

CEU DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

cordially invites you to the launch of

The Imperial Russian Project: Autocratic Politics, Economic Development, and Social Fragmentation

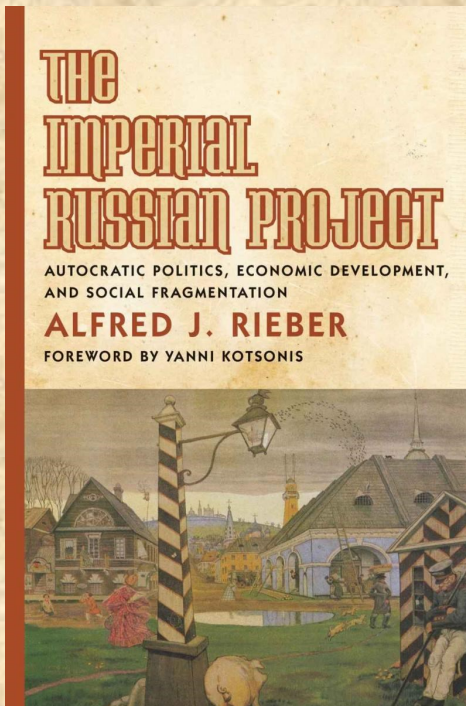
a book by

Alfred J. Rieber

Chair: Charles Shaw

Commentaries: Anna Mazanik & Jan Hennings

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 17:30, GELLNER ROOM



The *Imperial Russian Project* is a collection of Rieber's lifetime of work, focusing on three interconnected themes of this time period: the role of reform in the process of state building, the interaction of state and social movements, and alternative visions of economic development. Rieber argues that Russia's style of autocratic governance not only reflected the personalities of the rulers but also the challenges of overcoming economic backwardness in a society lacking common citizenship and a cohesive ruling class. *The Imperial Russian Project* reveals how during the nineteenth century the tsar was obliged to operate within a changing and more complex world, reducing his options and restricting his freedom of action.

Alfred J. Rieber is currently University Professor Emeritus at the Central European University, Budapest and Professor Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania. He served as head of the History Department at the University of Pennsylvania for ten years and succeeded Peter Hanak as the second head of the History Department at the CEU from 1995-1998. He is the author of ten books on Russian, Soviet, East European and Eurasian history.