

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**ALEX PEKOV**

Legal Name: Alexey Pekov  
Born on July 15, 1987 in Moscow, Russia  
E-mail: [ap3543@columbia.edu](mailto:ap3543@columbia.edu)

**EDUCATION**

- **PhD Candidate in Slavic Languages and Comparative Literature** at Columbia University in the City of New York (NY, USA), started in September 2016 – until presently. Doctoral thesis “**Toward a Transmediterranean Genealogy: Matrilineal Legacies in Sephardi Women Writers from the Former Yugoslavia and the Maghreb,**” sponsored by Dr. Valentina Izmirlieva.
- **MPhil in Slavic Languages and Comparative Literature** at Columbia University — high pass, October 2018
- **MA in Slavic Philology (Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian and Czech Literatures) and Jewish Studies** at Heidelberg University (Ruperto Carola) and Higher School of Jewish Studies Heidelberg (Germany), September 2015. MA thesis, graded 1.0 (very good) “**Die Darstellung des sephardischen Judentums in der Literatur des ehemaligen Jugoslawien ab dem ausgehenden 19. Jahrhundert bis zum Zweiten Weltkrieg**” (“The Portrayal of Sephardi Jewry in the Literature of the Former Yugoslavia from the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century until World War II”), sponsored by Prof. Dr. Urs Heftrich, Prof. Dr. Roland Gruschka
- **Non-degree studies/visiting student** at KIT/Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (Karlsruhe, Germany), **MA program EUKLID (European Culture and History of Ideas)**, spring terms 2011 & 2012
- **Diploma in Philosophy and Teaching of Philosophy** (specialization in History of Russian Philosophy) at Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU), 09/2004-06/2009 – graduation with distinction (red diploma and gold medal conferred—equivalent of *summa cum laude*). Diploma thesis “**Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk as a Historian of Russian Philosophy**”

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- Instructor of intensive Second-Year Russian (*Intermediate Russian I*), June 2018, 2019, 2020 (Summer Session H). A four-week long course comprises of sixteen hours. In Summer 2020—online, via Zoom
- Teaching Assistant for Professor Adam Leeds in *19th Century Radical Thought*, Spring 2020
- Teaching Assistant for Professor Alan Timberlake in *Slavic Cultures*, Fall 2019
- Instructor of Elementary Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 (via the Shared Course Initiative with Yale and Cornell—distant teaching technology at the Language Resource Center)
- Instructor of Second-Year Russian, academic year 2017-2018

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Ex-Yugoslav literatures, Sephardim in the Balkans and Maghreb, Francophone lettres, literary representations of the Shoah in Central and Eastern Europe, Jewish lifeworlds, Literary Theory, Comparative Literature, narratology, Lacanian psychoanalysis, liminal and hyphenated identities, multilingualism and decolonization, autofiction and life-writing, genocide and gynocide, testimonial narratives, postmemory, temporality and tense grammars in Black Studies, colonial regimes of desire, colonial photography, gay male physique photography, gay masculinities, queer diasporic communities

**LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

**English, German, French, Czech:** fluent

**Russian:** native speaker

**Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian:** near-native

**Modern Hebrew:** advanced level 7

**Hungarian, Yiddish, Italian, Spanish, Ladino:** advanced reading skills

**Latin, Old Church Slavonic, Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Polish, Slovak:** reading knowledge

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- AJS, American Association for Jewish Studies
- EAJS, European Association for Jewish Studies
- ASEES, Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies
- MLA, Modern Language Association

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- “Yugoslav Sephardim as Jewish Other: Selected Literary Testimonies,” presented at the 48th Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies in San Diego, CA, December 18-20, 2016
- “Bosnia—the “Land of Endemic Hatred” or a Peaceful Neighborhood? Ivo Andrić vs. Isak Samokovlija,” presented at Princeton-Columbia Slavic Studies Graduate Conference at Princeton, NJ, April 15, 2017

- “A Female Voice Struggling for the Authorship of Herstory: Sonja Kleman's Testimony in Frida Filipović's *Gorke trave*,” presented at Northeastern Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Conference (NESEEEES) at NYU, New York, NY, April 7, 2018
- “Annie Cohen and Annie Fitoussi on the Nomadic Juifemmes: The Female Voices of Francophone Judaeo-Maghrebi Literature,” presented at the XIth Congress of European Association for Jewish Studies in Kraków, Poland, July 15-19, 2018
- “Mother's Death and the Demise of the Judeo-Maghrebi Motherland in Nine Moati's *Mon enfant, ma mère* and Gisèle Halimi's *Fritna*,” presented at the 50th Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies in Boston, MA, December 16-18, 2018
- “Female Archives of Sefarad in Yugoslavia: Sephardi Women's Lifeworlds and Coming into Modernity in Gordana Kuić's *Miris kiše na Balkanu*,” presented at Northeastern Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Conference (NESEEEES) at NYU, New York, NY, March 30, 2019
- “Post-Yugoslav as Post-Traumatic: Women's Suffering, Civil War, and Trauma in Contemporary Bosnian Film,” presented at CHCI-Mellon Crises of Democracy Global Humanities Institute (GHI) in Dubrovnik, Croatia, on July 18, 2019
- Thesis chapter “Exploring the Colonial Mother-land: Maternal Bodies and Daughters' Affiliations in Maghreb-born Sephardi Francophone Women Authors,” presented at the Department of Slavic Languages, Columbia University, March 5, 2020
- “Towards the Colonial Mother-land: Maternal Bodies and the Maghrebi Corpo-graphy in Sephardi Francophone Women Authors from the Maghreb,” presented at the panel “Cartographies of Corporeality: Transnational Narratives of the Jewish Body” of the 52nd Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, held online on Zoom, December 13, 2020

### **SEMINARS & SUMMER SCHOOLS**

- July 15-24, 2019 — an early career researcher at CHCI-Mellon Crises of Democracy Global Humanities Institute (GHI) in Dubrovnik, Croatia
- May 1-2, 2019 — Yale Annual Seminar on Modern Hebrew Literature and Jewish Literatures—“Bilingualism in Modern Hebrew Literature and Jewish Literatures”

### **FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES**

August 2020 – the Fromer Fellowship from the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Columbia University  
 April 2020 – a named honorary Kathryn and Shelby Davis International Fellowship for the 2019-20 academic year in recognition of academic qualifications and contributions  
 July 2019 – Institute for Comparative Literature and Society's dissertation prospectus fellowship at Columbia University  
 October 2018 – Graduate Certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Columbia University  
 August 2018 – the Scopus Ulpan at the Rothberg International School, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (July 26, 2018 – August 14, 2018), advanced level Heh, score 96/100 (A+)  
 July 31, 2017 – Level Dalet Exam at the Rothberg International School, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, score 95/100 (A+)  
 February 2016 – Dean's Fellowship (Ph.D. scholarship) of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University  
 October 2015 – TOEFL iBT 104/120  
 October 2015 – examen hebraicum (German certificate in Biblical and Modern Hebrew), grade 1.5 – very good  
 August 2015 – September 2015 – graduate scholarship Deutschlandstipendium in Heidelberg, Germany  
 June 2014 – DALF (Diplôme approfondi de langue française – C1 level by classification of CEF), 74/100  
 June 2010 – Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), Cambridge ESOL Examinations, C2 – A level  
 June 2005 – German certificate Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung, Goethe-Institut Moscow, C2 – good

### **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

- Academic year 2020-2021 – Graduate Fellow at the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Columbia University
- Academic year 2020-2021 – Lead Teaching Fellow at the Center for Teaching and Learning, Columbia University
- Approved to serve as Chair on the panel on Eastern Europe and the Balkans at Northeastern Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Conference (NESEEEES) at NYU, New York, NY, April 4, 2020 (cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Approved to serve as Chair at Columbia-Princeton Slavic Studies Graduate Conference 2020, at Columbia University, March 28, 2020 (cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Academic year 2017-2018 – Columbia-Princeton Slavic Studies Graduate Conference Co-Organizer

### **FURTHER EMPLOYMENT**

**5/2014 – 4/2015 Slavisches Institut (Institute of Slavic Studies)** – Heidelberg University, Germany  
 Teaching Assistant for Lecturer of Czech Dr. Aleš Půda – preparation of Czech online-tests on the e-learning

platform

**3/2014 – 2/2015 Hochschule für Jüdische Studien (Higher School for Jewish Studies)** Heidelberg, Germany  
Research Assistant for Chair Prof. Dr. Roland Gruschka in the Department of Jewish Literatures

**11/2011-02/2012 Ruslingua (Language courses center)** – Moscow, Russia

Instructor of Russian (taught in French) and English as a foreign language

**02/2010-02/2011 Roscosmos TV/TV Studio of the Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos)** – Moscow, Russia

Translator/Interpreter/Editor – translation of documentaries and video presentations into English, French, and German, language support of interviews, conduct of business correspondence

**04/2007-06/2008 Machaon publishing house** – Moscow, Russia

Translator of popular-science encyclopedias on mythology and Ancient history (from English & French into Russian)

### **PUBLICATIONS (in Russian)**

1. Т.Г. Масарик о православии и русской философии в сочинении "Россия и Европа" // Київський національний університет імені Тараса Шевченка. Дні науки філософського факультету - 2008. Міжнародна наукова конференція (16-17 квітня 2008 року). Матеріали доповідей та виступів. Частина V. К.: Видавничо-поліграфічний центр, 2008. pp. 35-37.

2. Русская философия в Европе: новая архивная публикация. (in co-authorship with Maslin M.) // Вестник Московского университета. Series 7. Philosophy. 2/2009. pp. 117-120.

3. Панславизм и тема славянства в русской философии XIX века в оценке Томаша Масарика. Conference Lomonosov 2011. Article available online:  
[http://lomonosov-msu.ru/archive/Lomonosov\\_2011/1326/7939\\_747d.pdf](http://lomonosov-msu.ru/archive/Lomonosov_2011/1326/7939_747d.pdf)

4. „Русский вопрос“ в свете философии национальности Томаша Масарика. // Вестник Вятского государственного гуманитарного университета. Nr. 1(4). Киров 2012. pp. 40-43.

### **(AUTO)FICTION & ONLINE PUBLICATIONS**

- “Beyond the Waters, Above and Below,” in *Roseanne* (#1 Magic), New York 2018.
- “Gazing at Maps,” on the IRWGS blog *Out and About*: <http://irwgs.columbia.edu/out-and-about-gazing-at-maps/>
- “Learning to Remember,” a blog entry on the website of CHCI-Mellon Crises of Democracy Global Humanities Institute: <https://crisesofdemocracy.home.blog/2019/11/11/learning-to-remember/>