

Russia's War Against Ukraine

The Whole Story

Book Launch

Professor Mark Edele, University of Melbourne

Wednesday 11 October 2023: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

In February 2022 Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, a fellow East Slav state with much shared history. In [*Russia's War Against Ukraine – the Whole Story*](#) (Melbourne University Press, August 2023), Professor Mark Edele, a world authority on the history of the Soviet Union, explains why and how this conflict came about. His primary focus is on the different paths taken by these two former members of the Soviet Union. This event is for any concerned global citizens seeking a comprehensive understanding of the ongoing Russia/Ukraine conflict and its historical context.

Since the implosion of that state in 1991, Ukraine has developed a vibrant, if often troubled, democracy. For an increasingly dictatorial Russian political elite, including but not limited to Vladimir Putin, Ukraine has appeared more and more threatening. Humiliated by the degradation of Russia's international standing, feeling betrayed by an expanding NATO and anxious about democratic revolutions in the former Soviet space, Putin and his allies have increasingly retreated into a resentful ultra-nationalism. Dreams of past imperial glory stand in place of any attempt to solve the problems of the present.

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine came as a shock to most of the world. In order to understand why this happened, a growing army of self-declared experts provided explanations often misrepresenting the history of Ukraine and of Russia and mis-representing the pre-history of this war and the role of outside forces. As a historian of the Soviet Union and its successor states, Mark felt compelled to set the record straight. Attending this talk will provide insight into one of the most geopolitically significant and complex conflicts of our time. **Books will be available for signing.**



***Mark Edele** is Hansen Professor in History and Deputy Dean in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Melbourne. He is the author of six books on the history of the Soviet Union, most recently 'Stalinism at War: The Soviet Union in World War II' (2021). He has worked in archives in Russia, Ukraine, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany and the United States. He teaches the histories of the Soviet Union, of World War II, and of dictatorship and democracy in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.*

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for its ongoing support of our young members

In-person: AIIA Premium members & Young Professionals free. AIIA Members \$20. Non-Members \$30. Student Non-Members \$10

Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10

