

WIAPS COLLOQUIUM SERIES

# A Cultural Theory of International Relations and Russia's Wars Against Its Neighbors in the 19th to 21st Century



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This lecture aims to analyze the history of military conflicts and wars involving modern Russia, using a cultural theory of International Relations developed by Richard Ned Lebow. By examining two case studies – the Russo-Japanese War of 1904–1905 and the Russo-Ukrainian War of 2014 – we will explore how emotions and prejudices shaped the nature of these conflicts. These emotional and cultural foundations were later rationalized through explanations including economic, geopolitical, and security reasons. This analytical approach can also be applied to other wars involving Russia from the 19th to the 21st century.

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**Wednesday, October 15, 2025 • 17:00-18:40**

**Building 19, Room 608, Waseda University**

**Moderator: Prof. Alexander Bukh, GSAPS, Waseda**