

Shaping Eastern European Societies and Economies: Culture, Religion and Historical Legacies

Historical past seems to cast a long shadow on contemporary political, economic and social developments. Differences in the levels of economic well-being and corruption, democracy and social inequality appear to be highly path dependent and driven by the legacies of political and social entities long gone. Central and Eastern European States, with their highly diverse historical backgrounds, are a fruitful empirical laboratory for studying these long-term historical effects, both associated with the Communist and the pre-Communist past. The conference assembles experts from a wide range of disciplines and methodological approaches offering in-depth investigation whether and how the 'slow-moving' factors determine the current developments in the post-Socialist societies. We will, for instance, look at how governments are able to create persistent social values, which outlive their rule; under which conditions do values, practices and institutions show high levels of persistence, how do they survive major historical discontinuities like wars and revolutions and whether these shocks themselves create lasting historical effects; and whether religion and culture matter for economic and social development.

Organiser and Contact

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Conference Leader

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Venue

Europäische Akademie Berlin (EAB)
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Conference Language

English

Conference Fee

30 Euro
to be paid after registration

Registration

office@dgo-online.org

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International Conference of the German Association for East European Studies, Economics Section

16–17 November 2018
Berlin



Friday, 16 November 2018

2.00 pm Introduction

Gabriele Freitag, DGO, Berlin
Alexander Libman, LMU Munich

2.10 pm Pre-Communist Legacies and History

Migration, Religion and Development: The Long-Term Impact of Molokans on Development in the Russian Far East

Olga Vasilyeva, Economic Research Institute, Blagoveshchensk (with Jon Nye, George Mason University)

The Shadow of the Family: Historical Roots of Social Capital in Europe

Maria Kravtsova, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow (with Aleksey Oshchepkov, National Research University Higher School of Economics, and Christian Welzel, Leuphana University of Lüneburg)

The Geography of Finance and Industrialization: Evidence from the Russian Empire

Theocharis Grigoriadis, Free University of Berlin

Espionage and Conflict in the Age of Extremes

Julia Zimmermann, Free University of Berlin (with Theocharis Grigoriadis, Free University of Berlin)

Discussant: Alexander Libman, Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich

4.00 pm Coffee Break

4.15 pm Legacies of Communism, Wars and Empires

East Prussia 2.0: Persistent Regions, Rising Nations

Maria Polugodina, Free University of Berlin (with Theocharis Grigoriadis, Free University of Berlin)

Dismantled Once, Diverged Forever: A Quasi-Natural Experiment of Red Army's Misdeeds in Post-WWII Europe

Christian Ochsner, CERGE-EI / University of Zurich

Enemies of the People

Gerhard Toews, New Economic School, Moscow (with Pierre-Lois Vezina, King's College, London)

CPSU Legacy and Inequality in Russian Regions

Alexander Libman, Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich (with Anastassia Obydenkova, Institute for Economic Analysis of the Spanish Council for Scientific Research)

Discussant: Olga Popova, Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies, Regensburg

6.15 pm Dinner

7.30 pm Plenary Talk

The Discreet Adaptations of the Bourgeoisie: Historical Resilience of Social Stratification and why it Matters for Development and Democracy

Tomila Lankina, The London School of Economics and Political Science

Saturday, 17 November 2018

9.00 am Religiosity and Human Capital (organized by Olga Popova)

Ethnic Capital and Subnational Development: Armenian and Greek Legacy in Post-Expulsion Turkey

Gunes Gokmen, Lund University (with Eren Arbatli, National Research University Higher School of Economics)

Minds for the Market: Non-Cognitive Skills in Post-Soviet Countries

Anna Kochanova, Cardiff Business School (with Maryam Naghsh Nejad, IZA Institute of Labor Economics)

Financial Risk-Taking, Religiosity and Denomination Heterogeneity

Anastasia Litina, University of Ioannina (with Jian Li, University of Luxembourg)

Does Parental Religiosity Explain Children's Health Inequalities?

Olga Popova, Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies, Regensburg

Discussant: Theocharis Grigoriadis, Free University of Berlin

11.00 am Coffee Break

11.15 am Legacies, Ideas and Culture

Unleashed "Traditional Values". Ultraconservative Influence on Russia's Family Policy

Katharina Bluhm, Free University of Berlin (with Martin Brandt, Free University of Berlin)

Do People from the "Eastern Bloc" Perceive their Health Differently? Determinants and Impact of Health Perception Gap

Gintare Malisauskaite, University of Kent

State Promotion of Hydropower in Georgia: Tracing the Soviet Legacies

Yana Zabanova, PFH Göttingen / University of Groningen

Shadows of the Past: Historical Legacies of the Georgian State in the Wake of Dollarization

Ia Eradze, University of Kassel

Discussant: Janis Kluge, German Institute for International and Security Affairs SWP, Berlin

1.15 pm Lunch and End of Conference