

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

IV Global *International Society for Regional History* 2026 CONFERENCE



Cross-border Regions in History

Venue: Rytmikorjaamo, Seinäjoki, Finland

Tuesday 22 September 2026

8.15 - 9.00	<i>Registration opens</i>	
9.00 - 9.30	Opening	
	Music: Matti Mäkelä , University of Helsinki Ruralia Institute, Finland	
	Opening address: Chairperson, ISRH, international steering committee Elize S Van Eeden , North-West University, South Africa	
	Welcome address: Convener, Chairperson of the organizing committee and the advisory board in Finland Sulevi Riukulehto , University of Helsinki, Finland	
9.30 - 10.30	Keynote 1	
	Professor Mark Bassin , Södertörn University, Stockholm, Sweden	<i>Where is Eurasia? Why is Eurasia? The Invention of a Russian Region</i>
10.30 - 12.00	Presentations 1	
12.00 - 13.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.00 - 14.45	Presentations 2	
14.45 - 15.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15.00 - 16.45	Presentations 3	
19.00 - 21.00	Reception (by City of Seinäjoki)	
	Welcome address: Representative of the City of Seinäjoki, name to be announced later	
	Music: Mäsä Duo	

Wednesday 23 September

9.30 - 11.00 **Presentations 4**

11.00 - 12.00 **Keynote 2**

Doctor James Hlongwana, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

Cross-border Ethnic Relations. An Asset for the Ndau People of Zimbabwe - Mozambique borderland 1900–2024

12.00 - 13.00 *Lunch*

13.00 - 14.45 **Presentations 5**

14.45 - 15.00 *Coffee break*

15.00 - 16.45 **Presentations 6**

19.00 - 22.00 **Gala Dinner** (subject to charge)

Music: **Maija Pokela**

Thursday 24 September

9.30 - 11.00 **Presentations 7**

11.00 - 12.00 **Keynote 3**

Doctor Alina Kuusisto, Karelian Institute, University of Eastern Finland

Utopia of the open border. Transnational Karelia as a remembered and experienced space

12.30 - 13.00 **Closing**

Report of the conference: Convener **Sulevi Riukulehto**, University of Helsinki, Finland

Valedictory words: Prof. **Elize S Van Eeden**, North-West University, South Africa

13.00 - 14.00 *Lunch*

14.00 - 15.00 Cultural program (optional): guided visit to Aalto Centre in Seinäjoki (UNESCO World Heritage)

