ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Few would dispute the fact that the revolutions of 1989/91 which brought about the downfall of communist regimes in Central and Eastern Europe were emotionally charged events. Historical studies of the events of 1989/91, however, have focused mostly on presumably “rational” politics rather than the role of emotions. This workshop aims to amplify existing research on the political history of 1989/1991 by taking up a perspective inspired by recent work in the history of emotion and adjacent fields such as the history of subjectivities and the body. The workshop also aims to explore longer term perspectives on the changes in emotional regimes leading up to and resulting from the events of 1989/91.

The workshop is supported by the Department of History at the LMU Munich and the Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies.

Organization

Dr. Jan Arend
Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies
Maria-Theresia-Straße 21
81675 Munich
jan.arend@lrz.uni-muenchen.de

Dr. Franziska Davies
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Department of History
Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1
80539 München
franziska.davies@lrz.uni-muenchen.de

Venue

Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies (library)
Maria-Theresia-Straße 21
81675 Munich
PROGRAMME

Friday, November 3, 2017

13:00 Registration of Participants

13:30 – 14:00 Welcome and Introduction
Jan Arend and Franziska Davies

14:00 – 16:00 Panel I: The Transformation of Emotional Regimes in the Soviet Union During Perestroika
Courtney Doucette: The Emotional Regime of the Soviet Public Sphere
Aleksey Tikhomirov: Stigmatized Identities, the Quest for Dignity and Tearing Off the Mask during Perestroika

Commentary: Jan Plamper
Chair: Franziska Davies

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:00 – 18:00 Panel II: Emotions and the Breakdown of Communist Regimes in Europe
James Krapfl: »On This Holy Emotion We Must Found the Future of the ČSSR«. Emotion, Sacrality, and Narrativity in Revolutionary Czechoslovakia, 1989-92
Valerij Gretchko: Subversive Laughter: The Role of Political Humor in the Collapse of the USSR

Commentary: Walter Sperling
Chair: Jan Arend

19:00 Joint Dinner

Saturday, November 4, 2017

9:30 – 11:30 Panel III: Emotions Before and After Communism
Konrad Sziedat: Cross-Bloc Emotional Communities. Western Solidarity with Eastern Dissidence, ca 1980-1994
Kathrin Zöller: »Do I Have to Fear the Future?« Teenagers in Saxony, 1987-1995

Commentary: Joachim Häberlen and Malte Rolf
Chair: Jana Osterkamp

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 Concluding Discussion