

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH CENTRE KOPER
Institute for Historical Studies

invites to the

International conference

**CROSSING THE LINES
BETWEEN MARXISM AND
CHRISTIANITY
IN THE 20TH CENTURY
EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE**

15th–16th April 2021
Koper, online

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 15th APRIL 2021

9:00–9:10

Online meet-and-greet

9:10–9:30

Opening remarks

Rado Pišot, Egon Pelikan, Jure Ramšak

9:30–11:00

Chair: Jure Ramšak

Egon Pelikan (Science and Research Centre Koper):
*Marxism and Christianity and the Confrontation
between Their Political Representations in Slovene
Territories during the 1930s*

Bojan Žalec (University of Ljubljana): *Ušeničnik's
Social Model: Critique of Capitalism, Christian Socialism
of Solidary Personalism, and the Utopia of Religious
Renewal*

Irina Gordeeva (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary
History Potsdam & St. Philaret's Christian Orthodox
Institute, Moscow): *The Tolstoyans' Criticism of Marxist
Thought and Bolshevik's Revolution in the Transnational
Press of the Religious Pacifist Movement of the 1920–
1930s*

Discussion

11:30–13:00

Chair: Bojan Žalec

Gašper Mithans (Science and Research Centre Koper):
*Christian Socialism, the Slovene Journal "Beseda o
sodobnih vprašanjih" (1932–1935) and the Perception
of Social Crises by "the Lost Generation"*

James Robertson (University of California Irvine):
*Between Lenin and Maritain: Edvard Kocbek's
Engagement with Interwar Marxist Thought*

Bojan Godeša (Institute of Contemporary History,
Ljubljana): *Edvard Kocbek's "Mission to Align European
Christianity with Communism"*

Discussion

14:00–15:30

Chair: Petar Dragišić

Mateja Režek (Science and Research Centre Koper):
*Searching for a Dialogue between Christianity and
Marxism in the Post-Revolutionary Slovenia*

Jože Pirjevec (Science and Research Centre Koper):
*Metamorphosis of an Agent of the Yugoslav Secret Police
(UDBA): From a Marxist Dogmatist to a Humanist*

Vedran Obućina (University of Regensburg): *Red
Friars: Relationship between Bosnian Franciscans and
Communist Party in Yugoslavia*

Discussion

16:00–17:00

Chair: Pál Hatos

Michael Zok (German Historical Institute Warsaw): *“The Family Is the Basic Cell of Society”. Family, Reproduction, and Demography in Political Thought of Communists and Catholics in Post-war Poland*

Sabrina P. Ramet (Norwegian University of Science and Technology & Science and Research Centre Koper): *God, Sex, and Christian Religion*

Discussion

17:30–19:00

Keynote lecture

Piotr H. Kosicki (University of Maryland): *Reading Marx in an Era of Counter-Reformation? Cross-Iron Curtain Sketches from the Encounter between Christianity and Marxism in the 1950s and 1960s*



The conference is organised within the research project J6-9353 *The Engagement between Marxism and Christianity in Slovenia, 1931–1991*, and the research programme P6-0272 *Mediterranean and Slovenia*, co-financed by the Slovenian Research Agency.

9:30–11:00

Chair: Anja Zalta

Ladislav Beneš (Charles University, Prague): *The Christian Peace Conference as a Result of Christian and Political Negotiations in a Socialist State*

Agathe Jacquin de Margerie (Paris Institute of Political Studies): *Blurring the Lines between Theology, Academic Debate and Political Activism: The Austrian Paulus-Gesellschaft and Its Advocacy for Dialogue in the Late 1960s*

Radmila Radić (Institute for Recent History of Serbia): *The Yugoslav Authorities and the Christian-Marxist Dialog of the Second Half of the 1960s and the Beginning of the 1970s*

Discussion

11:30–13:30

Chair: Sabrina P. Ramet

Pál Hatos (University of Public Service, Budapest): *“The French Connection”*

Petar Dragišić (Institute for Recent History of Serbia): *Yugoslavia and the Second Vatican Council: Perceptions and Expectations*

Hrvoje Klasić (University of Zagreb): *Cardinal Tisserant’s Visit to Yugoslavia in 1968 in the Light of Relations between Yugoslavia and the Holy See*

Árpád von Klimó (The Catholic University of America): *Dialogue or Confrontation? Cardinal Mindszenty in Vienna 1971–75*

Discussion

14:30–16:30

Chair: Árpád von Klimó

Dirk Schuster (University of Potsdam): *Christianity in the Eyes of Communist Research- and Party Representatives in the GDR and Austria*

Jure Ramšak (Science and Research Centre Koper): *A Close Flirtation with the Revolution: Slovenian Left-Wing Catholics, the Vatican’s Ostpolitik, and a Test of Faith for Socialist Self-Management*

Anja Zalta (University of Ljubljana): *Dialogue between Christians and Marxists in Slovenia in the 1980s - Historical Materialism and/or Marxism as a Worldview*

Eva Guigo-Patzelt (Sorbonne University Paris): *“An Inner-Marxist Dialogue on the Dialogue”: East German Marxist Scholars Facing the Pitfalls of an Exchange with Christians*

Discussion

17:00–18:30

Chair: Gašper Mithans

Sielke Beata Kelner (Leiden University): *From Capitol Hill to Jilava Prison: Christian Transnational Activism, the Case of Father Calciu-Dumitreasa, and Us-Romanian Diplomatic Relations*

Barbara M. Martin (University of Basel): *From the Komsomol to the Church: Conversions to Orthodoxy among Soviet Youth in the 1970s–1980s*

Maja Kaninska (University of Ljubljana): *The Orthodox Church in the Socio-Political Transformations of the Socialist Countries – Yugoslavia, Romania*

Discussion

18:30–19:00

Pavel Kolář (University of Konstanz): *Concluding discussion*