

Alan Levine

Session: **Translating Russian Records for the non-Russian Speaker**

Researchers often encounter a major obstacle when they discover documents written in a foreign language. In this talk, we'll discuss strategies for translating Russian documents. The same ideas can be used for many other languages.

I think revision lists are the most valuable records since, in many cases, they contain entire families, sometimes three or four generations, if they are living in the same house. This can be extremely helpful if you are trying to determine which of the many Abram Shvartsmans in Khotin is your great-grandfather. Birth and marriage records may contain parents' names, but that doesn't always narrow it down enough. I always tell people that death records are probably the least useful since the person who knows the answers to the questions is dead. 😊

We are very lucky that so many revision lists have survived and that we have people such as you who are leading the task of translating them.

I have found quite a few of my relatives in records from Kishinev and Teleneshti.

[Alan Levine bio](#)