

NEWSLETTER

CENTRE FOR CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF SOCIALISM
CENTAR ZA KULTUROLOŠKA I POVIJESNA ISTRAŽIVANJA SOCIJALIZMA

No. 111
Pula
January
2026
ISSN 2806-9625

Saša Vejzagić on Large Enterprises in Socialism



On 28 January, CKPIS hosted a guest lecture by Saša Vejzagić on large enterprises in Yugoslavia, business systems, development strategies and social transformations. The lecture focused on an analysis of the emergence of the business sector in the context of the dynamic socio-economic changes in Yugoslavia from the 1960s onwards. By comparing the business strategies and practices of GK Međimurje from Čakovec and Industrogadnja from Zagreb, Saša Vejzagić presented the processes of the formation of large enterprises, their economic and political relations with local communities, their impact on housing development and the broader modernisation of society, as well as experiences of workers' self-management.

Saša Vejzagić has been an associate of CKPIS since 2016 and a postdoctoral researcher on the project *Microsocialism*. In December 2025, he joined the Institute of Art History in Zagreb as a Senior Research Assistant (postdoctoral researcher) on the project *Housing.Yu – The Right to Housing: The Production of Everyday Living Spaces in Yugoslavia (1945–1991)* (ERC-CoG, No. 101171985), carried out in collaboration with CKPIS.



Saša Vejzagić earned his BA (2008) and MA (2011) in History from Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, an MA in Central European History from the Central European University in Budapest (2013), and a PhD in History and Civilization from the European University Institute in Florence (2021). His dissertation was entitled *The Rise of a Business Class – Managerial Elites in Yugoslavia, 1963-1978*. His research interests include economic, business, political, labour and social history of the twentieth century, with a particular focus on Yugoslav socialism. With Vladimir Unkovski-Korica, he co-edited the volume *Socialist Entrepreneurs? Business Histories of the GDR and Yugoslavia* (2024).



B i b l i o t e k a CeKaPISarnica

Find out more about our publications! Free download and book purchase.

[Biblioteka CeKaPISarnica](#)



CONFERENCES AND CFP

CfA: Subverting Hierarchies through Women's Intellectual History in Eastern Europe in the Long Twentieth Century, History of European Ideas

This special journal issue examines women's intellectual history in Central and Eastern Europe throughout the long twentieth century. However, rather than merely addressing an existing gap, it seeks to challenge and redefine the field as such by engaging with carefully selected case studies of women's political thought in the region. The inclusion of women from Central and Eastern Europe into intellectual historical investigations means revisiting the gender of who produces intellectual discourses worthy of attention, from where they can speak, and through which fora (i.e. type of sources) they communicate. [\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 17 April 2026

The Yugoslav Wars, the Transformation of Europe, and the Post-Cold War Order, Regensburg, 9-11 December 2026

The Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s marked a watershed in the history of Europe and the international order. With the end of the thirty-year embargo period for archival material, recently declassified documents are enabling a re-evaluation of the events of the 1990s and to fully explore the huge impact of the wars on Europe and the international system, including international law. Therefore, this conference aims to bring together scholars from various disciplines such as international history, Southeastern European studies, and social sciences to shed new light on the Yugoslav Wars; to cover the history of the wars from their origins and the outbreak of violence in 1991 to the Kosovo War of 1998-99; and to address a broad range of methodological questions. [\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 1 March 2026

Queer Ecologies Across Socialisms, Regensburg, 15-16 October 2026

In literary and arts research on socialist worlds, both queer studies and environmental histories have been expanding – yet we still lack approaches that would systematically integrate these strands across global state socialisms. This conference responds to that gap by inviting work that reads queer practices alongside institutional and environmental policies and traces the queer ecological impulses emerging from socialist contexts across the globe. Placing queer scholarship on state socialist worlds in dialogue with queer ecology lets us ask how socialist projects of modernization – collective housing, work, public health, and planned landscapes – shaped intimate life and more-than-human environments, and how queer attachments formed within these material settings. [\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 15 February 2026

(Re)labelling Queerness after Socialism, Heidelberg, 25-27 November 2026

The workshop (Re)labelling Queerness after Socialism aims at bringing together researchers of different disciplines who analyse the representation of non-heteronormative and non-binary concepts of gender and sexuality in the former socialist states of Europe. During the workshop the intent is to discuss and enhance approaches of queer studies which take into account the distinct cultural, social, and political characteristics of these countries thereby complementing and potentially challenging prevailing "Western" viewpoints and facilitating a more comprehensive perspective. Such an approach has become even more crucial in light of the increasingly overt politicization of queerness as a symbolic battleground for competing ideological agendas and social orders. [\(Read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 8 February 2026



PUBLICATIONS

Roman Kuhar, Adriana Zaharijević (eds.), *Anti-Gender Mobilizations in the Post-Yugoslav Space. Hidden Connection* (Palgrave MacMillan 2026)

The open access book sheds light on the diverse forms of anti-gender mobilization in the post-Yugoslav space by exploring its historical trajectories, cultural variances, and different religious frames. It offers a meticulous comparative analysis of seven post-socialist countries that shared a common history, which collapsed through wars and through their different paths to "Europeanisation." Gender scholars and activists have never ceased to build and rebuild ties across the new borders, fighting for freedom of speech, human rights and against their local nationalisms. Today, however, it is precisely the ultraconservative forces that speak the same language of rights but with diametrically opposing illiberal goals. [\(Read more\)](#)

Ksenija Bogeticć (ed.), *Language, Gender and Politics in Central and Eastern Europe* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2025)

This volume is the first book-length collection of research on language, gender and sexuality in the societies of central and eastern Europe. Spanning a range of languages and political contexts, the chapters shed light on the intense debates that connect language use, gender equality, sexuality, history and belonging in this region today, while advancing perspectives on semiotic resignification that complicate some western-dominated frameworks in the discipline. Focused on a space increasingly described as a hub of 'anti-gender' hostility, the book also foregrounds the rich continuities of feminist theory and protest in post-socialist societies, and their import for rethinking transnational sociolinguistic perspectives on heteronormative patriarchy, 'anti-genderism', neoliberalism, imperialism and conflict. [\(Read more\)](#)

Bogdan Živković, *Yugoslavia and Eurocommunism. Yugoslavia and the Italian Communist Party in the Sixties and Seventies* (Institute for Balkan Studies, Belgrade 2025)

This book examines the relationship between Yugoslav and Italian communists in the 1960s and the 1970s, with particular emphasis on the 1970s and the emergence of Eurocommunism. Focusing on the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Italian Communist Party, it analyses the interaction between the two most reformist parties within the international communist movement and their shared attempts to rethink and transform communism under changing domestic and international conditions. The study explores the political, ideological, and strategic factors that brought the two parties closer together, including their mutual distancing from Soviet orthodoxy and their emphasis on national roads to socialism. ([Read more](#))



POSITIONS, GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Bracewell Travelling Scholarship, SSEES, UCL, London

The Bracewell Travelling Scholarship is funded by a gift from SSEES Emeritus Professor of History Wendy Bracewell, whose research examines South Slav history, and travel writing in eastern Europe. The Scholarship honours the long tradition of mutual curiosity between the UK and eastern, central and southeastern Europe by supporting PhD students from and studying in the SSEES region who wish to spend time at UCL working with SSEES academics, pursuing their own research and contributing as appropriate to the intellectual life of the School. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 30 April 2026

Scholarships of the Free State of Bavaria for German summer courses at Bavarian HEIs

The Free State of Bavaria offers scholarships for German language summer courses at Bavarian higher education institutions again in 2026. Students and young academics from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia and Ukraine with intermediate German knowledge (at least B1-level) are eligible to apply for the summer school grants for German language at Bavarian higher education institutions. The scholarships for courses in Bavaria include the course fee, accommodation, and a food allowance at a Bavarian HEI. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 23 March 2026

University Assistant (postdoctoral) at the Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

The Department of Political Science is looking for an university assistant in the research area of Comparative Politics with a focus on Eastern and Southeastern Europe. The area specialises in topics of comparative political economy with a focus on East and Southeastern Europe. Current research investigates aspects of the political economy of radical right policies. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 27 February 2026