/a	
Administration costs n/a	
Other (please specify) n/a	
Total expenditure	
Total contribution invoiced to CEELBAS	

7. Dissemination and further research

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

Seven papers, which were presented at the workshop, were amended and included into a special issue of the *Europe-Asian Studies*, which is forthcoming in the late 2009- the early 2010;

Since September 2009 the workshop's organisers from the University of Birmingham and the workshop's participants from the University of Oxford and SOAS, London (all members of the CEELBAS network), have been working on the application for the series of workshops on the Caucasus and Central Asia to be submitted to the ESRC in the mid-January 2010. The proposed workshops are to be held in Birmingham, Oxford and London;

Drawing on the links established at the workshop, in October 2009 Dr Yemelianova, together with Dr Zhanabayeva at the Kazakh-British University, Almaty, submitted to the British Council a proposal for the strategic partnership between academics from the University of Birmingham and the Kazakh-British University for the duration of three years.

8. Signature and date

Applicant's signature

Dr Galina Yemelianova

Date: 21 December 2009

Institutional authorisation (if required)

Position:

Date:

Institutional CEELBAS Network Primary Contact

Professor Julian Cooper

Date: 21 December 2009

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: CEELBAS Administrator, SSEES, UCL, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT and by email to: ceelbas-network@ssees.ucl.ac.uk.