





'THE PAST IS THE BATTLEGROUND OF OUR CONTEMPORARIES'

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

TO MARK THE EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY OF VILÉM PREČAN

CZERNIN PALACE, PRAGUE, 24-25 JANUARY 2013

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Thursday, 24 January 2013

09:00-09:30 Registration

OPENING

Moderator: Oldřich Tůma

09:30-09:40 Welcome

09:40-09:55 Petr PITHART/ A Man in the Midst of the Times: Thinking and Acting

09:55-10:10 Milan DRÁPALA/ An Historian's Long and Winding Road to and through Contemporary History

Coffee & cake

BLOCK 1 THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Moderator: Jiří Kocian

- 10:30-10:45 Ivan KAMENEC/ Problems of the Interpretation of the History of the Wartime Slovak State
- 10:45-11:00 Peter HEUMOS/ The Organization of Social Interests and the Second World War: The Example of Czechoslovakia
- 11:00-11:15 Andrzej PACZKOWSKI/ The Second World War in Present-day Polish Memory and Politics

11:15-11:30 Jan NĚMEČEK and Jan KUKLÍK/ The British and the Transfer of the Germans out of Czechoslovakia, 1942–44

11:30-12:00 Discussion

Lunch

BLOCK 2 SLOVAKIA, CZECHO-SLOVAK RELATIONS

Moderator: Dušan Kováč

13:15-13:30 Mark KRAMER/ The Establishment of Communism in Slovakia

13:30-13:45 Roman HOLEC/ 'You Have Your Gibbon. We Have Our Nejedlý': Observations of a British Diplomat Travelling in Slovakia, 1958–59

13:45-14:00 Vojtech ČELKO/ Vilém Prečan and Milan Šimečka in the Light of Their Correspondence in the Early Years of Normalization Policy

14:00-14:15 Jan RYCHLÍK/ Slovak-Czech Talks on Demarcating the Czechoslovak Border, 1993–96

14:15-14:45 Discussion

Coffee & cake

BLOCK 3 EXILE

Moderator: Jacques Rupnik

15:15-15:30 Samuel ABRAHÁM/ A Czechoslovak in Hard Times

15:30-15:45 Vladimír GONĚC/ From the Debates amongst Exiles in the 1980s: The Concept of 'Central Europe'

15:45-16:00 Tomáš VILÍMEK/ Emigration as Protest: New Research Possibilities

16:00-16:15 Antonín KOSTLÁN/ Concerning Czechoslovak Exiles in the Years of the Communist Régime

16:15-16:45 Discussion

SOCIAL EVENT AT THE CZECH MUSEUM OF MUSIC

from 18:00, Karmelitská 2/4, Malá Strana, Prague (by invitation)

Friday, 25 January 2013

09:00-09:30 Registration

BLOCK 4 DISSENT AND OPPOSITION

Moderator: Samuel Abrahám

- 09:30-09:45 Svetlana SAVRANSKAYA/ Prague Spring 1968 and Charter 77 as Inspiration for Soviet Dissidents
- 09:45-10:00 Jiří SUK/ The Present of History, the History of the Present:

 Archivist, Editor, and Historian of Dissent

10:00-10:15 Jacques RUPNIK/ Historian of Dissidents, Dissident Historian 10:15-10:40 Discussion

Coffee & cake

BLOCK 5 BUILDING THE DISCIPLINE OF CONTEMPORARY HISTORY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Moderator: Oldřich Tůma

- 11:00-11:15 Vít SMETANA/ Defining Contemporary History
- 11:15-11:30 Dušan KOVÁČ/ Metamorphoses of the Idea of the Nation State in the Twentieth Century
- 11:30-11:45 Malcolm BYRNE/ Thoughts on the Contribution of Czech and Slovak Historical Materials to a Common Understanding of the Global Cold War
- 11:45-12:00 Bedřich LOEWENSTEIN/ Historiography, a Risky Occupation 12:00-12:30 Discussion

CLOSING REMARKS

Moderator: Oldřich Tůma

12:30-13:15 Thomas BLANTON and Vilém PREČAN

Lunch

