EDITORIAL

On the occasion of our final Newsletter of the year, we would like to extend our gratitude to the 729 subscribers to our printed version as well as to the 360 e-mail subscribers for their vital interest in and loyalty to our publication. Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year 2001.

Editorial Board
CZECH REPUBLIC

Recent publication

Handl, Vladimir; Hon, Jan et al. 1999. Germany and East Central Europe since 1990. Prague: Karolinum publishing house of the Charles University; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. - 331 pp., in English.

The publication deals with a wide spectrum of relations between Germany and the East Central European states. In the sphere of multilateral relations, both the economic, military, and geopolitical problems are considered. The relations of Bonn to the individual countries of the region are analysed in the second part of the book.

HUNGARY

Scientific institution

The Hungarian Institute for Culture
Magyar Művelődési Intézet

Corvin tér 8.
1011 Budapest, Hungary

Tel.: +36-1-201-3766
Fax: +36-1-201-5764
E-mail: mmi@mmi.hu
Internet: http://www.c3.hu/~corvin/english/index.htm

Management: András Földiáik (director)
Year of foundation: 1992
Staff: 30
Departments:
- The Department of Performing and Visual Arts
- Folk Art Department
- Professional House of Folk Dancers
- International and Minorities Department
- Department of Community Development
- The Department for Culture Organisation and Adult Education

Main fields: The Hungarian Institute for Culture provides consulting and services in the area of non-formal education throughout Hungary, supporting non-formal education activities on local and county level, as well as in Budapest by
- coordination of programs in the area of folk arts, performing arts, and visual arts
- design and organization of systems of professional training and examination
- organization of festivals and conferences
- folk-handicraft qualification, managing collections, and organizing permanent and temporary exhibitions
- administration and advertisement of craft competitions
- Preservation of cultural traditions, social customs, and artistic values among national and ethnic minorities

Research topics:
- the performing and visual arts, such as theatre, poetry and prose, recitation, puppet-theatre, choral and orchestral arts, classic and modern dance, photography and film-making, video and computer graphics, fine and applied arts
- folk music, folk dance, and handicrafts
- cultural traditions and folk art of national and ethnic minorities in Hungary
- non-formal education

Surveys: Surveys have been conducted in the field of non-formal education, such as the 'Efficiency-Examination of Alternative Cultural Centers', 1998.

Publications/ papers: Publications include professional and sectoral publications, periodicals on non-formal education, analyses on the activities of cultural centers and non-formal education centers and teaching materials

Teaching: The Institute conducts examination panels and provides continuing education in its function areas as well as courses in a variety of folk arts.

Events: Organization and co-organization of a number of festivals, competitions, exhibitions etc. to do with the Institute’s field of research

Co-operations: At present the Hungarian Institute for Culture is member of the following international organizations: ENCC (European Network of Cultural Centers), CULTURELINK (Network of Networks for Research and Cooperation in Cultural Development), ECOVAST (European Council for the Village and Small Town), IATA (International Amateur Theatre Association), CIOFF (International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Art). The Hungarian Institute for Culture actively maintains and seeks to widen the scope of its international contacts.

Library: The library is of national scope and collects documents from all disciplines related to non-formal education, i.e. the theory of non-formal education and culture, cultural history and cultural politics, sociology, the social sciences and the arts. It also functions as an information system and offers a collection of catalogued professional literature and documentation.

Services: The information services of the Institute include evaluations of statistical data sets and the classification of cultural activities.
Central European Political Science Review (CESPR)

Place of publication: Budapest
Publication dates: quarterly (since September 2000)
Published by: Erasmus Foundation for Democracy
Edited by: Institute of Political Science of the Hungarian Academy
Pf. 694/115
1399 Budapest
Fax: +361-2246727
E-mail: CEPSR@mtapti.hu orjsimon@mtapti.hu
Editor-in-chief: János Simon
Subject area: Political sciences in general
Headings: Main Articles; Reports; Book Reviews
The journal appears in English.

Contents of Vol.1, issue 1/2000 as an example:

Introduction of the Editor:
Central Europe in Europe - by János Simon

Main Articles:
• Wiatr, Jerzy: Central Europe as an Issue - Why is Central Europe important for the political science?
• Whitehead, Laurence: The Enlargement of the European Union: A 'Risky' Form of Democracy Promotion
• König, Thomas; Thomas Brauninger: Governing the Enlarged European Union Accession Scenarios and Institutional Reform
• Galló, Béla: The Half-European Integration - Some Global Political Aspect of European Unity from Central European Point of View.
• Kusy, Miroslav: Hello Europe! The Slovak Gypsies and the European Union
• Márkus, György G.: Germany a la Carte. Hungary in Cross Pressure Between German and American Influence

Reports:
• Annual Congress of the Hungarian Political Science Association by János Simon
• Report on the International Conference of the Slovenien Political Science Association by Drago Zajc
• World Congress of Latin-Americanists in Warsaw - by János Dömény
• Ten Years in Freedom. Transition and Consolidation of Democracy in Central Europe Great International Conference in Budapest, 30 October - 1 of November 2000
• Austria and Europe. Conference in Vienna at 13 October 2000.

Book Reviews:


Topics of the next issues are:
No. 2: Political Parties in Central Europe
No. 3: Transition and Consolidation of Democracy in Central Europe
No. 4: Parliaments and MPs in Central Europe
No. 5: Political Culture and Political Socialization in Central Europe
No. 6: Political Communication

Space and Society
Ter es Tarsadalom

Place of publication: Budapest, Hungary
Publication dates: since 1988, quarterly
Edited by: Research Institute in West Hungary of the Research Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Liszt Ferenc u. 10
H-9022 Győr
Tel.: (3696) 516 570
Fax: (3696) 516 579
E-mail: rechnj@edo.rkk.hu, komuma@edo.rkk.hu
Internet: http://www.dti.rkk.hu-tet.html/
Editor-in-chief: János Reichnitzer
Subject area: Theoretical and practical problems on national area studies; regional development; regional policy, urban sociology.
Headings: Studies; Outlook; Fast-Facts; Book Review
The journal appears in Hungarian. It contains an English and German list of contents and abstracts in English.

Contents of Vol.14. 2000 No.1. as an example:

Studies:
• Enyedi, György: Globalization and regional development in Hungary
• Horváth, Gyula: Partnership in the regional policy of the European Union
• Murányi, István; Szoboszlai, Zsolt: Characteristics of identity in the Southern Great Plain
• Szavvák, Tibor: The modernisation endeavour of certain social disadvantaged groups
• Szlavetz, Andrea: Regional investment promotion in Hungary
• Baranyi, Béla; Balcsoók, István: Mátészalka, the successful city – is it a real success, or just a hoping breaking through attempt?
Outlook
• Khakee, Abdul: Participatory scenarios for sustainable development /Transl. by András Grosz/
• Grúber Károly: Romania in the Europe of Regions. Is there any chance for Romanian devolution and for Establishment of regional governments in Transylvania?

Fast-Facts
• Kovács, Teréz: Rural development and its finance in the European Union and in Hungary
• Kiss, János Péter: Without illusions The role of border crossings in the changes of cross-border relationships with the Ukrainian, Romanian and Serbian borders in the 1990s

Book Review

Recent publications

Research funds

Central European University
The Summer University (SUN) is an academic program for university professors, administrators and professionals. It offers a series of intensive two, three or four-week courses in the social sciences and humanities to encourage and promote regional academic cooperation and curriculum development by drawing together young faculty in lectures, seminars and workshops.


Applications are invited from all countries. While the program is still focusing on participants from Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union and Mongolia, for SUN 2001 the scholarship eligibility will extend worldwide with particular emphasis on applicants from emerging democracies. The scholarship will cover tuition cost, accommodation, travel, health insurance, and a book allowance. The grant will also include a stipend to cover meals and incidentals. However, participants from Budapest will only receive free tuition, a book allowance and a reduced stipend.

Non-scholarship participants must pay for tuition ($200/week of instruction), accommodation, health insurance, travel and meals. However, there is a limited number of tuition waivers available, which may be applied for on a competitive basis.

For further information please contact the SUN office: summeru@ceu.hu, write to our automatic e-mail account to receive an application form: sunreg@ceu.hu, or visit the WEB site: http://www.ceu.hu/sun/sunindx.html where you can find the application form and the description of each course.

Contact:
Eva Gedeon
Executive Director SUN
Summer University Office
HU-1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 9.
Tel.: (+36-1) 327-3811
Fax: (+36-1) 327-3124

LATVIA

University of Latvia
Centre of Demography
19 Raina Boulv.
1586 Riga

Tel.: (+371) 7 226 368
Fax: (+371) 7 225 039
E-mail: zvidrins@lanet.lv

Management: Zvidrins, Peteris (Prof.) - head
Year of foundation: 1982
Historical development: The Centre of Demography is a demographic research unit at the University of Latvia. The initial name of the research unit when it was founded at the beginning of 1982 was a Demographic group. At the beginning of 1987 it was renamed into Demographic Laboratory and in 1994 into a Centre of Demography.

Staff: 12
Main fields: Since the formation of Centre, the demographic development of the population of Latvia has become its main research object. The Centre is working closely with the staff of the Department of Statistics and Demography which has been one of the major centres for research and teaching in Statistics and Demography in the Baltics since it was founded in 1979.

Research: The research area of the Centre and the Department covers the theoretical, methodological and empirical aspects of the population development, but major research trends include long-term fertility, family formation, its stability, mortality and population reproduction on the whole. Lately, ethnic demography and economic demography themes, as well as internal and international
migration, different aspects of demographic policy have been research objects of the Centre.  
**Research topics:**  
- Forecasts of demographic development and improvement of demographic policy in Latvia  
- Fertility and family survey  
- Development of households and families in Latvia  
- Current development in demographic structures in the Central and Eastern European countries  
- Population replacement in Latvia  

**Publications/ papers:** The Centre regularly publishes research results in scientific proceedings or separate statistical (analytical) bulletins. Main publications:  
- *Population replacement in Latvia* (Ed. P. Zvidrins). 1996. Riga: Centre of Demography, 86 p. (in Latvian; summary and contents also in English)  

**LITHUANIA**

**Scientific institution**

**Institute of Labour and Social Research**  
Rinktinės 48  
2005 Vilnius  
Tel.: (+3702) 75-24-34  
Fax: (+3702) 75-21-13  
E-mail: AlgisS@dsti.takas.lt

Internet: [http://www-public.osf.lt/pub/rimj/ilsr.html](http://www-public.osf.lt/pub/rimj/ilsr.html)  
Management: Šileika; Algis (Prof.) - director  
Year of foundation: 1991  
Founder members: Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Lithuanian Republic  
Staff: 19 full-time scientific researchers and specialists are employed in the Institute. For performing concrete tasks, other researchers and specialists are available on a short-term and authorial contract basis. (32 scientists and specialists were employed in the Institute on such contracts in 1999)  
**Working groups:** Three target groups work in the:  
- Institute of Living standards;  
- Institute of Employment;  
- Institute of Social security.  

**Main fields:**  
- General methodological studies;  
- Systematic studies in coordination with the Ministry of Social Security and Labour as well as with the Committee of Social Affairs and Labour of Seimas (Parliament of Lithuania)  
- Scientific projects on contract basis  
- Education and training activities, in form of lecture courses for employees of various institutions and teaching at the Universities.  

**Research topics:**  
- Investigation of poverty and differentiation of income and expenditure among the population  
- Investigation of the ratio of income from work and social benefits of the population  
- Principles, presumptions and methods for the determination of a minimal wage  
- Taxation of the population income and social security  
- Terminology and concepts of labour market  
- Evaluation of differentiation of the labour demand in the regions of the country  
- Improvement trends of the activities of the institutions realising the labour market policy  
- Medium and long-term prognoses for employment and unemployment  
- Prognosis of the need for specialists with the higher education  
- Social insurance of rural population: situation and prospects  
- Investigation of social work and social services in Lithuania (together with the Institute of Social Welfare of the Netherlands)  
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of the system of social services  
- Problems of the development of the network of social care institutions for elderly people  
- Identification of regions of Lithuania according to the aggregated indices of socio-economic development level (together
• Realisation of the model of social assistance in community while solving the problems of living standards and employment
• Program of socio-economic development and business in the region of Kursiu Nerija
• Investigation of the employment, living standards and social assistance in the city of Vilnius

Publications: In 1999 the Institute published the first issue of a regular publication “Actual problems of social policy”
Co-operations: The staff of the Institute maintains close scientific relations with scientific research and study institutions, governmental and nongovernmental organizations from more than 20 countries, participates in the activities of international organisations and their projects.

POLAND

Scientific institution
Bureau of Research of Chancellory of the Sejm
Biuro Studiów i Ekspertyz Kancelarii Sejmu
ul. Zagórnà 3
00-441 Warszawa

Tel.: +4822-694 1727
Fax: +4822694 1865
E-mail: wstas@sejm.gov.pl
Internet: http://biurose.sejm.gov.pl/eng/index.htm

Management: Wieslaw Staskiewicz
Year of foundation: 1990
Staff: 61 staff member
Supporting institution: Sejm of Poland
Departments/research groups/centres/working groups:
• European integration group
• Budget analyses division
• Economic and social analyses division
• Legal opinions division
• Information division

Main fields: The Bureau renders services to fullfill needs of deputies and organs of the Sejm ranging from provision of concise basic information and legal consultations to preparation of written experts’ opinions and reports requiring complex and time-consuming studies. The Bureau gives opinions on draft legislation being under the Sejm consideration with special regard to their expected legal, social, economic and ecological consequences as well as burden they may impose on the State Budget and it prepares opinions about guidelines of the Budget.
Research:
• interpretation, contents and implementation of legal acts - mainly in the field of constitutional, administrative, civil, economy, labour and criminal law;
• economic policy, agriculture, food industry, environmental protection, international economic cooperation, regional and crossborder cooperation;
• political systems of particular states, legal regulations and institutional solutions, which are legally binding in these states;
• European integration, international relations, Poland’s foreign and defence policies;
• work of ministries and other state institutions as well as non-governmental organizations;
• taxation issues, functioning of certain financial institutions or financial mechanisms that exist in other countries;
• foreign general and substantial solutions regarding education, health care, social security, housing policy,
• youths problems, gender issues, social pathology.

Publications/ papers:
• Information - brief topical information concerning selected problems of particular fields being under the Sejm consideration;
• Reports - own publications resulting from Bureau research;
• Materials and Documentations - collection of documents and press clippings, in original language or translated, dedicated to specific matters considered by the Sejm;
• Experts’ Opinions - opinions prepared by outside experts on request of the Bureau;

Series: “Legal Experts’ Opinions”; “Legal Acts Translations”; “Conferences and Seminars”

Events: The Bureau of Research also organizes seminars and conferences connected with the Sejm proceedings (among others on: state budget drafting, banking system in Poland and Europe, parliamentary rules and procedures, status of a deputy, association agreement between Poland and European Communities, housing policy, privatisation process, environmental education, lobbying, women in public life)

Journal description
Studia iagellonica Humani Cultus Progressus (formerly: Polish Quarterly of Developmental Psychology)
Place of publication: Cracow
Publication dates: quarterly since 1995
Contents of Vol. 4, (1998) No. 1 as an example:

Topic: Cultural Psychology: Ideas and Scholars
- Zukow-Goldring, P.: Perceiving Eye-to-Eye: When Vygotsky Meets Gibson and Garfinkel
- Georgiou, S.: Fear of War and Child Development
- Dryll, E.; Cierpka, A.: Studying Family Ethos by Analysis of Narration
- Interview: Mey, G.; Mruck, K.: A Traveller Through Psychology. An Interview with Jaan Valsiner
- Bernoussi, M.: Cognitive Addition: An External Validation of Individual Differences

To network between Romanian experts and the Romanian Parliament and Government, in order to achieve a higher and more effective participation of intellectuals in the political process

To design, research and write public policy proposals in order to contribute to the development and modernization of the Romanian society

Research topics: The main research interests of the Romanian Academic Society are ethnic relations, local government and the social costs of transition and civic education

Research projects:
- Evaluating Local Governments, the Society is the first organization to propose a White Book of Local Government in Romania. 500 local governments have already been evaluated using the instruments created by the SAR.
- Law writing grants for the civil society, this open program is aimed at stimulating individuals and organizations to discuss and draft pieces of legislation that they consider necessary for advancing public interest in Romania.
- Research on 'Social Capital As a Policy Tool', which consists in exploring the relationship between negative social capital and positive social capital in low trust and highly negative social capital societies. Does the former prevent the development of the latter and what policies can be designed to avoid that? Moreover, the role of governments and administration to promote open, transparent, formal and accountable institutions, able to play an effective role in fostering dialogue and building partnerships between various actors in the community is considered.

Publications/papers: Apart from the journal Foreign Policy Review (published quarterly), the Society publishes a series of working papers in public policy.

Teaching:
- Education for democracy, a program meant to increase participation of young voters (18 years old) and teach basic notions of government in Romanian high schools.
- The Academy of Member of Parliament (MP), the goal of this project is to increase the quality of political debate, to provide freshmen MP with the possibility of receiving a period of training in aspects referring to the process of legislation, international organizations, partnership with civil society groups, relation to the mass media, etc.

Co-operations: The Romanian Academic Society cooperates with a number of national and international organizations, such as the European Commission (PHARE Program); the World Bank Bucharest; the Institute for Human Developmental Psychology.
Scientists SOCO program and the Institut fur die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Wien
Services: Access via Internet to The Romanian Experts' Directory, a database on Romanian specialists who studied and published abroad and participate in international academic networks. Any foreign partner can ask for full curricula and establish direct and fast contact to the desired Romanian specialist. The Society also offers various consultancy services such as the professional institutional analysis on a variety of fields (health system reform, administrative and judicial reform, pensions and welfare system, economic legislation); the design and implementation of research that will suit given evaluation and/or marketing needs; focus groups and surveys for any research purpose and economic and political forecasts

Scientific institution

"Babeş-Bolyai" University  
Department of Sociology  
Research Center on Inter-Ethnic Relations

Universitatea "Babeş-Bolyai"  
Catedra de Sociologie  
Centrul de Cercetare a Relaţiilor Interetnice

Str. M. Kogălniceanu nr. 1  
Cluj-Napoca

Tel.: +40 0-194315 / 125  
Fax: + 40 0-64- 197860  
E-mail: lazar@ccrit.soroscj.ro  
Internet: http://www.ccrit.ro/

Management: Lazăr, Marius - head
Year of foundation: 1993
Staff: 7
Organization: 7 permanent members of staff supervise 25 people actively involved in activities and research.

Main fields:

- Research of the cultural heritage of different populations and ethnic groups in Romania (especially in Transylvania).
- Offering scientifically founded data on controversial aspects of historic and present day problems of different ethnic groups in the region, frequently invoked by intellectuals and politicians in political debates.
- Offering a framework for different scholars interested in improving their knowledge of ethnic relations and nationalism, either from a theoretical point of view or performing field research in Transylvania.
- Offering assistance to different NGO's whose purpose is to improve and develop interethnic relationship and climate in Romania.

Research projects:

- The evolution of ethno-demographical structures of the settlements based on different census performed in Transylvania in the past. The task is to create a database on the evolution of ethnic structures in Transylvania according to present administrative divisions to provide a basis for historical and political debates on the demographic problems of the region.
- Editing a selected bibliography on the history of the Jewish community in Transylvania.
- Repopulating the Saxon Villages in Transylvania. The Transylvanian territory was predominantly inhabited by (almost half a million) German population, which, mainly after 1970, started to leave the country. This migration also produced internal population movements towards the villages left by the Saxons.
- The evolution of ethnic-mixed marriages in Transylvania - a reconstruction of the dynamics of the period 1895-1895 reflecting interethnic patterns in marriage and everyday life of mixed couples.
- Ethnic divergences and decision making in local communities with mixed populations - an analysis of the types of conflict and negotiation in the local councils based on interviews and focus-groups with representatives in rural areas and small towns in different Transylvanian counties.
- The analysis of the local and general elections in Romania (mainly in Cluj and Transylvania) in 1996.
- An Early-Warning System for local conflict-management in villages with Roma population to develop a model for dealing with conflicts at micro-and local community level.
- Research on inter-cultural learning in primary schools.

Co-operations:

Pro Europa League; Foundation for Democratic Change; Romani Cris; Pro Democratia Association – Brasov; Service Civil International – Romania; Project on Ethnic Relations – Romania; Youth Action for Peace- YAP-RO; Civitas Foundation for Civil Society; Intercultural Institute Timisoara; ACCESS Bulgaria

Library: The "Ion Aluas" Documentation Centre for Multiculturalism offers access to bibliographies, statistical data, books and periodicals, databases related to inter-ethnic and inter-cultural relations, as well as other social science resources which promote a scientific and multi-disciplinary approach to the subject.
RUSSIA

Scientific institution

Udmurtia State University
Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology
Universitetskaya ul. 1
426034 Izhevsk (Udmurt Republic)

Tel.: (+73412) 788081
E-mail: ladyzhets@uni.udm.ru
Internet: http://www.uni.udm.ru/eng/fct/philsoc/

Management: Ladyzhets, Natalya S. (Prof.) - dean, an academician of the International Science Academy of Higher Schools
Year of foundation: 1993

Departments:
- Sociology. Head: Prof. N.S. Ladyzhets, phone: 788081;
- Philosophy. Head: Prof. A.A. Petrakov, (phone: 788698);
- Philosophy of Culture. Head: Prof. V.L. Krutkin, (phone: 788698).
- Social Study Centre. Head: L.A. Saburova, (phone: 75452)
- Gender Research Institute. Head: Prof. Natalya S. Ladyzhets

Main fields: The Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology was established with the purpose to train specialists with a broad profile for future professional work in the field of social service and management.

Teaching: sociology, social work, marketing, management.

Scientific institution

Nizhny Novgorod State University
Faculty of Social Sciences
Universitetsky per., 7
603000 Nizhny Novgorod

Tel.: +78312 33-83-30
Internet: http://www.unn.ac.ru/unn/f14/main.htm

Management: Blonin, Vladimir (Prof.) - dean
Year of foundation: 1996

Historical development: The Faculty was organized on the basis of the Social Sciences Department of the Faculty of History, Social Sciences and Foreign Affairs.

Departments:
- Department of Sociology and Social Work
- Applied Sociology Department
- Social Philosophy Department
- Department of History, Methodology and Philosophy of Science
- Philosophy Department
- Department of Psychology and Social Psychology
- Department of Social Deviation
- Center of Development of Basic Concepts and Contents of Humanitarian Education
- Training Laboratory of Psychology
- Laboratory of Sociological Research
- Laboratory of New Informational Technology

Research topics:
- Problems of national education and adolescent growth
- Analysis of social structure of Russian society and problems of social poverty
- Political sociology and political geography
- Marketing research

Teaching:
- Sociology (day-time form of training)
- Social work (day-time and distance forms)
- Management in social sphere
- Psychology (day-time and distance forms)
- Philosophy (master training)

Degree courses:
- Bachelors (4 years)
- Graduated specialists (5 years)
- Masters of sociology, philosophy (6 years)

Journals online

Ab Imperio - Theory and History of Nationalities and Nationalism in the Post-Soviet Realm (in English, German, Russian)
http://www.ai.knet.ru/

Economics of Sociology, in Russian
http://www.ecsoc.msses.ru/Mag.html

Publications online


Shlapentokh, V. The Soviet leaders analyze Putin
http://www.socio.ru/public/shlapentokh/Lider.doc

Kesselman; Mazkevich. Subjective security from violence.
http://www.socio.ru/public/kesselman/Matsk.doc

Doktorov, B. Online surveys: the ordinarity of the modern century.

Russian and the Internet.
http://www.nns.ru/analytdoc/romopr175.html

Andreeev, V. Middle class in Russia. Analysis of Russian model of national

1 full texts
2 full texts (in Russian)
Yadov, V. Russia as a transforming society: The resume of the long-term discussion of sociologists.  
http://www.isras.rssi.ru/Arti_lis.htm

Scientific network

Russian Network “Social Sciences and Humanities”

The main purpose of this network is to provide help to researchers and teachers working in the fields of social and humanitarian science, through the use of electronic communications and new information technologies.  
http://www.hist.msu.ru/RSSH/index_e.htm

Gender Studies in Russia and NIS: “Who is Who”:

A unique database about gender studies researchers in Russia and other Newly Independent States is now available on the Web (in Russian):  
http://www.owl.ru/win/books/dbras_who_is_who/

Data collection

Establishing a Public Sociological Data Archive in Russia - A Pilot Project3

Establishing a public archive of sociological data in Russia is an urgent issue. Living in a democratic society requires free access to reliable information on significant topics of social life. Until perestroika, there was a lack of such information in the USSR. By now many social surveys have been conducted and the problem of accumulating the results and making them publicly available becomes more and more pressing.

The Russian Center for Public Opinion and Market Research (VCIOM) did realize the problem. Every day we communicate with users who come to VCIOM searching for sociological data. We try to help as many researchers as we can but our own resources are not sufficient. Only joint efforts of sociological agencies, academic institutes and philanthropic foundations can solve the problem.

We started the public archive pilot project funded by the Ford Foundation and based on the VCIOM experience and data. VCIOM has been conducting more than 2000 surveys since 1987. On the pilot stage, we provide the project with an office and means for processing and storing the data. The most interesting surveys should be submitted to the archive. First of all, we are thinking about results of VCIOM Public Opinion Monitor started in 1993. It accumulates unique trends reflecting all aspects of social life in Russia. Results of international studies VCIOM participated in form another portion of valuable data. We suppose other sociological agencies will join the project. The preliminary discussion shows that they are willing to deposit their data.

By December 2001, (ending of the pilot project) scholars in Russia will receive a collection of sociological data free for public access accompanied by detailed description and retrieval means. The results of the project will be presented at an international seminar for specialists in the area.

In the future, we hope that the pilot project will become the basis for a public national archive where social science scholars can get information and deposit their survey data. Such an institution will support the improvement of the quality of sociological surveys in the country and will allow to make one more step towards an open democratic society.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Newly founded

Demographic Research Center  
Výskumné demografické centrum

Dúbravská 3  
842 21 Bratislava

Tel.: 07/ 59379 245  
Fax: 07/ 5479 1463  
E-mail: vdc@infostat.sk  
Internet: http://www.infostat.sk/vdc/

Management: Vano, Boris - head  
Year of foundation: 1.1.2000

Historical development: The basic reason for the establishment of DRC was the development of the demographic research which did not exist so far in an institutional framework in Slovakia. The second, no less significant, reason was the actuality and the importance of demographic problems.

Founder members: President of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.  
Staff: 4 researcher  
Organization: It operates within the Institute of Informatics and Statistics in Bratislava.

3 Compiled by L. Kossova, Head of the Information Department of the Russian Centre for Public Opinion and Market Research (VCIOM), Moscow.
Discussion

How to protect sociology against the un-professionality?

The Slovak Sociological Association initiated a discussion on whether the protection of sociological profession is necessary and adequate. The discussion was connected with the fact that at present many doubtful and questionable surveys or other activities labeled “sociological” are carried out. The adjective “sociological” is very often misused for various types of research and opinion polls with very low and controversial methodological quality and (not only) potentially they can cause the degradation of sociology in the public opinion. During the discussion, the idea to protect the sociological profession using legal mechanisms was accepted. The proposal for the Law on sociological activities and about the Slovak Sociological Board was elaborated for further discussions. It is expected that after extensive internal as well as external discussion the Slovak Sociological Association will submit the proposal to the Slovak National Council.

Research project

Women in Politics – Result of Public Policy Transition?

International Centre for Family Studies in Bratislava held a workshop entitled Women in Politics that reported on the research project “Women in Politics – Result of Public Policy Transition?”. On behalf of the research team, Iveta Radicova summarised the main conclusions and recommendations as follows:

- Women’s representation in Slovak electoral politics, governance and executive suites has been persistently low and currently displays a downward trend. As compared to other 53 European nations, the Slovak Republic (SR) occupies the twenty-fifth place. At the same time, the Slovak situation is fully comparable with the levels of female representation across all so-called transition countries.

- The national figures of women’s representation at the top level of public life are still low: women in Slovakia hold 14 percent of the seats in the SR national Parliament, 4.4 percent of the mayoral offices in cities and towns, and 17.5 percent of the mayoral offices in smaller communities; female representation in the SR Government accounts for just 10 percent, women department heads at the government ministries make up 35.1 percent, section heads – 27.6 percent, chairs of regional state administration office – 0 percent, chairs of district administration office – 11.4 percent, while heads of social affairs department – 65.8 percent.

- With the exception of social affairs departments and units as well as so called ‘minor’ ministries, women in top executive positions are heavily under-represented at 30 percent nationwide.

- Such female under-representation in the sites of power, decision-making, influence (and wealth) persisted over the 1990s. In the recent national election, only 247 women out of the national total of 1,618 (16.9 percent) candidates found their names on their respective political party tickets.

The research has confirmed that the problem of low female representation in politics is not, so much due to legislative gaps as to commonly held perceptions. There are no legal barriers in Slovak legislation, which would prevent women from entering decision-making and holding governing posts. The right of the Slovak women to freely choose and have a political career has never been challenged. At the same time, however, it is expected of the woman in Slovakia that she should not neglect the family and the home. Women themselves have acknowledged women’s full participation in public life and decision-making as complicated. It was also confirmed by a representative sample of males. Yet the solution of this democratic deficit is typically left for a woman herself to arrive at. There does not exist any form of encouragement at the general level; no affirmative action measures have been taken so far despite the fact these are binding under the relevant ratified international instruments. Quotas to secure fair female representation in politics have not been adopted either. Even women themselves frown such steps. This dismissive attitude to the quotas may be a consequence of deeply rooted gender-biased assumptions inherited from the former political regime, with its caricatured pursuit of gender equality and women’s artificial involvement in politics.

SLOVENIA

Recent publication


**THE UKRAINE**

**Scientific institution**

**Ukrainian Centre for Economic and Political Studies (UCEPS)**

УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ ЦЕНТР ЕКОНОМИЧНИХ І ПОЛІТИЧНИХ ДОСЛІДЖЕНЬ (УЦЕПД)

9 Prorizna street, apt. 20
01034 Kiev

Tel.: +038 044 228-8687
Fax: +038 044 244-3453
E-mail: info@uceps.com.ua
Internet: http://www.uceps.com.ua/

Management: Rachok, Anatoliy – general director
Year of foundation: 1994
Staff: 24

**Main fields:** UCEPS is a non-profitable public organisation that carries out its studies in the following areas: domestic policy; social and economic development of the the Ukraine; energy policy; international economy; foreign policy; national security and defence; military reform; international and regional security; peacekeeping. UCEPS goals are:
- to develop the models of social and economic development of the the Ukraine, the mechanisms for realisation of these models;
- to assist in building a constructive cooperation between the different branches of state power;
- to assist in reforming the Ukraine’s state military organisation, which shall be effective, sustainable and subject to democratic civilian control;
- to improve the relationships among the state authorities, local communities, and the public;
- to facilitate well informed, substantiated, and effective decision-making process within the government;
- to establish good working relationships with leading foreign analytical centres and non-governmental organisations;
- to provide unbiased independent information to the public.

**Research topics:**
- Social and economic situation in the Ukraine and prospects for its development;

- Maintaining political and social stability in the Ukraine during the transition period;
- the Ukraine in a context of global economy: a modern situation and prospects;
- the Ukraine and the European Union: a modern status and prospects for cooperation;
- Shadow economy and organised crime in the Ukraine;
- Constitutional process in the Ukraine: problems and prospects;
- The Ukraine's Armed Forces: current state and problems of reforming;
- Mass media: freedom of speech and state authorities in the Ukraine;
- Religion, community and the state authorities in the Ukraine;
- Economic and foreign policy priorities of Ukrainian political parties;
- Military reform in the Ukraine: start, or another false start?
- International image of the Ukraine: myths and realities;
- Reform of the Ukraine's insurance system: conceptual background;
- The Administrative reform in the Ukraine: will the closed circle be broken?
- The Ukraine on the international markets: problems and prospects
- The Ukraine's relations with NATO within the context of European security

**Surveys:** The Centre conducts the public opinion polls in all 27 regions of the the Ukraine.

**Publications/papers:** The Centre offers full text publications at its Internet site (see below). It publishes (in English) the journal “National Security and Defence” which contents can be found via http://www.uceps.com.ua/eng/-journal_e.html

**Services:** UCEPS provides the following analytical materials: monitoring of the national security threats; political analysis and strategic forecast; analytical reports, bulletins, and articles; opinion poll results; timely commentary for mass media on the most urgent issues.

**Events:** UCEPS organises seminars, conferences, workshops and round-tables.

**Publications online**

The following full text publications (in English) can be loaded in PDF or in text format via http://www.uceps.com.ua/eng/publications_e.html

- Bychenko, Andriy; Polyakov, Leonid. 2000. *How much of NATO do the Ukrainians want?*

• Grytsenko, Anatoly. 2000. *Government program: does anything like this exist?*

• Korniyevskiy, Oleksandr. 2000. *Unemployment in the Ukraine; estimates and forecasts.*

• Sidenko, Volodymyr. 2000. *the Ukraine’s export potential: the priorities of integration.*

**Call for Papers**

**EASTERN EUROPE**

**III International Conference "Democracy and Education"**

Ministry of Education and Science of the Ukraine - Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State - Montclair State University (USA) and Kirovograd State Pedagogical University (the Ukraine) are pleased to announce a Call for Proposals for participation in the III International Conference, "Democracy and Education" to be held at the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Kiev, the Ukraine in June 1-2, 2001. Proposals will be accepted in the following areas:

• Democratization of higher education.
• Critical thinking and democracy.
• Democratization of the university curriculum.
• Democratization of educational administration.
• Democracy in the pre-school/primary/secondary classroom.
• Faculty development programs in the sphere of democratization of education.
• Civic development in a democratic society.
• Community of Inquiry and the fostering of democracy.
• The role of education in democratic societies.

Guidelines for submitting proposals:

Proposals can be submitted in English, Ukrainian or Russian.

Send a 200 - 400 word abstract by January 1, 2001 by email, mail or fax to:

Cunningham@hotmail.com

The mail address is:

Dr. Marina Cunningham, Director
Global Education Center
Montclair State University
Upper Montclair, NJ 07043

Fax: (973)-655-7654

Following notification of acceptance, the selected speakers will be asked to submit the full text of their presentations (2,500 words maximum) for publication in the Conference Proceedings.

**Call for Papers**

**Women’s work – an inter-Balkan workshop**

Gjirokastër, Albania, 20-22 September 2001

The past 10 years have brought changes to women’s work, what is regarded as women’s work, and how it is valued in all the post-communist states of southeast Europe. This workshop will bring together social scientists from the Balkan area who are researching women, and those with a practical interest in all aspects of women’s work, to present their findings, share knowledge and experiences, and to make visible to a wider public (professional colleagues, students, policy makers and others) the work done by women, and women’s many achievements.

Research projects relating to this broad field are underway in several Balkan countries. Early results from some of them were presented at the Conference on Gender and Rural Transformations in Europe, Wageningen, the Netherlands, in October 1999. This workshop will provide an opportunity to present further results within a specifically Balkan context and to further develop contacts with a view to facilitating exchanges and future cooperation.

The workshop will run over three days in Gjirokastër, southern Albania. Most of the programme will consist of paper sessions with discussion, but there will be plenty of opportunity for informal discussion.

It is intended that contributions to the workshop will be published.

It is envisaged there will be no more than 20 – 30 participants. Detailed information will be sent to all participants in summer 2001.

Provisional applications and submissions of papers are invited. Please indicate your name, title of the proposed paper, address, institutional affiliation (if any), fax number and e-mail and send to

E-mail: beryl3@klan.zzn.com and by
Fax: 00355 726 3776,
marked: Për Edlirën

The final date for receipt of abstracts is 31 May 2001. The final date for receipt of bookings is 31 August 2001.

**Call for Papers**

**Law and Society Association and Research Committee on Sociology of Law (ISA)**

Joint Meetings, July 4-7, 2001
Budapest, Hungary
The fifth joint meeting of the Law and Society Association and the Research Committee on Sociology of Law (of the International Sociological Association) will be hosted by Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, Wednesday, July 4 through Saturday, July 7, 2001.

The Program Committee invites proposals for presentation and discussion of all aspects of research linking law and society, whether or not they are specifically related to the meeting theme. In addition to proposals for sessions, individual papers, and discussions of books, the Committee is also encouraging the continuation of the activities of last year's collaborative research networks (CRNs) and the formation of new CRNs. In all of these areas, proposals from scholars who have not previously attended our meetings are especially encouraged. The setting and the theme should provide a unique opportunity for vigorous and stimulating exchange.

For more and detailed information visit:
http://www.lawandsociety.org/
or directly:
http://www.lawandsociety.org/ann_mtg/am01/call.htm

WESTERN EUROPE

EUROPE-ASIA / OSTEUROPA Lecture Competition

The journals EUROPE-ASIA STUDIES (Glasgow, Scotland, UK) and OSTEUROPA (Aachen, Gernany) invite submissions for the fourth Annual EUROPE-ASIA /OSTEUROPA Lecture to be delivered in May 2001 in Aachen/Cologne and at the Institute of Central and East European Studies, University of Glasgow.

The name of the lecture refers to Europe-Asia Studies, formerly Soviet Studies, and to Osteuropa, the two major international journals in the field of Russian, Central and East European studies. The lecture will subsequently be published in both journals. The goal of the lecture is to spot young and particularly promising researchers in the field of Central and East European studies (social scientists and historians) working in these countries and to present them to the worldwide academic community involved in "transition studies" and history.

In 1998 the competition was won by Oleg Kharkhordin ("Civil Society and Orthodox Christianity"), in 1999 by Vladimir Gel'man, ("Russia's Regional Politics in Comparative Perspective"), and in 2000 by Serguei Oushakine who spoke on "In the State of Post-Soviet Aphasia".

Europe-Asia Studies and Osteuropa invite young scholars (approximately 28 to 40 years old) educated and resident in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (including the Baltic states, Russia and other CIS countries) to submit a Draft Lecture no longer than 2000 words which is to be the basis for the lecture to be delivered in May 2001 in Aachen/Cologne and in Glasgow.

This Draft Lecture can be a summary of recent work and should particularly highlight creative research tools or techniques, new theory or creative use of archival material by the applicant. Since the lecture will be presented in English, the applicant must have a good command of spoken English.

The author of the winning application will be invited to deliver the lecture in Glasgow and in Aachen/Cologne and will stay in each place for three days; travel and accommodation expenses will be met by the two journals.

Applications should include the Draft Lecture, a one-page curriculum vitae including date of birth, a full list of publications of the applicant (each in 3 copies) and his or her mailing address, preferably including email and fax number.

Applications are to be sent to:
The Editor, Europe-Asia Studies
The University of Glasgow,
29 Bute Gardens Glasgow, Scotland
G12 8RS, UK

Applications sent by fax or email will not be accepted. The deadline for applications is 1 January 2001. The winning applicant will be informed by 1 March 2001.

For further information, please visit the websites at
http://www.osteuropa.rwth-aachen.de
http://www.gla.ac.uk/icees

RESER - Réseau Européen Services et Espace

or Space & Services European Network - are looking for collaboration partners in East Central Europe and Eastern Europe to exchange ideas and do research on services (producers services, consumer services) from an economic, sociological, cultural, geographical etc. perspective.

Contact: www.reser.net -
or Dr. Christof Ellger, Institut für Geographische Wissenschaften der FU Berlin, Malteserstr. 74-
Research cooperation

With INTAS funding, a two year international project was started in April 2000 under the title **Comparative Analysis of Charismatic Political Leadership in Russia, the Ukraine and Belarus: Its emergence, mobilisation and sustainability.**

This project will explore charismatic political leadership, and the conditions that promote its successful realisation in the newly democratised states of Russia, Belarus and the Ukraine. It is hypothesised that charismatic leadership is a likely characteristic of the contemporary political environment of the above countries, and therefore, plays a major role in determining their prospect of achieving a sustainable democratic future.

These countries are still in the process of stabilisation and are experiencing considerable economic and political difficulties. Therefore, it is important to explore the contribution of charismatic leadership to the process of democratisation, and its effect on the dynamics of the transitional path of these countries.

The eventual results should shed important light on both methodological and practical questions of the sustainability of charismatic leadership in post-communist democracies. It is hypothesised that strong authoritarian legacies and recent economic-political upheavals support the discourse of personal/strong leadership. This research is designed to contribute to an understanding of the logic and mechanics of political leadership in its extreme form and, through this, to envisage how to overcome possible difficulties in the relationship to the process of democratisation.

**Project Co-ordinator:**
Professor Roger Eatwell
University of Bath, European Research Institute Bath, BA2 3AE, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 1225 826826x5269
Fax: +44 1225 826381
E-mail: mlsre@bath.ac.uk
Internet: [http://www.bath.ac.uk/~mlpeak/member.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/~mlpeak/member.htm)

Partners of the international team are:
- Prof. Nikolai Churilov, Centre of Public and Marketing Research SOCIS, SOCIS Gallup Ltd., Kiev, the Ukraine,
  E-mail: steg@socis.freenet.kiev.ua
- Prof. Serghei Vladimirovich Tumanov, Director of the Social Studies Center, Moscow State University, Centre for Sociological Studies, Vorobjovy Gory, Moscow 11 98 99, Russia
- Prof. Anne de Tinguy, Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris, Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches Internationales, Department of Comparative Study of Democratic Transitions in Post-Communist Europe, E-mail: anne.detinguy@ceri.sciences-po.fr
- Prof. David Rotman, Belorussian State University, Centre of Social and Political Research, F. Skoriny Ave. 4, 22 00 50 Minsk, Belarus

**Recent publication**

**Directory of University Institutes in Germany dedicated to the research on Eastern Europe**
(Verzeichnis der universitären Osteuropafor- schung in Deutschland)
Available at the Office of the German Society for East European Studies, Schaperstr. 30 D-10719 Berlin
Tel.: +49-30-21 47 84 12
Fax: +49-30-21 47 84 14
E-mail: dgo@zedat.fu-berlin.de
**CONFERENCES**

**Announcement**

**The World and Russia**
2nd International Congress “Third Millenium”

*Date: 02.01.-09.01.2001*

*Conference site: Rome, Ischia Island, Italy*

*Organiser: Holyland*

*Contact: Third Millenium*

*Kudrinskaya square 1*

*RU-123242 Moscow, Russia*

*Tel.: +7095-252-58-28*

*Fax: +7095-255-60-85*

*E-mail: holyland@org.ru*

*Internet: http://www.holyland.ru*

**Knowledge, Information and Democracy in the Open Society: the Role of the Library and Information Sector.**
9th International BOBCATSSS Symposium on Library and Information Science

*Date: 29.01.-31.01.2001*

*Conference site: Vilnius, Litauen*

*Organiser: Vilnius University, the Faculty of Communication in co-operation with Oslo University College, the Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science*

*Contact: Univ. of Vilnius*

*Caulėtekio al. 9, I rumai*

*Tel.: +370-2-36 61 00*

*Fax: +370-2-36 61 04*

*E-mail: irena.buracaite@kf.vu.lt*

*Internet: http://www.bobcatsss.com*

**Romania: A Crossroads of Europe**
Seventh International Conference

*Date: 3.-7. July 2001*

*Conference site: Iasi, Romania*

*Organiser: Center for Romanian Studies*

*Topics: Accepted topics will include those focusing on cultural, literary, political, commercial, diplomatic, military, and historical contacts between Romania and the wider world. Papers dealing with all time periods are welcomed. Deadline for Paper Proposals: 1 March 2001*

*Contact:*

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4 The printed information on conferences is an extract from the Internet conference calendar of the GESIS Branch Office: http://www.berlin.iz-soz.de/events/esterneurope/tagung.htm

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**Sharing Tools for Personal/Global Harmony**
9th Annual International Conference on Conflict Resolution

*Date: 10.-20. May 2001*

*Conference site: St.Petersburg, Russia*

*Organiser: Sponsored by Common Bond Institute (USA) & Harmony Institute (Russia), in cooperation with the Association for Humanistic Psychology*

*Topics: This joint US/Russian sponsored event focuses on all aspects of conflict resolution and transformation, from the intrapersonal - to the interpersonal - to relationships between groups, organizations, cultures, and societies - and ultimately between us and other species. Submissions requested by: 3-1-2001. More detailed information can be obtained directly from the organiser*

*Common Bon Institute (USA)*
Steve Olweean or Sandra Friedman, Co-coordinators
12170 S. Pine Ayr Drive, Climax, Michigan 49034

*Tel./Fax: 616-665-9393*

*E-mail: solweean@aol.com*

*Internet: http://ahpweb.org/cbi/home.html*

**Post-socialist sessions at Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers Annual Conference**

*Date: 02.01.-05.01.2001*

*Conference site: Plymouth, United Kingdom*

*Organiser: Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers (RGS-IBG)*

*Topics:*
- Post-Socialism: (dis)-continuities
- Russia 'ten years after' and post-Yeltsin
- Airbrushing the past? History, memory and (place) identity formation in post-socialist transformation
- Post-graduate research on post-socialism
- Reflections on “Socio-Nature”: new approaches to human-environment interactions (joint with DARG)
- Gender into the future (Joint with WGSG)*

*More detailed information can be obtained directly from the organiser: Dr. Mike Bradshaw, Univ. of Bir-

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Viorica Rusu, Program Coordinator
Center for Romanian Studies
Oficiul Postal 1
Casuta Postala 108
6600 Iasi, Romania

Fax: 40-32-219010

E-mail: csr@romanianstudies.ro
Announcement

Annual Conference of the PSA Specialist Group on Communist and Post-Communist Politics

Date: 10.02.2001
Conference site: London, United Kingdom
Organiser: PSA Specialist Group on communist and Post-Communist Politics
Contact: Dr. Aleks Szczerbiak, Univ. of Sussex, Sussex European Institute
Arts A Building
Falmer, Brighton BN1 9SH
Tel.: +44-1273-678 443
Fax: +44-1273-678 571
E-mail: a.a.szczerbiak@sussex.ac.uk

Information Society and Intellectual Information Technologies in the 21st Century

Date: March 2001
Conference site: Moscow, Russia
Organiser: The British Council in Russia and First Socio-Engineering Park “Future of Russia” with the support of many national and international organizations
Contact: Eugeny Smirnov
Tel.: +7 095-754-53 15
E-mail: Future_Russia@turandot.ru
Internet: http://www.futurerussia.ru
or:
Elena Bouianova
Maly Nikolopescovy per, 3
RU-121002 Moscow, Russia
Tel./Fax: +7 095-241 23 30/ 241 10 82

BASEES 2001
Annual Conference of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies

Date: 06.-09. April 2001
Conference site: Cambridge, Great Britain
Organiser: British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies
BASEES is the UK’s foremost academic and professional body in Central European and Russian Studies. This UK-based organisation brings together academics and others who are concerned with the region, its history, culture and contemporary development. Of special interest for the 2001 conference are papers discussing Central Europe in the context of EU enlargement within the social sciences streams of the conference but so too are other aspects of transformation, its impact on society and politics. The organisers welcome conference contributions particularly from doctoral students presenting work-in progress papers (also from Central Europe).

Contact: Prof. Dr. George Blazyca
E-mail: george@blazyca.freeserve.co.uk
or: George.blazyca@paisley.ac.uk
Internet: http://www.gla.ac.uk/external/basees

Announcement

Joint Sessions of Workshops of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

Date: 06.04.-11.04.2001
Conference site: Grenoble, France
Organiser: ECPR
Topics:
1. Political Transformations in Soviet Successor States: The States of the CIS in Comparative and Theoretical Perspective
2. Centres and Peripheries in a Changing World
3. Organised Crime and the Challenge to Democracy
4. Democracy and the New Extremist Challenge in Europe
Identity Politics

Contact: Clare Dekker/ Sandra Thompson/
Christine Wilkinson
Univ. of Essex, ECPR, Wivenhoe Park
Tel.: +44-1206 87 25 01
Fax: +44-1206 87 25 00
E-mail: ecpr@essex.ac.uk
Internet: http://www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr/jointsessions/grenoble.htm

Announcement

Times - Places – Passages. Ethnological Approaches in the New Millennium
Seventh International Congress of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF)

Date: 23.04.-29.04. 2001
Conference site: Budapest, Hungary
Organiser: International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF)
Announcement

Enterprise in Transition: Competitiveness, restructuring and growth
Fourth International Conference

Date: 24.05.-26.05.2001
Conference site: Split, Croatia
Organiser: Faculty of Economics Split
Contact: Univ. of Split, Faculty of Economics Radovanova 13
21 000 Split, Croatia
Tel.: +385-21-362 465 or +385-21-366 033
Fax: +385-21-366 026
E-mail: eitconf@efst.hr
Internet: http://www.efst.hr/eitconf

Announcement

Corruption: A Threat to World Order
Eighth Annual Conference of the International Police Executive Symposium (IPES)

Date: 25.-30.05.2000
Conference site: Szczyno, Poland
Organiser: State University of New York, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice; Police Academy, Szczyno, Poland
Contact: Police Academy
Ul. Swierczewskiego 111
PL-12-100 Szczyno
Tel.: +48-69-621 59 00
Fax: +48-69-624 26 10
E-mail: wspol@kgp.waw.pl
Internet: http://www.friends-partners.org/ccsi/announce/ipes.htm

Announcement

Democracy and Education
III International Conference

Date: 01.-02.06.2001
Conference site: Kiev, the Ukraine
Organisers: Ministry of Education and Culture of the Ukraine, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State, Montclair State University, USA
Contact: Dr. M. Cunningham, Montclair State Univ. Global Education Center
Fax: +1-973-655 76 54
E-mail: CunninghamM@Mail.Montclair.edu

Announcement

International Cooperation in the New Millennium. ABDOS 2001

Date: 04.-07.06.2001
Conference site: Torun, Poland
Organisers: Thorn Wojewodschafts- and City Library "Nikolaus Kopernikus" (WBP), the South-eastern Europe Society (SOG) in Munich and the Working Group of Libraries and Documentation Centres Researching Eastern, Central Eastern and South-eastern Europe (ABDOS) at the State Library in Berlin.
Conference language: German, English, Russian

Topics:
• Progress and problems with transition in the countries of Eastern, Central Eastern and South-eastern Europe, in particular with regard to EU membership.
• Opening up smaller cultures to Europe.
• The literature of national and linguistic minorities and ethnic groups in Poland and other countries of Central Eastern Europe: Forms and Extent, Bibliographical Proof, Collections
• Opening up specific literary collections, e.g., Germanica, Judaica, Polonica, Rossica, in particular so-called scattered and secured stocks, and enabling open access to them.
• International academic relations between the transitional countries and with Western European partners, in further education institutions, libraries, archives and other similar academic institutions.
• International cooperative or parallel bibliographical projects on Eastern European research, e.g., between Poland and Germany.
Deadline for suggestions of contributions: 15th December 2000
Contact: Dr. Franz Görner
Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin-Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Osteuropa-Abteilung
D-10772 Berlin
Fax: +49-30-266 24 04
E-mail: franz.goerner@sbb.spk-berlin.de

Announcement

Tenth International Bakhtin Conference

Date: 23.-27.07. 2001
Conference site: Gdansk, Poland
Organiser: Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, University of Gdansk

Topics:
1. Ethics and esthetics in Bakhtin's work.
2. Questions of historiography and historiosophy in Bakhtin's work: the problem of historical process in literature and art.
4. Bakhtin's philosophical language. Methodological problems in the production of a 'Bakhtin thesaurus'.
5. 'Plurality of languages and singularity of philosophy.' Bakhtin in translation. Variations in the reception of Bakhtin.

More detailed information can be obtained directly from the organiser Prof. Dr Boguslaw Zylko
Instytut Filozofii i Socjologii Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego
ul. Bielanska 5
PL-80-851 Gdańsk
Tel.: +48 58 301 22 08
E-mail: jezbz@paula.univ.gda.pl or zylko@poczta.wp.pl
Conference report

Democracy and Rule of Law in the Context of Political Science Development in Slovak and Czech Republic

Date: 22 - 23 September 2000
Organizer: The international conference was organised by the Department of Political Science at Comenius University (Bratislava) in co-operation with the Slovak Political Science Association on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of establishing the first political science university department since 1989.

Professor Miroslav Kusy, the first political science department chair, focused in his presentation Human Rights in the Process of Transformation to Democratic and Pluralist Society and their Incorporation into Political Science on progress made by the Slovak society in the field of human rights legislation and its implementation since 1989.

Despite many unsatisfactory developments, Prof. Kusy considered the growing role of non-governmental organisations as a positive development.

The present department chair, Professor Sona Szomolányi summarised in her presentation Current Problems of Political Science. The emergence of political science as an academic discipline in Slovakia has been long and difficult. For reasons of historic timing and institutional context, the process has been slower than in other Central and Eastern European countries.

Politics first became an object of intellectual interests thanks to the individual efforts of a few authors who differentiated the idea of political activity from the full range of social actions.

During the period of building communism, which lasted 41 years, the theoretical approach to politics was favoured neither by politicians nor by social scientists. Political science did not exist. Instead there was scientific communism dealing with particular events of politics.

There was a first attempt to introduce political science as a discipline in the late 1960s at the Comenius University in Bratislava. The so-called normalisation period following the Soviet intervention in August 1968 meant that the whole country was effectively centralised both economically and politically under the control of the Communist Party, and political science as an academic subject completely disappeared being labelled as ‘bourgeois non-science’.

The most significant change after the collapse of communism has been the establishment of basic education and research institutions in political science. The main obstacle in the process became a lack of teachers, scholars and experts educated in the field.

Former dissident and university professor, Miroslav Kusy became a leading figure in the development of political science in Slovakia. He was elected as the first chairman of the renewed Slovak Political Science Association, as well as the Head of the Political Science Department at the Comenius University. Gradually teachers and scholars from other social sciences came to join education and research in the field of political science - they were mainly converted marxist-leninists, philosophers, sociologists, historians, lawyers. Some of them completed their education in political science through western scholarships and study trips abroad.

Political science activity takes place mostly within the universities, but a distinction must be drawn between universities which offer only basic courses in political science within the framework of a compulsory minimum in humanities and social sciences and those that offer political science as a major with diploma.

The job market for graduates in political science has remained quite large. There is no visible competitiveness between graduate political scientists and other social scientists on the job market yet. Political scientists are generally perceived as flexible to gain required skills in different areas due to their combined study with journalism, history, philosophy or other subjects. In addition, students of political science are forced to actively communicate in foreign languages which is not always the case in other university subjects.

The development of Political Science as an academic discipline has led on the one side to the introduction of political science to the Slovak university system as it is usual with universities around the democratic world. This rapid growth has had also negative implications on the students and on the teaching staff, low ranking compared to law and economics and quality deficits in the professional body of teaching.

Nevertheless and in spite of all these problems, some departments and research groups are already capable to compete in the international arena, as it appears from the exchange programmes and international research projects in which they are involved.

Taking 1990 as the date of a new start for political science in Slovakia, it appears that a first stage has been completed: official university degrees, discipline recognition, increase in staff recruitment, organisation of departments and institutes, first steps in international collaboration, building-up of a professional association, etc. But there still remains much to be done.

The plenary session was followed by four parallel panels:
That there is a very specific set of conditions and historical experiences which differentiates the Central and East European democratic transition and consolidation process from the Western model and also from other, more recent democratic regime changes was one of the main conclusions of the conference. The Western model has functioned in the early years as a helpful example, but to continue to strive after it as the only acceptable model could turn out as counterproductive to Central and East European countries’ democracies. However, there are also many differences among the individual countries of the region, most notably in historic legacy, make-up of the population and the natures of the past communist regime. Another important observation is that democratisation is not a static notion, but an ongoing process.

The final plenary presentation was made by the President of the Slovak Political Association (SPSA) Dagmar Horna, who informed participants about recent accomplishments of the SPSA. In January 2000, the SPSA organised the 6th regional conference of political science associations from the Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Austria where the establishing of the Central European Political Science Association – CEPSA was initiated. Political scientists from Slovakia actively contribute into the European Thematic Network Political Science activities with the ambition to improve discussion and cooperation in education, research, PhD studies, labour market for political scientists etc.

Ten Years in Freedom: Transition and Consolidation of Democracy in Central Europe
International Conference in Budapest
30.10.-01.11. 2000

The conference "Ten Years in Freedom: Transition and the Consolidation of Democracy. The Case of Central Europe 1990-2000" was a long awaited opportunity for those who follow the trends of the past to take stock. The three-day conference was jointly organised by the 20th Century Institute in Budapest with the support of the Hungarian Parliament.

The organisers invited the most outstanding experts of social and political transformation: political scientists, researchers of transitology, jurists, historians and sociologists. This multidisciplinary approach made it possible to draw a complex picture of the democratic transition and of the process of stabilisation. The conference was an excellent forum for sharing new findings and the recently discovered facts, and for the studying of the causes and consequences of the democratization process and for the articulation and discussion of new theories.

The conference provided an opportunity for the scholars to analyse the factors of the democratization process and compare certain groups, political forces and institutions in the different countries. The purpose of the conference on the one hand was to assess the
most important theories of government change, system change and transition, and on the other hand to determine, for a scientific research, those important questions and problems that are so far unanswered. The conference was both retrospective and prospective. It was national, international and global in scope.

It is envisaged to publish the papers presented at the conference in English and in Hungarian in three volumes of the "Handbook of Transition and Consolidation of Central European Democracy".

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- The questionnaires, codebooks and data of the study "Social Stratification in Eastern Europe After 1989: General Population Survey (SSEE)" are now available in the web free of charge. It is provided by the Czech Data Archive (SDA): http://archiv.soc.cas.cz/SSEE/SSEE_intro.html

The SSEE is funded with grants from the U.S. National Science Foundation (SES 9111722 and SBR 9310395), the U.S. National Council for Soviet and Eastern European Research (806-29), and the Dutch National Science Foundation [NWO]. In addition, various grants supported the research in individual countries. The principal Investigators are Ivan Szelenyi, UCLA Donald J. Treiman, UCLA. As part of the project "Social Stratification in Eastern Europe after 1989," sample surveys were conducted in 1993 and 1994 in six countries: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Russia, and Slovakia using a questionnaire common to all countries. The integrated data set is prepared by the Eastern European Group, Dept. of Sociology, UCLA.

- Selected results of the Transition Barometer Eastern Europe (TBO) 1997-2000 are available at: http://www.uni-koeln.de/extern/fores/

The TBO is sponsored by the Otto Wolff foundation and the Johann and Margarete Ley foundation, and conducted by the Office for Empirical Research on Social Economics, Cologne. The TBO each year measures important economic indicators reflecting the process of reforms and comparing the situation in the reforming countries. It analyzes the general economic set-up as well as public opinion and attitudes concerning the reforms. The most important results are presented in the internet in short form. This abridged version of selected results is based on publications of the Transition Barometer of Eastern Europe, published by Campus.

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