

No. 74
Pula
December
2022
ISSN 2806-9625

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A man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a grey patterned jacket over a brown sweater, sits on a blue chair at a yellow desk. He is looking down at a small object in his hands. On the desk in front of him is a black Acer monitor, a mouse, and some cables. A professional video camera on a black tripod is positioned in the foreground, filming the man. The camera's LCD screen shows a live feed of the man. In the background, there is a large projection screen displaying a landscape image of a path and trees. Behind the man is a white shelving unit filled with books. The room has light-colored wooden floors and white walls.

Zimski semestar CKPIS-a

Ciklus javnih predavanja

Emil Jurcan Urbanistički razvitak Pule u socijalističkoj Jugoslaviji

Četvrtak, 8. prosinca 2022., 17.00

Filozofski fakultet, Matetića Ronjigova 1
Dvorana Slavka Zlatića, prizemlje



CENTAR ZA KULTUROLOGIJU I SOCIJALNO ISTRAŽIVANJE
CENTRE FOR CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF SOCIETY

<https://www.unipu.hr/ckpis/dogadjanja>

Also in this issue at pp. 8-10: interview with Vjeran Pavlaković

Socialism on the Bench 2023: Call Open

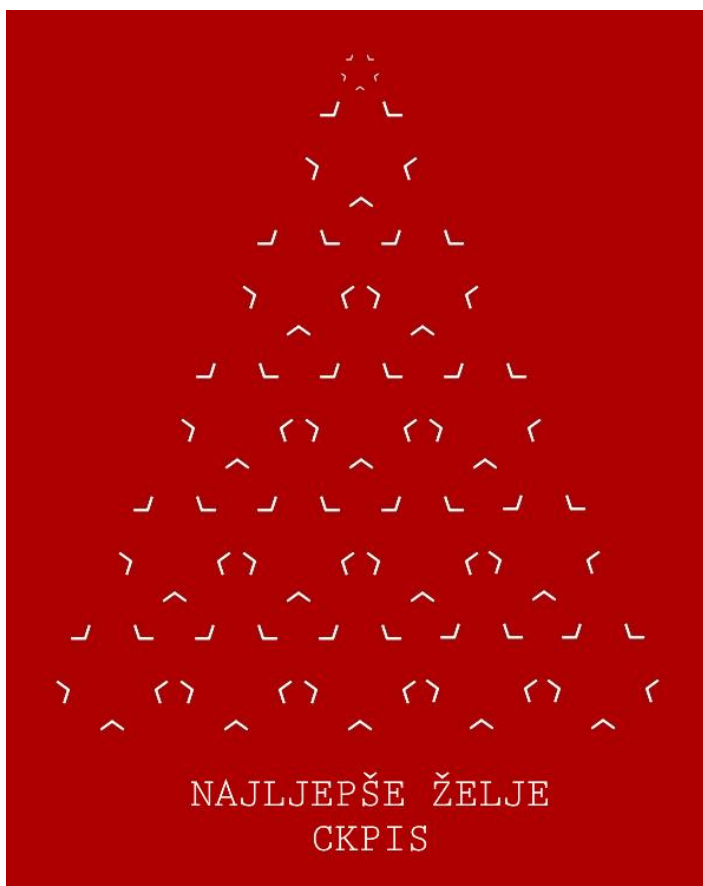
The series of biennial international conferences Socialism on the Bench have been organised by CKPIS since 2013. On September 28-30, 2023, the conference will be held for the sixth time, and this time with the theme Crises and Reforms.



State socialist and market socialist societies went through a series of adaptations while trying to enhance the performance of the system in power. Sometimes the motivation for these changes was a matter of ideological evolution of the system and general modernization, but now and then the trigger was a specific crisis in a certain sector, such as

unemployment growth, low industrial productivity, irregular supply, inadequate tax or social welfare systems, emigration, outdated curricula, lack of funding for culture or maybe ineffective local administration. A crisis could be admitted or denied, postponed or accelerated. A reform could be a popular or a painful measure, a success or a defeat. The conference call is interested in all these extremes and the panoply of shades in between, in other words both in large scale watersheds and miniature structures of problems and their solutions. We hope the papers will provide answers to the following questions and more: what are the reasons for political, social, financial and other crises; who are the actors of crises and are they also the agents of change who design and implement reforms; are the crises used as opportunities for larger transformations; do reforms bring improvements or cause chaos in the known and established order; how are crises and reforms presented to the public and what is the perception of these processes among different social groups including the everyday surroundings.

Please find the call in [English](#) and [Croatian](#), and the application form, on our website. Application deadline is April 1. CKPIS is looking forward to your submissions!



CKPIS was founded in July 2012 as a new unit of the University of Pula. We will celebrate the Centre's 10th anniversary throughout this year. There will be a series of lectures within the *CKPIS Summer Semester*, a round table and, here on the *Newsletter* pages, short interviews with our researchers. Moreover, in the section *Interview of the Month*, month after month, we hope to present colleagues with whom we have closely cooperated.



TEN YEARS OF CKPIS: IGOR STANIĆ

Interview by Tina Filipović

You were among the first volunteers and associates of CKPIS from its very beginnings, which certainly gave you some new opportunities and set additional tasks at the end of your master studies. Can you tell us more about your various activities in the Centre?

Wow, I can't believe it's been ten years already! I signed my volunteering contract with CKPIS in November 2012 and started with the internship at the beginning of 2013. I was included in so many different activities. I was assisting with the organization of workshops, guest lectures and other similar events, updating CKPIS web page, mailing list, network of researchers of socialism, CKPIS library, and participated in the creation of invitations and flyers for events. There was also the cooperation with Igor Duda and Anita Buhin. We edited a collection of papers *Radionica za suvremenu*

povijest. Istraživanja diplomanata pulskog Sveučilišta 2011-2013. As guests we participated in the exhibition *Refleksije vremena* in Sveta srca gallery where we had series of public lectures on our research topics. Soon after that we became involved in many different projects and we started our own international conference Socialism on the Bench. Being involved in so many different activities, projects and the conference organization board had huge influence on my own professional development.

From 2014 until 2017, you took part in the research project launched by CKPIS, named *Making of the Socialist Man. Croatian Society and the Ideology of Yugoslav Socialism*. Which was the topic and main research questions you were dealing with?

This project is in a way connected with my PhD dissertation. The main research question

I was dealing with was how the new socialist worker and self-manager was built and shaped on the example of a case study of Uljanik shipyard in the 1960s. In other words, in what way did self-management contribute to the creation and building of a new socialist worker, what was he/she supposed to look like and what qualities should he/she have. I believe that answers to these questions can be found in my paper “Aktivan i odgovoran proizvođač i upravljač”. Izgradnja socijalističkog radnika-samoupravljača na primjeru brodogradilišta Uljanik 1960-ih godina” that was published in the collection of papers as a result of the project. Those were the main questions that I was dealing with within the project. I also published several other papers dealing with self-management and working class, such as “Proposal to be Forwarded to the Workers' Council for Final Approval”. Position of Workers in Self-Management at the Uljanik Shipyard in the mid-1960s” or “Sport za svakoga. Sportske aktivnosti radničke klase u Hrvatskoj od 1945. do početka 1960-ih”.

Have you entirely turned away from academia today or just diverted your resources to other topics and, therefore, continued to invest in your knowledge? Can your insights into the history of workers' self-management help you to understand better current workers' needs and problems?

During the last couple of years, I made a shift in my career. I started working in a private sector in Human Resources where I continue to develop myself professionally. In the future, Human Resources and Management will be the field where I will continue to

develop myself. As a part of professional development, I finished a one-year program Foundation in Management in London and at the moment I am enrolled in the MA studies of Business and Management at the Faculty of Economics and Tourism at the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula. Insights into the history of working class and self-management definitely helped me understand workers today. Moreover, my background in history and humanities gives me possibility to understand a wider picture and have a different view on solving contemporary challenges, as well as predicting future ones. Being a part of CKPIS had an important impact on me and my development, regardless of the fact that I changed my career path.



Igor Stanić ([read more](#))

During my most active period in CKPIS I was learning a lot from CKPIS members. Their advices, guidance and support were important for me, so I would like to use this opportunity to thank them all, especially to Igor Duda who was my mentor since my studying days.



CONFERENCES AND CFP

Sociological perspectives on contemporary post-Yugoslav societies, Belgrade, 26-27 May 2023

Unlike most countries in Eastern and Central Europe, for which the 1990s were a period of democratic transition and gradual economic recovery, the new states in the South-East European region were faced with several tectonic changes at the same time: brutal wars and migrations on a large scale; pre-and postwar authoritarianism (in most cases), the dissolution of what used to be a common country and new nationbuilding, and a rather extreme version of neoliberal post-socialist transition. All of this had an impact on their subsequent development. Post-Yugoslav societies still have significant similarities as they had been parts of the same society for more than seventy years (1918–1991). On the other hand, the differences that have developed within the newly formed states over the past thirty years (1991–2022) are also notable. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 31 January 2023

The State-Socialist World turned global: Cultural encounters during the Cold War, Bucharest, 5-6 October 2023

The conference aims to contribute to a better understanding of the role of culture in the context of the Cold War (as part of Cultural Cold War studies), its political role in democratic and non-democratic configurations, and the potential of the cultural exchanges to foster cultural change and transform political culture. Its goal is to also contribute to the development of a new perspective regarding cultural collaborations within the State-Socialist World, and beyond it; that is a perspective which is less biased by the concept of the “Socialist bloc” as a monolithic political construct or by the traditional, uncritical approaches on the relationship between East and West, East and South, etc. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 15 April 2023

Red World Literature, Reykyavik, 11-12 May 2023

At the center of the literary-political project of the Soviet-sponsored Communist International, or Comintern (1919-1943), was the attempt to create a new canon of world literature that could rival the canon of bourgeois literature, centered in the cultural capitals of Europe. Surviving the Comintern, the project of creating internationalist world literature continued to influence the cultural landscape of the Second World during the post-war period. Furthermore, cultural producers in peripheral locations looked toward the Soviet Union, and many sought to contribute to internationalist or red world literature. The conference contributes to recent efforts to chart the cultural geography of the internationalist literary field throughout the 20th century with an emphasis on tracing the various literary worlds that emerged within national and regional contexts. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 27 January 2023

9th International Conference on Industrial Heritage: Industrial Heritage after 1945, Rijeka, 19-20 May 2023

Industrial Heritage Research Centre, University of Rijeka and Pro Torpedo Association call for papers for the 9th International Conference on Industrial Heritage. The conference will focus on the period after 1945. Possible topics are: industrial heritage from the period of socialism, The impact of politics on the industrialization process, planned industrialization, industrial giants – carriers of economic development, heavy industry and electrical industry, textile and other industry, workers - education – leisure, women and industrial heritage, post-war industrial architecture: improvisation and innovation and more. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 28 February 2023

CfP: Resistance against Nazism in Europe during World War Two

“Wer ist Walter? Resistance against Nazism in Europe” is an international project organised by crossborder factory (Berlin/Germany), the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo), CIFE – Centre international de formation européenne (Nizza / France) and the Jasenovac Memorial Site (Croatia), with the support of the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ) in the frame of their program “Education Agenda NS-Injustice”. As part of it, the organizer launch a call for paper proposals for an edited volume on the history and memories of resistance during World War Two, with a special focus on Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France and Germany. Authors of selected proposals will have the opportunity to participate in a conference in 2023 to discuss drafts of the papers. ([Read more](#))

Application deadline: 10 January 2023



PUBLICATIONS

Paul Stubbs (ed.), *Socialist Yugoslavia and the Non-Aligned Movement: Social, Cultural, Political, and Economic Imaginaries* (McGill-Queen's University Press: Montreal, 2022)

Socialist Yugoslavia and the Non-Aligned Movement investigates the Non-Aligned Movement both as a top-down, interstate initiative and as a site for transnational exchange in science, art and culture, architecture, education, and industry. Re-invigorating older debates by consulting newly available sources, the volume challenges studies that marginalize the role of socialist Yugoslavia in the Non-Aligned Movement. Contributors address topics such as women's involvement, antifascism and anti-imperialism, cultural and educational exchange, tensions in Yugoslav diplomacy, competing understandings of economic development, the role of the Yugoslav construction company Energoprojekt, Yugoslav relations with Latin America and Africa, and contemporary support for refugees and asylum seekers as a kind of practical and affective afterlife of Yugoslavia's non-aligned commitments. ([Read More](#))

Jan Pelikan, *Novim putevima: Kosovo (1958-1969)* (Službeni glasnik: Beograd 2022)

Pelikanova analiza kosovske stvarnosti pedesetih i šezdesetih godina dvadesetog stoljeća položena je na široku heurističku osnovu i izuzetnu akribiju. Pažljivo kritički pretresajući raznovrsnu, neobjavljenu arhivsku građu, statističke podatke, brojne sekundarne izvore i obimnu literaturu, pred čitaoca postavlja složenu kosovsku scenu sa svim njenim učesnicima, procesima i činionicima. Pokazuje svu višeslojnost i težinu ovog pitanja, nikada ne gubeći iz vida njegov jugoslovenski, srpski (republički), ali i međunarodni kontekst, uz sve, često protivurječne uticaje, ideološku, političku, međunarodnu i socijalnu pozadinu. ([Read More](#))

Husnija Kamberović (ur.), *Reprezentacije nasilja u jugoistočnoj Evropi 20. stoljeća* (Udruženje za modernu historiju: Sarajevo, 2022)

Dvadeseto stoljeće je stoljeće nasilja: veliki ratovi su donijeli ogromna materijalna razaranja, masovna stradanja civila, pokrenuli velike izbjegličke talase koji su završavali dubokim demografskim promjenama, a iskustva na Balkanu su posebno bila tragična. Balkanski ratovi početkom 20. stoljeća, potom Prvi i Drugi svjetski rat, te posebno ratovi 1990-ih, ostavili su trajne i duboke posljedice na razvoj balkanskih društava. Naše historiografije su se bavile tim pitanjima, a vremenom su se interpretacije mijenjale: nekada kao rezultat naučnog dozrijevanja, a nekada kao posljedica historijskog revizionizma. U ovom zborniku objavljujemo radove studenata doktoranata iz Bosne i Hercegovine, Srbije, Hrvatske, Crne Gore i Slovenije, koji su u okviru projekta kojeg podržava Heinrich Böll Foundation Rat, civili, migracije: Bosna i Hercegovina i jugoistočna Evropa 1942.-1992.-2022 godine, o ovim pitanjima diskutirali na History Festu (Sarajevo, 7-12.6.2022).

[\(Read More\)](#)



POSITIONS, GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Visiting Fellowships for the Field of Excellence “Dimensions of Europeanization”, University of Graz

In the course of the academic year 2023/2024, the Field of Excellence “Dimensions of Europeanization” at the University of Graz is supporting four junior fellows (post-doc and early career) and two senior fellows (tenured professors and equivalent) to spend one semester in Graz to conduct and present research and collaborate with other researchers. The projects should clearly relate to the overall focus of the Field of Excellence and (at least) to one of the research clusters. The Field of Excellence “Dimensions of Europeanization” deals with a broad range of processes that could be described as “Europeanization” in past and present. Thus, it seeks to redefine the concept of Europeanization, in particular in Southeastern Europe, and to identify the historically grounded cultural, economic and social processes that are circumscribed by it. [\(read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 16 March 2023

Postdoctoral position in Central Eastern European Church-State relations history, The Institute of History of the Research Centre for Humanities, Budapest

The Institute of History of the Research Centre for Humanities, Hungary’s leading non-university research facility, is inviting applications for a position of Postdoctoral Research Fellow to collaborate on a ERC project, Negotiating Sovereignty: Challenges of secularism and Nation Building in Central Eastern Europe since 1780, led by Dr. András Fejérdy. Postdoctoral researchers will be expected to take into consideration the cultural history of oath of loyalty, the evolution of the relationship between church and state and between Catholicism and the nation as well as the challenges posed by the catholic Church as a transnational institution to state sovereignty in Yugoslavia (Croatia/Serbia/Slovenia) in the twentieth century. [\(read more\)](#)

Application deadline: 1 February 2023



INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

by Nemanja Stanimirović

Vjeran Pavlaković is an associate professor at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Rijeka. ([read more](#))



Vjeran Pavlaković

You have extensively dealt with the Spanish Civil War and the Yugoslav participants on the Republican side. Is there a way of measuring the impact that those Yugoslav volunteers had on the postwar construction of Yugoslavia which would go beyond the several famous Party members and deal with them as a whole? In other words, can certain structural links be derived between the two processes?

The Yugoslav volunteers who fought in Spain primarily received military training and battle experience, and then party discipline, all of which were crucial skills later applied in the Partisan movement during the Second World War. The post-war impact is probably more difficult to measure, although overall the Spanish veterans, “naši

Španci”, had a special place in Yugoslav society as avantgarde antifascists. Structurally they were integrated into the broader narrative of the People’s Liberation War (NOB), from commemorative practices to monuments and other elements of cultural memory constructed around the Partisan movement. As you note, the most famous Spanish veterans had positions in the leadership of the Party and the military. Edo Jarda, who had lived in Canada for many years, returned to become mayor of Rijeka, while Čedo Kapor was in charge of infrastructural projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina, two examples of more civilian positions. Although it is difficult to generalize, I think the majority of the veterans of the Spanish Civil War brought an optimistic energy to their work in postwar public institutions, driven by the passion that had inspired them to fight fascism in Spain in the first place.

What can we discern about a regime depending on the monuments whose construction they finance, and how does Tito’s regime compare to other Eastern European countries on that issue?

All kinds of regimes build monuments, not only East European communist ones. I think that the Soviet bloc did create more political monuments than perhaps Western democracies, but we can also consider that many of these countries experienced considerably more violent upheavals in the 20th century and thus had more to commemorate. Comparing Yugoslav monuments to others in East Europe shows us how visionary Tito’s regime was in comparison to neighbouring states, which

were much more beholden to Soviet aesthetics of socialist realism. Although Yugoslavia is full of unimaginative monuments and memorial sites, there are also many monumental works that transcend the brief ideological timeframe of postwar socialism in a Balkan country. Tito's Yugoslavia recruited the most creative forces across the country to build epic monuments that inspired viewers to reflect on the past and utopian future beyond the Communist Party's interpretation of the past. I think the timelessness of these monuments is evident in how they are viewed by the global community, whether as memes, sites of remembrance tourism, or as backgrounds of videos and television series. The focus on these monuments in the recent film *The First and Last Men* by Icelandic composer and director Jóhann Jóhannsson shows that these visionary architectural forms are not trapped in a single ideological moment, as is the case for so many monuments across the world that have been the subject of removal in recent years. Although socialist Yugoslav monuments have been targeted for destruction, I think that was often for economic opportunism or crude nationalism that seeks to destroy everything that challenges national myths, while in fact they represent cultural heritage which goes beyond the needs of an undemocratic political system.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the founding of the CKPIS. How do you see the role of CKPIS in the academic community which deals with socialism, and has the Centre influenced your own research somehow?

I think CKPIS was and remains an inspiration to many scholars across the region and internationally, especially because it has

created a transnational community and network in a post-Yugoslav space that unfortunately encourages academics to function as atomized, nationally focused scholars. I think the founders of CKPIS and the group of younger scholars that have been included in the Center over the years deserve a lot of credit for their accomplishments. I was recently in Belgrade and one of the conversations with colleagues was about how impressed we were with the first "Socialism on the Bench" conference and the community that CKPIS brought together. Beyond personal relationships with individuals at the University of Pula, I have participated in conferences, workshops, guest lectures, and other networking activities that were useful not only for my academic goals, but also for introducing important scholarships to my students who often know very little about the cultural history of socialist Yugoslavia. CKPIS has also produced an impressive amount of publications, which I have used in classes and my own research.

What are you currently working on?

I'm working on two rather large but unrelated projects. The first one is tentatively titled "Tucson's Little Dalmatia: Southeast European Immigrants in the American Southwest, 1880-1920", a book about Dalmatians in Arizona I am co-writing with my mother, a professor of geography at the University of Arizona. This was really her project, but I came on board as a historian to try and strengthen the narrative threads of the book's protagonists, and we ended up discovering a huge archive in the Arizona Historical Society. John Ivancovich arrived in Tucson in 1884 as a penniless young man from a village near Dubrovnik, and fifteen years later he was one of the richest men in town. He obsessively saved his correspondence with other immigrants in Arizona as well as family members in Dalmatia, which give us some fascinating

insights into the effects of the First World War on both sides of the Atlantic. The book is about chain migration, borderland identities, the legacies of white settler colonialism, and gender aspects of Southeast European migration. The second project is a continuation of my research on sites of memory in the Yugoslav successor states, this time with a focus on historical murals. Parallel to the construction of monuments and memorial museums related to the wars of the 1990s, there has been an explosion of murals across the region perpetuating the dominant war narratives. In Croatia, Vukovar murals are not only on Vukovar street, but in numerous neighbourhoods and other locations, and murals dedicated to Operation Storm, Flash, and other battles are likewise more and more common. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Srebrenica murals can be found in many Bosniak-majority cities and towns. The most disturbing trend is the glorification of war criminals across the region, from the infamous Ratko Mladić mural in Belgrade to murals of Slobodan Praljak and Mihajlo Hrstov in Croatia. Although there are some cases of murals that challenge the dominant nationalist narrative of street art interventions that bring positive messages to urban environments, the overall trend is troubling in the sense that the younger generations are participating in the militarization of public space through war-related murals and graffiti. My research seeks to understand the processes and actors behind these trends and place them in a comparative context with other case studies of historical murals, such as in Poland, Spain, Northern Ireland, and Arizona.

Finally, what book would you recommend to a young student who has just started

becoming interested in the Yugoslav history or history of socialism, and why?

My answer will probably be a strange one for CKPIS readers since it was written by a Western scholar and is a departure from cultural history. Nationalism and Federalism in Yugoslavia, 1962-1991 by Sabrina P. Ramet, who was my MA adviser at the University of Washington, was a book that influenced me greatly during graduate school. I thought this book provided a fascinating insight into how the balance of power between the various Yugoslav republics functioned in the decades leading up to the country's eventual dissolution. Ramet's other books looked at cultural phenomena such as rock music or gender issues, but this was a more classical political history approach that offers readers an understanding of socialist Yugoslavia's internal dynamics. An outsider's perspective provides a more balanced view of the situation that scholars from the various successor states don't always see as they frequently explain the dissolution through an ethno-nationalist lens. Although written three decades ago, I think re-reading this text along with all the new scholarship gives a complete picture of Yugoslavia in the second half of the twentieth century.

NEWSLETTER

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