



**Keith Harrington** has joined the Department as an Assistant Professor in Twentieth Century European History. Dr Harrington received his PhD from Maynooth University in 2023. He has worked as a lecturer at Maynooth University's Department of History and Dublin City University's School of History and Geography. His research focuses primarily on issues of separatism, statehood, and sovereignty. He is particularly interested in the emergence of separatist movements and de-facto states during and after the collapse of the Soviet Union. He has published several academic articles, most of which focus on how ethnic minorities experienced the collapse of the Soviet Union.

**Two Questions for Keith Harrington:**

**What is something you are excited about right now in relation to teaching?**

I am teaching a module on the history of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union in the Twentieth Century. This module has allowed me to share some of the primary sources I gathered while working in Soviet archives with students. I enjoy watching students debate and discuss these sources and find how they interpret them extremely interesting.

**What is something you are excited for right now in relation to your research?**

I am excited to begin work on my first project, which I have provisionally titled *Russia's First Victim? Moscow, Moldova, and the Origins of the Transnistrian War*. This monograph will be based on my PhD dissertation, which explored the origins of the Transnistrian separatist movement, which emerged in eastern Moldova during the collapse of the Soviet Union. I am looking forward to approaching my previous work with a fresh set of eyes and rewriting it to make it accessible for a broader audience.