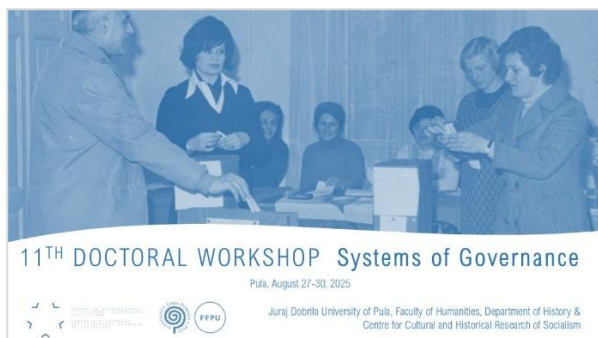


NEWSLETTER

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

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11th Doctoral Workshop: Participants Selected



The selection process for the 11th Doctoral Workshop: Systems of Governance has been completed. We look forward to welcoming 19 doctoral students currently enrolled in programmes in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Croatia. The keynote speakers will be Mike Tyldesley (Manchester Metropolitan University),

Ana Kladnik (University of Graz), Marko Zajc (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana) and Igor Duda, one of the workshop organisers. The event will take place in Pula from August 27 to 30.

Housing.Yu (ERC): New Research Assistants



At the Institute of Art History (IPU) in Zagreb, new research assistants and staff members have been appointed as part of the ERC project *Right to Housing: The Production of Spaces of Everyday Life in Yugoslavia (1945–91)*, or *Housing.Yu*, led by Tamara Bjažić Klarin (IPU). Their roles will begin on June 1, coinciding with the official start of the project. The three research assistants and PhD candidates are Antun Dulibić (history, also affiliated with CKPIS and supervised by Igor Duda), Hana Bečević (art history), and Frano Petar Zovko (architecture). In addition, Marija Jurić has been employed as the professional associate for the documentation and information systems, and Vanja Kranjčević will serve as the project manager. A call for three postdoctoral researchers (four-year positions) is expected in September.

INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH: Petra Šarin (pp. 6-8)



CONFERENCES AND CFP

Trauma, Institutional Knowledge, and Social Order: New Perspectives from Eastern and Western Europe during the Cold War, Graz, 3-5 December 2025

This explorative workshop investigates institutional and praxeological approaches to psychic suffering in Eastern and Western Europe after 1945. It investigates the making of trauma through broad political, ideological, environmental or social transformations in the Cold War period through processes of making visible, pathologization, legitimization, or denial. Moving beyond studies focused solely on World War II and its long-term psychological consequences, we aim to understand the Cold War as a period of continued upheaval, producing new institutional responses to psychic distress while shaped by the legacies of previous violence. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 1 July 2025

After Industry: Cities and Regions in Transformation, Prague, 14-15 May 2026

In the late 20th century, and especially after 1989, many cities and regions in Central and Eastern Europe underwent profound changes due to deindustrialization, globalization, and political-economic transformation. While some of these places were able to redefine their position and identity, others continue to face long-term challenges linked to economic decline, demographic loss, and social fragmentation. The After Industry conference seeks to examine these processes from historical and other interdisciplinary perspectives critically. What has been the impact of the transition from centrally planned to market economies on urban and regional structures? What adaptation strategies have been employed, and how have cities' and regions' identities, functions, and spatial organizations evolved since 1989? ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 30 June 2025

Perspectives on Art Histories in the Balkans: Actors, Networks, and Practices from the Early Modern to the Contemporary, Paris, 18-20 March 2026

This conference takes its place, therefore, within the new academic tendency seeking to reevaluate, in terms of content and methodology, the frames of reference underpinning the study of the arts. The approach will be primarily diachronic (following initial artistic creation through its transformations), with the aim of establishing dialogue between studies of imperial dynamics in the modern era and research on the contemporary Balkans. Such boundary crossing will make possible the study of the formal, conceptual, and material development of the artworks by bringing to light borrowings, overlappings, and tensions. By including this wider historical dimension, the conference aims to explore the multi-faceted materiality of artworks. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 30 June 2025

Mining Between Heritage and Future: Economic, Social, and Environmental Perspectives, Belgrade, 13-14 November 2025

The international conference Mining Between Heritage and Future aims to examine the history of mining in Serbia and the wider region through a multidisciplinary lens, integrating political, economic, social, technological, and ecological narratives. It brings together experts in history, economics, sociology, ecology, engineering, anthropology, cultural and media studies, and related fields, thereby facilitating an interdisciplinary reflection on mining policies and their consequences. The chronological scope spans the development of mining activities from the medieval period to the present day, with special emphasis on pivotal moments such as the emergence of the modern state in the nineteenth century, twentieth-century industrialization, and contemporary challenges posed by globalization and the green transition. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 15 June 2025

The Global Temporalities of Eastern Europe, Florence, 23-24 October 2025

This two-day workshop invites scholars to explore how concepts of time have been historically instrumentalised in Eastern Europe from the nineteenth century onwards as a political resource to reinterpret the past, to shape conceptions and experiences of the present, and to exploit the unknowability of the future in response to large-scale global changes and in competition with global dominant time regimes. In recent years, 'time' has emerged as a key analytical category (Koselleck, 2004), a development often labelled as the 'temporal turn' in history and the social sciences. Recent scholarship has largely converged around three main themes: the politicisation of time (Clark, 2019), the dynamics of large-scale temporal regimes across societies and cultures (Hartog, 2015), and the multiple scales and dimensions through which historical change unfolds (Braudel, 1984). ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 7 July 2025

Call for papers: Balkanistic Forum, "War and Peace: Experience and Representations"

The editors of the second thematic issue of the Balkanistic Forum – "War and Peace: Experience and Representations", Snezhana Dimitrova and Jay Winter will welcome original papers in English from different fields of social sciences, arts, and humanities and scholars are invited to send their reflections on the following research topics, relevant to the Balkans and Central and Eastern Europe: the experienced war (with emphasis on the refugees, veterans, prisoners, interned civilians), the humanitarian organizations and their "political neutrality", the peace as an idea, ideology, and practice. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 30 July 2025

Institutions as Battlegrounds: State Capture, Resistance and Academic Freedom under Siege, Belgrade, 25-26 October 2025

The aim of the conference is to explore challenges and contestations both within and against institutions in different geopolitical and geo-economic contexts as well as to assess expectations of progressive social change and justice that struggles for institutions have inspired in various social actors (citizens, students, activists). 2025 is a significant year for social engagement, the struggle for justice, and for democracy in Serbia. In addition, the legacy of 5 October 2000, the overthrow of Milošević and his regime, calls for new, fresh insights and analysis 25 years after. The aim is to explore, among other topics, the similarities and differences between mass protests of people and political actors in 2000 and student and civil protests in late 2024 and 2025. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 15 July 2025



PUBLICATIONS

Marta Verginella, Urška Strle (eds.), *Women and Work in the North-Eastern Adriatic: Postwar Transitions* (Amsterdam University Press, 2025)

The volume offers a comparative and transnational exploration of women's work in the twentieth century, concentrating especially on the turbulent periods after both World Wars and the Yugoslav wars in the 1990s. The spatial focus of the analysis is the northeastern Adriatic region, which includes the border areas of Italy and Austria, Croatia, and Slovenia. The seven studies in the book represent a cross-section of specific professional groups of women. The spectrum ranges from female teachers, clerks, tobacco and textile workers to intellectual, artistic or entrepreneurial activities of women. Although "gender" is a central category of analysis in the book, the aspect of representativeness was also observed in relation to other social factors such as race, class, generations, educational and religious background, etc. ([Read more](#))

Ana Hofman, *Socialism Now: Singing Activism after Yugoslavia* (Oxford University Press, 2025)

In *Socialism Now: Singing Activism after Yugoslavia*, Ana Hofman embarks on a captivating journey through singing, songs, and other cultural expressions to trace the recent recuperation of socialist ideas and experiences in the post-Yugoslav context. Combining historical and ethnographic approaches, the book offers a nuanced account of the activities of the self-organized choirs that have emerged in the region in the last two decades. Their singing activism demasks the privatization, dispossession, and political and social fragmentation that, instead of a promised capitalist dreamland, have shaped lives in the region after the dissolution of socialist Yugoslavia. ([Read more](#))

Maša Kolanović, *Metafora kapitalizma: Ekonomski imaginarij Sjedinjenih Američkih Država u hrvatskoj književnosti 20. stoljeća* (Set Margins' Press 2025)

Kapitalna studija znanstvenice i književnice Maše Kolanović proučava ekonomski imaginarij Sjedinjenih Američkih Država u hrvatskoj književnosti 20. stoljeća. Riječ je o opsežnoj i temeljitoj studiji koja istražuje bogat književni i kulturni arhiv ekonomskih reprezentacija Sjedinjenih Američkih Država, a o kojima su pisali brojni hrvatski i europski pisci u svojim tekstovima različite žanrovske provenijencije. Metafora kapitalizma knjiga je koja velikoj temi pristupa sustavno te ukazuje na to koliko su važne simboličke reprezentacije u doživljaju neke zemlje, ali i koliko je značajan njihov udio u kritičkom propitivanju fantazmi, iluzija i mitova, u ovom slučaju o Americi kao utopijskoj zemlji blagostanja. Ova studija zasijeca u tkivo velike metafore zvane Amerika, razabire njezine korijene i prati tijek njezine transformacije u 20. stoljeću na brojnim tekstovima koji su dali vlastito viđenje i definiciju što to Amerika jest. ([Read more](#))



POSITIONS, GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Herder Fellowship, The Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe, Marburg

The Herder Fellowship Program is aimed at researchers of all qualification levels (doctoral students, postdocs and proven experts in historical research on East Central Europe), especially from East Central European countries and other Western European countries. It enables a short-term, intensive research stay of one month in the library and the scientific collections of the Herder Institute and is endowed with € 1,900. Fellows have the option of staying in our guest apartment in the Behring Villa for the duration of their stay. In addition, the fellows have the opportunity to present their project plans at one of the meetings of the Herder Institute Research Academy. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 15 August 2025

Visegrad Scholarship at OSA 2025/2026: Living in dystopian times: Lessons from the Cold War (and after), Open Society Archives, Budapest

In his recent dystopian novel Time Shelter (2020), the Bulgarian writer Georgi Gospodinov imagined a sick humanity (with people affected by the Holocaust or Communism) that was embracing the past. In these dystopian times, in which the very idea of a democratic West is under the assault of autocratic expansionism, it is worth revisiting the past not for its idealized memories, but for its dramatic lessons about the general conditions of both the emergence and collapse of authoritarian regimes, internally and externally. What would be needed is not only the investigation of the possibilities to “resist” in both personal and institutional forms, but also the conditions for the maintenance of very delicate international equilibria, where the politics of force would be countered by those of values and principles. ([read more](#))

Application deadline: 25 July 2025



INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

by Tina Filipović

Petra Šarin is a PhD student in art history at the NOVA University in Lisbon and a teaching assistant at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb ([read more](#))



Petra Šarin

The month in which we celebrate the 80th anniversary of liberation from fascism is an ideal opportunity to discuss the exhibition *Zagreb: Liberation (8-31 May 2025)* with one of its authors and the project coordinator. What themes does the exhibition explore, and how would you assess the audience's and media's interest so far?

The exhibition was initiated by the Network of Anti-Fascist Women of Zagreb (MAZ) and produced by the Serbian Cultural Society *Prosvjeta*. It was created by an independent team of historians and art historians Sanja Horvatinčić, Josip Jagić, Mario Šimunković, and Saša Vejzagić along with me. In terms of

content, it was important for us to highlight the broader context of liberation and to intertwine and connect the inescapable military aspect of liberation with fragments of memories and experiences of the participants in the People's Liberation Movement (PLM). We divided the exhibition thematically into five sections because we wanted to articulate some problematic aspects that are inseparable from the overarching theme. For example, the participation of women in the PLM, the new social order, and the implementation of people's justice. In this way, we pointed to a much broader issue, the critical historicization of the moment in which a new social reality was being created – a moment that continues to raise questions even eighty years later. The reactions and critiques we received from colleagues, professionals and the general public, were consistently positive and encouraging. Such a response and level of interest are certainly significant, especially considering the fact that the national heritage institutions housing the exhibited materials have systematically neglected them for decades, and that we are witnessing attempts at historical revisionism.

Three years ago, you participated in the Pula Doctoral Workshop with a topic closely related to the Cartography of Resistance project. Could you tell us more about the significance of the illegal Party press and the conditions of underground printing production in wartime Zagreb?



Details of the exhibition *Zagreb: Liberation* (May 2025)

This research is also closely related to the topics we just discussed. The project aimed to revive and critically examine the topic of the PLM, with a focus on the resistance organized in occupied Zagreb. In that project, I worked on the topic of the underground printing services. The printing and distribution of anti-fascist press and leaflets were crucial means of resisting the complete media control of the Ustasha regime. Due to the illegal communist activity, material printing and copying mostly took place in inadequate conditions, in private apartments, in bunkers or in secret within

business units of other purposes. For example, in a rented apartment in the workers' neighbourhood of Trešnjevka, in total secrecy, three sisters, Ljubica, Katica, and Nevenka Filipović, organized an improvised printing service. It was there, mostly at night in 1941, that the first anti-fascist leaflets, newspaper *Vjesnik*, and other publications were printed. The fourth sister, Dragica, was a courier. Party members handed the printed materials over to activists, sympathizers, and anti-fascists for further clandestine distribution to citizens, using various covert methods: leaving the

materials on the streets, dropping them into mailboxes, and even launching them from a hill. In early 1942, the Filipović sisters were arrested and interned in concentration camps. Luckily, all four survived the war.

same – educated and supported me in many ways in the past ten years, almost always free of charge, through various education programs and seminars. One of my favourite projects in that sense was the research and



At the 8th Doctoral Workshop (Pula, 2022)

You've been very active as a curator and writer, especially around visual art and gender politics, and you're known for generously sharing your knowledge. Thinking back, is there a project or collaboration that was particularly meaningful or rewarding for you?

Sharing knowledge and resources, as well as open communication, collaboration, critical reflection and exchange in knowledge production, are very important strategies in my professional, but also in my private life. I am grateful to my colleagues and comrades from independent cultural scene who did the

educational program *How to Think About Urbanism and Public Space?*, that I co-organized with Vizkultura during the pandemic. It analyzed public space as a place that reflects cultural policies and dominant social and gender relations. Even more valuable were the stimulating conversations we were having, lasting friendships and new collaborations which were born out of the project.

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