

Description

The late 20th century—particularly the 1980s and 1990s—saw intense debates about Europe and European identity, with a focus on east-central and southeastern Europe. Discussions centered on concepts such as *Mitteleuropa* and on the Balkans' relationship with Europe. This symposium aims to broaden the conversation by exploring overlooked and surprising ideas about Europe from these regions, engaging with diverse and marginalised visions of Europeanness and their relationship to contemporary debates.

We will historicise these debates from the 1980s to the 2000s when many east-central and southeastern European countries joined the EU and NATO. This period was pivotal in reshaping visions of Europe and the field of European Studies. The symposium will reflect on the cultural and political transformations of the 1980s and 1990s, the Yugoslav wars, the 'return to Europe' paradigm, and the impact of EU and NATO enlargement as well as migration. It will examine representations of Europe from countries that have joined the EU and those that have not, questioning how EU membership affects ideas about Europe.

The symposium will critically assess dominant narratives of Europe, revealing a broader spectrum of interpretations and uncovering alternative visions from eastern Europe over the past forty years.

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Concept and Organisation

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Visions of Europe in the East of Europe

FROM LATE SOCIALISM
TO EU ENLARGEMENT

8.11.2024

SR 063, NEUE AULA, TÜBINGEN

A workshop organised by the Institute for Danube Swabian History and Regional Studies
with thanks to the support of Journal of European Studies

8th of November 2024

9.00 - 9.15 a.m.: Welcome remarks

Julian Preece, Swansea, editor of Journal of European Studies

9.15 - 9.30 a.m.: Introduction

James Koranyi, Durham
Daniela Simon, Tübingen
Cristian Cercel, Tübingen

9.30 - 10.15 a.m.: “Provincial national egoism in the ‘experimental Eurogarden’. On the trail of intellectual debates in Istria and Vojvodina in the 1990s”

Daniela Simon, Tübingen

Moderation: Cristian Cercel, Tübingen
Commentary: Danica Trifunjagić, Sindelfingen

10.30 - 11.15 a.m.: “Germans as bridge-builders? On the construction of European Germanness (or of German Europeanness?) by German expellee organizations”

James Koranyi, Durham
Cristian Cercel, Tübingen

Moderation: Daniela Simon, Tübingen
Commentary: Mathias Beer, Tübingen

11.30 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.: “‘The Romanians have waited too long’: the ‘temporariety’ of transience in post-1989 Romanian new wave”

Beatrice Leeming, Cambridge

Moderation: James Koranyi, Durham
Commentary: Oleg Morozov, Tübingen / Cambridge

12.15 - 1.45 p.m.: Lunch Break

1.45 - 2.30 p.m.: “‘I want Albania to be like Europe’: grassroots movements and new ways of contemporary communing in contemporary Albania”

Nataša Gregorič Bon, Ljubljana

Moderation: Daniela Simon, Tübingen
Commentary: Reinhard Johler, Tübingen

2.45 - 3.30 p.m.: “Balkan-splaining’ Europe: on belonging from the post-socialist ruins”

Melika Mahmutović, Ljubljana
Faris Kočan, Ljubljana
Rok Zupančič, Ljubljana

Moderation: Daniela Simon, Tübingen
Commentary: Schamma Schahadat, Tübingen

3.45 - 4.30 p.m.: “The Europeanisation of a bus stop. Moldova’s conflict in-between an unwanted past and an imagined future”

Jana Stöxen, Regensburg

Moderation: James Koranyi, Durham
Commentary: Klaus Gestwa, Tübingen

4.45 - 5.30 p.m.: “The European Union and the 2020 Belarusian Civic Protests: understanding the symbolic geography of Belarus”

Vjosa Musliu, Brussels
Nadège Boels, Brussels

Moderation: Cristian Cercel, Tübingen
Commentary: Thomas Diez, Tübingen

5.30 - 6.00 p.m.: Concluding Discussion

8.00 p.m.: Dinner