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## **Yankee Doodle, Baba Yaga, and Politics: Nursery Rhymes During the Cold War**

Ala Krivov  
*Western University*, [akrivov2@uwo.ca](mailto:akrivov2@uwo.ca)

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I am working on a dissertation that explores the function of nursery rhymes during the period of the Cold War. Specifically, I am planning to undertake a comparative study of children's exposure to these artforms in the USA and the USSR in order to examine two questions: 1) How did individuals engage with existing nursery rhymes during the Cold War period? 2) What imaginative mediums for children were developed in response to the Cold War and how were they applied in everyday life?

I hope that my project will reveal the ability of nursery rhymes to preserve and transmit socio-cultural values expressed through a culturally complex, texted musical tradition. In so doing, this work will lay the foundation for further study of children's music during the Cold War, and will advance research in various fields, including musicology, Soviet and American studies, Cold War studies, and cultural studies.