

NEWSLETTER

CENTRE FOR CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF SOCIALISM
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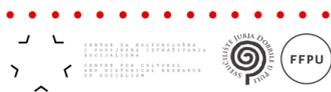
8th Doctoral Workshop: Applications Welcome by May 15



Juraj Dobrila University of Pula,
Faculty of Humanities, Department of History &
Centre for Cultural and Historical Research of Socialism

8th Doctoral Workshop MICROHISTORIES OF SOCIALISM AND POSTSOCIALISM

Pula, Croatia, August 24–27, 2022



Since 2015, in Pula we have been organising a workshop for PhD students in history and related fields. Last year and now again, the theme is connected to the research project *Microsocialism*, but this time – framed as *Microhistories of Socialism and Postsocialism* – it includes the

period from 1920s to 2020s, a hundred years of socialism and postsocialism, from the beginnings of the Soviet Union to the present, in the European and global context. Application deadline is May 15, workshop dates are August 24-27, [find out more](#).

Summer Semester: Workers and Veterans

This year *CKPIS Summer Semester* brings online lectures by CKPIS members. In March, Andrea Matošević presented his research on the image of workers in documentaries from the 1960s and 1970s, while Tina Filipović's lecture on partisan war veterans and their organization SUBNOR was based on her doctoral research within the project *Microsocialism*. Announcements for the lecture series are available through CKPIS-INFO mailing-list, social media and our [webpage](#).

Also in this issue at pp. 7-9: interview with Hrvoje Klasić

CKPIS was founded in July 2012 as a new unit of the University of Pula. We will celebrate the Centre's 10th anniversary throughout this year. There will be a series of lectures within the *CKPIS Summer Semester*, a round table and, here on the *Newsletter* pages, short interviews with our researchers. Moreover, in the section *Interview of the Month*, month after month, we hope to present colleagues with whom we have closely cooperated.



TEN YEARS OF CKPIS: ANDREA MATOŠEVIĆ

Interview by Sara Žerić

You work at the University of Pula since 2007 and are one of the co-founders of the CKPIS. During that period, you dealt with many topics on socialism. How did you approach them as an ethno-anthropologist, and how would you describe the importance of researching socialism from an ento-anthropological perspective?

Yes, I've been with Juraj Dobrila University of Pula for fifteen years now, and ten with CKPIS, since its very exciting beginning in 2012. I can definitively say that a significant part of my research is marked and influenced by this set of collaborations with CKPIS's researchers – whether they are historians, historians of music and art, literary theoreticians or experts in cultural studies. As an anthropologist and ethnologist I am mostly interested in people's lived experiences during socialist period, and in ways they are shaping memories of those times after the socialist collapse during the 1990s. Methodologically this implies

interviews with men and women, but also finding and interpreting often hidden documentaries, newspaper articles, books, radio-shows etc. that might have formed their opinions within a larger cultural field, period or context. Anthropologists usually understand culture as a field of not always easy negotiations, and various parts of socialist culture, whether every day or intellectual one, are not an exception here. So that is where – in my opinion – parts of good anthropological research and theories are born.

From 2014 to 2017 you participated in the research project "Making of the Socialist Man". What did you do in those three years and what results did you achieve as a part of the project?

That has been an interesting experience, research with other ten colleagues on various topics that defined new socialist people in different periods within fields such as politics, arts, pop-culture, work, language etc.

I was engaged with two topics – the concept of shock-work in economy (*udarništvo/radno junaštvo*) and Youth Labour Actions. I am very happy with the results as I published a monograph – *Socijalizam s udarničkim licem. Etnografija radnog pregalaštva* – that analysed the work, politics and media presentations of heroes of labour, e.g. Alija Sirotanović, Abdurahman Babajić, Sonja Erbežnik, Barica Šćulac, Antun Bičić, etc. Also, I was able to publish several papers on Youth Labour Actions, and I have the feeling that the monograph communicated with wider audience, while YLA theme resonated better within academia. Sometime in near future, if there will be time and energy, I will tackle these topics again, but from a different angle.



Andrea Matošević ([read more](#))

In addition to this, you have participated in bilateral projects co-financed by the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education. What is the significance of such collaborations?

Bilateral projects are important, of course, as they offer opportunities to meet colleagues from different foreign universities or institutes, but they are rather limited in their outcome expectations and funding. In my opinion, they should be understood as a very

useful tool for designing more ambitious projects with foreign scholars. However, although limited in expectations, within the bilateral project *Remembering and Forgetting Industrial Labour in the Adriatic: The Case of Istria* with IOS Institute from Regensburg, we have created a web page with participant's essays - [Unwanted Heritage](#).

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the founding of the CKPIS. What results did you come up with in that period?

Academic results are quite impressive. I'm saying this as a current head of CKPIS. Looking back on our work I see five international Socialism on the Bench conferences with more than 100 participants every year and keynote speakers from different fields of humanities and social sciences. We have organized CeKaPISarnica, collection of editions with more than fifteen edited volumes and monographs, there are two major projects funded by the Croatian Science Foundation with almost twenty researchers participating, and various smaller projects. We established contacts and collaborations with researchers from various Croatian universities and institutes, but also foreign institutions. Doctoral workshop will be organized this summer for the 8th year in a row, there are the Newsletter, public lectures, book launches, and workshops. Academically, Centre has found its place, although it still does not have its own at the University. Despite this situation that will hopefully be resolved in foreseeable future, I'm glad that Centre's researchers are often present as public voices within local and national community, participating in roundtables and public debates organized also outside our university. Beyond any doubt, CKPIS has been a good springboard for such visibility and presence, and I wish it many good and active years in the future.



CONFERENCES AND CFP

Across the 'Nylon Curtain': Cold War Cooperation and Trans-systemic Exchanges, Hamburg, 30 September 2022

Studies of post-war Europe stress ideological divisions and competing economic models. As researchers working in the ERC-funded LEVIATHAN project, we approach the post-war period in a way that challenges the traditional view of Europe as a political dichotomy separated by an 'Iron Curtain'. Instead, we understand the systemic divide, borrowing the metaphor of the Hungarian historian György Péteri, as a 'Nylon Curtain' – a present and yet surmountable partition that was frequently breached in a variety of ways by ordinary citizens, artists, scientists, politicians, and other historical actors. We especially welcome proposals for papers from postdoctoral researchers and early career scholars that explore the transgressions and cooperations across the 'Nylon Curtain' from a variety of different angles, including but by no means limited to artistic, cultural, literary, political, scientific, and sociological collaborations between protagonists in East and West.

[\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 15 May 2022

The Watchful Society: Sexuality, Society, and Vigilance in East-Central and Southeast Europe, Fischbachau, 17-20 November 2022

Our goal is to discuss the sexual orders of the socialist states of East-Central and Southeast Europe from a broader perspective. While top-down processes are relatively well researched, the horizontal negotiation, control, and enforcement of norms has hitherto not been the focus of much scholarly attention. The interaction between these two axes has only been examined sporadically as well. We are therefore particularly interested in forms of monitoring sexuality that occurred below the governmental level. The underlying scholarly interest is the question of the connection between vigilance in the area of sexuality and the cohesion of socialist societies. In other words: What role did the watchfulness of the many with regard to "correct" sexual behaviour, gender roles, relationships, and family models play in the development of state socialisms, and what became of the ideals propagated during the early years? [\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 15 April 2022

Gender and Sport in a long-term perspective, Rome, 17-19 November 2022

On an international level, in recent years there has been a proliferation of historical studies from a gender perspective on competitive and amateur sporting practices. In this context, the conference organised by the Società Italiana delle Storiche (SIS) aims to stimulate research and to offer a ground for international comparison on sport in a long-term gender perspective. Starting from the stages of women's participation in the various sports disciplines, the conference aims to analyse the role of feminist movements in stimulating or claiming women's sports practice and the formal admission of women to competitions. Furthermore, it intends to investigate the field of sport as a fundamental context for the definition of female and male attributes, the construction of gender and binarism. [\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 15 May 2022



PUBLICATIONS

Radina Vučetić, *Nevidljivi neprijatelj: Variola vera 1972* (Beograd: Službeni glasnik, 2022)

Profesorica Radina Vučetić napisala je knjigu *Nevidljivi neprijatelj : Variola vera 1972* vrednu, korisnu i potrebnu knjigu, kojom je zaokružen pogled na najskuplju, najdramatičniju, najobuhvatniju i najambiciozniju akciju zdravstvene službe u posleratnoj Jugoslaviji. Prihvatajući se istraživanja epidemije velikih boginja u Jugoslavije 1972. godine, Radina Vučetić je sebi postavila zadatak da analizira ne samo pojavu bolesti i njen zdravstveno-istorijski aspekt, već da posmatra izuzetno složen splet procesa koje je bolest pokrenula u državi i jugoslovenskom društvu. Ne zanemarujući jedan poseban vid ovog složenog fenomena, svakodnevicu i život za vreme epidemije u gradovima i selima u blizini žarišta, u bolnicama i karantinima, autorka daje sliku ljudskog ponašanja i reagovanja, od požrtvovanosti, prihvatanja nametnutih mera, do straha, sebičnosti, fatalizma, sujeverja... ([Read More](#))



POSITIONS, GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Joint Master in Southeast European Studies, University of Graz and University of Belgrade

The programme offers two focus areas, one in Southeast European History and one in Law and Politics in Southeastern Europe. The goal of the Joint Master Programme in Southeast European Studies is to provide an international and interdisciplinary master programme in social sciences and humanities of highest quality, which enables students to effectively understand the interrelationship between history, law, politics, economics and culture with strong emphasis on the region of Southeastern Europe. While Belgrade is running the joint interdisciplinary programme, in Graz the programme offers two focus areas, one in Southeast European History and one in Law and Politics in Southeastern Europe. In both tracks, the programme promotes the capacity for academic analysis, especially by applying an inter- and transdisciplinary approach which includes areas of legal, political, economic and cultural studies. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 30 April 2022

Go Styria Research Scholarship 2022/23, University of Graz

Go Styria is open for master and doctoral students as well as Post Docs interested in a short term research stay (max. 4 months) in the context of their master, doctoral thesis or Post-Doc research.

The target region includes: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey.

Candidates selected for the program will be given the opportunity for a research period at the University of Graz in order to then continue and conclude their studies / research at their home universities. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 25 April 2022

Post-doctoral researcher on the project 'A Socialist Workplace in Postcolonial Africa: A Connected History of the Yugoslav Workforce in Zambia', University of Vienna

As a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement, socialist Yugoslavia stood between East and West, aligned neither with Soviet-style central economic planning nor the capitalist West, setting much stock in its economic, diplomatic, and cultural relationships with the Third World. Newly independent African countries like Zambia became Yugoslavia's primary allies in the Global South. This study of Yugoslav companies' workforces in Zambia explores everyday dimensions of Yugoslavia's links with postcolonial African societies between the mid-1960s and 1991. It connects class, labour, and race into studies of the Yugoslav region's ambiguous relationship to the Global South through the lens of social history. The research project is looking for a postdoc researcher with a background in social history of Southern Africa. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 1 May 2022

Two-year Doctoral Scholarship, Leibniz ScienceCampus Europe and America in the Modern World, Regensburg

Scholars associated with the LSC explore transatlantic interconnections in the past (since around 1800) and present, producing comparative research on phenomena affecting both regions in the context of globality. The LSC works towards a multi-polar and multi-scalar perspective inspired by area studies. Its goal is to explore the global impact of European-American relations and connections, as well as their effects across socio-cultural groupings and smaller-scale areas, including those in Eastern and Southeastern Europe, Romance-speaking Europe, Germany and Central Europe, North America and Latin America. The ScienceCampus has established international partnerships with universities in all of these regions. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 24 April 2022



Juraj Dobrila University of Pula,
Faculty of Humanities, Department of History &
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8th Doctoral Workshop MICROHISTORIES OF SOCIALISM AND POSTSOCIALISM

Pula, Croatia, August 24–27, 2022





INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

by Nemanja Stanimirović

Hrvoje Klasić is an associate professor at the Department of History, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb. ([read more](#))



Hrvoje Klasić

In one of your earlier articles, which is more focused on the development of the early post-war state-sponsored sports in Yugoslavia, you have highlighted the continuity between the interwar Sokol movement (Falcons) and the post-war Partisans. If sport is still being used, as you mention, as a form of a state- or nation-building process, what does that tell us about Tito's regime in relation to the previous one?

There was certainly some continuity - in terms of personnel, institutions - but there was a clear cut in 1945 nonetheless, as many clubs/institutions were prohibited. Still, a lot

of experts were needed to keep the system running (which was not the case only in Tito's Yugoslavia). There was a clear break in many ways, and one was in the content of sports. It was not possible to simply cut out everybody and all ideas, but instead, it was necessary to reshape them and reuse them for a new purpose.

If we have in mind your article on Tito-Stalin's 1952 Football war, what does the sports perspective bring in the research of the relationship between different countries?

Sport was a new arena during the Cold War. Indeed, every aspect of life was used as a battlefield between two blocks, but also within the bloc. When FC Dynamo Moscow had a successful tour in the UK in 1945, Soviet newspapers utilised it as proof of supremacy of the Soviet approach to sport, the one where the score itself or money was not the driving force but where the sports was used to improve the society. However, if victories on the field proved that the socialist approach was better than the capitalist one, then the Yugoslav victory in 1952 meant that the Yugoslav approach was superior to the Soviet one. For the Yugoslavs, after the difficult period, this victory allowed them to claim that they not only remained socialist but also better socialists.

In your book from 2012 *Jugoslavija i svijet 1968.*, you deal with an explicitly global topic. Could you highlight how do the events of 1968 in Yugoslavia fit into the

universal trends, and what is particular to its' own context?

What happened in Yugoslavia could be termed as "glocal". It was global in terms of student demands for a better society, in a method of activism and iconography. On the other hand, it was also very local and particular to Yugoslavia, as there was somewhat less police force used than in some other countries, whilst there were also differences between both demands and forms of action of students themselves but also of the authorities of the different Yugoslav republics.

You mention that one of the main byproducts of the 1968 student demonstrations was the commencement of a more serious getting together of the critical intellectuals in Yugoslavia. How do you compare the post-1968 dissidents with the pre-1968 period, and what role did the dissidents play in the political events in the last two decades of Yugoslavia?

Before 1968, intellectuals, most notably Praxists, were merely philosophers, so not many people read their work, and thus they were not dangerous. Once their ideas became gunpowder for the masses and young generations, they were labelled whatever was most appropriate and useful for the regime at the moment. This labelling got them together, erased the intellectual differences between them by putting all of them in the same box and making them a group. As for their influence afterwards, it differs between republics. As most of the Praxists were pro-Yugoslav oriented, in Serbia in the 1980s they were prominent public figures, although had different strands, whereas in Croatia their

ideas were not as popular as those national-liberal ideas of 1971, but were instead often considered traitors who are still arguing for Yugoslavia.

In your book you have brilliantly highlighted how the international events of August 1968 have played well for Tito's regime in unifying the previously somewhat divided society. Had the events played out differently, what role in opposing the communist regime could have students had in the next two decades? What is your stance on Herbert Marcuse's optimistic view of the students as revolutionary subjects?

As Zagorka Golubović said, "Yugoslavs had more talent for making rebellions than for making movements", so the student movement's power stemmed much from the momentum of June 1968. Furthermore, Yugoslav students were not as dissatisfied as their French or American counterparts - they were not against the whole society but merely against an anomaly. They were not against socialism, nor completely against Tito. Finally, in relation to Marcuse, the student body is not a long-term stable group, and the change in their societal position and interests likewise can change the form of their protest or even their tendency to protest at all.

What was the focus of your work recently and what are you currently working on?

Inspired by Gramsci's view of the necessity to act as a public intellectual, I have changed the orientation of my professional career in the last 10 years, and utilised my expertise in history to intervene publicly in the way history is being used in the society and the

way society is dealing with the past. The academic books are unfortunately not read by many people, whereas I can get through to hundreds of thousands of people through columns. Ultimately, I published two books (*Bijelo na crno* and *Crveno na crno*) containing more than 200 of my columns. Furthermore, I have published a book on Mika Špiljak in 2019. Finally, I have produced two documentary series - on Croatian Spring and NDH - and will start this summer with a production of the 6-episode TV documentary on partisans. Through such work, a group of us, with a constant presence in the media, stopped some very dangerous processes in Croatia.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the founding of the CKPIS. Has the Center influenced your work, and if so, how?

I started with my work on the socialist period before CKPIS was established, but as I was a good friend and colleague with prof. Igor Duda from CKPIS, we continued our collaboration, and my piece on sport was part of the project on the socialist man, carried out by CKPIS. I am amazed by CKPIS's and Igor's enthusiasm, as they, despite being on the geographical periphery, maintain an

institute devoted to the research of socialism, something other bigger cities do not have, and CKPIS is currently the bright side of the Croatian historiography precisely because it realised the importance of the socialist period of the Croatian society.

Finally, what book would you recommend to a young student who has just started becoming interested in the Yugoslav history or history of socialism, and why?

This book is not explicitly on socialism, but Max Bergholz, a Canadian who is fluent in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, wrote a book called *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community*, explaining why neighbours exterminated each other because of their ethnicity. Socialism was always under the pressure of nationalism, so I consider books that effectively demonstrate that nationalism was not defeated in 1945 very important for an understanding of the Yugoslav socialist period.

NEWSLETTER

<https://www.unipu.hr/ckpis/en/newsletter>