



Institute for German Culture  
and History of Southeastern Europe  
at LMU München



Graduiertenschule  
für Ost- und  
Südosteuropastudien



COLLEGIUM CAROLINUM

**Conference  
»Paths of Transition /  
Transformation. Local  
Societies in Southeastern  
Europe in Transition from  
Empires to Nation States  
after World War I «**

23-24 November 2017

Graduate School for East and  
South East European Studies

Maria-Theresia-Straße 21  
81675 München

Thursday, 23 November

10:00–10:30     **Welcome and Introduction**

**Florian Kühner-Wielach**, Director of the IKGS, Munich

**Martin Zückert**, Managing Director of the Collegium Carolinum, Munich

**Gábor Egry**, Director of the Institute of Political History, Budapest

10:30–13:45     **Nations and New Orders**

**Florian Kühner-Wielach**: Transfer, Transition, Transformation? Transylvania and beyond

**Johannes Gleixner** (Munich): From the Countryside into the Center: Czech Progressives and the Notion of »Czech Socialism« as Republican Ideology

**Călin Cotoi** (Bucharest): Social Modernity and International Hygiene Conferences: Nation Building and Public Hygiene in 19th Century Romania

12:15–12:30     Coffee break

**Ota Konrád** (Prague): Violence, Nation and the New Order: The Bohemian Lands and Austria during the Transition Period, 1917-1923

**Thomas Varkonyi** (Vienna): »Galicia« as an Anti-Semitic Code in Hungary (and Austria) during and after The Great War

Chair: **Martin Zückert**

13:45–15:00     Lunch break

15:00–17:00     **Post-imperial Biographies**

**Rok Stergar** (Ljubljana): »We will make fools of ourselves if nothing comes of Yugoslavia« Transition from the Habsburg Empire to Yugoslavia from a Native Perspective

**Svetlana Suveica** (Regensburg/Chişinău): (Post-imperial) Identities on the Russian-Romanian Borderland: The Biography Twists of Panteleimon V. Sinadino

**János Fodor** (Cluj-Napoca): György Bernády: A Case Study of a Post-imperial Biography

Chair: **Enikő Dác** (Munich)

Friday, 24 November

9:00–11:00      **Transforming Local Societies**

**Attila Simon** (Komárno): Alternativen des Machtübergangs. Kaschau 1918–1919

**Jernej Kosi** (Ljubljana/Graz): Transforming Local Identities: Prekmurje after the Dissolution of Austria-Hungary

**Enikő Dácz**: Local Societies in Transition: Braşov and Sibiu

Chair: **Eric Weaver** (Debrecen)

11:00–11:15      Coffee break

11:15–12:45      **Comparative Local Transitions**

**Gábor Egry**: Shoulder to Shoulder? Local Professional Networks and Institutions, Local and Regional Solidarity in the Emerging Romanian Nation State 1918-1925

**Ivan Jeličić** (Trieste): Political Elites and Counter-Elites in a City Searching for a Place in the Post-Habsburg Era

Chair: **Rok Stergar**

12:45–14:00      Lunch break

14:00–16:00      **Peculiar Regions, Peculiar People**

**Julia Richers** (Bern): Identifications in Transition: Interwar Biographies in Carpatho-Ukraine

**Eric Weaver**: The Nation that Was Not to Be. Reactions of Bunjevci and other South Slavs in Hungary to Revolution and State Change at the End of the First World War

**Sékoléne Plyer** (Strasbourg): The Goodness of the Monarchy, the Gains of 1918. German and Czech Change Experiences on Regional Scale in Bohemia, 1914-1924

Chair: **Svetlana Suveica**

16:00–16:15      Coffee break

16:15–17:15      **Round Table Discussion  
Perspectives for Further Research**

**Gábor Egry, Ota Konrád, Sékoléne Plyer, Julia Richers**

The dominant understanding of the end of WWI in Southeastern Europe is still marked by the emergence of nation states, rashly nationalizing institutions, space and people at the ruins of empires. The fall of empires certainly meant the end of a specific experience of state building and configuration, one based on the dominance of a metropolitan centre over peripheries that were ruled in a differentiated way. Although the empires turned to nationalizing themselves under the pressure of and challenge by the nation-state model, they still left a legacy that new nation states, also imperialising entities, could not easily dispose of.

With the new idea and legitimacy of statehood and the new, uniform and “homogeneous” states in the making, local societies had to face a period of transition, a systemic change that aimed at the profound reconfiguration of state and social relations. However, what seemed as a straightforward development at the general level did not necessarily mean a similar transformation (comprehensive and sustainable social change) for local and regional societies.

Uneven transition can be explained with a broad range of factors. Revealing how and why these were effective in certain cases and failed to have an effect on other ones is a key issue for understanding the transition process. Comparison of such disparate (or even similar) stories across space would allow for revealing these factors behind different local outcomes and paths of transition. The types of change in local societies, the potential to gain agency, the significance of the changes for individuals with varying social backgrounds are just a few of the many themes that can be brought to the fore when the focus rests on local cases and they are analysed through a comparative lens. Therefore, the conference attempts to bring together a wide range of case studies that present material for further comparisons and the comparative study of certain problems.

Gefördert von:



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