

# EVENTS CALENDAR

Spring Conference

## IRON CURTAIN CROSSINGS: EASTERN EUROPE AND THE GLOBAL COLD WAR



From Friday, March 04, 2016 - 9:00AM

To Saturday, March 05, 2016 - 2:00PM

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

1501 Neil Ave | Room 120 Columbus, OH, 43201

Register here for keynote by Padraic Kenney

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**Organizers:** Theodora Dragostinova (The Ohio State University) and Malgorzata Fidelis (University of Illinois-Chicago)

In recent years, scholars have demonstrated that the Cold War was not simply a bipolar political confrontation between the communist East and the capitalist West. Rather, there was a variety of multipolar interactions among the First, Second, and Third Worlds. Historians of eastern Europe have been at the forefront of redefining the nature of these interactions.

First, the countries of eastern Europe, in contrast to the conventional notion of their status as passive members of the “Soviet bloc,” showed an important degree of divergence and independence from the Soviet Union by engaging in extensive trans-border contact with the West, whether through travel, tourism, popular culture, artistic exchange, or consumer choices.

Second, many actors in the Second World, such as economists, scientists, engineers, journalists, and intellectuals, were also actively involved in the Third World, through economic, technical, cultural, and other engagements in the post-colonial context.

This involvement created lasting alliances and alternative notions of modernity between eastern Europe and other parts of the world. The goal of this workshop is to investigate the variety of ways in which eastern Europe emerged as an important international player, by promoting its own ideas of modernity, progress, humanism, culture, and everyday life.

This workshop will bring together a number of scholars to debate the meaning of the global Cold War as it unfolded in diverse settings between eastern Europe and the outside world.

The participants will discuss possibilities of formulating theoretical frameworks to challenge both the notion of Soviet “satellites” and the idea of “nation-states” as the dominant paradigms in studying eastern Europe. Instead, we are interested in the potential of transnational and new comparative methodologies as frameworks of analyzing eastern Europe and its global reach from a historical perspective.

*This event is co-sponsored by the Department of History, Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Culture's Paisii Fund at The Ohio State University.*

### Friday, March 4

9-9:30 a.m. -- Breakfast

9:30-9:45 a.m. -- Opening remarks, Theodora Dragostinova (The Ohio State University) and Malgorzata Fidelis (University of Illinois-Chicago)



Theodora Dragostinova  
Associate Professor of  
History  
Ohio State University

9:45-11:15 a.m. -- Session 1

*Knowledge and memory in a transnational context*

Panel Chair: Nicholas Breyfogle (The Ohio State University)

- Melissa Feinberg (Rutgers University): The Funny Feeling Creeping Down Your Back: Fear and the Creation of Totalitarian Knowledge, 1950–1956
- Annika Frieberg (San Diego State University): Using the Gaze: Polish Self-Representations and West German Media in the 1960s
- Rachel Applebaum (Tufts University): Memory in Motion: The Transnational Legacy of the Soviet Liberation of Czechoslovakia, 1945–1989

11:15-11:30 a.m. -- Coffee break

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. -- Session 2

*The enduring legacies of displacement*

Panel Chair: David Hoffmann (The Ohio State University)

- Andrea Orzoff (New Mexico State University): Erich Kleiber and the Effortless Difficulty of Remigration, East and West
- Jadwiga Pieper Mooney (Arizona University): Of Women as Victims and Women with Guns: Gender, Radicalization, and the Politics of Resistance to Chilean Dictatorship in the Cold War

12:30-2 p.m. -- Lunch break

2-3:30 p.m. -- Keynote lecture

- Padraic Kenney (Indiana University): Global Figures, Staying in Place: Situating Communist Eastern Europe in the World Without the Transnational

3:30-4 p.m. -- Coffee break

4-5 p.m. -- Session 3

*The global 1968*

Panel Chair: Angela Brintlinger (The Ohio State University)

- Malgorzata Fidelis (University of Illinois-Chicago): Youth, the Global Imagination, and 1968 in Poland
- Madigan Fichter (New York University): Yugoslav Protest: Student Rebellion in Belgrade, Zagreb, and Sarajevo in 1968

5-6 p.m. -- Free time

6:30 p.m. -- Dinner

**Saturday, March 5**

9-9:30 a.m. -- Breakfast

9:30-11 a.m. -- Session 4

*State socialism on the global stage*

Panel Chair: Danielle Fosler-Lussier (The Ohio State University)

- Elidor Mëhilli (Hunter College): Integration / Disintegration



Malgorzata Fidelis  
Associate Professor of  
History  
University of Illinois at  
Chicago

- Malgorzata Mazurek (Columbia University): The Eastern European Peasant in Nehru's India: Transnational Debates on Rural Economies, 1930s-1960s
- Theodora Dragostinova (The Ohio State University): The "Natural Ally" of the "Developing World": Showcasing Bulgarian Culture in Nigeria, India, and Mexico in the 1970s

11:11:15 a.m. -- Coffee break

11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. -- Session 5

*New approaches to old paradigms*

Panel Chair: Yana Hashamova (The Ohio State University)

- Piotr H. Kosicki (University of Maryland): "Catholic Socialism," Eastern Europe, and the Global Cold War
- Maria Bucur (Indiana University): Women and the Peace Movement during the Cold War: International Encounters
- Brian Porter-Szűcs (University of Michigan): Supply-Side Socialism: Communist Poland and the Foundations of Neoliberalism

12:45-1 p.m. -- Coffee break

1-2 p.m. -- Final roundtable discussion over lunch

2 p.m. -- Departure from Columbus