



ENLIGHT Summer School 2025

Russia's War Against Ukraine and New Spaces of Security and Insecurity in Europe

01-06 September, 2025 (hosted by Ghent University)

Preliminary program

Day 1 – MONDAY

15:00-15:30 | Registration

15:30-16:00 | Opening address Program, Purpose and Methodology of the Summer School, Participants introduction – Summer School Promoter

16:00-17:30 | Keynote lecture by Prof Andrey Makarychev: ***New Insecurities in Europe: A Biopolitical Analysis*** / Global Institutions and New Insecurities in Europe

18:00-19:00 | Dinner

Day 2 Russia's War and the Battle for Meaning: Memory, Theory, and European Security

9:00-9:15 | Opening by Moderators

9:15 – 11:15 Lecture 2.1

Russia's War Against Ukraine and European Mnemonic Security, - Dr Alina Cherviatsova

10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 2.1

12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break

13:30-15:00 | Lecture 2.2 Discourse and Security: Interpreting Russia's War through Critical Theories, - Dr Yuliia Kurnyshova

15:00 - 15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break.

15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 2.2

16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Moderators

Day 3 – Brussels

8:00 | meeting at the St.Peters Railway station to travel to Brussels

10:00-13:00 | Visit to the European Parliament

15:00-17:00 | Visit to museum House of European History <https://historia.europa.eu>

17:00-21:00 Free time; returning to Ghent

Day 4 – Russia's War Against Ukraine: Regions and Borders

09:00-09:15 | Opening by Moderators

09:15 - 10:45 | Lecture 4.1

Public Perception of Russia's War against Ukraine: New Differences and Similarities Across the Visegrad Countries, - Olga Gyarfasova

10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 4.1

12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break

13:30-15:00 | Lecture 4.2

Insecurities, Borders and circulation at the frontiers of the European Union, - Caroline Dufy

15:00 - 15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break.

15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 4.2
 16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Moderators
 18:00 – 20:00 | Film screening and discussion: [Green Border \(2023\)](#) - IMDb Moderator: Katsiaryna Lozka

Day 5 – FRIDAY – Russia’s War Against Ukraine: Current Challenges and Lessons From the Past

09:00 - 09:15 | Opening by Moderators
 09:15 - 10:45 | Lecture 5.1 Economic intelligence, - Paul Cruz
 10:45 - 11:00 | Tea and Coffee Break
 11:00 - 12:00 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 5.1
 12:00 - 13:30 | Lunch Break/ **Summer School picture**
 13:30 - 15:00 | Lecture 5.2 Addressing Insecurities Through Law: Lessons From the Past, - Cosmin Cercel
 15:00-15:15 | Tea and Coffee Break
 15:15 - 16:15 | Follow-up Exercise on Lecture 5.2
 16:15 - 16:30 | Wrap-up by Moderators
 16:30 – 18:00 | Reflection on the Summer School from the participants

Day 6 – Saturday – Optional

9:00-13:00 excursion in Ghent

LECTURES (brief description)

Name	Uni	Topic	Description
Prof. Dr. Andrey Makarychev	University of Tartu	New Insecurities in Europe: a Biopolitical Analysis	The class will discuss the new dimensions of security agenda in Europe from a biopolitical perspective, drawing parallels with the current academic expertise on various modalities of biopower in times of crises and conflicts
Prof Dr Cosmin Cercel	UGent	Addressing Insecurities through Law: Lessons from the Past	This course will discuss the constitutional history and theory of legal mechanisms used in tackling geopolitical crises in European context, such as the state of siege, the state of emergency and extraordinary measure. By exploring the case of interwar and post-war Romania, in its relationship with the Soviet Union (both prior and post WW II), it will offer an insight into the lines of continuity and the transformative effects of such constitutional devices and inquire into the challenges that their use raises for the resilience of the rule of law.
Dr. Alina Cherviatsova	UGent	Russia’s War Against Ukraine and	Russia is an example of country preoccupied with the legal regulation of collective memories. For many years, Russia was the main actor of

		European Mnemonic Security	<p>‘mnemonic propaganda’ provoking the major of ‘memory wars’ in the region. The use of historical narratives in Putin’s justification of Russia’s attack against Ukraine indicates the apogee of the long-lasting process of politicizing and weaponizing history in Russia.</p> <p>The lecture traces the changes in the whole debate on collective memories and memory policies in the wake of Russia’s aggression (the European consensus about the Second World War – ‘never again!’ - has been challenged by Russia’s ‘we can repeat it!’). It also seeks to explore how collective memories and memory laws are used during wartime both as a tool of war propaganda and as a tool of mnemonic self-defence.</p>
Dr. Olga Gyarfasova	Comenius University	Public perception of Russia’s war against Ukraine: New differences and similarities across the Visegrad countries	Based on several recent public opinion polls (Globsec, Institute for Public Affairs, Eurobarometer) the lecture will illustrate how the war is perceived by the public, what are insecurities related to the recent situation, what are the main factors of differences, what are differences inside of individual societies, and how the political representation and the structure of political competition determines but also is determined the public’s attitudes. It will focus mostly on V4 countries, with other CEEC to be presented as well.
Prof. Dr. Caroline Dufy	University of Bordeaux	Insecurities, Borders and circulation at the frontiers of the European Union	The lecture will explore the relationship between the concepts of war and trade. It will reflect on how goods circulate in a context of increasing security tensions at and within the borders of the European Union. As such, it will focus on food security and consider how this concept, although emerging in a different context, was mobilized during Russia’s war against Ukraine. It will draw on the theoretical framework of security studies and border studies.
Paul Cruz	University of Bordeaux	Economic Intelligence: Addressing the Russian influence in Europe: Case Study	The lecture addresses the emergence of economic intelligence and economic warfare in France/Europe, its legal developments (struggle against corruption, ethics in business, duty of vigilance). It will consider the case of Russia’s war against Ukraine, international economic sanctions and export controls, consequences for business (Export controls and dual-use goods). A case study will be conducted: Production of a briefing note on

			a sanction's regime and a case study of due diligence based on Open-source investigation techniques
Dr. Yulia Kurnyshova	University of Tartu and Sodertorn University	Discourse and Security: Interpreting Russia's War through Critical Theories	This class examines the theoretical approaches to war and peace in Ukraine through three analytical lenses: de-securitization, coercion, and deterrence. Each concept is rooted in and shaped by the evolving geopolitical dynamics on the ground and is subject to both advocacy and critique. While acknowledging the diversity of political narratives surrounding the prospects of peace, the primary focus is a theory-driven evaluation of Ukraine's peace formula, as well as alternative proposals advocating for a truce or armistice.
Dr Katsiaryna Lozka	UGent	Green Border (2023) - IMDb	Film screening and discussion