

Dr. Rustam Alexander's publications

Peer-reviewed monographs (in English)

1. Alexander, R (2024). *AIDS in Soviet Russia: A Story of Deception, Despair, and Hope*. Manchester. Manchester University Press (Forthcoming in February 2026).
2. Alexander, R (2023). *Gay Lives and "Aversion Therapy" in Brezhnev's Russia, 1964 – 1982*. Palgrave Macmillan.
3. Alexander, R. (2023). *Red Closet: The Hidden History of Gay Oppression in the USSR*. Manchester. Manchester University Press.
4. Alexander, R (2021). *Regulating Homosexuality in Soviet Russia, 1956-91: A Different History*. Manchester. Manchester University Press, 2021.

Non-fiction history books (in Russian)

1. Alexander, R (2022). *Closeted: The Lives of Homosexuals in the USSR*. Moscow, Individuum Books.
2. Alexander, R (2025). *Yes, there was Sex. The Intimate Lives of Soviet People*. Moscow, Individuum Books.

Peer-reviewed articles and chapters

1. Alexander, R (2025) "The Russian Empire and its Legacies: Regulating Homosexual Desire in Pre-Revolutionary Russia, the Soviet Union, and Present-Day Russia. In *Colonialisms and Queer Politics: Sexualities, Genders and Unsettling Colonialities* eds. Sonia Correa, Gustavo Gomes da Costa and Matthew Waites (Oxford University Press, 2024, forthcoming).

2. Alexander, R. (2023) “HIV/AIDS and Homophobia in the USSR (1983-1990)”. In *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 24,1, pp. 121 – 50.
3. Alexander, R. (2023) “The Queer Life of Lieutenant Petrenko: the KGB and Homosexuality in the Ukrainian SSR of the 1960s”. In *Europe-Asia Studies*, vol. 75 (5), pp. 721 – 741.
4. Alexander, R. (2021) “Taming the Desire: The Bisexual Closet of Pavel Krotov”. In *Cahiers du Monde Russe*, 62/2-3. pp. 391 – 414.
5. Alexander, R. (2019). “New Light on the Prosecution of Homosexuality under Brezhnev”. In *Russian History* 46, n. 1. pp. 1 – 28.
6. Alexander, R. (2019) “Soviet Legal and Criminological Debates on the Decriminalisation of Homosexuality (1965-75)”. In *Soviet and Post-Soviet Sexualities* ed. Richard C. M. Mole (Rutledge, 2019). pp. 56 – 79.
7. Alexander, R. (2018). “Soviet Legal and Criminological Debates on the Decriminalization of Homosexuality (1965-75)”. In *Slavic Review* 77, n. 1 (2018). pp. 30 – 52.
8. Alexander, R. (2017) “Sex Education and the Depiction of Homosexuality under Khrushchev”. In *The Palgrave Handbook of Women and Gender in Twentieth Century Russia and the Soviet Union* ed. Melanie Ilic (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017). pp. 349 – 364.

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1. Rustam Alexander, “The sudden Russian death syndrome”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 20 July. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/07/20/sindrom-vnezapnoi-russkoi-smerti> [in Russian].
2. Rustam Alexander, “Stalin’s Fans: Historian Rustam Alexander reflects on why today’s politicians and officials [in Russia] are so fond of the Soviet leader”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 2 June 2025. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/06/02/fanaty-stalina> [in Russian]

Translated: Rustam Alexander, “The tributes of half-men: why is Joseph Stalin’s blood-soaked reputation being so thoroughly restored in today’s Russia?”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 9 June 2025. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/06/09/the-tributes-of-half-men-en>

3. Rustam Alexander, “Sex Education: Historian Rustam Alexander explains why entertainment has become the only source of sex education [in Russia]”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 25 April 2025.
URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/04/25/polovoe-vospitanie> [in Russian].
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URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/05/02/sex-education-en>
4. Rustam Alexander, “Court Favourites: why is the Russian state so selective in how it responds to queer aesthetics”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 13 April 2025.
URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/04/13/pridvornye-gei> [in Russian]
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5. Rustam Alexander, “In Russia, the number of STIs is increasing in the occupied territories”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 27 March 2025.
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6. Rustam Alexander, “Torture in the Gynecological Chair”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 12 March 2025. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2025/03/12/pytki-v-ginekologicheskim-kresle> [In Russian]
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7. Rustam Alexander, “Back to Inequality: DEI initiatives annoy Trump and he plans to dismantle them. Historian Rustam Alexander explains the potential consequences”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 9 March 2025.
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8. Rustam Alexander, “Revised Monument. Today, Trump is erasing transgender people from the history of the Stonewall Riots, the pivotal event for the LGBT movement”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 22 February 2025.
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9. Rustam Alexander, “Soviet LGBT Registers: How Officials and Law Enforcement Monitored Queer People”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 3 February 2025.
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10. Rustam Alexander, “When did manifestations of racism in [Russian] sports and beyond become the norm”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 18 January 2025.
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11. Rustam Alexander, “Good friendly advice: how Soviet doctors discouraged women from having an abortion”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 29 December 2024.
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12. Rustam Alexander, “Divorces and ‘Interdevochka’: How the attempt to enforce the law banning “childfree” relates to the first Soviet film about prostitution”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 16 December 2024.
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13. Rustam Alexander, “Hunting extremists. For queer people, parties are not just leisure, but an important way for socializing and a safe space. But now, they involve enormous risks”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 26 November 2024.
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14. Rustam Alexander, “Mothers Against War: how Soviet women managed to protect their sons from conscription and improve conditions in the army”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 24 November 2024.
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16. Rustam Alexander, “Vice squads are making a comeback”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 12 November 2024. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2024/11/12/politsiia-nravov-vozvrashchaetsia> [in Russian]
17. Rustam Alexander, “The show must end – the police have found a new victim – drag queens”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 2 November 2024. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2024/11/02/shou-dolzno-zavershatsia> [in Russian]
18. Rustam Alexander, “Let’s Get Acquainted! How Tinder and Grindr introduced Russians to Western Dating Culture”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 23 July 2024. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2024/07/23/poznakomimsia> [in Russian]
19. Rustam Alexander, “Sexophobia. Russian authorities are seriously concerned about the morality of Russian citizens. We have been through this before”, *Novaya Gazeta Evropa*, 23 June 2023. URL: <https://novayagazeta.eu/articles/2024/06/23/seksophobia>

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1. Rustam Alexander, “The fight for queer rights: what LGBT activism looked like in the USSR,” *The Insider*, 6 January 2025. URL: <https://theins.ru/history/277360> [in Russian].
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2. Rustam Alexander, “Diagnosed and reported: doctors had to share medical secrets [of their patients] with the authorities – here is what it led to in the USSR,” *The Insider*, 15 February 2025. URL: <https://theins.ru/history/278606> [in Russian].
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3. Rustam Alexander, “A Trump imitator: Australia’s next prime minister could be a populist mirroring the American president,” *The Insider*, 8 March 2025. URL: <https://theins.ru/politika/279385> [in Russian].
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4. Rustam Alexander, “Transition there and back: how transgender people in the West fought for their rights and then discrimination again,” *The Insider*, 20 April 2025. URL: <https://theins.ru/history/280172> [in Russian].
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5. Rustam Alexander, “Citizen’s Gender: how transgender people fought against discrimination in the USSR”, *The Insider*, 29 June 2025. URL: <https://theins.ru/obshestvo/282114> [in Russian].
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1. Rustam Alexander, “How the Ukraine War Accelerated the Kremlin’s Campaign Against LGBTQ+ Visibility in Russia”, *Russia Post*, 16 June 2025. URL: https://russiapost.info/society/campaign_against_lgbtq
2. Rustam Alexander, “MoD Proposal to Send Men with STIs to Ukraine Could Have Devastating Consequences for Public Health”, *Russia Post*, 13 March 2025. URL: https://russiapost.info/society/men_with_stis
3. Rustam Alexander, “Russia’s HIV Epidemic is getting worse amid conservative politics, the Ukraine War”, *Russia Post*, 12 February 2025. URL: https://russiapost.info/society/hiv_epidemic
4. Rustam Alexander, “How Russia’s Discourse About ‘LGBT Extremism’ is Making Sexual Violence in its Prisons Worse”, *Russia Post*, 17 January 2025. URL: https://russiapost.info/society/prison_lgbt
5. Rustam Alexander, “Russian authorities are cracking down on gay clubs”, *Russia Post*, 6 December 2024. URL: https://russiapost.info/society/gay_clubs
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6. Rustam Alexander, “How antidepressants have become a lifeline in Russia”, *Russia Post*, 8 November 2024. URL: https://russiapost.info/society/antidepressants_become
7. Rustam Alexander, “From Homophobia to Sexophobia: Russia’s continued crusade for ‘traditional values’”, *Russia Post*, 28 June 2024. URL: <https://russiapost.info/society/sexophobia>
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