CENTRE FOR CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF SOCIALISM



CKPIS Summer Semester: Tanja Petrović

On June 2, Tanja Petrović, Head of the Institute of Culture and Memory Studies ZRC SAZU in Ljubljana, was the last guest in the series of online public lectures CKPIS Summer Semester. Her topic was titled When Che Guevara Visited Yuqoslavia: On Possibilities of Remembering in the Aftermath of the Yugoslav Socialist Project. Find out more at CKPIS Events/Događanja.









One more guest in the series of online lectures: Filip Balunović

After 14 lectures in the series CKPIS Winter Semester and CKPIS Summer Semester, hosted by Igor Duda, on June 16 yet another guest visited out virtual lecture hall. Hosted by Saša Vejzagić, Filip Balunović, from the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade and Faculty of Media and Communication, Singidunum University in Belgrade, talked about Cognitive Background of Activism in (Post-)Yugoslav Societies: Cases of Zagreb, Belgrade and Sarajevo.

TURN TO LAST PAGES FOR OUR NEW SECTION A series of four interviews in issues no. 56-59

Thanks to the Erasmus+ Traineeship, Nemanja Stanimirović, who is completing his two-year MA in Nationalism Studies at the CEU, is staying at CKPIS in Pula from early June to early September. One of his many tasks will be to prepare four interviews for the Newsletter, with researchers whose work he finds important.



7th Doctoral Workshop: live in Pula

Last year we were forced to hold the 6th Doctoral Workshop online, but this year with the topic *Microhistories of Socialism* we are returning to the inperson mode and with more

PhD students than ever before. Hopefully, the pandemic will allow us to proceed with our plans between August 25 and 28. More information, including the workshop programme, is available at our webpage in English or Croatian.

5th Socialism on the Bench: 120 participants

Approximately 120 participants are included in the programme of the 5th Socialism on the Bench: *Antifascism*, which will be held online via Zoom from September 30 to October 2. There are 20 panels with 4-7 participants, book launches, round tables and three keynote speakers: Darko Dukovski (Rijeka), Ivo Goldstein (Zagreb), Rastko Močnik (Ljubljana). The conference programme is now available online. The event is organised by CKPIS, hosted by the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula and financially supported by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung's Regional Office for Southeast Europe. Please, follow the news at the conference webpage in English or Croatian.



EVERYDAY LIFE IN STATE-SOCIALIST SOCIETIES 12— —15/05 2022 PLIL A

Call for Papers: Everyday Life in State-Socialist Societies

Organized by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation Southeast Europe and CKPIS, the conference *Everyday Life in State-Socialist Societies* will be held in Pula May 12-15, 2022. The aim is to cover three aspects of everyday life in Yugoslavia and Eastern Europe: work, gender and consumption relations. Prospective authors should send, by 30 September 2021, a cover letter, a CV, and an abstract. Depending on the outcome of the reviewing process for the abstracts, full papers will be invited for presentation at the conference. The deadline for the submission of first drafts of papers will be March 1, 2022. All the details are available in the <u>call for papers</u> or at the <u>RLS website</u>.



Entrepreneurship in Post-Communist Emerging Economies: Historical Legacies, Institutional Practices and Policy Perspectives – Tbilisi, 4-8 October 2021

Three decades after the breakdown of Soviet communism, the historically unique challenge of transforming administrative command economies to market economies has resulted in diverse institutional patterns of economic, social, and political affairs. Following complex historical processes of institutional change, post-communist emerging economies exhibit substantial variations in the prevailing sets of formal and informal institutions, covering a wide domain of legal rules and market regulations as well as social norms and cultural values. These institutional varieties form the actual context of entrepreneurship. In this setting, entrepreneurship in the operation of firms may be defined by diverse functions that cover a range from the discovery of market opportunities to the introduction of technological novelty. Likewise, entrepreneurship comes in diverse forms. It ranges from local family businesses in traditional industries via large oligopolistic and oligarchic industrial and service conglomerates to vibrant knowledge-intensive start-ups. (Read more)

Application deadline: 12 July 2021

Memory Cultures since 1945: German-Southeast European Entangled History – Tutzing, 4-8 October 2021

The International Academic Week is the Southeast Europe Association's (Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft – SOG) annual key event to bring together early-career researchers (MA/ PhD/ Post-Doc levels) and experienced scholars from all over Europe and beyond to present and discuss their research on the region. As always, it will take place in cooperation with the Akademie für Politische Bildung at the beautiful Lake Starnberg in Tutzing and in parts online from 4- 8 October 2021. The conference language will be English. This year's conference is hosted by Prof. Dr. Christian Voss (Berlin), Dr. Sabina Ferhadbegović (Jena), and A/Prof. Dr. Kateřina Králová (Prag/Berlin) and will focus on the topic of Memory Cultures since 1945. Early career researchers with an academic background in history, geography, social sciences and humanities in general who are focusing in their present research on Memory Cultures are cordially invited to apply for active participation with either an own paper or poster presentation. (Read more)

Application deadline: 4 July 2021

Towards a Conjuctural Political Economy of Non-Alignment and Cultural Politics – Rijeka, 27-29 September 2021

The multidisciplinary research team focuses on emergent visual assemblages and new models of cultural exchange that emerged in the second half of the 20th century as a consequence of decolonization, and which we see as radical political and aesthetic interventions into the dynamics of global Cold War and North-South relations. We seek to explore the economic, social, cultural and political imaginaries of NAM through a spatio-temporal, or conjunctural, frame. We see NAM as an unstable, dynamic, set of practices connected, in complex and underexplored ways, with broader networks of cultural and political solidarity, of South-South exchanges, and contributing to a common political agenda of decolonization. Challenging the supposed universality of colonial modernity and questioning capitalist concepts of development, a conjunctural political economy of NAM explores the material conditions and socio-political contexts of cultural exchange. (Read more)

Application deadline: 31 July 2021



(Read More)

PUBLICATIONS

Edi Jurković: *Kad je život bio novi val (Biografija omladinskog lista Val 1975-1990)*, (Rijeka: Naklada Val, 2021)

Omladinski list "Val" bio je uz zagrebačke listove "Polet" i "Studentski list" te splitsku "Omladinsku iskru" jedini alternativni izvor informiranja u vrijeme jednostranačkog sustava. Kroz njegovih 288 brojeva/svezaka zrcali se novija povijest (1975. – 1990.) Rijeke, ali i cijele Hrvatske, s naglaskom na život mladih i popularnu, ponajprije rock kulturu. Potkraj izlaženja, s popuštanjem političkih stega "Val" se aktivno uključio u demokratizaciju društva zbog čega je u travnju 1989. njegov 268. broj i zabranjen. "Val" je zanimljiv i kao rasadnik kadrova jer su njegovi glavni urednici kasnije postali glavni urednici vodećih hrvatskih dnevnih listova poput Večernjeg lista, Jutarnjeg lista i Novog lista. Cilj je monografije rekontekstualizirati teme kojima se list bavio, njegov utjecaj i značaj te otrgnuti zaboravu list koji je otvorio prostor za razvoj poznate riječke rock scene i buđenje kulturnog identiteta u 80-im godinama prošlog stoljeća.U sklopu monografije objavit će se i brojne naslovnice te autorske fotografije objavljene u listu, kao i popis suradnika kojih je u 16 godina oko 1.000!.

Aleksandar V. Miletić, *Titov emisar Milovan Đilas. Diplomatsko-pregovaračke i spoljnopolitičke aktivnosti (1943-1953)*, (Beograd: Institut za noviju istoriju Srbije, 2021)

Nova monografija Aleksandra V. Miletića prati diplomatsko-pregovaračke i spoljnopolitičke aktivnosti jednog od najuticajnijih ljudi jugoslovenskog revolucionarnog pokreta i poslijeratne socijalističke Jugoslavije, Milovana Đilasa, u periodu od 1943. do 1953. godine. Događaji koje knjiga obuhvata su: Martovski pregovori između partizanskih i njemačkih okupacionih snaga 1943. godine, prva vojna misija NOVJ u SSSR-u 1944. godine, osnivački skup Informbiroa 1947. godine, sastanci jugoslovenskih delegacija kod Staljina uoči izbijanja jugoslovensko-sovjetskog sukoba 1948. godine, učešće jugoslovenskih delegacija na Četvrtom (Njujork, 1949) i Šestom (Pariz, 1951) zasjedanju GS OUN, tajni pregovori o pomoći u naoružanju u Londonu 1951. godine i učešće jugoslovenske partijske delegacije na prvoj Azijskoj socijalističkoj konferenciji u Rangunu (Burma) 1953. godine. (Read More)

Peter Wegenschimmel, Zombiewerften oder Hungerkünstler? Staatlicher Schiffbau in Ostmitteleuropa nach 1970 (De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2021)

The oil crisis, a global recession and neoliberal reforms – how did two shipyards, Gdynia (Poland) and Uljanik (Croatia), muddle through in a period of fundamental transformation from the 1970s onwards? The book investigates the resilience of two notoriously unprofitable enterprises. What were the (un)intended consequences of the state subsidies they received? To what extent did public attention seal the fate of the former flagship organizations? (Read More)





POSITIONS, GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Visiting Fellowship "Post-1850 European history, historical social sciences or cultural studies", St Antony's College, Oxford

Applicants should be scholars in the in the fields of post-1850 European history, historical social sciences or cultural studies, with an outstanding record of publication. They must be employed at a German University. Fellows will be expected to be resident at St Antony's College for the nine months of the Oxford academic year (October-June); to conduct their research; to give the annual Richard von Weizsäcker lecture; to organize a conference or seminar series on a topic of their choice, bringing recent German scholarship to an English-speaking audience; and to edit an English-language volume of essays based on this. (read more)

Application deadline: 1 October 2021

IEG Fellowships for Doctoral Students, Leibniz-IEG, Mainz

The IEG funds PhD projects on European history from the early modern period until 1989/90. We are particularly interested in projects with a comparative or cross-border approach, on European history in its relation to the wider world, or on topics of intellectual and religious history. During the fellowship you are required to reside at the Institute in Mainz. You actively participate in the IEG's research community, the weekly colloquia and scholarly activities. We expect you to present your work at least once during your fellowship. The IEG preferably supports the writing up of dissertations; it will not provide funding for preliminary research, language courses or the revision of book manuscripts. PhD theses continue to be supervised under the auspices of the fellows' home universities. (read more)

Application deadline: 15 August 2021

Core Fellowship, IAS CEU

The Institute for Advanced Study at CEU (IAS CEU) is pleased to invite applications for its core junior and senior fellowship programs for the academic year 2022/23. Fellowships are available in all research areas of the social sciences and humanities, broadly defined. Fellowships run for the full 9-month period (October-June), for the 3-month short fall semester (October-December), the 5-month fall semester (October-February) or the 6-month spring semester (January-June). Young scholars with demonstrable promise of excellence will be considered; established senior scholars are expected to have solid records of first rate scholarship. All disciplines are welcome. A primary criterion for selection is the expectation that each fellow's stay at the Institute will yield original and significant research results. (read more)

Application deadline: 5 July 2021

INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH
by Nemanja Stanimirović (CEU), Erasmus+ Traineeship at CKPIS

Vladimir Unkovski-Korica lecturer in Legacies of Communism at the School of Social and Political **Sciences** at the University Glasgow. (read more)



Vladimir Unkovski-Korica

2016 monograph, Economic Struggle for Power in Tito's Yugoslavia, you mainly dealt with the development of the workers' selfmanagement model in Yugoslavia. What initiated your interest into this theme? Why is self-management in particular so important?

When I was growing up, we had allegedly reached the end of history, in which liberalism had triumphed. This was in the immediate aftermath of the collapse of the Berlin Wall and against the backdrop of the collapse of Yugoslavia and the ensuing wars. Somehow, the notion that 'the West' was the best on offer seemed barren to me in the circumstances. Moreover, as I had moved to Zimbabwe from Yugoslavia in 1991, I also got to see the world from the post-colonial angle, and concepts like 'colonialism' 'imperialism' seemed relevant to me in a way that made me ask big questions: why had the Soviet bloc and Yugoslavia collapsed? Was there a more humane alternative to Western capitalism? The notion of workers' self-management - the idea that workers could run factories - is quite central to many of these issues. So, it seemed important to study it.

What were the main findings of your book? How would you describe its importance to the field?

My study of Yugoslav history started against the backdrop of the wider study of the Soviet bloc from which Yugoslavia, in a sense, emerged. To study challenges to Western capitalism in the context of the twentieth century, you necessarily have to start with the October Revolution in 1917 in Russia. Anyone who studies the revolutionary year 1917 in Russia cannot but be amazed at the levels of selforganisation among the various social classes, especially the working class, in that tumultuous time. The birth of a new state apparatus based on the working class, a participatory democracy around the soviets or workers' councils, was an obvious and emancipatory challenge to liberal democracy. It cannot be any surprise that revolutionary Russia played such a great role in the imagination of so many in the twentieth century, not just those fighting for socialism, but those fighting against colonial oppression or against fascism, for racial equality or the liberation of women, and so on. Equally, I was struck by how different the later Soviet Union or Tito's Yugoslavia looked in comparison with Petrograd in 1917: highly bureaucratic, formulaic, stifling. While I know there are different takes on this, I found the writings of a Palestinian Jew, turned British Trotskyist, Tony Cliff (born Yigael Glückstein) illuminating. He built on Trotsky's idea that the failure of the Russian Revolution to spread led to its relatively permanent encirclement by hostile capitalist powers, usurpation of power by the party bureaucracy in the name of the working class. According to Cliff, this counterrevolution changed the nature of the USSR. It became a form of bureaucratic state capitalism, which competed with the world powers and exploited its workers. After the Second World War, this model spread to Eastern Europe. My own work, then, is an attempt to apply Cliff's insights to Yugoslavia, in which the Communists come to power more on the back of a national resistance movement in the Second World War than on the back of the Red Army. Yugoslavia looked to the Soviet Union for inspiration but split from the Soviet bloc in 1948 - where does it go? I am now going to oversimplify but if I did not, I would have to reproduce my whole book! Yugoslavia tries to balance between East and West to preserve national independence and Communist rule. To survive, in the initial phases, it turns to the West. Although the idea of



Vladimir Unkovski-Korica, *The Economic Struggle for Power in Tito's Yugoslavia: From World War II to Non-Alignment* (I.B. Tauris, 2016)

self-management is in words a return to Marxism, in actual fact it sees the ruling Yugoslav bureaucracy turn to the West and introduce market reforms, which are ideologically justified by reference to selfmanagement. Self-management becomes a legitimising narrative that is employed by different fractions of the ruling bureaucracy to mask more or less commitment to the market as a way of running society. As time goes on, I see Yugoslavia beginning to fracture as different fractions of the ruling class, split territorially along republican lines, begin to compete about the way forward. They do so at the expense of ordinary people, and ultimately jettison their ideology in the late 1980s when the zeitgeist suggests that things have to change in order to remain the same...

What are you currently working on, and can we expect some publications from you soon?

Currently, I have two main potential book projects on the go. One is about the British left and Yugoslavia, from the Second World War all the way to the Kosovo War (or NATO bombing of FR Yugoslavia). As I have already published two articles on this topic, I am beginning to be quite confident a book can emerge from it. What interests me here is a tale about how different strands of the British left reacted to such Yugoslav developments as self-management, nonalignment, federalism and so on. Let's just stick with self-management for now. Many in Britain saw industrial democracy as a key element in the reversal of British industrial decline in the 1960s and 1970s, and Yugoslavia served as a laboratory of ideas for British leftists - but this was not uncontroversial. So I am interested in pursuing some of these debates, and also how they metamorphose with the end of Cold War and the the rise of neoliberalism, where Yugoslavia no longer represents an alleged alternative to capitalism, but in fact becomes a testing ground for humanitarian intervention, and renewed debates about the nature of the new world order on the British left. The other potential book project is about the history of municipalism in Yugoslavia and after. Let's calling seeing Yugoslav history like a city. Jokes aside. Yugoslav decentralisation from 1948 was in many ways a real phenomenon and Yugoslav cities made plethora of global a connections on their road to development. How they did so from the era of the welfare state to the neoliberal era is an untold story and can speak to many of

those interested in the new municipalist movements of today, like Možemo or Ne davimo Beograd. While sympathetic to some of the main notions in the new municipalism, I worry that they may repeat many of the mistakes of the past. To put it crudely, if you could not have 'socialism in one country', you are even less likely to have 'socialism in one city'. But there are of course deeper and more profound questions to discuss too - and many of them revolve around issues of where the best site of democracy is, what the state is and how this all fits into the global capitalist framework. Finally, there is also a forthcoming special issue of the Business History journal with CKPIS's very own Saša Vejzagić. But I will keep you all in suspense.

What book would you recommend to a young student who has just started becoming interested in Yugoslav history, and why?

That depends on the student! But I guess I would say Leften Stavros Stavrianos's work on Balkan history is an inspiration to me, so I would always mention his name, works like Balkan Federation: A History of the Movement toward Balkan *Unity in Modern Times, The Balkans Since* 1453, and Global Rift: The Third World Comes of Age. Stavrianos takes a broad sweep approach to history and ultimately tries to locate the Balkans in the global. He also had a keen eye for the underdog. So, he appeals to me. Together with some of my own collaborators, I would hope one day to write a history of the Balkans modelled a bit on this kind of thinking!