Post-WWII Migration Flows (not only) in the Propaganda Studies Context

Conference is held as part of solution Visegrad Grand ID 22030354

Post-WWII Migration Flows in the V4 States in the Context of Propaganda Studies

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WE NEED TO KNOW WHERE WE CAME FROM AND WHERE WE ARE GOING.

JANUARY 21, 2022 Košice, Slovakia











Welcome to International Conference

Post-WWII Migration Flows (not only) in the **Propaganda Studies Context**

SLOVAKIA CZECHIA OPAVA POLAND WARSZAWA HUNGARY BUDAPEST

The conference is organized as international event with participation of presenters mainly from V4 countries. The conference is supported by Visegrad Fund as the part of solution of Visegrad Grant ID ID 22030354 entitled Post-WWII Migration Flows in the V4 States in the Context of Propaganda Studies (implementation period 01/09/2021 - 28/02/2023).

https://postww2migration.com/

The project implementation staff from all V4 countries will present the research results - a new paradigm of post-WWII migration research - the concept of migration in the perspective of propaganda studies, considering the events in Central Europe.

The project will enrich historians in the V4 countries with skills in the form of mastering the hitherto littlemethodological approach in the context propaganda studies and at the same time provides them with space for cross-border cooperation and connection of regional research to the Central European area. The originality of the project lies in the change perspective on the issue of migration on two levels: 1. through propaganda studies (thus filling in the gaps in research), 2. linking partial regional research into one whole.

For this conference we have put together a thoughtful program presenting migrations from many perspectives. We hope that you take full advantage of this facinating program, and also take some time to add some color to your own narrative.

We hope that you enjoy the conference.

Lucia Heldáková Coordinator of the Visegrad Grant Project ISS CSPS SAS Slovakia

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Leslie Waters

Dr. Leslie Waters research focuses on border changes, forced migration and identity politics in modern Central and Eastern Europe. Her research has been supported by the Mellon Foundation, Fulbright Foundation, and Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. She teaches courses on modern Europe, Russia, and comparative borderlands. She is the author of the book Borders on the Move: Territorial Change and Ethnic Cleansing in the Hungarian-Slovak Borderlands, 1938-1948.

Department of History, The University of Texas at El Paso El Paso, Texas, USA

Prof. PaedDr. Štefan Šutaj, DrSc.

Prof. PaedDr. Štefan Šutaj, DrSc. is an expert on the issue of national minorities after the Second World War in (Czech-) Slovakia. He was the solver of many domestic and foreign projects analysing this issue. He founded the Department of History at the University of Košice and was its head for many years. He also worked as the director of the Institute of Social Sciences of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. He is currently engaged in research and teaching Slovak history after 1945.

Department of History, Faculty of Arts, UPJŠ Košice, Slovakia

Conference Program

08:00 - 09:00	Workshop (Project Partners)	
09:00 - 09:10 09:10 - 09:15	Registration Opening Ceremony	
09.10 - 09.13	opening deteriory	
09:15 - 09:35	Keynote I, Leslie Waters (USA) The Cascading Migration Pattern in Postwar East-Central Europe	
09:35 - 09:55	Keynote II, Štefan Šutaj (Slovakia) Recodification of the history of post-war migration schemes in Slovak and Hungarian politics (traumas - manipulations - propaganda)	
09:55 - 10:00	Coffee break	
Session 1 - Migration and Central Europe (chair: Ondřej Kolář)		
10:00 - 10:15	Tereza Richtáriková (Czech Republic) " and they will consider themselves as the last victims of the world war." Anton Granatier and his plans for the population exchange between Czechoslovakia and Hungary and the settlement of Slovakia after the Second World War	
10:15 - 10:30	Lucia Heldáková (Slovakia)	
	Propaganda of population exchange between Czechoslovakia and Hungary	
10:30 - 10:45	Attile Nevák (Hungary)	
10.30 - 10.45	Attila Novák (Hungary) Orthodox Jewish Rescue Networks in Communist Hungary. Historical and social history analysis on some segments of the Budapest Orthodoxy in the Rákosi era of Hungary (1949-1953)	
10:45 - 11:00	Réka Marchut (Hungary)	
10.45 - 11.00	The expulsion of the Germans from Hungary at the forefront of International politics	
11:00 - 11:15	Tomáš Dvořák (Czech Republic) The birth of the myth? The never published official history of the "transfer" of Czechoslovak Germans	
11:15 - 11:30	Agnieszka Kulesa, Aneta Nisiobęcka (Poland) Returns of Poles from France and Belgium and their adaptation in the post-war reality of the Polish People's Republic in the memory of returnees and their families (1945–1970)	
11:30 - 11:45	Katarzyna Andrejuk (Poland) Post- WW2 migration to and from Poland in the "Nowe Drogi" journal	
	Variable f Wastland is (Dalam)	
11:45 - 12:00	Krzysztof Wasilewski (Poland) Post-WWII Migration Flows in the collective memory of Polish-German borderlands	
12:00 - 12:15	Discussion	
12:15 - 13:00	Lunch and coffee	

Session 2 - Migration in micro-perspective (chair: Katarzyna Andrejuk)

13:00 - 13:15	Ondřej Kolář (Czech Republic) Post-WWII Immigration to Czechoslovak Borderland with Regard to Silesia and North Moravia
13:15 - 13:30	Tereza Juhászová (Czech Republic) Migration Flows in Micro Perspective: The Case of Eastern Slovak Small-Town
13:30 - 13:45	Patrícia Fogelová (Slovakia) The issue of "cleansing" public life and public space in Košice after World War II
13:45 - 14:00	Klara Kohoutová (Slovakia) German sites of memory as a memento of the German expulsion from Brno city
14:00 - 14:15	Dana Vedra (Czech Republic) LOST HOMES – Forced migration-flows in the Czech lands due to building military grounds in the periodical press
14:15 - 14:30 14:30 - 14:40	Discussion Coffee break

Session 3 – Specific and non-European migration issues (chair: Lucia Heldáková)

14:40 - 14:55	Könül Jafarova (Poland) Historical evolution of migration between Poland and former Soviet states, with a particular focus on the states in the region of South Caucasus
14:55 - 15:10	Sahil Mammadov (Poland) EU Migration Policy in the Agenda of Crisis from the perspective of objectives, tools, and competencies
15:10 - 15:25	Nikoleta Slavíková (Slovakia) Why are the Roma in Europe? History of Roma migration
15:25 - 15:40	Barnabás Vajda (Slovakia) Radio Free Europe as part of the Central European political migration in the context of the Cold War
15:40 - 15:55	Maroš Melichárek (Slovakia) Serbian Chetnik emigration after WW II - old topic new perspectives
15:55 - 16:10 16:10 - 16:15	Discussion Closing Ceremony

Abstracts

Tereza Richtáriková

Anton Granatier was one of the leading experts on Slovak minorities abroad and on Slovak-Hungarian relations in the interwar period. Under the influence of the Vienna Award and the break-up of the Czechoslovak Republic, during the Second World War he formulated plans to revise the borders and exchange the population with Hungary, and plans to settle the originally Hungarian regions of Slovakia by re-emigration from Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria. After the war, A. Granatier held high positions in the Settlement Office for Slovakia and the Reslovakization Commission and tried to put his plans into practice, but especially in the case of settling re-emigrants in Slovakia, he was largely unsuccessful and left both institutions. In this paper, we will look at population exchange, re-emigration and settlement plans, as were formulated by Granatier, and some of the problems he faced in trying to put them into practice.

Lucia Heldáková

The formation of post-war Europe after the end of the Second World War was related to efforts to minimize the number of national minorities. For this reason, the German minority was expelled from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland between 1945 and 1946. The former Czechoslovak politicians sought the same transfer of the Hungarian minority. This Czechoslovak-Hungarian tension was to end by the Population exchange agreement between Czechoslovakia and Hungary. The principle of exchange was anchored in the agreement on a reciprocal basis, but the way of leaving was very different. While the Slovaks in Hungary can freely decide for the exchange, the Hungarians from Slovakia were registered by the competent authorities without a choice. However, the number of registered Slovaks was crucial for the Czechoslovak success of the exchange, because the same number of Hungarians should subsequently be resettled from Czechoslovakia. Was promoting of population exchange for Slovaks in Hungary merely an advertisement of a better future, or was it a propaganda effort to manipulate their decision to (not) sign up for an exchange?

Attila Novák

In the spring of 1953, AVH ("State Protection Authority" literally, the Hungarian Secret Police) detained the Budapest-based citizen Jenő Schwitzer, who was associated with a number of "imperialist embassy people" and dealt with the deployment of persons, currencies and socalled illegal letters to Vienna. This arrested person was indirectly linked to Gyula Weiss, who was considered to be the central figure of the organization and who was considered one of the "master" of fake Romanian passports used. Weiss, who had been hiding for several months from the AVH, was in contact with other people: Dávid Stern, Ignác Grünberg, Rabbi Jakab Berger (and his wife) and Aurel Klein. During several months of investigation in AVH, the Secret Police accounted for the organization whose main characteristic was that almost all of its participants were members of the orthodox Jewish community in Budapest. The purpose of my lecture is to explore this network and to present it on the basis of archival sources, how the Orthodoxy of Budapest worked (and lived) in the first half of the 1950s in Hungary. The Orthodoxy institutionally was incorporated into the Budapest Jewish Community (and MIOK - National Representation of Hungarian Israelites) as a section in 1950. Many organizations and people have been put in jeopardy because of the nationalization, for which one of the solutions was the creation of the so-called Shomre Shabbat cooperatives, so keeping the religious commandments did not suffer any harm. I would also like to analyse the intercultural aspect of this very special kind of emigration which happened in this very difficult period of History.

Réka Marchut

In the period between 1946 and 1948 approximately half of the Germans of Hungary (220,000 people) were settled to the American and Soviet occupation zones of post-war Germany. These events were part of a larger international process in which millions of Germans were forced to flee their homes in Northern and Eastern Europe, as well as Poland and Czechoslovakia. Post-war Hungary, as one of the countries on the losing side of the war, after 1945 was in a ceasefire status, so was not a sovereign state. As a result, also the deportation of the Germans from Hungary could take place only with an international mandate under the supervision of the Allied Control Commission. The international politics played a key role first of all in the preparation and the authorization of the deportations, but also in the summer of 1946, during the execution of the deportations. Furthermore, it was decisive also in the context of the tense relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, when the deportations have been temporarily retarded. Finally, international politics had influence on the deportations also in the summer of 1947, when forced migration to the Soviet occupation zone of Germany began without the consent of the Western Allied Powers. The aim of the study is to present and analyze these complex processes.

Tomáš Dvořák

In 1949, as the expulsion of the German speaking population form Czechoslovakia has ended and shortly after the communist coup d'etat, the oficial book on the "Transfer" was drawn out. The draft was edited at the czechoslovak ministry of interior. The prepared book has however never occured in public. The paper will focus on the embodied patterns of the political mythology, incl. so called Potsdam Myth and the other communist propaganda discourse.

Agnieszka Kulesa, Aneta Nisiobęcka

The return of Poles from France and Belgium - mainly due to the role which the returnees were supposed to play in the political and economic life of their home country - was one of the most significant migratory movements in the post-war history of Poland. Since the end of military operations in 1945, the communist authorities of Poland were appealing to Poles residing in France and Belgium to return to their homeland. The oral history and written accounts of three families - Pawlik, Dabek and Szotek - whose decisions to return were informed by the Warsaw government's propaganda campaign, show how returnees' expectations towards the organized return to home country and the conditions of living in the communist regime in Poland collided with harsh reality. The stories of the three families are, on the one hand, a part of the universal experience of migration, and on the other hand - due to specific economic, social and political conditions, which constitute the background of the described events - a source of additional information about migrations of Poles to France and Belgium and their returns to Poland after World War II. Experiences related to decision-making on return to homeland and the readaptation have been shared by many migrants throughout history, including members of the Dabek, Pawlik and Szotek families. From a historical point of view, the available oral history and written accounts, complementary to the analysis of administrative documents, allow to deepen the knowledge about the specificity of migration to France and Belgium and returns from these countries. It relates to knowledge on everyday life in France and Belgium (in case of the Pawlik family, struggling with accusations of espionage) and the organization of return to Poland (which in case of the Szotek family took place in a manner different from that described in the available sources and literature).

Katarzyna Andrejuk

The aim of the presentation is to examine how the post-World War 2 migration flows from and to Poland were portrayed in the official communist press in the 1940s. Poland experienced several important migration flows in the post-war period, including out-migration of Ukrainians, Germans, and Jews; as well as mobility of the ethnic Poles resettled from the Eastern territories incorporated to the new Soviet republics of Ukraine, Belarus, and Lithuania after the war. The analysis will focus on the "Nowe Drogi" ("New Ways") journal - the official journal of the Polish Worker's Party. The content analysis will encompass the articles published in the first phase of existence of this periodical (first two years since establishing the journal, 1947-1948). The migration flows were depicted as a one-off process which would be limited in time and should result in ethnic homogeneity of Central-Eastern European countries: the ethno-national groups residing in their separate territories. These expectations reflected the political attempts to avoid the ethnic conflicts which had been a significant element of the two world wars. The approach presented in "Nowe Drogi" demonstrates the important post-war political assumptions about migration, understandings of collective belonging, images of the future society, and conditions of the social cohesion. These assumptions have shaped the public policies in the communist Poland for several decades after the war.

Krzysztof Wasilewski

Following the end of World War Two in Europe, borders of Poland underwent serious changes. German residents of the territories which were incorporated into Poland were expelled and their homes were taken by Poles who had to leave those territories, which were moved to the Soviet Union. Therefore, the memory of mass migrations is very livid and plays an important role in the borderland's collective memory. The paper will analyze the role of these memories in the construction of the new identity of borderland societies.

Ondřej Kolář

The paper focuses on immigration to Czechoslovak borderland after 1945 with special regard to ethnically-mixed region of Silesia and North Moravia. The goal is to analyse the approach of Czechoslovak institutions and media towards different ethnic, religious and social groups of newcommers.

Tereza Juhászová

During World War II and in its aftermath, Central Europe was exposed to huge migration waves. People of different religions and various mother tongues had to leave their homes and newcomers settled in the abandoned places. In my contribution, I focus on a small-town Medzev located on the southern edge of Spiš (Slovakia), which was until the end of World War II inhabited mainly by German-speaking population. During and after the war, these people were on move whether due to the "evacuation" to northern Moravia in regard of the approaching Red Army in autumn 1944, or during 1945 due to their repatriation to Medzev and later expulsion from Czechoslovakia. However, the most important migration flow which changed the ethnic character of the town came only during the 1960s, when the larger metalworking plant Strojsmalt was established in Medzev, offering a wide range of job opportunities that attracted workers from neighboring, ethnically Slovak, Hungarian or Ruthenian villages. exploring the post-conflict and post-migration mechanisms, I will focus in my presentation on everyday life in the intimate small-town community. How did the coexistence of the local German speakers work in regard to the job-seeking Slovak "newcomers"? How did social cleavages present in the town deal with the influx of differently speaking inhabitants? To what extent were categories based on nationality relevant? Drawing on archival sources and oral testimonies, the presentation aims to show the micro-perspective of the post-war migration flows and interactions in Southeastern Slovakia. It focuses on factors decisive for inclusion into or exclusion from the new small-town community.

Patrícia Fogelová

The problem in which the ethnically diverse city of Košice found itself after World War II can be seen in the long run as the culmination of several decades of dispute over the ethnic character of the city. Closely related to this was the nature of the public sphere, which was to be "purified" of people disloyal to the idea of Czechoslovakia. The issue of loyalty was not new, as already after the establishment of Czechoslovakia in 1918, public employees had to declare loyalty to the new state. Disputes over the ethnic character of the city also spread to the public space. In public spaces, street names were changed, old symbols were demolished and those that were in line with the ideas of the incoming regime were implemented. The public sphere and the public space itself in Košice had to go through a similar process even after 1945. The aim of the paper is to identify the main changes in the public space of the city after the liberation of Košice in January 1945. I would like to dedicate a special analysis to the changes in line with the policy of "purification". I follow these changes through the analysis of celebrations and events in the city and through the implementation of symbols in the public space of the city. An important part of the analysis is also the identification of the main actors of change in the public space of the city. I assume that the main initiator of the changes immediately after the liberation was the City Administrative Commission, later the National Committee and also the Communist Party. The analysis focuses on the period 1945 - 1947, the years immediately after the war, when it is not yet possible to speak of unconditional control of public life by the Communist Party.

Klara Kohoutová

Research of memory and its places has significantly transformed the study of history. Over time, studies of memory have established themselves in the academic community and have thus become an integral part of teaching at universities. We tried to apply Nor's unique concept of places of memory, which is somewhat tied to the national framework, to Czech society. Places of memory: reflect on the past and tell about society's relationship to history; as clearly exposed objects, they are an immediate and valuable source of thinking about collective memory and at the same time they are its direct actors. The paper focuses on Czech manifestations of historical consciousness in relation to German places of memory. Memory is primarily examined through places of memory, i.e. commemoration in public space. The study analyses the causes, points to initiatives, the relations between the majority and the minority, which intertwine in the creation and preservation of minorities of memory. The main research method is oral history. How do Czech and German societies remember the expulsion of Germans from Brno? What places of memory commemorate these events? How did the expulsion of the Germans from Brno affect its subsequent development? These are the questions that the author can find the answer to in the 15-minute presentation.

Dana Vedra

The contribution should introduce the research of Mgr. Dana Vedra, who deals with not so researched topic of the forced moving out the Czechs from the Drahansko Highlands within the so-called inner forced migration. The subject of the research will be summarized in the author's future dissertation. In the years 1940-1945, in the continuity with the expansion of the existing military training ground, there was a relatively large-scale displacement of the Czech population. It was a total of 33 villages from contemporary districts of Vyškov, Prostějov and Blansko. The envisaged work aims to comprehensively cover not only this period, but also the post-war return of the population; his efforts for the overall renewal of the area and, last but not least, the changes that took place here after 1948, respectively, in the 1950s in connection with the implementation of the collectivization of agriculture. The paper will follow the development tendencies and the state of research on the so-called inner forced migrations in the 20th century and their impacts on the monitored area (in this case municipalities in the Drahanská Highlands in Moravia) and time (1940-1960). The resulting work should help to better conceptualize the theory of forced migration on the example of a specific territory, which does not fall so completely into the common categories that are common in this topic.

Könül Jafarova

The historical evolution of Central Eastern Europe (CEE) provided a fruitful ground characterized with the region's richness of human mobilities. Migratory movements constituted the foundation of the region's diversity and contributed to its richness both in cultural and social terms. During different historical periods of the region, migration was sometimes forced, sometimes voluntary, at times within close spatial dimensions, at times further dimensions, also involving the regions such as South Caucasus and Central Asia. During communist ruling, despite the communist regime's "closed" policies, the region continued to experience migratory movements which served for the exchange of petty trades between the eastern neighboring states and Central Europe, which was predominantly occurring on the eastern borders of the countries in the region. Such circular and temporary migration of petty trade was of high importance in the informal bazaars for example, of Warsaw, where it relied on the unregulated labor market that was profitable for the traders. The majority of the traders came from the Former Soviet Union, current states of Russia, Belarus, Armenia and Ukraine. Post-communist period, however, was more accompanied with the policy regulated migration. After the accession to European Union in 2004, with the expected high rates of emigration, different policies were put in place to attract labor force from the former Soviet states to fill in the labor shortages. In this presentation I will focus on the case study of one CEE country - Poland and provide a historical overview of migration between Poland and its eastern neighboring states, with a particular focus on South Caucasus. I will explore the role and impact of migration flows between South Caucasus states and Poland and argue that the countries hold much more in common historically than one might assume.

Sahil Mammadov

The 2015 migrant crisis has developed into an integration crisis in EU migration policy, as a result of a disintegration trend among member states. The purpose of this research is to determine the legitimacy of independent national policymaking demands. In the case of border management, the development of the EU migration policy's aims, legal, budgetary, and institutional instruments is assessed in the context of intergovernmental and supranational tensions. The EU gained legal personality, the Charter of Fundamental Rights became binding, the Union's jurisdiction was expanded by abolishing the column system, and the principle of unanimity was replaced by qualified majority in many issues with the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty in 2009. Although not as significant as its predecessor, the draft Constitutional Treaty, this development, which increased the EU's supranational characteristics and marked a new stage in integration, was overshadowed by the "debt crisis" that occurred the same year, in which member states' attitudes diverged and EU integration was once again called into question. With the arrival of roughly two million asylum seekers on EU territory in 2015, the propensity to dissociate in member states resurfaced, and discourse of leaving the EU became common. To make sound assessments within this agenda, it is crucial to recall the reasons that compel member states to adopt a common migration policy under the auspices of the EU, as well as to evaluate the substance and character of supranational delegation of authority over time. Following the identification of general trends in member states' migration policies, particularly in Western European countries, the study traces the development of EU migration policy in the founding treaties and Union programs, as well as the specific targets for transnationalization. The legitimacy of the demands for independent national policy execution is examined in terms of supranationality, goals, and interests after the efforts for a solution at the EU level to the last migration crisis and the reactions from some member states are highlighted.

Nikoleta Slavíková

Researchers now generally acknowledge that the Roma population in Europe is descended from groups that left India about 1,000 years ago and came to Europe around the 14th century. Due to hostile attitudes, they have been constantly forced to relocate and are therefore part of almost all of Europe. Because of the constant relocation, the minority began to associate with the word "nomads". During the socialist era, the regime sought to lift the minority out of poverty through various measures (or restriction?). The regime saw the only solution in their assimilation and therefore they were relocated throughout Slovakia. In the past, the measures have led to nothing but cultural dependence, which still exacerbates the gap between majority and minority. The aim of the paper is to describe the migration of Roma within Europe and how they were affected by the socialist period. The main focus is dedicated to the beginning (and continuation) of discrimination against this minority and the migration associated with it, because discrimination was the main reason for Roma migration in the past.

Barnabás Vajda

Describing the particular issue of the Radio Free Europe (RFE), we can demonstrate that the employees of the RFE, dominantly of Central European origin, first were attractive co-organizers of the American political warfare during the 1950s and 1960s, then they were gradully "dropped" by American politicians in the mid-1970s. Looking at this processes historically, we can conclude a gradually declining influence of Central European political emigrees, including Radio Free Europe, in the West and in especially in the USA. The paper looks at the details of this process, and argues that it was the "tacit settlement" (Mark Kramer) of the two superpowers of the Cold War, i.e. the appeasable / conciliatory cooperation of the US with the Soviet Union that provided the framework (the overall international context) to this process.

Maroš Melichárek

Chetnik (Serbian: четник) movement, or the Ravna Gora Movement, represented a Yugoslav royalist and Serbian nationalist movement and guerrilla force in Axis-occupied Yugoslavia. Although it was not a homogeneous movement, it was led by General Draža Mihailović, who was tried and convicted of high treason and war crimes by the communist authorities of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia after the WW II. Persecution of Chetniks by the new regime caused the wave of emigration to the USA and Australia. In the USA the Ravna Gora Movement of Serbian Chetniks (it has uts chapters across the USA in Chicago, Rockford, Libertyville, Schererville, Merrillville, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Farrell, San Marcos) was founded by Serbian duke Momčilo Đujić and his collaborators. The main aim of the conference presentation is to show how was the Serbian Chetnik emigration perceived in homeland (until 1992 in Yugoslavia, after 1992 in Serbia) and in USA (mainly in both historiographies).

Project Partners and Organizing Comitee

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We would like to cordially thank to:

Visegrad Fund for supporting the project;

Project partners for cooperation and help:
Ondřej Kolář,
Katarzyna Andrejuk,
András Morauszki;

Keynote Speaker Leslie Waters for her willingness to present contribution and book for Slovak scientific community and public.

Keynote speaker **Štefan Šutaj** for long cooperation, help and taking part on the conference.

Last but not least to all conference participants for conference attendance and interest to develop and share their research know-how.

Thank all of you!

To join the conference please register:

