

Curriculum vitae

Dr. Erich Kasten
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NAME Erich Kasten
DATE OF BIRTH May 24, 1949 Münster/Westf. (Germany)
NATIONALITY German
STATUS unmarried, no children
DEGREES November 4, 1971: *cand. rer. pol.* in Economics, Freie Universität Berlin
January 13, 1984: *Dr. phil.* in Ethnology, Native American ("Altamerikanistik") and Scandinavian Studies, "summa cum laude", Freie Universität Berlin. Dissertation: Kulturwandel bei den Samen. Ethnohistorische Untersuchungen zum Kulturkontakt in Schwedisch-Lapland.
LANGUAGES English, Russian, French, Swedish, Spanish, Latin
Swedish and Spanish basic competence, from earlier studies until the mid-1980s

APPOINTMENTS

2026 Visiting Fellow, Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam.
2025- ... External Expert Advisory Board Member (EAB). BIRGEJUPMI: bridging knowledge systems for inclusive, resilient, and prosperous Arctic coastal futures. European Commission as part of the Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027). Coordinated by the University of Oulu, implementation period 2025-2027.
2024 Project manager (PI) "Dokumentation von Museumsobjekten durch Ursprungsgemeinschaften in Sibirien". Expanding Cooperation with Civil Society in the Eastern Partnership Countries and Russia Program of the German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin.
2021 Project manager (PI) "Nachhaltige Naturnutzung in Sibirien in Zeiten des Klimawandels". Expanding Cooperation with Civil Society in the Eastern Partnership Countries and Russia Program of the German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin.
2020-2021 Project manager (PI) "Digitisation and Archiving the Collection on Koryak, Even and Itelmen Languages at the Foundation for Siberian Cultures". Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP), SOAS University, London.
2014 Consultant, film project "Chamissos Schatten", directed by Ulrike Ottinger, Berlin.
2012 -2014 Consultant, team leader for the Siberian group within the project *Mathematics in Cultural Context*, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. University of Alaska, Fairbanks.
2010- ... Director, Foundation for Siberian Cultures / Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg/Havel.
2007-2009 Project manager and curator for the exhibition "Schamanen Sibiriens" at the Linden-Museum in Stuttgart, in cooperation with the Russian Museum of Ethnography in St. Petersburg.
2005 Curator of special exhibition "Offen für das Fremde – Kunst und Kultur aus Kamtschatka" at the Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin.
2003-2004 UNESCO consultant (Team leader on Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Russian North).
2003-2004 Research Associate at the State Museum of Ethnology, München.
2001-2003 Research Associate at the Museum of Ethnology, Berlin.

- 2000-2002 Coordinator of the Siberia Research Group at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle.
- 1996-2002 Project-coordinator, Franckesche Stiftungen, Halle:
- Workshop and summer school programme in Central Kamchatka (2000-2002)
 - Exhibition: Kinderzeichnungen aus Sibirien und von der Nordpazifikküste (1998)
 - International Symposium: Bicultural Education in the North (1997)
 - Exhibition: Steller und die Itelmenen (1996)
- 1999 Project-coordinator, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin:
- workshop/performance: Stimmen des Nordens – Spuren der Schamanen (Tanztheater Nulgur, Kamchatka).
- 1989-1998 Lecturer, Institut für Ethnologie der Freien Universität Berlin.
- 1993-1997 Research Associate at the Institut für Ethnologie der Freien Universität Berlin, Researcher and Project-coordinator:
- Ethnicity among the Peoples of the Russian North and Far East (Kamchatka) (1993-1997, funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Bonn)
 - Natural Resources on the West Coast of Kamchatka: A Resource Assessment Study on the State of the Environment and its Potential for Local Development with Regard to the Traditional Territory of the Itelmen People (1995-1996, funded by INTAS, EU).
- 1992 Project-coordinator (with M. Dürr and E. Renner), Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin:
- Exhibition: Franz Boas – Ethnologe, Sprachwissenschaftler, Anthropologe: Ein Wegbereiter der modernen Wissenschaft vom Menschen.
- 1989-1990 Project-coordinator, Museum für Völkerkunde Berlin SMPK:
- Exhibition: Maskentänze der Kwakiutl: Tradition und Wandel in einem indianischen Dorf.
- 1988 Research Affiliate, University of Victoria, B.C.:
- Project title: Reserve and Off-Reserve Indian Interaction on the Northwest Coast.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2001-2003 Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Bonn:
- Project title: Variationen von Kultur: Umsetzung eines ethnologischen Paradigmas anhand der Sibiriensammlung des Ethnologischen Museums Berlin
- 1998 Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC), Columbia University, New York:
- Project title: Economic Revitalization and Environmental Conservation in Kamchatka: The Historical Dynamics of Traditional Resource Use.
- 1985-1987 Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Bonn:
- Project title: The Potlatch of the Northwest Coast First Nations.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

- 1989-1998 Courses with regional focus on the circumpolar North at the Institut für Ethnologie der Freien Universität Berlin on:
- Contact history, cultural continuity and change
 - Native arts and ceremonial life
 - First Nations self-government
 - Sustainable resource management
 - Native education

EXHIBITIONS

December 2019

Deutsch-russische Forschungen im Fernen Osten Russlands. Ausstellung zum 25-jährigen Jubiläum des Generalkonsulats in Novosibirsk. (Staatliche öffentliche wissenschaftlich-technische Bibliothek (ГПНТБ СО РАН). Novosibirsk.

July 18 - August 4, 2010

250 Deutsch-russische Forschungen zur Natur Kamtschatkas und zu den Kulturen der dortigen indigenen Völker (Dom kul'tury, Ossora; Central House of Culture "Seroglazka", Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski)

December 13, 2008 – June 28, 2009

Schamanen Sibiriens – Magier, Mittler, Heiler (Linden-Museum, Staatliches Museum für Völkerkunde, Stuttgart)

January 29 - April 2, 2005

Offen für das Fremde: Kunst und Kultur aus Kamtschatka (Zentral- und Landesbibliothek, Berlin)

July 24, 2003 - January 15, 2005

Zwischen Tundra und Meeresküste: Korjaken und Evenen im Fernen Osten Russlands. In: Unterwegs – Nomaden früher und heute (Westfälisches Museum für Naturkunde, Münster)

November 10, 1998 - January 15, 1999 / November 1999 - June 2000)

Kinderzeichnungen aus Sibirien und von der Nordpazifikküste (Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle / Überseemuseum Bremen)

June 15, 1996 - January 15, 1997

Steller und die Itelmenen (Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle)

March 27-28, 1995

Die Itelmenen auf Kamtschatka

(photo exhibition for the conference "Unendliche Taiga", World Climate Summit '95 in Berlin)

December 17, 1992 - March 6, 1993

Franz Boas – Ethnologe, Sprachwissenschaftler, Anthropologe: Ein Wegbereiter der modernen Wissenschaft vom Menschen (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin), with M. Dürr and E. Renner.

February 14 - May 6, 1990

Maskentänze der Kwakiutl: Tradition und Wandel in einem indianischen Dorf (Museum für Völkerkunde Berlin SMPK)

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS (organizer & convener)

June 6-7, 2023

Enhancing the Partnership between the Foundation for Siberian Cultures (FSC) and the Hokkaido Museum of Northern Peoples (HMNP), convened by E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

July 10-14, 2022)

Ethical Research Partnerships with Indigenous Communities: Co-create network in preparation of a "Comprehensive Policy Brief to the EU Commission – A roadmap to decolonial Arctic research", convened by Thora Hermann and E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

January 7-14, 2020

Seminar on the Koryak Language with Indigenous Experts from Kamchatka (as part of an ELDP project), convened by E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

December 12-13, 2019

Digital Learning Materials for the Preservation and Development of the Languages of the Peoples of the North. Seminar to establish a Partnership with the Institute for Humanities Research and Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ИГИИПМНС) and the Foundation for Siberian Cultures, convened by Vjacheslav Shadrin and E. Kasten. (Yakutsk).

16-18 May, 1-3 June 2018

Digital Humanities of the North. Workshops with international experts to prepare the website dh-north.org, convened by E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

October 10-18, 2015

Math in Cultural Context. Workshop on the project of the same name at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, convened by E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

October 2-6, 2011 and January 5-8, 2012

Preserving Endangered Languages and Local Knowledge. Learning tools and community initiatives in cross-cultural discussion, convened by E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

June 8-11, 2012

The scientific exploration of the Russian Far East by German-speaking researchers in the 18th and 19th centuries, convened by E. Kasten. (Kulturstiftung Sibirien, Fürstenberg).

April 15-17, 2008

Folklore and art traditions of the peoples of northern Kamchatka. Workshop on preserving and enhancing song and dance traditions, convened by A. Urkachan and E. Kasten. (Dom kul'tury, Ossora, Kamchatka).

July 1-2, 2002

A World of Cultures: Culture as Property in Anthropological Perspective (International Conference at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle).

November 8-9, 2000

Postsocialisms in the Russian North (International Conference at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)

August 20-27, 2000

Children of the North: Lessons of culture. Workshop on bicultural education & children's dance festival (Sputnik, Oryakan, Shkolnye Gody), convened by Erich Kasten, with assistance of G. Fedotova, A. Savchenko, E. Zlotnikova, supported by the "Franckesche Stiftungen", Halle/Saale. (Dom kul'tury, Esso, Kamchatka)

December 13-15, 1997

Bicultural Education in the North: Ways of Preserving and Enhancing Indigenous Peoples' Languages and Traditional Knowledge (International Conference at the Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle)

April 5, 1995

International Workshop on Sustainable Development from the Indigenous Peoples' Point of View (Institut für Ethnologie der Freien Universität Berlin, in connection with the World Climate Summit '95)

ETHNOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

- Kwakwaka'wakw, Coast Salish, Nuuchahnulth (Canada), 1985-88, 1997.
- Itelmen, Koryak, Even (Kamchatka, Russia), 1993-2014.

Fürstenberg, 21.06.2025

Dr. Erich Kasten