

*Ediit*





Text - Kristína Dovahunová  
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As we celebrate Gazeta's 10th edition, it is truly remarkable to see how diverse each issue has been in terms of topics covered, writers featured, and themes explored. While not immediately obvious, one of the most challenging tasks in planning each issue of Gazeta is coming up with the so-called one-word theme. Taking inspiration from the previous Editors-in-Chief (thank you, Juho and Anna), we had a clear idea that this third edition of Gazeta for the year should align with the theme of the 2024 Aleksanteri Conference. In that sense, fortunately, this task of choosing a theme was already addressed when the conference title, Resisting Authoritarianism Across Eurasia, was announced.

As each edition of Gazeta evolves, so do the individuals who contribute to its development. We would like to acknowledge our outgoing editor-in-chief, Sierra, and extend our best wishes for her future endeavours. At the same time, we are excited to welcome Kristína Dovahunová, a first-year student of Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European studies at the Aleksanteri Institute, who will join current editor-in-chief, Oliver, in leading Gazeta forward.

For the first time, we're excited to offer both an online and a print version of the magazine. Thank you to those who have engaged with us online, and a special thank you to those holding this physical copy that was available for purchase at the Aleksanteri Conference. Your support is invaluable, and we hope you'll continue to follow and engage with us in future editions.

As you flip through these pages, you'll find informative articles that resonate with the theme of the Conference in various contexts. We begin with a critical examination of Poland's recent political shift, questioning whether its path to liberal democracy is as straightforward as it seemed following the December 2023 change of government. We then delve into North Macedonia's prolonged struggle for EU accession, examining how internal reforms, along with the EU's inconsistent criteria and the impact of regional disputes and foreign influence have shaped its journey so far. We also highlight youth-led resistance in Georgia against the controversial foreign agents law, and investigate the cultural implications of authoritarianism, focusing on the suppression of the Belarusian language under Lukashenko's regime and the enduring significance of music during the Baltic states' Singing Revolution. Additionally, we draw attention to the plight of the Pamiri people in Tajikistan, highlighting their ongoing struggle against state repression.

Each article offers unique insights into the broader theme of Resistance and its various manifestations. We hope you find both inspiration and a deeper understanding of the struggle for democracy and freedom in our region.

Thank you for being part of this journey, and enjoy this edition of Gazeta Sasha! 