

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-01117-5 - Soviet and Post-Soviet Identities
Edited by Mark Bassin and Catriona Kelly
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SOVIET AND POST-SOVIET IDENTITIES

Since the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, questions of identity have dominated the culture not only of Russia, but of all the countries of the former Soviet bloc. This timely collection examines the ways in which cultural activities such as fiction, TV, cinema, architecture and exhibitions have addressed these questions, and also describes other cultural flashpoints, from attitudes to language to the use of passports. It discusses definitions of political and cultural nationalism, as well as the myths, institutions and practices that moulded and expressed national identity. From post-Soviet recollections of food shortages to the attempts by officials to control popular religion, it analyses a variety of unexpected and compelling topics to offer fresh insights into this key area of world culture. Illustrated with numerous photographs, it presents the results of recent research in an accessible and lively way.

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CATRIONA KELLY is Professor of Russian at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of New College, Oxford.

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107011175

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First published 2012

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Soviet and post-Soviet identities / edited by Mark Bassin and Catriona Kelly.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-01117-5

1. Russia (Federation) – Civilization.
 2. Popular culture – Russia (Federation)
 3. Group identity – Russia (Federation)
 4. Nationalism – Russia (Federation)
- I. Bassin, Mark. II. Kelly, Catriona.

DK32.S688 2012

947–dc23

2011040511

ISBN 978-1-107-01117-5 Hardback

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Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the University of Oxford and New College, Oxford, for sponsoring the research on which a number of the contributions here draw, 'National Identity in Russia from 1961: Traditions and Deterritorialisation', and our collaborators on the project, in particular Andy Byford, Hilary Pilkington, Elena Omelchenko, Josephine von Zitzewitz, Victoria Donovan, Rowenna Baldwin, and Edmund Griffiths, for their lively and stimulating contributions to the debates. Helpful discussions also took place at two international conferences, 'National Identity in Eurasia I: Identities & Traditions', and 'National Identity in Eurasia II: Migrancy & Diaspora', held at New College and at Wolfson College, Oxford, in 2009, and attended by scholars from all over the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, as well as the US, Australia, Germany, France, the Netherlands and the UK. We are also grateful to our anonymous readers for their guidance, and to the staff at Cambridge University Press, above all Linda Bree and Maartje Schelens, for their invaluable support during the editorial and production process.

Library of Congress transliteration is used throughout the text, except in the cases of individual words and names where an alternative transliteration has become established (glasnost, Yeltsin, Ilyumzhinov etc.).