

## **Anastasia A. Fedotova**

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As early as in the second half of the 19th century, Russian historians (Vasiliy Klyuchevsky and his followers) discussed environmental issues; while some naturalists did develop a historical perspective (Karl Baer and his research on the history of fisheries). However, institutionalization of the environmental history in Russia is still at its earliest stages: we lack specialized journals and departments, there are very few lecture courses. Often we, as environmental historians, face misunderstanding from the “mainstream historians” and our papers focused on environmental history are rejected by editorial boards on the grounds that their subjects do not fit the profile of a historical journal.

At the same time, the existing organization of academic scholarship in Russia has no institutionalized obstacles for defending a dissertation on environmental history, nor for organizing a conference on this subject. Many historians are fascinated by the topic, especially young historians and historians in the regions, as well as historians of science and specialists in life and earth sciences. A few journals quite eagerly accept papers on environmental history: Questions of the History of Science and Technology accepts papers on the history of technology or industry; Proceedings of the Russian Geographical Society – papers on historical geography.

My own background (MSc in biology and a candidate dissertation in history of science) makes me a good mediator between historians, historians of science & scientists. I have a large network of contacts & collaborators that are involved in my research in environmental history and in history of science. For a few years I’ve been working on two topics – history of pest control & history of forestry - and both of them involve collaboration with biologists, geographers, “mainstream’ historians & historians of science. As ESHS regional representative, I hope to expand this network by engaging young researchers, researchers from different regions of the Russian Federation, as well as life and earth scientists.

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### **Research interests**

Scientific knowledge for rationalization of agriculture, forestry & conservation in the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 1st half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Russian Empire / USSR)

### **Affiliation**

2013–Present – Senior Researcher, St. Petersburg Branch of Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Russian Academy of Sciences

2008–2012 – Researcher, St. Petersburg Branch of Institute for the History of Science and Technology

### **Fellowships**

2018 Oct.–Dec. – Max Plank Institute for the History of Science (Berlin)

2017 Aug., 2016 Aug., 2015 Mar. & Aug. – Mammal Research Institute, Polish Academy of Science (Białowieża)

2007 Oct.–Nov. – Zentrum für Zeitgeschichte von Bildung und Wissenschaft im Institut für Erziehungswissenschaft (Leibniz Universität Hannover)

### **Education**

PhD in History of Science, Dissertation: “*The Study of Steppe Vegetation in European Russia (1850-1917): the Making of Geobotany*”, Institute for the History of Science and Technology 2012

1997–2000 – Masters in plant ecology and plant geography. Dep. of Biology and Soil Science, St. Petersburg State University

### **Selected Publications**

Samojlik T., Fedotova A., Borowik T., Kowalczyk R. “Historical management of European bison population in Białowieża Primeval Forest as valuable evidence for current conservation of the species,” *Mammal Research*, 2019, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13364-019-00437-2>

Samojlik T., Fedotova A., Niechoda T., Rotherham I.D. “Culturally modified trees or wasted timber: Different approaches to marked trees in Poland’s Białowieża Forest,” *PLOS ONE*, 2019, 14(1): e0211025

Fedotova A., Samojlik T., Daszkiewicz P. “Killing for museums: European bison as a museum exhibit”, *Centaurus*, 2018, 60(4), DOI:10.1111/1600-0498.12194

Klemun M., Loskutova M.V., Fedotova A.A. “Skulls and Blossoms: Collecting and Meaning of Scientific Objects as Resources in the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries,” *Centaurus*, 2018, 60(4), DOI:10.1111/1600-0498.12211

Samojlik T., Selva N., Fedotova A. Daszkiewicz P., Wajrak A., Kuijper D.P.J. “Lessons from Białowieża Forest on the history of protection and the world’s first reintroduction of a large carnivore,” *Conservation Biology*, 2018, 32(4): 808–816.

- Fedotova A., Koupryanov A. “Archival research reveals the true date of birth of the father of locust phase theory, Sir Boris Uvarov, FRS,” *Euroasian Entomological Journal*, 2016, 15(4): 321–327.
- Fedotova A. “The Beetle Question: The Growing Problem of Insect Infestations in South Russia,” *The Slavonic and East European Review*, 2015, 93(1): 66–95.
- Fedotova A., Loskutova M. “Forests, Climate, and the Rise of Scientific Forestry in Russia: From Local Knowledge and Natural History to Modern Experiments (1840s–early 1890s),” in: Phillips D., Kingsland S. (eds.) *New Perspectives on the History of Life Sciences and Agriculture*, Springer, 2015, pp. 113–137.
- Loskutova M., Fedotova A. “The Rise of Applied Entomology in the Russian Empire: The Governmental, Public, and Academic Response to Insect Pest Outbreaks in the 1840s–1894,” in: Phillips D., Kingsland S. (eds.) *New Perspectives on the History of Life Sciences and Agriculture*, Springer, 2015, pp. 139–162.
- Fedotova A. “Forestry Experimental Stations: The Russian Proposals of the 1870s,” *Centaurus*, 2014, 56(4): 254–274.
- Fedotova A. “Pharmaceutical Hunger and Medicinal Plants: Mobilization of the Botanists during World War I,” *Sociology of Science and Technology*, 2013, № 1, pp. 86–94.
- Fedotova A. “The Origins of the Russian Chernozem Soil (Black Earth): Franz Joseph Ruprecht’s ‘Geo-Botanical Reseaches into the Chernozem’ of 1866,” *Environment and History*, 2010, 16(3): 271–293.

#### **Editorial Work** (selected)

- Thematic collection of *Centaurus* (2018, vol. 60, no 4)  
 “Skulls and Blossoms: Collecting and Meaning of Scientific Objects as Resources in the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries,” invited co-editors: A. Fedotova, M. Klemun & M. Loskutova
- Bilingual journal (Russian-English) *Studies in the History of Biology*: Staff editor & associate editor: January 2012 – March 2016
- Biology in St. Petersburg. 1703-2008. Encyclopedic Dictionary*. Edited and compiled by E.I. Kolchinsky, A.A. Fedotova. St. Petersburg Nestor-Historia, 2011.

#### **Panels and Conference Organizing** (selected)

- Panel co-organizer “Unity and disunity of theory and practice in research on economically significant species”, Conference of the European Society for the History of Science, London, 2018. Co-organizer Staffan Mueller-Wille
- Panel co-organizer “Skulls and roses: natural history collections and their meaning in 18–19<sup>th</sup> centuries”, Conference of the European Society for the History of Science, Prague, 2016. Co-organizer Marina Loskutova
- Panel organizer “Forestry specialists in the long 19<sup>th</sup> century and their understanding of forest ecology”, ESEH Conference, Versailles, France 30 June – 3 July 2015
- Panel organizer “Trade Grain, Pests, and Crop Failures”, World Congress for Environmental History, Guimarães (Portugal), 2014
- Panel co-organizer “The nineteenth century debates about impact of forests on climate and water regime in European periphery: scientific research, political debates and state policies” ESEH Conference, Munich, 2013. Co-organizer Marina Loskutova