



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
IMPERIAL EXPERIENCES IN FAMILY VIOLENCE: CRIMES AND CRIMINOLOGY IN 19th–20th CENTURIES

Date: December 15–16, 2025

Location: Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, Vilnius, Lithuania

Register for the program [here](#).
Find the abstracts of the papers [here](#).

DAY I

December 15th (Monday) 8.30–18.00

Venue: *Statehood space*

8.30–9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00–9.30 Welcome speeches

PANEL I *Gender, Discipline and the Empire*

9.30–11.00

Chair: Povilas Andrius Stepavičius (Vilnius University; Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, Lithuania)

[Prof. dr. Marianna Muravyeva \(University of Helsinki, Finland\)](#)

“Family for the Empire: Domestic Authority, Discipline and Policing in the Western Russian Empire late 18th- early 19th centuries”

[Dr. Ekaterina Oleshkevich \(Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel\)](#)

„Constructing Maternal Violence: Baby Farming and the Criminalization of Working-Class Childcare in the Late Russian Empire”

[Dr. Daniel Grey \(University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom\)](#)

„‘The Crime Should Be Made A Special One’: Representing Infanticide in the Nineteenth-Century British Empire”

11.00–11.30 Coffee break

PANEL II Family Violence and Institutional Practices in the Baltics under Imperial Rule

11.30–13.00

Chair: Prof. Dr. Marianna Muravyeva (University of Helsinki, Finland)

[Dr. Sigita Černevičiūtė \(University of Helsinki, Finland\)](#)

„Criminological Portraits of Family Violence in Imperial Lithuania: Norms, Deviance, and Response”

[Dr. Ineta Lipša \(National Archives of Latvia, Latvia\)](#)

“Child Abuse in the Vidzeme (Livland) Province of the late Russian Empire: Urban and Rural Cases from the Riga District Court (1890s-1910s)”

[Dr. Irina Paert \(University of Tartu, Estonia\)](#)

„Vodka and violence, or how in the Imperial Baltic province, one priest’s wife managed to bend the church’s treatment of inappropriate clerical behaviour“

13.00–14.30 Lunch time independently

PANEL III *Public Problem of a Private Nature: External Causes of Domestic Violence in Interwar Europe*

14.30–16.00

Chair: dr. Sigita Černevičiūtė (University of Helsinki, Finland)

[Guntis Vāveris \(University of Latvia, Latvia\)](#)

„Narratives of Domestic Violence in the Latvian Temperance Movement as a Platform for Problem Actualization (Late 19th Century-1930s)“

[Robertas Každanas \(Lithuanian Institute of History/Vilnius University, Lithuania\)](#)

„Cases of the family violence committed by women in the interwar Lithuania: an analysis of Šiauliai District Court archival documents and media reports“

[Lisa Hellriegel \(University of Bremen, Germany\)](#)

“Family Violence after Empire: Sexual Violence in Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1919–1945”

16.00–16.30 Coffee break

16.30–18.00 Keynote speech

Chair: Prof. Dr. Marianna Muravyeva

[Professor Emerita Joanna Bourke \(Birkbeck University of London, UK\)](#)

„‘The Things They Do For Love’: Female Violence and Psychiatry in the UK, US, and Canada“

Day II

December 16th (Tuesday) 9.00–18.00

Venue: Statehood space

PANEL IV *Representation of Family Violence in Fictional Narratives and Life Stories*

9.00–10.30

Chair: dr. Andrea Griffante (Lithuanian Institute of History, Lithuania)

[Dr. Birutė Avižinienė \(Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, Lithuania\)](#)

“Overcoming Family Violence in Lithuanian Women’s Literature (Late 19th – Early 20th Century)”

[Prof. Dr. Claire Whitehead \(University of St Andrews, United Kingdom\) ONLINE](#)

„The Depiction of Family Violence in Female-Authored Russian Crime Fiction of the Late Imperial Era“

[Marilyn Mägi \(Estonian Literary Museum/University of Tartu, Estonia\)](#)

„Fathers, Mothers, and the Inheritance of Harm: Narratives of Intergenerational Violence in 20th Century Estonian Life Stories“

10.30–11.30

Coffee and Discussion with NGO’s and scholars

„Family Violence and Scholarship: can we learn from it?“

Moderator: Rugilė Butkevičiūtė (NGO „Ribologija“)

Historian Dr. Sigita Černevičiūtė (University of Helsinki)

Legal researcher Valentina Frolova (University of Helsinki)

Criminologist Dr. Ilona Michailovič (Vilnius University, Lithuanian Association of Criminologists)

Educational researcher Dr. Vaidas Viršilas (Lithuanian Probation Service)

PANEL V *Family Model for the Empire: Family Violence, Race and Gender in Building Modernity*

11.30–13.00

Chair: dr. Monika Rogers (Lithuanian Institute of History, Lithuania)

Dr. Gal Hertz (Bezalel Academy, Israel)

„The Cares of a Family Man – Normativity and Patriarchy in Hans Gross“

Dr. Esmorie J. Miller (Lancaster University, United Kingdom)

„‘These families have a low standard of life, morally...and...little future for the children’: Youth, Race, and Interwar Epistemic Violence“

Dr. Ginger Frost (Samford University, United States of America)

„‘The Indian Done Her In’: Domestic Murder in Racially Mixed Marriages in 1930s Britain“

13.00–14.30 Lunch time independently

PANEL VI *Family Violence and 20th century Authoritarian States: New Disciplining?*

14.30–16.00

Chair: dr. Alexander Kondakov (University College Dublin, Ireland)

Dr. Monika Rogers (Lithuanian Institute of History)

„Violence against women in Lithuania in Soviet and Post-Soviet Era: from state policies to criminal prosecution practices“

Dr. Ieva Balčiūnė (Lithuanian Institute of History)

„Infanticide in Soviet Lithuania: cases of children with disabilities“

Sabina Mompó Toribio (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain)

„Between Silence and Punishment: Legal Responses to Sexual and Domestic Violence in Authoritarian Spain (1923–1949)“

16.00–16.30 Concluding Remarks

Organizers: [University of Helsinki](#) and [Lithuanian Institute of History](#)



Partners: The [Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania](#), [University College Dublin](#), NGO [Ribologija](#), [The Family, Women and Children History Researchers Network](#), The [National Archives of Latvia](#) and The [Lithuanian Association of Criminologists](#).



Ribologija



Family, Women
and Children
History Network



National Archives of Latvia



Organizing Committee:

Chair: Dr. **Sigita Černevičiūtė**, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, *Till Death Do Us Part: Four Epochs of Violence in Every Family in Russia – What Makes it Russian? (FEVER)*

Members:

- Prof. Dr. **Marianna Muravyeva**, Principal Investigator, University of Helsinki, *Till Death Do Us Part: Four Epochs of Violence in Every Family in Russia – What Makes it Russian? (FEVER)*
- Dr. **Andrea Griffante**, Lithuanian Institute of History
- Dr. **Alexander Kondakov**, University College Dublin
- Dr. **Ineta Lipša**, National Archives of Latvia
- **Ignė Rasickaitė**, Statehood Center, National Library of Lithuania
- Dr. **Monika Rogers**, Lithuanian Institute of History
- Dr. **Vitalija Stravinskienė**, Lithuanian Institute of History
- **Yuliya Brin**, University of Helsinki, *Till Death Do Us Part: Four Epochs of Violence in Every Family in Russia – What Makes it Russian? (FEVER)*

This international conference is organized as part of the project [*Till Death Do Us Part: Four Epochs of Violence in Every Family in Russia – What Makes it Russian? \(FEVER\)*](#), funded by the **Research Council of Finland**.