

**Ulf Brunnbauer / Adrian Grama:
"Global Socialism. Southeastern Europe and the World, 1944-1991"**

Hauptseminar
Donnerstag, 10-12 Uhr.
Raum 017 (IOS)

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Abstract

The aim of this course is to reflect from a global and transnational perspective on the trajectory of Eastern and Southeastern Europe after 1945. We will explore how the socialist countries of region were integrated into larger political, economic and cultural processes that spanned the globe after the Second World War. We will ask how those processes constrained but also empowered communist policy-makers and ordinary citizens in the region and finally how the building of socialism across the region determined the shape of the world over the last half century. More specifically, our starting assumption is that Eastern and Southeastern Europe represented a laboratory for an array of social problems, economic dynamics, political struggles and cultural patterns throughout the twentieth century, all of which made the historical experience of Eastern and Southeastern Europe a valuable source of insight for understanding the rest of the world. Not least, the state socialist countries made their presence across the globe felt, e.g. by supporting anti-colonial liberation movements, by hosting students from Africa and Asia, and building economic relations with Third World Countries. We will cover a number of topics that allow us better grasping the global connections of the region as a whole: (1) the emergence and unfolding of the Cold War; (2) competing visions of industrialization and development; (3) decolonization and state-making; (4) cultural diplomacy, education, and the spillover of socialist values; (5) trade, economic crisis and international cooperation; (6) labor, welfare and inequality.

The focus of the course will be on reading and discussing research literature and engaging with primary sources in order to train methods of analysis and interpretation. The language of instruction will be English.

SYLLABUS

Session 1 / October 18th

Introduction to the course – we will give an overview of the themes to be discussed and requirements

Session 2 / October ?? *alternative date required*

The global relevance of East and Southeast Europe

Readings:

1. Selection from the editorial statements of *East European Politics and Societies and Cultures*: statements by Daniel Chirot & Ken Jowitt (1986), Ivo banac (1990), Jan T. Gross (1994), Vladimir Tismaneanu (1999), Ilya Priyel (2004)
2. ASEES statement

Session 3 / November 8th

Placing ESE in a global perspective: empire, Cold War, international economy

Readings:

1. Odd Arne Westad, *The Cold War: A World History* (Basic Books, 2017), Chapters 3 (Europe's Asymmetries, pp. 71-99) and 7 (Eastern Spheres, pp. 183-209).
2. James Mark and Quinn Slobodian, 'Eastern Europe', in Martin Thomas and Andrew Thompson (eds.) *The Oxford handbook of the Ends of Empire* (Oxford UP, 2018)
3. Johanna Bockman, 'Socialist Globalization against Capitalist Neocolonialism: The Economic Ideas behind the New International Economic Order', *Humanity*, Spring 2015

Primary Source:

A report to the National Security Council – NSC 68', April 12, 1950, pp. 2-10, and 60-66.

Session 4 / November 15th

ESE and the birth of development economics

Readings

1. Besnik Pula, *Globalization Under and After Socialism. The Evolution of Transnational Capital in Central and Eastern Europe* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2018), chapter 2 on the limits of autarchy in the periphery
2. Paul Rosenstein-Rodan, "Problems of Industrialization of Eastern and South- Eastern Europe", *Economic Journal*, 53, 210/211, 1943, pp. 202–11 or, alternatively by the same author "The International Development of Economically Backward Areas", *International Affairs*, 20, 1944, pp. 157–65.

Primary Source:

International Monetary Fund, Staff Memorandum No. 159, Survey of the Economy of Yugoslavia, December 1947 (prepared by E.G. Spitzer and M.R. Wyczalkowski, approved by Ernest Sturc) - 24 pages

Session 5 / November 22nd

Socialism and the Third World

Readings:

1. Elidor Mehilli, *From Stalin to Mao. Albania and the Socialist World* (Cornell University Press, 2017), chapter 4 'Socialism in Exchange' (pp. 133-160)
2. Joan M. Nelson, "The politics of economic transformation. Is third world experience relevant in Eastern Europe?", *World Politics* 45 (1993): 433-463.

Primary Source:

Radio Free Europe Background Report on 'Tito and Non-Alignment' (December 1967), 10 pages

Session 6 / November 29th

Socialist Values in the World

Readings:

1. Kristen Ghodsee, 'The Historiographical challenges of exploring Second World – Third World alliances in the international women's movement', *Global Social Policy*, 14, 2, 2014, 244-264.
2. James Mark, Peter Apor, Radina Vučetić: "We Are with You, Vietnam': Transnational Solidarities in Socialist Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia", *Journal of Contemporary History* 50, 2015, 439-464.

Primary Source:

Clyde D. Hartz, 'A Business Trip to Eastern Europe', *Business Economics*, 9, 4, 1974, 34-40.

Session 7 / December 13th

Migration and Labor Mobility

Readings:

1. Milan Mesić: "External Migration in the Context of the Post-War Development of Yugoslavia", in: John B. Allcock/John J. Horton/Marko Milivojević (eds.): *Yugoslavia in Transition. Choices and Constraints*. New York/Oxford: Berg 1992, S. 171-198.
2. Raia Apostolova: "Duty and Debt under the Ethos of Internationalism. The Case of the Vietnamese Workers in Bulgaria", *Journal of Vietnamese Studies* 12 (2017), 101-125.

Primary source:

Documentary movie "Special trains", dir. Krsto Papić, 1972
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQWPnla6kH0>)

Session 8 / December 20th

The Co-production of a Global Culture

1. Predrag Makrović: "Where have all the flowers gone? Yugoslav Culture in the 1970s between liberalization/westernization and dogmatization", in: Marie-Janine Calic/Dietmar Neutzatz (eds.), *The Crisis of Socialist Modernity. The Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in the 1970s*. Göttingen 2011, 118–133.
2. Kristen Ghodsee: *The Red Riviera*. Durham/London 2005, chapter 3 (pp. 76–114).
3. Theodora Dragostinova: "The East in the West: Bulgarian Culture in the United States of America during the Global 1970s", *Journal of Contemporary History*, 53 (2018), 212-239.

Primary source:

Romania: Western Delights in Europe (1964, British Pathé
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfviSFAwUPE>)