



*Northwestern University Library  
Participates In . . .*

**65th Anniversary  
of the End of World War II:  
Lessons to be Learned from History  
An International Conference  
April 22–24, 2010  
Bratislava, Slovakia**



R U S S I A N   A C A D E M Y   O F   S C I E N C E S  
P E T E R   T H E   G R E A T   M U S E U M   O F   A N T H R O P O L O G Y  
A N D   E T H N O G R A P H Y   ( K U N S T K A M E R A )

3, University Emb., St-Petersburg, 199034, Russia, tel.: +7 (812) 328 0812, +7 (812) 3;  
fax: +7 (812) 328 0811, e-mail: [museum@kunstkamera.ru](mailto:museum@kunstkamera.ru), <http://www.kunstkamera.ru>



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Northwestern University Library was invited to send a participant to this meeting in recognition of its contribution of 21 World War II era posters to the exhibit "They Were Fighting for Our Freedom." The exhibit was organized by Prof. Efim Rezvan of the Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg (left).

AUL of Special Libraries Jeff Garrett traveled to the conference as a guest of the organizers, representing Northwestern's Library on behalf of University Librarian Sarah Pritchard, who was unable to attend.



The Slovak capital Bratislava was the site of this conference, organized by the World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations," an NGO based in Vienna, Austria, and founded by Vladimir Yakunin, an important figure in the political life of Russia.

The actual venue of the conference and exhibit was the new Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Bratislava, a short walk from the historic town center.



# I. The Exhibit

"They Were Fighting for Our  
Freedom"



Posters were grouped thematically, with Russian and American posters usually paired. Here, a Russian and an American pilot are put adjacent to each other.



**AMERICANS**  
**will always fight for liberty**

Bernard Perlin. "1778, 1943: Americans will always fight for liberty". Poster, 101 x 72 cm. USA, 1943.  
Courtesy of the Northwestern University Library (USA).

Бернард Перлин. «1778, 1943: Американцы сражались и будут сражаться за свободу». Плакат, 101 x 72 см. США, 1943 г.  
С любезного согласия библиотеки Северо-западного университета (США).

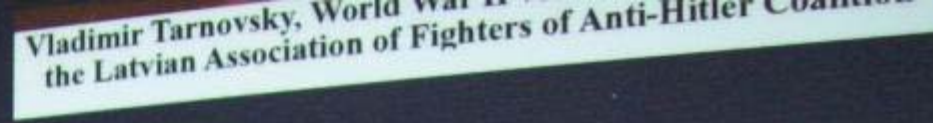
Northwestern  
University Library was  
credited on every  
poster, and also  
repeatedly in the  
catalog.

Because so many participants arrived late due to the Icelandic volcano, Jeff and Antony Wynn, a participant from the UK, offered to hang the exhibit. The offer was gratefully accepted!





Kobilzhon Nazarov, Ambassador Of Republic of Uzbekistan to Latvia



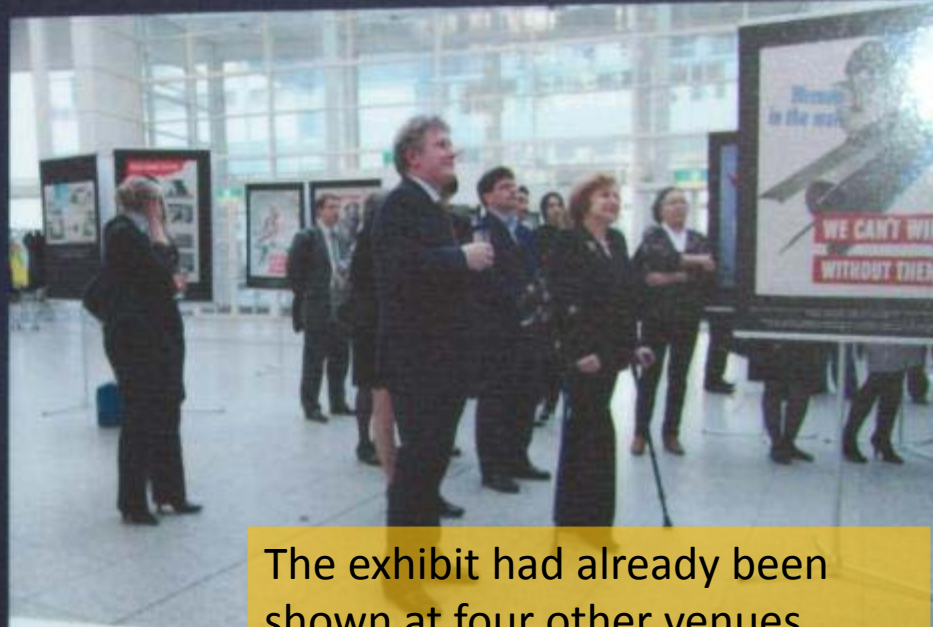
Vladimir Tarnovsky, World War II Veteran of the Latvian Association of Fighters of Anti-Hitler Coalition

# HAGUE ( Netherlands ) City Hall

April 14-26, 2010

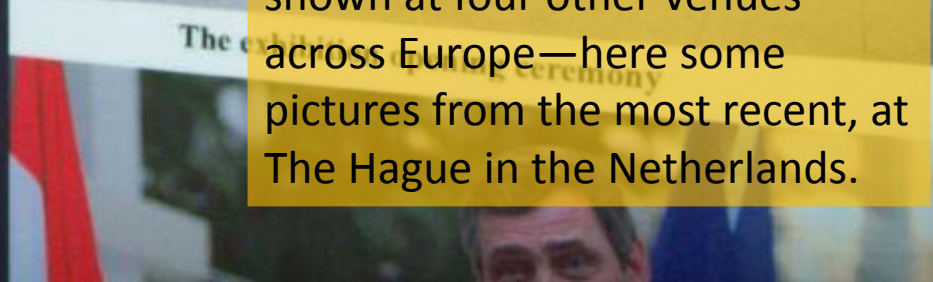


The exhibition opening ceremony



The exhibition opening ceremony

The exhibit had already been shown at four other venues across Europe—here some pictures from the most recent, at The Hague in the Netherlands.





Our posters were certainly very well protected during the conference!





... project has been realized with the assistance of Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera), Russian Academy of Sciences. Materials were granted by the Northwestern University Library (USA), Marinenmuseum (Holland), the Russian National Library and the State Central Navy Museum (Russia)

Authors of the exhibition project:

Efim Rezvan (concept, head of the project)

Tanya Fedorova (artist-photographer, coordination)

Dmitry Ivashintsov (design)

Nadejda Joutsen (museum and archival research)

Eugenia Pavlovskaya (English translation)

Our sincere thanks to:

Sarah Pritchard and Ann Duncan-Gibbs (USA)

Thomas Milo and Leon Homburg (Holland)

Natalya Shishkova (Russia)

More nice recognition for Northwestern's contribution.



## II. The Exhibit Catalog

A well-produced catalog was edited by Dr. Efim Rezvan, Deputy Director of the Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera), St. Petersburg, on behalf of the Center of Russian National Glory (Moscow/St. Petersburg).

On the right: "FIGHT FOR FREEDOM!", one of the 22 posters in the catalog, a contribution from Northwestern University Library's World War II poster collection.





Dr. Efim Rezvan, the organizer of the exhibit and author of the catalog, at lunch with a British naval veteran

# III. The Conference

**"65th Anniversary  
of the End of World War II:  
Lessons to be Learned from History"**

The conference was opened by the prime minister of Slovakia, Robert Fico.



**65th Anniversary – End of World War II  
Lessons to be Learned from History**

International Conference

April 22 – 24, 2010

Bratislava, Slovakia

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Under the Auspices of H.E. Robert Fico, Prime Minister of Slovakia,  
H.E. Dmitry Medvedev, President of Russia, H.M. Juan Carlos I, King of Spain

Letter of announcement from European non-governmental organizations  
concerning the holding of an  
International Conference “65th Anniversary – End of World War II in  
Europe Lessons to be Learned from History”  
Slovakia on April 22 – 24, 2010



**65th Anniversary – End of World War II  
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**International Conference**

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H.E. Dmitry Medvedev, President of Russia, H.M. Juan Carlos I, King of Spain

**Preliminary Programme April 23, 2010**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
09.00–09.45	<b>Opening Session – Welcome Speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Robert Fico, Prime Minister of Slovakia 15’</li><li>• Representative of King of Spain 5’</li><li>• Representatives of foreign governments 5’ each</li><li>• President of WPFDC V.I. Yakunin 15’</li></ul>

65th Anniversary  
Lessons



Alfred  
Gausbauer

Robert  
Fico

Vladimir  
Yakunin

Hans  
De Leeuw



70th Anniversary - End of World War II  
Lessons to be Learned from History  
International Conference

22 - 23, 2010

Robert  
Fico

Vladimir  
Yakunin

Hans  
De Looze

Walter  
Schwimmer

On the left, Vladimir Yakunin, convenor of the conference and one of the most powerful men in Russia today. On the right, Walter Schwimmer, formerly Secretary General of the Council of Europe. In the middle, a Dutch war veteran.

To the Center of National Glory of Russia, St. Petersburg  
with gratitude from  
Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois, USA  
Presented Bratislava, April 2010

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Composer Dmitri Shostakovich receiving the  
Honorary Doctorate from Northwestern University, June 1973

To the Center of National Glory of Russia, St. Petersburg  
with gratitude from  
Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois, USA  
Presented Bratislava, April 2010

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Composer Dmitri Shostakovich receiving the  
Honorary Doctorate from Northwestern University, June 1973



The gift to our hosts: an original archival photograph of Dmitri Shostakovich receiving an honorary doctorate from Northwestern in 1973, splendidly mounted by our conservation lab. Jeff Garrett presented it to Mr. Yakunin following a short speech to the plenary session on the importance of libraries and archives as "protectors of memory."



The conference was attended by representatives of governments and of NGOs from across Europe, North America, Central Asia, and the Middle East, as well as by numerous veterans of World War II as special guests of honor.

Members of the Russian delegation. About 200 attended this conference, and the press was strongly represented.



From l., Dr. Anton Ilin, European representative of the  
Russkiy Mir Foundation, Jeff Garrett of Northwestern  
University Library, and Antony Wynn, author of several  
books on pre-1978 Iran.





## IV. Wreath-Laying Ceremony

With Honor Guard, at the Slavin monument outside Bratislava, led by Prime Minister Fico of Slovakia



Wreath-laying ceremony: from left, Walter Schwimmer, Vladimir Yakunin, and Alfred Gusenbauer, Austrian chancellor 2007-2008.



Wreath-laying ceremony at the Slavin monument. The honor guard consisted of Slovak military.



The organizers worked hard to have veterans from all Allied countries present as well as representatives of many oppressed regions and peoples.



# The End

For more information (and more photos!) from the conference and of the World War II posters exhibit, contact [Jeff Garrett](#) of the Special Libraries Division, Northwestern University Library.