

BRIGID O'KEEFFE
Professor of History
Brooklyn College of the City University of New York
Department of History, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210
Website: <https://www.brigidokeeffe.com/> Email: bok@brooklyn.cuny.edu

EDUCATION

- 2008 Ph.D., New York University, Department of History
2001 B.A., Ohio University, Department of History

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021- Brooklyn College, Professor of History
2015-2021 Brooklyn College, Associate Professor of History
2009-2015 Brooklyn College, Assistant Professor of History

BOOKS

- 2022 *The Multiethnic Soviet Union and its Demise*. Russian Shorts Book Series. Bloomsbury.
2021 *Esperanto and Languages of Internationalism in Revolutionary Russia*. Bloomsbury.
Winner of the Ab Imperio Book Award
2013 *New Soviet Gypsies: Nationality, Performance, and Selfhood in the Early Soviet Union*.
University of Toronto Press.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- The Family Litvinov: A History of the Twentieth Century* (research completed)
Modern Russia: A Very Short Introduction (under contract with Oxford University Press)

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2021 "A Cold War Cold Case: What Huldah Clark Can Teach Us about Teaching Soviet History," *Slavic Review* 80, 2: 299-306.
2021 "An Epistolary Empire: On Esperanto, Russia, and a World of Possibilities." *Ab Imperio*, vol. 2021 no. 4: 179-191.
2021 "Building a Communist Tower of Babel: Esperanto and the Language Politics of Internationalism in Revolutionary Russia," in *Internationalists in European History: Rethinking the Twentieth Century*, ed. Jessica Reinisch and David Brydan (London: Bloomsbury, 2021): 17-32.
2019 "The Woman Always Pays: The Lives of Ivy Litvinov," *The Slavonic and East European Review* 97, 3: 501-528.
2019 "An International Language for an Empire of Humanity: L.L. Zamenhof and the

- Imperial Russian Origins of Esperanto,” *East European Jewish Affairs* 49, 1:1-19.
- 2019 “The Racialization of Soviet Gypsies: Roma, Nationality Politics, and Socialist Transformation in Stalin’s Soviet Union,” in *Ideologies of Race: Imperial Russia and the Soviet Union in Global Context*, ed. David Rainbow (Montreal: McGill University Press, 2019): 132-159.
- 2014 “Gypsies as a litmus test for rational, tolerant rule: Fin-de-siècle Russian ethnographers confront the comparative history of Roma in Europe,” *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice* [Special Issue on Crime and Justice: Roma in Europe and North America] 38, 2: 109-131.
- 2012 “Aleksandr Germano, 1893-1955,” in *Russia’s People of Empire: Life Stories from Eurasia, 1500 to the Present*, ed. Stephen Norris and Willard Sunderland (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press): 265-273.
- 2010 “‘Backward Gypsies,’ Soviet Citizens: The All-Russian Gypsy Union, 1925-28,” *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 11, 2: 283-312.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

- 2022 Ab Imperio Book Award for *Esperanto and Languages of Internationalism in Revolutionary Russia*; annual book prize honoring the “the best study in new imperial history and history of diversity in Northern Eurasia.”
- 2022 PSC-CUNY Research Foundation Grant
- 2021 Brooklyn College Award for Excellence in Research
- 2021 Brooklyn College Award for Excellence in Teaching
- 2020-2021 Visiting Scholar, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, NYU
- 2020 Leonard and Claire Tow Faculty Travel Fellowship
- 2019 & 2020 PSC-CUNY Research Foundation Grant
- 2019 Distinguished CUNY Fellow, Advanced Research Collaborative, CUNY Graduate Center (Fall Semester)
- 2017-2018 Wolfe Fellowship, Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities
- 2017-2018 Writer In Residence, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, NYU
- 2016 Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society
- 2015 & 2016 PSC-CUNY Research Foundation Grant
- 2015 Visiting Research Fellowship, Birkbeck College, University of London
- 2013 Feliks Gross Endowment Award For Outstanding Research, CUNY Academy of Humanities and Sciences
- 2012 Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation Fellowship for Outstanding Teaching
- 2012 Russian Publications Grant from the Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia at New York University (first book subvention)
- 2011 Leonard and Claire Tow Faculty Travel Fellowship
- 2010 & 2012 PSC-CUNY Research Foundation Grant
- 2008-2009 Havighurst Center Postdoctoral Fellowship, Miami University of Ohio
- 2005-2006 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship
- 2005-2006 International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) IARO Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2004-2005 American Councils of Teachers of Russian (ACTR) Advanced Research Fellowship
- 2001-2008 MacCracken Fellowship, New York University

- 2004 Andrew W. Mellon Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Council for European Studies
- 2003 American Councils for Teachers of Russian (ACTR) Scholarship
- 2001 Phi Beta Kappa & Outstanding Phi Beta Kappa Graduate, Ohio University
- 2000 National Security Education Program (NSEP) Study Abroad Scholarship

INVITED LECTURES AND COMMENTARY (selected, since 2017)

- 2023 Book Event: *The Multiethnic Soviet Union and its Demise* (in conversation with Natalya Chernyshova), Pushkin House, London, England
- 2023 Book panel discussion of *The Multiethnic Soviet Union and its Demise*, Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York
- 2022 *Russia and Ukraine at War: Imperial and Soviet Legacies* (in conversation with Victoria Smolkin), Haystack Book Festival, Norfolk, CT
- 2022 “Radical Empathy: How Esperanto Reimagined the Russian Empire and Defies Historical Imagination,” University of Illinois Chicago
- 2021 Book Talk: *Esperanto and Languages of Internationalism in Revolutionary Russia*, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2019 “Bolshevik Tower of Babel: The Language Politics of Global Communism in Revolutionary Russia,” Vanderbilt University
- 2019 “Lost in Translation: The Language Politics of Global Communism in Revolutionary Russia,” Grand Challenges Forum, University of Houston
- 2019 “Bolshevik Tower of Babel: The Language Politics of Internationalism in the Early Comintern,” CUNY Graduate Center, Advanced Research Collaborative
- 2019 Panelist, Roundtable on *Ideologies of Race: Imperial Russia and the Soviet Union in Global Context*, ed. David Rainbow, University of Houston
- 2018 “Speaking in Proletarian Tongues: Esperanto, Internationalism, and the Global Politics of Language in Revolutionary Russia,” the University of Chicago
- 2017 “Tsarist Babel, Bialystok Global: The Imperial Russian Origins of Esperanto,” New York University, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia
- 2017 “An International Language for Global Proletarian Revolution? Esperanto & the Bolsheviks,” Havighurst Center, Miami University of Ohio
- 2017 “Conversations in the Socialist Future: Esperantist Delegations to the Early Soviet Union,” *Tivadar Soros Lecture Series*, CUNY Graduate Center

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP (selected, past three years)

- 2023 Discussant, Megan Buskey’s *Ukraine is Not Dead Yet: A Family Story of Exile and Return* (Book Talk), CUNY Graduate Center, European Union Studies Center
- 2023 “One Year Later: Reflections on Russia’s War Against Ukraine,” Brooklyn College
- 2022 “Esperanto in Revolutionary Russia,” [The Eurasian Knot Podcast](#)
- 2022 “The Multiethnic Soviet Union and Its Demise,” Slavic Connexion (U Texas-Austin)
- 2022 “Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine,” [CUNY TV interview](#), One to One with Sheryl McCarthy
- 2022 “A Conversation on Russia’s War in Ukraine,” Moderator & Panelist, Brooklyn College
- 2021 “[The People’s Ambassador](#): The Forgotten Diplomacy of Ivy Litvinov,” *Aeon*
- 2021 New Books Network Russia and Eurasia, [Interview about *Esperanto and Languages of Internationalism in Revolutionary Russia*](#)