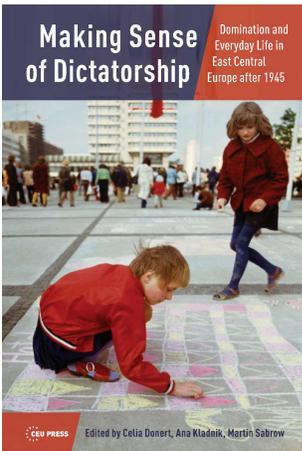


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### [Making Sense of Dictatorship](#)

Domination and Everyday Life in East Central Europe after 1945

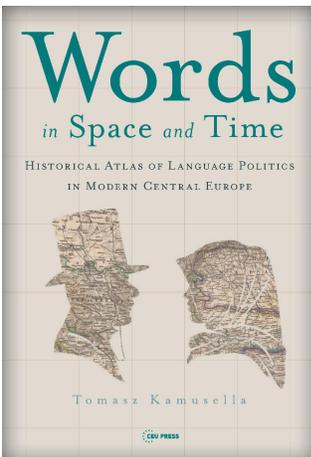
Edited by Celia Donert, Ana Kladnik, and Martin Sabrow

“...a common rebuke by Czech and some Slovak intellectuals that Slovaks’ general absence from the signatories of Charter 77 signaled their lack of political engagement and moral clarity regarding the need to oppose communist rule.”

“However, evidence exists that there was more to Slovak samizdat than just what made it into Czech hands.”

“Some of the largest illicit social gatherings in late socialist Czechoslovakia took place in Slovakia and organized by Slovaks. The Catholic pilgrimage to the town of Velehrad in 1985, which by one account drew 150,000 participants, was likely the largest such occurrence in Czechoslovakia since 1970.”

“Functionalist architecture and urban planning in the spirit of Le Corbusier had been perceived in Czechoslovakia as the road to happiness and beauty from two perspectives: in connection with the general European trend of technocratic thinking about society, and also as a protest against the conservative socialist realism.”



### [Words in Space and Time](#)

Historical Atlas of Language Politics in Modern Central Europe

Tomasz Kamusella

“Glagolitic and a vague memory of medieval Greater Moravia, where this script was invented and used for two decades, allowed Slovak nationalists to ‘prove’ that their nation had the coveted tradition of early statehood going back in time for at least a millennium.”

“The dual language of Bokmål and Nynorsk constituted a vital inspiration for the creation of the Czechoslovak language (consisting of the two equal varieties of Czech and Slovak) for interwar Czechoslovakia.”

“Suprastandard bilingualism seems to have largely disappeared among the younger generations of Czechs and Slovaks who were born and raised after the 1993 breakup of Czechoslovakia.”

“The territory of Slovakia is intersected by two important ‘bundles of isoglosses,’ yielding three main Slovak dialects, or by many more bundles, yielding multiple dialects. There is no ‘scientific’ way (in the meaning of the natural sciences or laws of physics) to measure the actual or ‘true’ number of Slovak dialects.”

**PDF Version is freely available on Project Muse, Open, and Open Research Library thanks to the libraries supporting CEU Press's *Opening the Future* initiative.**

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

Combatting Hunger from Normandy to Tirana, 1945–1950

Jérôme Aan de Wiel

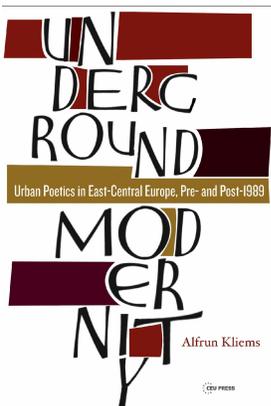
„Despite the widespread destruction, Europe’s economy was not affected beyond all hope. The incessant Allied bombing raids on Germany had destroyed relatively little economic infrastructure, just over 20%. Certain areas of the Czech lands and Slovakia had performed well industrially during the war.”

“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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#### 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 backlog** 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 [Hrdlicka](#) (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.
- "As factors of destabilization, ethnic Germans in Slovakia were unsuitable because they kept their prewar loyalty to Hungary or were sympathetic towards Prague."—[Wars and Betweenness](#)
- The [Shoah](#) occurred 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.
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- 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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