



WEB-CONFERENCE  
MAY 24–26, 2016

# CONNECT UNIVERSUM

## DIGITAL NOMADISM AS A GLOBAL AND SIBERIAN TREND



National Research  
**Tomsk  
State  
University**

Dear Colleagues,

The oldest Siberian Imperial Tomsk University, presently known as **National Research Tomsk State University (TSU)**, invites you to contribute to the third International Transdisciplinary Research and Practice Online Conference **“Connect-Universum-2016”** (May 24-26, 2016)

The theme of the Conference:  
**Digital Nomadism  
as a Global and Siberian Trend**

This year, “Connect-Universum” invites researchers and practitioners who are interested in the phenomenon of digital nomadism as an object of philosophical evaluation and transdisciplinary research, as well as a way of living. [Digital nomads](#) are people who work, study, create, and rest remotely from any fixed location, using Internet technologies and mobile connections. Originally, such people were residents of “wireless” metropolises. Today satellite technologies allow them to live in

any part of the world. Therefore, digital nomadism belongs solely to the modern network information and communication society.

Permanent mobility and continuous connection to the Net (“plugging”) are the main characteristics of digital nomads’ identity because they make their culture supermobile. As a result, we are witnessing a revenge of nomadic lifestyle over the principle of a territorial settled lifestyle (Bauman, 2000). However, because it is

geographically widely spread, this new sociocultural practice has rarely become an object of serious scientific research and discourse. One of the reasons for this is that there is no proper metalanguage to describe digital nomadism as a sociocultural phenomenon and an object of transdisciplinary research. Meanwhile, digital nomadism is a factor of serious anthropological changes that effect social, material, and intellectual culture. It is also helping to shape brand new types of communicative identity.



Therefore, the main goal of Connect-Universum-2016 Conference is to discuss the essence of digital nomadism and a metalanguage used to describe it, as well as its prospects and impacts on humanity in general.

In addition to the global aspect of the range of issues chosen for the discussion, there is a regional aspect. Despite growing extensive use of the Internet and satellite communications, Siberia is not on the list of favorite places digital nomads choose as their temporary residence. As a unique area of multifaceted sociocultural interaction, Siberia remains a blank spot or a collection of obsolete stereotypes for most people around the world. However, Siberia occupies a large part of the Euro-Asian continent. It has been a space for multicultural communications and various lifestyles, influenced

by a sedentary lifestyle but also historically by the processes of nomadism and migration.

The influence of different climatic, geopolitical, and sociocultural factors such as deglaciation of the Arctic, the risks of fundamentalism in the Central Asia, issues of employment for people who flee from some countries of Europe and the Eastern Asia, and internationalization of higher education, may lead to increased migration to Siberia, which in turn may lead to Siberia being one of the global communication hubs. This requires new organization of Siberian cities as oases for digital nomads, ones that consider their directions of mobility, types of professional and/or educational activity, and their multicultural interaction via social network and other communication platforms. Siberia may and must become a

territory attractive for urban digital nomads who move within one metropolis, as well as for global digital nomads who explore new conservation areas on a global scale.

Both aspects of digital nomadism – global and local – disclose new horizons for fundamental and applied research of transdisciplinary and sociocultural nature with possible application of the results in different spheres of sociocultural practices (such as development of infrastructure for residents, professional activity, education, and leisure; manufacture of nomadic goods and technologies, etc.).

The organizers of the conference invite you to participate in a three-day discussion in the form of a webinar.

## ORGANIZERS:



TSU Center for Research  
"Trans-Siberian Scientific  
Way" (TSSW)  
<http://tssw.ru/>



TSU Department of Social  
Communication  
<http://pr.tsu.ru>

Laboratory of High-Hume  
New Media Technologies

## PARTNERS:



Research Center for  
Semiotics, Technical  
University of Berlin (TUB)  
<https://www.semiotik.tu-berlin.de/>



Tomsk Regional Non-Profit  
Organization of Social  
Communications "Strategy  
of Success"  
<http://pr.tsu.ru/success/>

## THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE HAS A PRELIMINARY CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE FROM THE FOLLOWING RESEARCHERS:

### **Joerg Gleiter**

Professor, Doctor habilitatus; Professor of Architecture, architect, Head of the Chair of Architectural Theory at the Institute of Architecture of Technical University of Berlin (TUB, Germany); managing Director of the Institute of Architecture of TUB and Member of the Academic Senate of TUB; Co-editor of the internet magazine on architectural theory [Cloud-Cukoo-Land](#).

### **Alexander M. Kholod**

PhD, Professor of the Department of Journalism and International Policy Studies at Kiev National University of Culture and Art (Ukraine); Member of the [Russian Association of Communication](#).

### **Vitaly E. Klochko**

Doctor of Psychology, Professor; Professor of the Department of General and Pedagogical Psychology at TSU (Russia); Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Natural History; Member of the editorial board of the [academic journal Siberian Journal of Psychology](#).

### **Lan-Phuong Phan**

PhD, co-founder of [Renaissance Urbaine Consulting Agency](#) (France), researcher, participated in multidisciplinary research network aimed at strengthening social cohesion in neighborhoods across Europe through integrated social strategies.

### **John W. Moravec**

faculty member in the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development at the University of Minnesota; Author/Editor of *Knowmad*

*Society*; founder of [Education Futures LLC](#) agency (USA).

### **Roland Posner**

Professor of the Department of Linguistics and Semiotics, Institute of Language and Communication, TUB (Germany), Director of the Center for Semiotics, Member of the organizing committee of the World Congress of Semiotics, Editor in Chief of the international scientific periodical *Semiotics* [Zeitschrift für Semiotik](#).

### **Sergei A. Samoilenko**

Master of Communication, Staff Member of the [Department of Communication at George Mason University](#) (USA); faculty advisor for the Public Relations Student Society of America ([PRSSA](#)); Reader of Oxford University Press.

### **Saskia Sassen**

Professor, Chair of The Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University (USA); Centennial Visiting Professor of Political Economy in the Department of Sociology at the London School of Economics, member of the Royal Academy of the Sciences of the Netherlands, Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres by the French government. [Known for studies on globalization, world cities, and international migration](#).

### **John Urry**

Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Institute for Social Futures, Lancaster University (Great Britain); Editor in Chief of the [journal \*Mobilities\*](#); his latest books are *Offshoring* (Polity, 2014) and *Cargomobilities* (Routledge, 2015).

## SOME ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED:

- Ontology of the network society and digital nomadism
- Technological factors of digital nomadism
- Netocracy (Bard and Zoderquist) and digital nomadism
- Classification of digital nomadism
- Anthropology of digital nomadism
- Sociopsychological profiles of digital nomads
- Semiotics as a meta-language to describe digital nomadism
- Architecture and urban design for digital nomads
- Risks of digital nomadism
- Political, economic, and legal regulation of digital nomads' lifestyle
- Professional activity of digital nomads
- Education environment for digital nomads
- Digital nomads as researchers: opportunities and study of previous experience
- Creativity and digital nomads
- Digital nomads as a new target audience for marketing communication
- Prospects of development of digital nomadism as a global social phenomenon in relation to Siberia
- Designing "oases" for digital nomads (developing infrastructure in Siberia)

Other issues proposed by the participants are welcome

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE VOICES A HOPE THAT THE FOLLOWING PRACTITIONERS IN THE SPHERE OF DIGITAL NOMADISM WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE:

**Fabian Dittrich**

blogger, entrepreneur, founder of Helpando company. Speaker and manager of fundraising projects (Germany). Carries out a project on digital nomadism Diaries.

**Matthew Kepnes or “Nomadic Matt”**

travel expert, blogger, writes for The New York Times, CNN, BBC, National Geographic, The Wall Street Journal (USA); author of the book *How to Travel the World on \$50 a Day: Travel Cheaper, Longer, Smarter*.

**Jacob Laukaitis**

blogger, online entrepreneur, Co-founder of ChameleonJohn, traveler, writer (Lithuania).

**Tomas Laurinavicius**

blogger, designer, entrepreneur (Lithuania). Founder of the education online platform Despreneur Academy.

**Renee Martyna**

Co-founder of Hub-in-Ubud (Bali, Indonesia). Certified conflict manager (Carleton University, NPSIA, Canada). Member of Knowmads

**Working languages**  
of the Conference are  
**Russian and English**

movement. Creator of [www.knowmadsland.com/](http://www.knowmadsland.com/) website.

**Sarah Zendrini**

entrepreneur, editor, traveler, expert in web content (Switzerland). In the process of writing a book on digital nomads. Creator of [www.esprits-nomades.com](http://www.esprits-nomades.com) website.



## There are three variants of participation:

### 1) **key speaker**

(presentation of a report or a case-study at the plenary session live online with publication of the text of the presentation [on the website](#) of the Conference and free publication in the issue indexed in the Russian Science Citation Index РИИЦ)

2) **speaker** (all materials are posted on the website of the Conference and published in the issue if required).

### 3) **participant of the discussion**

(registered online participant, provided with the opportunity to comment and ask questions).

All key speakers and speakers will be provided with personal pages in two languages on the website of the Conference. Key speaker status is conferred by the International Council of Experts of the Conference in accordance with a level of the contribution (relevance, content, originality, creativity).

## THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE:

The Department of Social Communication at Tomsk State University.

E-mail:  
[connectuniversum@gmail.com](mailto:connectuniversum@gmail.com)

Website of the conference:  
<http://connect-universum.com>  
(en)

<http://connect-universum.tsu.ru>  
(ru)

Address:  
Russia, Tomsk, Moscovsky trakt,  
8, office 419.

Tel. 8 (3822) 529 537

Website:  
<http://pr.tsu.ru>

## DEADLINES:

**March 28, 2016** – Conference application form deadline (forms for [researchers](#) and [practitioners](#)).

**April 30, 2016** – reports and presentations deadline.

All materials and questions should be sent to [connectuniversum@gmail.com](mailto:connectuniversum@gmail.com)

The Program of the Conference will be posted [on the website](#) of the Conference two weeks prior the event.

**Registration for the webinar** on the website of the Conference will start on **April 24, 2016**.

All the materials of the Conference will be posted on the website during the first two weeks after the webinar. It will provide every user interested in the issue with the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the texts.

If the publication in the issue of the Conference is requested, full text of the paper should be sent not later than **April 30, 2016**. All texts should be formatted in accordance with the [requirements](#).

Participation in the Conference, posting all the texts and cases on the website of the Conference, and publication in the issue of the Conference are **free of charge**. Printing and sending the issue to an author are **at the author's expense**.

## Please, pay attention:

The Organizing Committee assumes the responsibilities of preliminary evaluation and consulting on preparing papers of the participants for publication in international journals indexed in the Scopus and Web of Science citation databases. However, the final decision of publication will be made by the editorial boards of the journals.

NB: The journal [AI & Society \(Springer\)](#) published 8 research-length articles by the participants of the previous Conference (Connect-Universum-2014).

