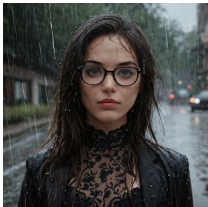


ELARA S. NOVIKOVA

Novelist & Doctoral Researcher, Science Policy



■■■/■■■ Turusbekov St, Bishkek 720001, Kyrgyzstan | contact@elaranovikova.com | elaranovikova.com

Profile

Novelist and doctoral researcher working at the seam between the history of Soviet science and the fiction it never allowed. Four published novels, each accompanied by a free, citable research archive of 1,143 documented events, 71 biographical dossiers and 73 machines. Trained first as a computer scientist, then in symbolic systems, now writing a doctorate on how authoritarian states manage science. Reads sources in Russian, Romanian and English; writes fiction in English and German.

Core Qualifications

- Archival research (Russian, Romanian)
- History of Soviet computing
- Science policy under authoritarian rule
- Formal logic and symbolic systems
- Historical fiction and narrative craft
- Technical translation, Russian to English
- Digital humanities: timelines, network graphs
- Source verification and provenance work

Education

PhD: International & Comparative Politics in progress
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

- Dissertation: science policy in authoritarian states and the nationalisation of the body
- Sources: declassified programme files, institute records, oral history

Master of Science: Symbolic Systems Palo Alto, California

- Logic, philosophy of language and cognitive science at the interface with computer science
- Admitted as a graduate applicant on an outside scholarship, first quarter completed remotely from Bishkek
- Learned German there, for Kant. It got out of hand later.

Bachelor of Science: Computer Science Naryn, Kyrgyzstan
State University, Naryn - taught in Kyrgyz and Russian

- Thesis: fault-tolerant coding, or how machines survive their own mistakes
- First encounter with the Setun ternary computer, in a Russian-language footnote nobody else in the cohort read

Research & Professional Experience

Novelist 2025 to Current
Independent - Bishkek

- Four novels in two languages, one shared universe, all built on documented history
- Research first, obsessively and for months, before a line is written; first drafts longhand
- Writes own press material, answers reader mail and press enquiries personally

Doctoral Researcher Current
Bishkek - international and comparative politics

- Fieldwork in state archives in Bishkek, Chisinau, Moscow and Kyiv
- Mentoring for women doctoral candidates in Bishkek

Public Research Archives Current
elaranovikova.com - open companion archives to the novels

- 1,143 dated events, 71 biographical dossiers, 73 machines and systems, with maps and network graphs
- Every claim carries its date and source; contested points are flagged rather than smoothed over
- Subjects include the Setun, the MESM, the OGAS network and the UVB-76 signal

Freelance Developer & Technical Translator Current
Bishkek

- Debugging and maintenance work for other people's codebases; pays the rent between books
- Translation of technical Russian, chiefly engineering and computing documentation

Publications

Ternary Dreams: The Third State of Feofanija	2026
Novel, English. Kyiv 2022, the MESM, the Setun and a KGB seduction order. ISBN 978-3-6956-6733-8	
Der Buzzer UVB-76	2026
Novel, English. The shortwave signal at 4625 kHz as a weapon. ISBN 978-3-6956-8515-8	
German edition: Der Buzzer UVB-76, translated and expanded by Anastasia V. Kern. ISBN 978-3-6956-1629-9	
Secret Dawn Among the Stars	2026
Novel, English. A classified 1985 orbital experiment. ISBN 978-3-8194-5985-6	
German edition: Geheimes Morgenrot unter den Sternen, translated and expanded by Anastasia V. Kern. ISBN 978-3-6956-1657-2	
Ivanov's Ghost	2025
Novel, English. A Moldovan hospital in 1998 and a Soviet biomedical legacy. ISBN 978-3-8194-6154-5	

Languages

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Russian - native• Romanian - native• Kyrgyz - fluent | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English - academic fluency• German - working proficiency, one novel written in it |
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Additional

- Readings in independent bookshops, preferably under fifty chairs; interviews in writing where possible
- Press kits, fact sheets and high-resolution material available for each novel on request
- References available on request

Portrait: Baktybek Aliev, Bishkek, 2023