

## UKRAINE'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNTRY'S FUTURE

Thursday 4 April 2019, at 14:00–16:00  
Finnish Institute of International Affairs  
Arkadiankatu 23, entrance H (inner courtyard), Helsinki

On March 31st, the first round of Ukraine's presidential election takes place. The unpredictable and scandal-rich election occurs at a critical time. Five years after the Euromaidan Revolution, Ukraine's key structural problems remain unresolved, while the conflict with Russia persists. The result of the election will have a profound impact on the country's internal developments and its relations with the West. It will also affect the outcome of the forthcoming parliamentary elections, which will take place in October. The purpose of the seminar is to discuss the presidential campaign and the election's implications for the future of the country. The event will focus on both regional and general aspects of Ukraine's presidential race and offer an external analytical perspective.

*Speakers:*

**Ryhor Nizhnikau**, Senior Research Fellow, Finnish Institute of International Affairs

**Andrew Wilson**, Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations

**Volodymyr Dubovyk**, Associate Professor, Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University

*Chair:*

**Arkady Moshes**, Programme Director, Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Speakers' biographies 

## Biographies



**Ryhor Nizhnikau** is a Senior Research Fellow in the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia programme at FIIA. He works on Russia's and EU's policies towards Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus as well as domestic developments in these countries. His current research focus includes the study of Ukraine's reforms after the Euromaidan Revolution. He received his PhD from Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, University of Tartu. His recent publications include *EU Induced Institutional Change in Post-Soviet Space: Promoting Reforms in Moldova and Ukraine* (Routledge, 2018).



**Andrew Wilson** is a Senior Policy Fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations. His topics of focus include Ukraine, comparative politics of democratisation in the post-Soviet states, and political technology. Wilson is Professor in Ukrainian Studies at University College London. He has worked extensively on the comparative politics of the post-Soviet states since 1990. His book *Ukraine Crisis: What the West Needs to Know* was published by Yale in 2014. He is currently working on a book on "The Globalisation of Political Technology".



**Volodymyr Dubovyk** is an Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations and Director of the Center for International Studies at Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University (Ukraine). His areas of expertise include Ukraine, Transatlantic Relations, the U.S., and Black Sea security. Dubovyk has conducted research at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (1997, 2006-2007), at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland (2002), taught at the University of Washington (Seattle) in 2013 and at St. Edwards university/University of Texas (Austin) in 2016-17. He is the co-author of *Ukraine and European Security* (Macmillan, 1999) and has published numerous articles on US-Ukraine relations, regional and international security, and Ukraine's foreign policy.



**Arkady Moshes** is the Programme Director of the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia research programme at the FIIA. From 2008 to 2015 he was an Associate Fellow with the Russia and Eurasia Programme at Chatham House. He received his PhD from the Institute of Europe, Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. His main areas of expertise include Russia-EU relations and the internal and foreign policy of Ukraine and Belarus. He has written extensively on those issues, as well as on Russia's policy toward the CIS and Baltic States.