Workshop

Post-Imperial and Post-Socialist Legacies in Today’s Populisms in Eastern Europe

Online, 14 December 2021
Post-Imperial and Post-Socialist Legacies in Today’s Populisms in Eastern Europe

The exploratory workshop »Post-Imperial and Post-Socialist Legacies in Today’s Populisms in Eastern Europe« is intended to analyse contemporary populism in an interdisciplinary perspective by focusing on two guiding questions:

- Do the post-imperial and post-socialist legacies play a role in the variety of populisms today?
- Can the differences between country-specific populisms be traced back to the (different) experiences of the imperial and socialist times and the subsequent transformation phases? Or do the imperial and socialist past no longer play a role in current populist discourse?

The workshop focuses on populism as a global phenomenon with regional and national features. With a comparative and contextualizing approach, it aims at examining the ways in which historical legacies combine with the witnessed rise of populist movements and parties in the Visegrad societies and Ukraine. The event is developed with an intraregional orientation that compares case studies, offering an approach to establish a transregional comparison with case studies from other parts of the world, so to contribute to the understanding of populism as global phenomenon.

Slovak populist party Smer-SD Robert Fico at a self-organized celebration of Labor Day in Neutra, 2017, © SITA, Martin Havran
Tuesday, December 14, 2021

10.00–10.30  
**Welcome and Introduction**  
Prof. Dr. Frank Hadler (GWZO), Paolo Zucconi (FGZ), Hana Rydza (GWZO)

10.30–12.00  
**Populism, Euroscepticism and Foreign Policy in Eastern Europe**  
Chair: Paolo Zucconi (FGZ)

Zsuzsanna Végh (European University Viadrina, Frankfurt, Oder)  
Radical Right Impact on EU Foreign Policy: towards an Analytical Model

Edit Zgut (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw)  
Eurosceptic populism in Hungary and Poland

Daniel Hegedüs (German Marshall Fund of the United States, Berlin)  
Populist Foreign Policy: Critical Review of a Concept

Comment: Dr. Juraj Marušiak (Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava)

Lunch Break 12.00–13.00
13.00 – 14.15
**Historical specifics of populism in Eastern Europe**
Chair: Hana Rydza (GWZO)

Kostiantyn Yanchenko (University of Hamburg)
Post-Soviet Legacies in the Modern Populism in Ukraine

Artur Lipiński (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań)
“This old system holds tight“. Anticommunist logic of mediated populism in contemporary Poland

Comment: Dr. Alexander Yendell (FGZ, Leipzig)

Break: 14.15 – 14.30

14.30 – 15.15
**Concluding Discussion**
Prof. Dr. Frank Hadler (GWZO), Hana Rydza (GWZO), Paolo Zucconi (FGZ)
The Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO) carries out comparative historical and cultural research on the region bordering the Baltic, the Black, and the Adriatic Seas from the Early Middle Ages to the present. There are currently around 50 research scholars associated with the Institute conducting work both in Germany and abroad from across the range of humanities disciplines. In its activities, the Institute relies on a dense network of cooperative partnerships with Eastern and Central European as well as international research organizations. www.leibniz-gwzo.de

Through a broad spectrum of historical, social and cultural science methods and comparative approaches, the research agenda of the Research Institute for Social Cohesion (FGZ) focuses on identities, inequalities and solidarity, media and conflict culture, polarization and populism, but also anti-Semitism and hate crimes in Europe and beyond. https://leibniz-hbi.de/en/projects/research-institute-social-cohesion-fgz

Venue
This is an online event. If you wish to participate, please register via the following link: https://kurzelinks.de/g5dd

Concept and Coordination
Hana Rydza, GWZO-Junior Research Group »Contrasting East-Central Europe«, Leipzig
Paolo Zucconi, Research Institute for Social Cohesion – FGZ, Leipzig

Organization
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In collaboration with the Research Institute for Social Cohesion (FGZ).