



## INDEPENDENCE WARS IN NORTH-EASTERN EUROPE AND BEYOND

Military history conference, Tartu, 29 May 2019

Organised by: Estonian War Museum–General Laidoner Museum  
Estonian Military Academy  
Venue: Von Sydow Hall, Estonian Military Academy, Tartu,  
Riia St. 12

### Program

8:30–9:00 *Registration, morning coffee*

9:00–9:15 **Mr. Hellar Lill** (Director of the Estonian War Museum – General Laidoner Museum) and **Colonel Enno Mõts** (Commander of the Estonian Military Academy)

Opening words

Award ceremony: Hendrik Sepp Prize for the best Estonian publication in military history in 2018

9:15–10:45 **Interpreting Independence Wars**

**Prof. Vasilijus Safronovas** (Klaipėda University)

Continuous or Variable Conflicts: An Approach through the Lens of Lithuanian Soldiers

**Dr. Kārlis Dambītis** (National Defence Academy of Latvia)

Interpretations of Independence war of Latvia: past and present

**Dr. Lauri Vahre** (Estonian War Museum – General Laidoner Museum)

The Estonian War of Independence 1918-1920: general features and place in history

10:45–11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00–12:30 **Allies and Repatriates**

**Prof. Lars Ericson Wolke** (Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences)

Idealists or Adventurers? – Einar Lundborg and the Swedish volunteers in Estonia in 1919

**Dr. Mikkel Kirkebæk** (Denmark)

Who fought for Estonia? – Danish volunteer soldiers and their incentives to fight in the Estonian war of independence in 1919

**Dr. Mart Kuldkepp** (University College London)

The Repatriation of Great War Estonian Prisoners of War from Germany during the Estonian War of Independence

12:30–13:30 *Lunch*

13:30–14:30 **Ideology, Pragmatism and Foreign Policy**

**Dr. Artem Barynkin** (Saint Petersburg State University)

Proletarian internationalism or pragmatism? Soviet foreign policy towards Poland at the turn of 1918–1919

**Thomas Rettig** (Dresden University of Technology)

United by Anti-Bolshevism? The West Russian Volunteer Army in Latvia 1919

14:30–14:45 *Coffee break*

14:45–16:15 **Operations, Tactics, Technology, and Civilians**

**Valdis Kuzmins** (National defence Academy of Latvia)

Rising an Army: Military Operations in Kurland

**Colonel Jacek Lasota and Michał Przybylak** (War Studies University, Warsaw)

New state, new war, new weapon – the first operational use of the Polish armoured units (1919–1920)

**Mindaugas Sereičikas** (Klaipėda University)

The Wars of Independence as a Challenge to the Civilians: Relationship between the Lithuanian Army and the Civilians in 1919

16:15–16:45 *Coffee break*

16:45–17:45 **Civil Wars and Independence Wars in Caucasus and Central Asia**

**Dr. Ivan Fukalov** (University ADAM, Bishkek)

Civil war on the outskirts of the former Russian Empire: Kyrgyzstan at the crossroads of the influence of operating forces

**Dr. Khachatur Stepanyan** (Armenian State Pedagogical University, Yerevan)

Armenia's anti-Soviet rebellion in February 1921 as a manifestation of War for Independence

17:45–18:15 **Final discussion**