



This is the first and, we hope, the last issue of *Harriman Magazine* to be produced remotely from start to finish due to the coronavirus pandemic. Our previous issue went to print just as the pandemic hit the United States, and it was difficult to fathom just how lasting and damaging the effects would be.

We wish all our readers health, safety, and strength during this difficult and unpredictable period. We are incredibly grateful to the Harriman community and delighted to read your updates in our alumni notes section.

Our alumni are doing exceptional things all over the globe. In this issue, we profile Joshua Yaffa, a 2008 graduate of SIPA and the Journalism School and former Harriman visiting scholar. A Moscow correspondent for the *New Yorker*, Yaffa has contributed to a deeper understanding of Russia and Ukraine through his nuanced reporting.

My colleague Lara J. Nettelfield, a Harriman alumna and former postdoctoral fellow, writes for us about her oral history project on the refugee crisis in Europe and the Middle East. Our postdoctoral fellow Daria V. Ezerova, who has co-organized a wealth of cultural events at the Institute since joining us last year, interviews filmmaker and writer Michael Idov, who screened and discussed his film *The Humorist* for us last year.

It is an honor for us at the Harriman Institute, the proud namesake of Governor W. Averell Harriman, to publish an excerpt from Catherine Grace Katz's widely reviewed new book, *The Daughters of Yalta: The Churchills, Roosevelts, and Harrimans*. The excerpt gives us a window into the life of Harriman's youngest daughter, Kathleen, and her role in the preparations for the 1945 Yalta Conference.

We also have a short story from prize-winning Russian author Polina Barskova; a write-up of Vlodko Kaufman's exhibit *A Conversation*, mounted at the Ukrainian Museum as part of last year's conference on the war in Donbas (a photo from the exhibit is also our cover image); and an interview with me about my new book, *Exit from Hegemony: The Unraveling of the American Global Order*.

As always, enjoy the issue and please be in touch with any comments or ideas. We love to hear from you!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Cooley'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alexander Cooley
Director, Harriman Institute