



Programme, Version 11 October 2022

Keynote Lecture on The Road to Totalitarianism

Tuesday 01 November, 16:30 – 18:30

16:20 Opening of the Zoom meeting room

16:30 **Words of Welcome**
Alice Modena, EuroClio Deputy Director

16:35 **Keynote Lecture on the Road to Totalitarianism**
hosted by Adéla Gjuričová, Czech Academy of Sciences

The keynote lecture will open with a short remark on totalitarian theory, its influence and limits. The main part of the lecture will then be devoted to an explanation of the key aspects of establishing, preserving, and challenging the communist dictatorship in Czechoslovakia, addressing topics such as the post-war historical context, including ethnic expulsions, the role of government institutions in legitimizing the communist rule, practical aspects of life under communism, and the system crises and eventual collapse. Implications for current democratic challenges will be drawn throughout the lecture.

About Adéla Gjuričová

Adéla Gjuričová is a senior researcher at the Institute of Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague. She focuses on politics and society during the late socialist era,

*all times are indicated in CET (Amsterdam Time). To check the time in your own time zone, please use the time zone converter at this link: <https://www.thetimezoneconverter.com/>

the 1989 revolutions and post-communist transformations in Central Europe. She is the head of the Institute's Political History Department and coordinator of the EuParl.net, an international network of researchers in parliamentary history. Currently she leads the "City as a Laboratory of Change", a large interdisciplinary project within the Strategy AV21 scheme of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

17:30 **Q&A Session** with participants

18:00 End of the day

Workshop on The Facade of the Totalitarian Regime

Tuesday 8 November, 16:30 – 18:30

16:20 Opening of the Zoom meeting room

16:30 **The Facade of the Totalitarian Regime**

Workshop hosted by Vojtěch Ripka and Josef Řídký, Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes

Our first workshop focuses on the institutions of totalitarian governance, as they manifested in everyday life as well as during key political events. Participants will get insight into political rituals, means of propaganda, but will also discover how totalitarian regimes hid behind seemingly democratic façade, all this while working in an online learning environment and with historical sources. The seminar will help develop understanding of how a totalitarian society can claim some basic legitimacy; or how a democratic society can slip into totalitarianism.

18:15 End of the day

Workshop on Institutions of Violence, Violence of Institutions

Wednesday 22 November, 16:30 – 18:30

16:20 Opening of the Zoom meeting room

16:40 **Institutions of Violence, Violence of Institutions**

Workshop hosted by Vojtěch Ripka and Josef Řídký, Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes

The second workshop will focus on the universal topic of immigration in its unfortunate form of expulsion, collective guilt, and ethnic discrimination. In spite of their proclaimed internationalism, communist regimes oftentimes resorted to discriminatory, if not outright racist policies. Sometimes, however, the communists were merely following a policy that had been established long before they took power. This leaves a powerful message: when democratic regimes violate human rights, they usher their own demise. Participants will work in an online learning environment and with era sources from across the former Eastern Europe.

About the Workshop Hosts

Vojtěch Ripka, is a researcher at the Department of Education at the "Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes", Prague, Czech Republic. He has published on topics of social science methods, comparative history of social politics, and transitional justice. He is a co-author of Socialism Realised (socialismrealised.eu) and Historylab.cz online learning tools and a collaborator of Historiana.eu. He has been working on teacher instruction and educational tool development since 2008.

Josef Řídký is a lecturer and a developer at the Department of Education at the "Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes", Prague, Czech Republic. He specializes on topics related to historical consciousness and current didactics of history. He is a co-developer of Socialism Realised (socialismrealised.eu) and Historylab.cz online learning tool.

18:15 End of the day

Feed Forward and Exchange Session

Tuesday 06 December, 16:30 – 18:30

16:20 Opening of the Zoom meeting room

16:30 **Feed Forward and Exchange Session on How do we teach about totalitarianism in the context of the current events in Ukraine?**
Sharing Session hosted by the EuroClio Secretariat

Our webinar series will conclude with a sharing and discussion session on how teaching about past totalitarian regimes is influenced by current events while, at the same time, influencing our understanding of these. Using the knowledge acquired during the webinar series, the visual sources available on Historiana and Europeana, and the resources collected by EuroClio throughout 2022 to teach about the current events in Ukraine, participants will discuss teaching methodologies, challenges, and opportunities to engage with the past to understand the present.

18:30 End of the day