

Yordan Lyutskanov was born in Sofia in 1977. He graduated from Second English Language School (Sofia) in 1995 and obtained an equivalent of MSc in Russian Studies from Sofia University in 2000. Topic of his 'master thesis': "Iconoclasm in St. Petersburg? 'Imagined talk with Alexander I' by Alexander Pushkin" (tutor: Angelina Vacheva). After PhD studentship at the Institute for Literature at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (2001-2004), he received a PhD degree from the Higher Attestation Commission of Bulgaria in 2006, for his thesis "East, Greece and Rome in the context of Russian 'Silver Age': Dmitry Merezhkovsky and Nikolay Gumilev" (tutor: Stoyan Iliev, after his death: Radostin Rusev).

In my dissertation I explored Russian texts from the domains of artistic literature and humanities published between 1891 and 1921. I traced articulations of and disengagements from historiosophic and aesthetic 'Hellenocentrism'. I distinguished discourses congruent with 'Orientalism' (in the sense of Said), 'Balkanism' (in the sense of Todorova), and 'Byzantinism' (in the sense of adopting/cultivating aesthetic sensibilities and worldview intuitions referring to Byzantium as 'classical heritage' instead of or side by side with the Greco-Roman, that is, in a sense close to G. Florovsky, V. Lossky, J. Meyendorff and the disposition towards 'Neo-Patristic Synthesis'). I came to a comparison by contrast between D. Merezhkovsky and N. Gumilyov, finding their aesthetic, historiosophic and geosophic preferences equally significant and incompatible; and I was able to outline 'intermediate' personal cases (I. Annensky, V. Ivanov, L. Shestov) which help set Merezhkovsky and Gumilyov on a common intellectual ground.

Dissertation findings, either in preliminary or in revised form, have been published in various articles, mainly in Russian, but also in Bulgarian, French and German, in 2003-2015. The appendix to its Chapter 1 was published as a monograph in Bulgarian (*Fortune's vestige: Dmitry Merezhkovsky's novel "Julian the Apostate": an analysis of its classicising symbolism* (Sofia, author's ed., 2008 [reviews: M. Yanakieva, *Литературен вестник*, 22-28.09.2010, 4, http://www.bsph.org/members/files/pub_pdf_1133.pdf; R. Vozhankova, *Българска русистика* 2010, 1-2, 200-203, <http://www.actalinguistica.com/arhiv/index.php/bulrus/article/view/340>; Ангел В. Ангелов, *Liternet*, 141 (August 2011), <https://liternet.bg/publish11/avangelov/jordan-liuckanov.htm>, и *Следва*, 24 (2011'1), 157-161]).

Since 2005 Lyutskanov has occupied various positions at the Institute for Literature. In 2013 he was given the position of Associate Professor (the book *The (un)thinkability of someone Other: early Eurasianism and its Bulgarian neighbours*, Marin Drinov Academic Publishing, 2012 [reviews: I. Yankov, *Ab imperio*, 2013, 4, 294-301; H. Nykl, *Slavia* 85 (2016), 1, 124-127; R. Vakhitov, 'Christian Reading', 2017, 1, 207-217] served as his habilitation monograph [in Bulgarian; contains chapters variably translated into Russian, German, and English, according to the main target groups of readers]).

Besides authoring two monographs, Lyutskanov is the co-editor of seven edited volumes (incl. journals' thematic issues/blocks), co-author of an Encyclopaedic reference-book (on Russian émigré periodicals of Bulgaria, 1919-1943), and the author of about 80 scholarly articles. For a full list, please visit his personal website: <https://sites.google.com/site/yordanlyutskanov/>.

He has (co)organised several conferences (mainly in Russian Literature studies), the most important being "Русская литературная классика сегодня: испытания/вызовы мессианизма и массовой культуры" (held at Institute for Literature in Sofia on 23-25 May 2013, co-organised with Radostin Rusev and Hristo Manolakev); two are forthcoming:

- *Black Sea as Literary and Cultural Space (II): peoples and communities / La mer Noire comme espace littéraire et culturel (II) : Peuples et communautés*

(<https://sites.google.com/view/blackseasplit2sofia/home>), postponed for October 2020, and

- *European Middle Ages and Russian literary culture of the 1880s-1930s* ([in Russian];

<https://www.ruthenia.ru/anons/553111.html> >

https://www.ruthenia.ru/konf/salerno_2020.pdf, postponed for January 2021).

He is a member of the editorial board of the journals “Litinfo” (Institute of Georgian Literature, Tbilisi, <http://www.litinfo.ge/editors.htm>), “Studi Slavistici” (Association of Italian Slavists / Firenze University Press, <http://www.fupress.net/index.php/ss/about/editorialTeam>),

“Quaestio Rossica” (Urals Federal University, Yekaterinburg, <https://journals.urfu.ru/index.php/QR/about/editorialTeam>), Bulletin of Iranian Association of Russian Language and Literature Studies (<http://journaliarll.ir/page/121/Editorial-Board>).

He is a member of the informal scholarly network “Minor literatures and cultures”, <http://www.minorliteratures.org/>.

He was guest-lecturer at Urals Federal University (Yekaterinburg, Russia) and Novosibirsk State University (December 2012, ‘East, Greece and Rome in the context of Russian *Silver Age*’, 16 teaching hours at each place), and once again in Urals Federal University (November 2013, ‘Early Eurasianism and its Bulgarian intellectual neighbours’, 16 teaching hours).

In May and June 2016, he benefitted from grant by the Armenian Ministry of Education and Science for research stay in Yerevan.

His mother language is Bulgarian. He is fluent in Russian and English; has basic speaking, listening and writing, and intermediate reading skills in German and Georgian; basic reading and writing skills in Armenian, Latin, Spanish and Polish.