

Books on Slovak themes | CEU Press

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The CEU Press team thinks you might be interested in these publications.



[Ireland's Helping Hand to Europe](#)

Combatting Hunger from Normandy to Tirana, 1945–1950

Jérôme aan de Wiel

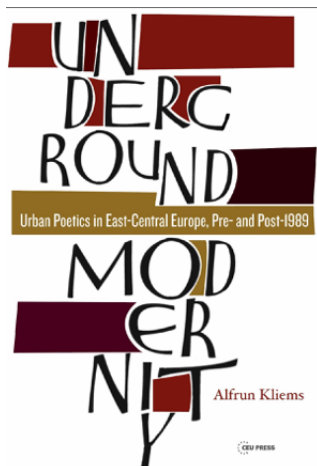
„Despite the widespread destruction, Europe’s economy was not affected beyond all hope. The incessant Allied bombing raids on Germany had destroyed relatively little economic infrastructure, just over 20%. Certain areas of the Czech lands and Slovakia had performed well industrially during the war.”

“The International Red Cross was allowed to visit camps where Germans were interned. The first visit took place in Bratislava in June. The dreadful detention conditions were plain to see. They were free to visit camps in Slovakia, but it was far more complicated in Bohemia and Moravia.”

“In July 1946, the Red Cross delegate in Bratislava explained that the fate of German civilians interned in Slovakia was ‘critical’. 480 cases of Irish condensed milk had been sent to them. The transit camps of Novaky,

Poprad and Petrzalka-Kopcani would receive 160 cases each. The Slovak Red Cross had agreed to store them free of charge.”

“The Czechoslovak government closed down the embassy in Dublin in 1950.”



[Underground Modernity](#)

Urban Poetics in East-Central Europe, Pre- and Post-1989

Alfrun Kliems

“It is a commonplace of literary history that the city has long been unpopular in Slovak poetry. Decades after Jesensky’s debut, the village was still seen as the refuge of national values and safe haven for a Slovak writer. When not ignored altogether, the city has been condemned as a den of iniquity or a non-native thorn in the nation’s side.”

“Bratislava bohemia allowed its members to switch comfortably among the codes of various places and groups: of Pest, Vienna, the Jews, the Slovaks, metropolitan Europe, or popular folklore.”

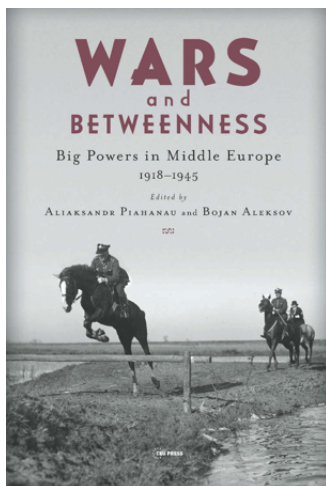
“Bratislava gives contour to Vladimir Archleb’s poetic work. In fact, the setting is even more present in his writings than in the work of Andrej Stankovič, the ‘postmodern bagpiper’ and pope of the Slovak underground

who linked its scene with the Prague underground.”

“After the fall of communism, the underground legend Egon Bondy, founder of Total Realism, moved to Bratislava in protest against the division of Czechoslovakia.”

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[Wars and Betweenness](#)

Big Powers in Middle Europe, 1918-1945

Edited by Bojan Aleksov and Aliaksandr Pihhanau

“German foreign policy looked for suitable political partners. Contrary to perceived wisdom of minorities as factors of destabilization, ethnic Germans in Slovakia were unsuitable because they kept their prewar loyalty to Hungary or were sympathetic towards Prague.”

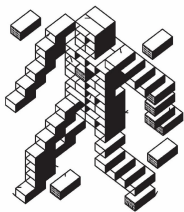
“The settlement of Germans in Slovakia to three different areas was a major hindrance for an effective *Volkstumspolitik*. The three areas, Bratislava/Pressburg in the West, the Hauerland in the center, and Spiš/Zips in the East, were far away from each other, with limited inter-German contact.”

“František Jehlička proclaimed a ‘Slovak national government’, located in Kraków. The separatists appeared heavily supported by the Polish government, as the German consul in Ostrava described in 1921.”

“The contacts established by Weimar diplomats nevertheless proved their usefulness years later, when the Nazis fostered the creation of an ‘independent’ Slovakia in 1939.”

The Legacy of Division

East and West after 1989



Edited by Ferenc Laczó
and Luka Lisjak Gabrijelčič



[The Legacy of Division](#)

East and West after 1989

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“There were indeed alternatives to privatization. In Slovakia, large enterprises of strategic importance were continued to be run under state management and sold only at the end of the 1990s. They had to work for profit, at which some of them actually succeeded.”

“In Slovakia, where the outrage over the assassination of a journalist drew massive crowds into the streets in March 2018 to denounce the corruption sponsored by the ruling party Smer, symbols of the Velvet Revolution have been re-employed, and representatives of *Verejnosc' proti násiliu*, the leading opposition movement in the country in 1989, have revived their political activism.”

“If one is committed to some form of liberal democratic politics, the happiest news comes from Slovakia, where the waves of protest brought to power Zuzana Čaputová as president, on a progressive, pro-environment, pro-European, anti-corruption platform.”

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Books with a Slovak focus:

- Similarly to Margita Figuli's other writings, [Three Chestnut Horses](#) is a meditation on the meaning of love and compassion in the context of current social problems.
- The [environmental deprivation](#) of Roma communities is discussed on examples from Slovakia.

- The author of this comparative work on [constitutional adjudication](#) is influential in current Slovak politics.

Other titles on the backlist with relevance to Slovaks, historical topics on top, contemporary issues below. [Click here](#) for more:

- The [Gesta Hungarorum](#) of Anonymus has been familiar to Slovak historians for long.
- Deeds and vicissitudes of [Jesuit communities](#) in Spis, Presov, Banska Bystrica, Klastor pod Znievom, Levoca, Kosice, Trnava and other parts of the Habsburg empire.
- The five-volume undertaking of comparing documents on [national identities](#) in east and central Europe includes [Hrdlička](#) (1785), [Kollár](#) (1821), [Suhajda](#) (1834), [Stur](#) (1846), [Palarik](#) (1860), [Pavlu](#) (1910), [Lajciak](#) (1920), [Tiso](#) (1930), [Novomeský](#) (1936), [Chorvath](#) (1939), [Polakovic](#) (1940), [Hanus](#) (1941), and [Hodza](#) (1942).
- Processes of nation-building within the [Habsburg Monarchy](#) and other empires in Europe.
- The case of [Rusyns in Slovakia](#) occupies an important part of the encyclopedic work that follows the history of Carpatho-Rusyns over centuries.
- A book on [the pet project](#) of Moravian Slovakia's famous son, the first president of Czechoslovakia.
- The [Shoah](#) in the area under Hungarian rule between 1938 and 1945.
- Efforts for the return of civilians whom the [Red Army abducted](#) for forced labor.
- The position of the [Catholic Church](#) in the new Slovakia between 1945–1948.
- How did the Czechoslovak [road to Stalinism](#) differ from the other stories in Eastern Europe?
- The main stages and features of the [collectivization of agriculture](#) in the former Soviet-dominated Eastern Europe; and how the dramatic transition from communism to capitalism affected [rural communities](#).
- “In 1949 in Čadca, workers from different factories joined forces to protest, and residents of the city took to the streets to support them.”—[Labor in State-Socialist Europe](#) .
- “Karel Kosík argued that the practical test of the Czech question was after all the Slovak question.”—from the volume on [intellectuals and the totalitarian temptation](#).
- The huge [book distribution program](#) of the CIA reached thousand people also in Slovakia.
- What impact did [Radio Free Europe](#) and the Voice of America have on Eastern Europe?
- An unparalleled resource of primary documentation on the [Prague Spring](#).
- Re-assessing the significance and consequences of the events associated with [the year 1968](#) – highlighting events in Czechoslovakia.
- Slovak [artists' engagements](#) in the natural environment at the turn of the 1960s and during the 1970s.
- A [comparative monograph](#) examines the grass-roots activism of the secret Catholic Church in Slovakia and the Lutheran Church in East Germany.
- Fresh interpretation of the [revolutions of 1989](#); and the [collapse of Soviet](#) domination in documents – see some extracts from the latter below.
- Slovak [historiography](#) in the 1990s between the national and trans-national agenda; and similar dilemmas around creating a Slovak [collective memory](#) in the post-communist world; as well as the analysis of the [political use of history](#) in Slovakia's neighbors (Poland, Ukraine, Hungary).
- The many ways of [looking back to the communist past](#); and [memory politics](#) exposed in a comparative volume.
- Together with 28 more post-communist transition countries, the political and economic performance of Slovakia is also examined as part of a search of varieties of [transition models](#).
- Issues of [educational segregation](#) examined in a comparative volume.
- An erudite essay on the [political economy of transition](#) from command to market economy; and a book that discusses the impact of [institutional trust](#) on economic growth.
- Privatization and economic reform examined from the perspective of the [nationalism-economy nexus](#).
- Comparing the [first 20 years](#) of Czechoslovakia's successors.
- Modern Slovak national identity-building is analyzed in the collective volume that explores the latest [intellectual panorama](#) of east-central Europe.

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