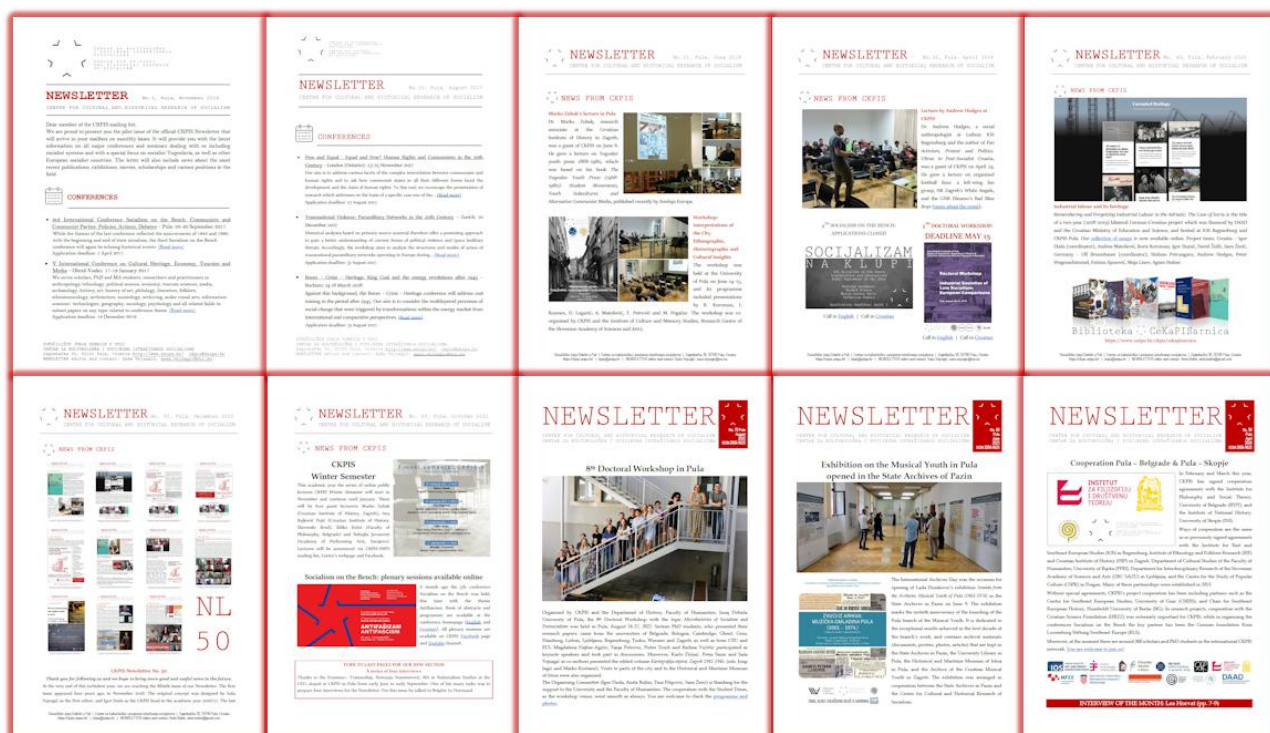


NEWSLETTER

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

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THE 100TH ISSUE



As editors, we – Igor Duda and Anita Buhin – along with Tina Filipović and Sara Žerić Đulović, authors of the Interview of the Month section, hope you enjoy reading our publication, whether you receive it through the CKPIS-INFO mailing list or download it from our website. The four of us have been working together on the Newsletter since issue No. 63 (January 2022), when Tina and Sara joined the team.

Looking further back, the first issue was published more than eight years ago, in

November 2016. The original concept was developed by Saša Vejzagić, as the first editor, and Igor Duda, then head of CKPIS in the 2016/17 academic year. Saša Vejzagić edited the Newsletter until issue No. 30 (April 2019), after which Anita Buhin took over with issue No. 32 (June 2019), curating our permanent sections on conferences, publications, positions, grants and scholarships, exhibitions, and other events.

Issue No. 6 (April 2017) introduced a new opening section covering CKPIS events,

INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH: Nikola Baković (pp. 8-9)

authored ever since by Igor Duda. For more than a year, Nemanja Stanimirović also contributed as part of his Erasmus+ Traineeship at CKPIS while studying at CEU. His first article, published in No. 56 (June 2021), marked the launch of the Interview of the Month section, which he continued to contribute to until issue No. 74 (December

2022). Interviews returned to the last pages in No. 87 (January 2024) as a special series featuring participants of the Doctoral Workshop, and they will continue in this form until summer 2025.

Thank you all for reading and following us—we look forward to bringing you more engaging content in the many issues to come!

Housing.Yu (ERC): Letter of Intent signed

On 25 February, the Letter of Intent was signed in Pula between the Institute of Art History (IPU) in Zagreb and Juraj Dobrila University of Pula. It formalises the collaboration between the two institutions within the five-year ERC project *Right to Housing: The Production of Spaces of Everyday Life in Yugoslavia (1945–91) or Housing.Yu*. The project will be led by principal investigator Tamara Bjažić Klarin (Institute of Art History), heading a team of twelve members, including Igor Duda, who will serve as a researcher and supervisor for two early-career historians – a PhD student and a postdoctoral researcher. *Housing.Yu* is set to begin in June 2025.



Valter Boljunčić (vice-rector, University of Pula), Igor Duda, Tamara Bjažić Klarin, Katarina Horvat-Levaj (head of the IPU) and Petar Prelog (head of the IPU Scientific Council)

Socialism on the Bench: deadline approaching

The 7th Socialism on the Bench will be held in Pula on September 18–20, 2025. The application deadline is APRIL 1. The complete call and application form can be found on the conference website in [English](#) and [Croatian](#).



Visiting Fellowship at CKPIS

In the last issue we published the [call for visiting fellows](#) at CKPIS. It will be repeated annually, with no fixed deadlines. We are welcoming visiting scholars for stays ranging from one week to a full semester.



Kontrapovijest:

Kako su živjeli Jugoslaveni?

In the episode 34 of his podcast [Kontrapovijest](#), on Vida TV, Hrvoje Klasić hosted Igor Duda. The topic of the 28-minute conversation was the standard of living and consumer culture in socialist Yugoslavia.



11th Doctoral Workshop, Systems of Governance, August 27-30, 2025, call in March 2025



CONFERENCES AND CFP

Post-Cold War Transformations: Navigating Conflict and Cooperation in Eastern and Southeast Europe, Regensburg, 3-4 July 2025

This two-day workshop invites doctoral and other early career researchers to critically engage with the intersections of conflict and cooperation in the Eastern and Southeast European context. Participants are encouraged to examine the historical, political, economic, cultural, and social dynamics that drive both divisions and cooperation within and across these regions. The workshop aims to foster dialogue and collaboration among emerging scholars and highlight innovative methodologies and perspectives. The focus extends from macro-level analyses to microhistories and individual experiences, encouraging a nuanced understanding of regional dynamics. ([Read more](#))

Paper proposal deadline: 20 March 2025

Tourism and Islands of Memory, Hvar, 2-3 June 2025

The conference and workshop “Tourism and Islands of Memory” is part of an ongoing workshop series and initiative on the historical remembrance of islands, focused on the Adriatic and Mediterranean from a comparative perspective. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of tourism in Stari Grad, this year’s workshop is devoted to tourism. The workshop invites academics and practitioners from multidisciplinary backgrounds to reflect on tourism and historical remembrance in the context of islands. Questions of interest pertaining to the history of tourism and its impact on local communities, how tourism can harness and promote historical memory, sustainable tourism, and heritage, as well as the impact of over-tourism.. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 15 March 2025

Life under the Red Banner: Minorities in Socialist Europe, Basel, 11-12 September 2025

The lived experiences of minorities under socialism exposed numerous tensions between the ideology of a classless society and the persistence of ethnic, religious, and social distinctions. This conference aims to critically examine the discrepancies between the ideology, theory, and practice of minority policies in socialist countries, and discuss the everyday experiences of minority life under socialism through a comparative and transnational lens. Drawing on examples from different Soviet republics, countries of the socialist bloc, as well as non-aligned socialist states, such as Yugoslavia and Albania, this conference aims to draw scholarly attention to how various socialist regimes came to shape the status, rights, and experiences of different, and often marginalized, ethnolinguistic, religious, sexual, and social groups. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 1 April 2025

6th International Conference “Society and Politics”: Labour and Migration within Transformation Processes in South-East Europe and Beyond, Banja Luka, 25-26 September 2025

The Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Banja Luka (FPN UNIBL), in collaboration with the University of Vienna – Research Centre for the History of Transformations (UNIVIE RECET), the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts – Institute of Culture and Memory Studies (ZRC SAZU), and the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS) in Regensburg, is organizing the 6th International Conference “Society and Politics”. The conference aims to contribute to a broader discussion on labour and migration, focusing on how transformation processes have influenced changes in labour and migration regimes and practices within and outside of Southeast Europe (SEE). ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 15 April 2025

Istorija Jugoslavije: perspektive mladih istraživača sa postjugoslovenskog prostora 2, Belgrade, 1-4 October 2025

Prvi skup mladih istraživača sa postjugoslovenskog prostora, koji je organizovao Institut za noviju istoriju Srbije 2024, ocenjen je pozitivno u naučnoj i široj javnosti u svim bivšim jugoslovenskim republikama. Preko 30 mladih istraživača je predstavilo svoja istraživanja, učestvovalo u diskusijama, razmenjivalo informacije, iskustva, mišljenja, ideje o istoriji Jugoslavije. Uzevši navedeno u obzir, ali i uvidevši značaj kontinuiranog okupljanja i razvijanja saradnje mladih istraživača iz regiona, Institut za noviju istoriju Srbije je odlučio da 2025. organizuje drugi skup mladih istraživača sa postjugoslovenskog prostora. Skup je namenjen doktorandima i doktorima istorijskih i drugih srodnih nauka koji su disertaciju odbranili u poslednje tri godine, sa prostora Srbije, Hrvatske, Slovenije, Bosne i Hercegovine, Crne Gore i Severne Makedonije. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 31 March 2025

Cartographic Imaginaries: Spaces and Images of Central and Eastern Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, Aubervilliers, 11 June 2025

In the 20th century, the collapse of empires (Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, Russian/Soviet) and multiethnic states (Yugoslavia) reshaped the territories of Central and Eastern Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. The (re)delimitation of these spaces led to the displacement of communities, the restriction of mobility, and the reconfiguration of regions along with their communication networks. Throughout history, cartography has not only recorded imperialist and colonial ambitions but has also played a crucial role in nationbuilding as these regions redefined themselves. This graduate conference invites participants to explore the various meanings that the concept of 'map' can assume – not only as a material and functional tool but also as a vessel for the imagination. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 30 March 2025



PUBLICATIONS

Sanja Radović, *Prijateljstvo na distanci. Jugoslavija i Kina u doba hladnog rata (Srednja Europa, Zagreb 2025)*

U glavnom fokusu knjige nalaze se jugoslavensko-kineski odnosi u vrijeme hladnog rata. Dok je središnji dio knjige usmjeren na period detanta, od 1969. do 1980. godine, u široko postavljenom uvodu obrađena su i ranija desetljeća čime je pregled jugoslavensko-kineskih veza zaokružen na razdoblje 1945-1980. To ga čini najcjelovitijim pregledom u dosadašnjoj historiografiji. Prvi nivo ponuđenog razumijevanja u knjizi svakako je hladnoratovski, no hladni rat nikako nije samo kronološki okvir – bit ovoga konteksta ogleda se u nadmetanju dvije supersile, SAD-a i SSSR-a, i na tome uzrokovanoj dinamici unutar međunarodnih odnosa koja se prelila na cijeli svijet, pa tako i na Jugoslaviju i njenu ulogu u svjetskoj politici. ([Read more](#))

Jelena Batinić, *Žene u partizanima. Između revolucije i tradicije (University Press, Sarajevo 2025)*

Knjiga je rađena na temelju brojnih izvora, štampe, sjećanja učesnika, memoara, dnevnika, bilješki te dokumentarnih i umjetničkih filmova. U knjizi se na tri nivoa analizira promjena stava Komunističke partije prema rodnom sistemu: na razini političke retorike, institucija i svakodnevnog života. Iz knjige se saznaje zašto i kako partizani regrutiraju žene u partizanski pokret, kako su se žene integrirale u pokret i kako je to uticalo na promjene u rodnom normama poslije 1945. godine. Knjiga donosi niz novih uvida i interpretacija. Prije svega pokazuje da se razlog uspjeha komunista u mobilizaciji žena u partizanski pokret nalazi u uspješnoj prilagodbi seoskih tradicija sa revolucionarnim idejama. Komunisti su to pokazali nizom apela ženama za uključanje u pokret. Autorica analizira retoriku sadržanu i tim apelima i uočava u njima kombinaciju tradicionalne balkanske kulture i revolucionarne retorike. ([Read more](#))

BOOK LAUNCH: In the Storms of Transformation

Online book launch of the (revised) English version of book [In the Storms of Transformation. Two Shipyards between Socialism and the EU](#), written by Ulf Brunnbauer, Philipp Ther, Piotr Filipkowski, Andrew Hodges, Stefano Petrungaro and Peter Wegenschimmel, and published by the University of Toronto Press, will take place via [Zoom](#) on March 17, 2025, 5.15 pm (CET).





POSITIONS, GRANTS AND STIPENDS

2 Ph.D. positions in the field of political science, IOS Regensburg

From 2025, the multidisciplinary research of the IOS will be expanded to include a new Politics Department. The will focus on theoretically sound, methodologically innovative and diverse research on politics and interstate relations in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe in their transregional and global contexts. The research of the Politics Department will encompass various fields of political science and neighbouring disciplines that research politics. The individual research and qualification projects of future members of the Politics Department are invited to address different analytical levels – from local to global contexts – and to integrate comparative and transnational perspectives. The IOS announces the following research positions to be filled as soon as possible: Two part-time Research Positions for Pursuing a PhD. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 28 March 2025

2 Postdoc positions in the field of political science, IOS Regensburg

From 2025, the multidisciplinary research of the IOS will be expanded to include a new Politics Department. The research of the Department will focus on theoretically sound, methodologically innovative and diverse research on politics and interstate relations in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe in their transregional and global contexts. The research of the Politics Department will encompass various fields of political science and neighbouring disciplines that research politics. The individual research and qualification projects of future members of the Politics Department are invited to address different analytical levels – from local to global contexts – and to integrate comparative and transnational perspectives. The IOS announces the following research positions to be filled as soon as possible: Two full-time Postdoctoral Researcher Positions. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 28 March 2025

2025/2026 Social Relevance of the Humanities fellowship for International Scholars, CAS Sofia and NEC Bucharest

The fellowship programme, proposed jointly by the Centre for Advanced Study Sofia and the New Europe College Bucharest and developed with the financial support of the Porticus Foundation, aims to underscore the cognitive functions of the humanities and their potential as critical disciplines by opening them up to issues relevant in/for the contemporary world – issues that are “practical”, but also epistemological, ethical, philosophical, etc. The programme is intended to accommodate a broadest range of themes pertaining to humanities and social science disciplines provided that they link up to contemporary debates about or major challenges to the human condition stemming from the technological advances and ‘digital modernity’. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 31 March 2025



INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

by Anita Buhin

Nikola Baković holds a PhD in history and works as a project manager in Q agency ([read more](#))



Nikola Baković

You are one of only two people who have participated in all six Socialism on the Bench conferences. Additionally, you attended the Doctoral Workshop in Pula in 2016. What is your connection to Pula and CKPIS?

Even though there are other research centres and academic networks dedicated to studying socialist Yugoslavia, CKPIS profiled itself as the most structured and systematic entity in that regard with conference series, doctoral workshops, publications, and research projects. The biannual gatherings in Pula always felt as a homecoming for me, and a hotspot for innovative research and academic networking in the field, while the maritime locale definitely contributed to their appeal. On a more personal note, I feel strongly about CKPIS activities because the decade of my

attendance of conferences in Pula temporally coincided with my professional evolution from a freshly graduated Serbian archivist to Croatian project specialist with German doctorate.

Last year, you published *Brotherhood on the Move: Ritual Mobilities in the Second Yugoslavia*, based on your PhD research. Could you tell us more about the book?

I analysed the set of kinetic cultural practices that were well-known to and widely practiced by millions of Yugoslav residents during four decades of this socialist federation's existence – the youth marches reenacting partisans' Second World War itineraries, the trans-republican caravans of brotherhood and unity (exemplified through Serbo-Slovenian Train of Brotherhood and Unity), the Youth Baton (probably the most famous and most notorious Yugoslav political ritual), and a few post-Yugoslav case-studies. My focus was on translocal networks and practices forged through the organisation and participation in these ritual acts, on the actors behind these processes and their motivations, as well as the outcomes for the involved communities. On a more theoretical level, I was interested in how notions of space and place figured in those practices, and how specific changes in ritual structures and dynamics contributed to the creation of multiscale places on different levels of social organisation through staged and itinerant coming-together of ritual participants and their audiences. On the lower scales, these rituals enabled towns and

villages to engage in translocal interactions that made up much of their Yugoslav experience, while at the most intimate level of families and individuals, Yugoslavia very often came down to what they experienced during such ritual mobilities, whether as "guests" in another part of Yugoslavia or "hosts" of their own place.



At the 2nd Doctoral Workshop (Pula, 2016)

Before your PhD, you spent several years as an archivist at the local archive in Čačak. Later, you moved to Giessen to study Yugoslavia as a whole. How would you compare these experiences of working with micro- and macro-level history?

Although historians often prioritise one analytical scale or perspective, whether global, national, regional, local, or micro-historical, history itself happens on all of them. That means that bird's eye-view or worm's eye-view can only reveal so much about historical processes and actors that permeate and transcend all these scales. Working at a local archive has equipped me with experience in analysing and classifying different

types of sources from the lower end of this spectrum and made me more sensitive to the contextual nuances of the documentary creation and interpretation. In my book, I tried capturing precisely that intimacy of localist-flavoured case-studies from across Yugoslavia, simultaneously embedding them in broader political and cultural contexts, and finally wrapping them with theoretical apparatus of cultural geography, ritual studies, and social history.

You now work in IT. How did this career shift come about, and which skills from your academic background remain relevant?

In my case, it was a combination of private circumstances and professional inclinations that had me end up as a project manager in IT industry. Even though I obviously had to relearn and unlearn a lot in the process, I found myself at ease and at peace in the new role. Project management relies on many skills inherent to academia, be it the proneness to analysis and synthesis, data processing ability, organisational skills, or the awareness of power dynamics and cultural context. I am aware that many researchers perceive their topics as their life mission, but I can also say from hindsight that, for me, career switch was the right decision made at the right time. Therefore, I can only recommend such path to more experiment-minded social scientists or humanities scholars, because I believe many of them would thrive in managerial or analyst positions, free of many academic vanities and precarities.

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<https://www.unipu.hr/ckpis/en/newsletter>