

**Complex Parliaments in Transition:
Central European Federations Facing Regime Change**

International Workshop, October, 16, 2015

Institute of Contemporary History, Slovenia, Ljubljana, Kongresni trg 1

PROGRAM



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The collapse of socialist regimes in 1989-1990 set off multifaceted processes of democratic reforms and social and economic transformations. In some of the East-Central European countries, these transformations were even more complex due to their federal structure. Originally, the Soviet, Yugoslav or Czechoslovak federal systems had been projected for "engineered" socialist equalities of the member nations, while following the regime change of late 1980s, this basic precondition ceased to exist and various parts of federations began to express interests, use powers, build party systems and create ethnic publics.

The workshop will explore some of these examples in detail, through comparing the transformations of three federal countries' parliamentary systems in the early 1990s – the Czechoslovak, Yugoslav and German one. In Czechoslovakia, strong legal continuity between the socialist, revolutionary and post-socialist era created fascinating blends of the three images of parliament. The German case is ever more described through the colonization metaphor, which is interesting to test on the example of the East German Volkskammer. In Yugoslavia, where the already loose federal system kept getting looser, the individual federal republics with its own socialist parliaments eventually became the only really important political actors in the process of system and state disintegration (what was the role of federation and federal assembly?).

9.00 – 9.15

WELCOME WORD

Jure Gašparič (for the organizers)

Damijan Guštin (director of the Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

9.15 – 10.00

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Adéla Gjuríčová (Institute of Contemporary History, Prague, Czech Republic)

» *Coming to (Short) Life: The Czechoslovak Parliament 1989-1992*«

10.00 – 10.45

Petr Roubal (Institute of Contemporary History, Prague, Czech Republic)

» *Velvet Revolution in The Czechoslovak Federal Assembly*«

10.45 – 11.00 **COFFEE BREAK**

11.00 – 11.45

Tomáš Zahradníček (Institute of Contemporary History, Prague, Czech Republic)

» *The federalization of a federal parliament*«

11.45 – 12.30

Jure Gašparič (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

» *Last Socialist Parliament in Slovenia - pale "ratification body" or important political decision maker*«

12.30 – 14.00 **LUNCH** at TaBar, Ribji trg 6, Ljubljana

14.00 – 15.00 **VISIT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (Državni zbor Republike Slovenije)**

15.00 – 15.45

Simona Kustec Lipicer (Faculty for Social Sciences, Ljubljana; Member of the National Assembly of the Republic Slovenia)

»*Political (dis)ideology in the contemporary parliamentary arena in Slovenia*«

15.45 – 16.30

Stevo Đurašković (Faculty for Social Sciences, Zagreb, Croatia)

»*Design of the Federalism in the Socialist Yugoslavia: The EU before the EU?*«

16.30 – 16.45 **COFFEE BREAK**

16.45 – 17.30

Bettina Tuffers (Kommission für Geschichte des Parlamentarismus und der politischen Parteien, Berlin, Germany)

»*The 10. Volkskammer - Only the pupil of a West German teacher?*«

17.30 – 18.15

Aron Buzogany (Otto Suhr Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

»**The Europeanization of Executive Federalism in Germany: The Role of Parliaments**«

19.30 **DINNER** at Gūžina, Mestni trg 19, Ljubljana

Workshop is organized by

Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana



In cooperation with

The European Information and Research Network on Parliamentary History



Kommission für Geschichte des Parlamentarismus und der politischen Parteien, Berlin



Institute of Contemporary History, Prague



Organizing Committee

Jure Gašparič,
Andreas Schulz,
Adéla Gjuričová,
Mojca Šorn,
Jurij Hadalin