

40 Years After Charnobyl: From Personal Experience to Collective Memory

Panel discussion

15.04.2026

18:00 - 19:30 (Berlin)

19:00 - 20:30 (Minsk)

The discussion will be
simultaneously translated into
English and Belarusian.

DGO

► Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Osteuropakunde e.V.

Ф

ФОРУМ ГІСТАРЫЧНЫХ
ДАСЛЕДАВАННЯў БЕЛАРУСІ
FORUM FÜR HISTORISCHE
BELARUS-FORSCHUNG

Registration here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_ISjSD0qTUKiH6QIbfLu9Q

The 1986 Charnobyl disaster became part of transnational history and affected the lives of many societies. Russia's war against Ukraine has again brought to the forefront the memory of Charnobyl and the issue of safety.

We will discuss which images of the disaster and life after it are now being established in Belarusian society, which remain marginalized, and how state policy, science, and cultural practices influence this process. An important aspect will also be the question of how Charnobyl continues to be present in the identity of people born after the disaster. The discussion will also focus on examples of how the lives of displaced persons have changed, as well as the children who participated in international humanitarian programs outside of Belarus.

The discussion will also address the transnational dimension of the memory of Charnobyl: how different countries and communities interpret this event, what forms of solidarity have emerged as a result, and whether a common framework for understanding the disaster has been formed.

Moderation

Aliaksei Bratachkin

Distance University in Hagen

Experts

Julia Cimafiejeva

Poet, author and translator, Berlin

David Roger Marples

University of Alberta, Canada

Introduction

Gabriele Freitag

German Association for East European Studies