

**Wednesday,
8 October 2025**

Klaipėda University, 84 Herkaus Manto St.,
Klaipėda

14:00 Arrival and registration, coffee
14:30 Introduction and welcome address
VASILIJUS SAFRONOVAS (Institute of Baltic
Region History and Archaeology,
Klaipėda University, Lithuania) &
JÖRG ECHTERNKAMP (Bundeswehr Center
for Military History and Social Sciences,
Potsdam, Germany): *Introductory
Remarks*

**First Panel
The Baltics in 'Big Politics' and Geostrategic Thought**

Chair: VASILIJUS SAFRONOVAS (Institute of Baltic Region
History and Archaeology, Klaipėda University,
Lithuania)

15:00 – 17:30 KEVIN ROWLANDS and ANDREW YOUNG
(Royal Navy Strategic Studies Centre,
London, United Kingdom): *A Region
Defined by the Sea Must Consider the Sea*
JACEK TEBINKA (University of Gdańsk,
Poland): *The Baltic Sea in the Strategic
Plans of Winston S. Churchill 1945*
RAMOJUS KRAUJELIS (Vilnius University,
Lithuania): *Yalta Revisited: The Baltic
Echoes of 1945 or Once again about 'Big
Three' and Baltic Question in Yalta 1945*
MAGNUS ILMJÄRV (Tallinn University,
Estonia): *The Baltic Question 1944–45*

Reception

**Thursday,
9 October 2025**

Klaipėda University, 84 Herkaus Manto St.,
Klaipėda

**Second Panel
1945: Expectations and Political Visions for the
Postwar World**

Chair: JUSTAS STONČIUS (Institute of Baltic Region History
and Archaeology, Klaipėda University, Lithuania)

09:00 – 11:00 PAWEŁ JAWORSKI (University of Wrocław,
Poland): *The Polish Government in Exile
and the Discussion on the Future of the
Baltic Sea at the end of the Second World
War*
TOOMAS HIIO (Estonian War Museum -
General Laidoner Museum,
Viimsi/Tallinn, Estonia): *The Year 1945
in Estonia: New Hopes, Loss of Hopes*
VYKINTAS VAITKEVIČIUS (Institute of Baltic
Region History and Archaeology,
Klaipėda University, Lithuania):
*Strategy of the Anti-Soviet Resistance in
Lithuania in 1944–1953*

Break

**Third Panel
Soviet Perspectives**

Chair: JÖRG ECHTERNKAMP (Bundeswehr Center for
Military History and Social Sciences, Potsdam, Germany)

11:30 – 13:30 Part I
KRISTO NURMIS (Tallinn University,
Estonia): *"We Must Scrub, Scrub, Scrub."
Soviet Perspectives on Post-WWII
Estonia*

PER BRODERSEN (Berlin, Germany):
*Silent Border. 1945 and Its Aftermath
for Kaliningrad Region*

KRISTIANE JANEKE (Bundeswehr Center
for Military History and Social
Sciences, Potsdam, Germany): *War
Experience, National Narratives, and
Soviet History Policy: The Military
Museums of Kaunas, Moscow, and
Minsk 1944 until the end of 1950s*

Break

14:30 – 16:00 Part II

YAACOV FALKOV (Tel Aviv University,
Israel): *The War Is Over, Long Live the
War! Moscow's Special Services and the
Re-Sovietization of Latvia, 1944–1945*
MARI-LEEN TAMMELA (Estonian War
Museum - General Laidoner Museum,
Viimsi/Tallinn, Estonia): *"You're
Bearing Lenin's Banner High..." Estonian
"Old" Communists as Beneficiaries of the
New World Order – For How Long?*

Evening activity

**Friday,
10 October 2025**

Klaipėda University, 84 Herkaus Manto St.,
Klaipėda

**Fourth Panel
Personal Experiences and Memories**

Chair: KRISTIANE JANEKE (Bundeswehr Center for
Military History and Social Sciences, Potsdam,
Germany)

09:00 – 11:00 ZIGMAS VITKUS (Institute of Baltic
Region History and Archaeology,
Klaipėda University, Lithuania): *Post
Holocaust Transition. The Experiences
of Lithuanian Jews and Their Rescuers,
1944–1945*

RUTH LEISEROWITZ (Institute of Baltic
Region History and Archaeology,
Klaipėda University, Lithuania):
*Uneasy Memories of 1945. Civilians and
German Soldiers in the Summer of the
End of the War*

ANKE PINKERT (University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign, United States):
*Archiving Memory in the Baltic Sea:
The Sinking of the 'Wilhelm Gustloff'
and the Politics of Remembering 1945*

Closing reflections and departure

The conference is jointly organised by:



**Klaipėda
University**

Institute of Baltic Region History
and Archaeology



ZMS BW

Zentrum für Militärgeschichte
und Sozialwissenschaften der
Bundeswehr

Concept: JÖRG ECHTERNKAMP and VASILIJUS SAFRONOVAS

**The Year 1945
Experiences and Legacies in the
Baltic Sea Region**

International Conference



**8–10 October 2025
Klaipėda, Lithuania**

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME