

Need to Know XII and IIHA conference 2023

Intelligence and security on border regions
and spheres of influence

Graz (Austria), 17th to 19th October 2023



17TH OCTOBER YOUNG RESEARCHERS FORUM N2K/IIHA

UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ, RESOWI CENTER,
WING F, 4TH FLOOR, ROOM SR 15.4BIN

14:00 – 16:00 **Young Researchers Forum**

Chair: Sylwia Szyc (Institute of National Remembrance)

Moderators: Thomas W. Friis (University of Southern Denmark), Władysław Bułhak (Institute of National Remembrance)

Stefanie Kirchweger: Austrian-Israeli Intelligence Cooperation

Mohamed Mohamady: Soviet Strategy in Africa

Monika Stachoń: The imperial game in the Middle East. The coup in Iran in 1953

Christoph Huber: Soviet- Austrian trade through Americans eyes

Jon Thulstrup: Bund Deutscher Nordschleswiger: Surveillance of the German Minority in Denmark

18TH OCTOBER CONFERENCE, DAY 1

CASTLE OF ST. MARTIN

Introduction 9:00-9:30

Moderation: Dieter Bacher (LBI for Research on Consequences of War)

Barbara Stelzl-Marx (LBI for Research on Consequences of War, University of Graz)

Karol Polejowski (Institute of National Remembrance)

Shlomo Shpiro (International Intelligence History Association)

Peter Ruggenthaler (LBI for Research on Consequences of War)

9:30-10:00 Keynote Speaker: Michael Lohnegger (Direktion Staatsschutz und Nachrichtendienst, DSN)

10:00-11:30 – PANEL I: Case study 1: Austria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia as a “border region”

Chair: Barbara Stelzl-Marx (LBI for Research on Consequences of War, University of Graz)

Dieter Bacher (LBI for Research on Consequences of War): Connecting dots. Complementary methods in researching Czechoslovakian intelligence in Austria during the early Cold War

Philipp Lesiak (LBI for Research on Consequences of War): Networks and Neutrality. Early Cold War Austria and the Czechoslovak Legacy

Daniel Belousek (Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces of Czech Republic): Sending couriers to Czechoslovakia as a part of anti-communist resistance in the first half of the 1950s

Magdolna Barath (Historical Archives of the Hungarian State Security): In the Shadow of the Iron Curtain. The Austrian-Hungarian Border between 1948 and 1965

11:30 – 11:45 coffee break

11:45 – 13:15 **PANEL II: Case study 2: Ukraine and Beyond**

Chair: Peter Ruggenthaler (LBI for Research on Consequences of War)

Bernhard Escherich (Independent scholar): From need to know to ability to generate: Generative AI and the future of intelligence history research on borders and spheres of influences

Thomas Boghardt (U.S. Army Center of Military History): Project AERODYNAMIC. CIA covert Operations in Ukraine, 1949-1953

Ivo Juurvee (International Centre for Defense and Security): GRU Tactical PSYOPS in Ukraine – do they play by Soviet handbook?

David Jaklin (University of Graz): The paramilitary – intelligence nexus of Group Wagner and its role in the war in Ukraine

13:15 – 14:30 lunch break

14:30 – 16:00 **PANEL III: Cross-border operations. International Intelligence Cooperation and Rivalry**

Chair: Wolfgang Krieger (University of Marburg)

Mark Kramer (Harvard University): Soviet Intelligence Operations in the NATO-Warsaw Pact Border Regions

Jacek Tebinka (University of Gdansk): Rumours about Soviet attack on Romania in November 1968. Intelligence and decision making during the Cold War

Nadia Boyadjieva (Institute for Balkan Studies, Bulgarian Academy of Science/Davis Center at Harvard University): Intelligence Operations in Balkan Border Regions during the Cold War

Tilman Lüdke (Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institut): Across and Beyond Ideological Borders: The Org. Gehlen/ BND between Israel and the Arab States, 1945 – 1968

16:00 – 16:15 coffee break

16:15 – 17:30 **PANEL IV: Border Guard units and Intelligence**

Chair: Charlotte Backerra (University of Göttingen)

Yaacov Falkov (Tel Aviv University): A Vital Contributor to the Country's National Security": Intelligence Activity of the Soviet Border Guard Forces, 1957-1991

Agnes Jobst (Historical Archives of the Hungarian State Security): The Reconnaissance Department of the Hungarian Border Guard Force in the People's Republic of Hungary

Paul Maddrell (Loughborough University): The Stasi and the inner-German border, 1950-1989

17:30 – 18:30 – Annual meeting IIHA (members only, there is a possibility to join IIHA during the conference)

19:00 - reception and dinner at the castle

19TH OCTOBER CONFERENCE, DAY 2

CASTLE OF ST. MARTIN

09:00 – 10:30 **PANEL V: Intelligence-centred hubs during WWII and Cold War**

Chair: Bernd Schaefer (Woodrow Wilson Center)

Thomas Riegler (Austrian Center for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies): From „Shooting gallery“ to neutral ground: Cold War Vienna as a contested sphere of influence and intelligence hub

Adrian Hänni (FernUni Schweiz; Donau-Universität Krems): Switzerland as an Intelligence Hub and Borderland from World War I to the Present

Ali Dogan (Otto-Suhr-Institute): The importance of East Berlin for Iraq's intelligence operations in Europe

Tommy P. Christensen (AOF Næstved & Susaalandet): A thin Blue line. The Baltic Sea as a border region in the Early Cold War

10:30 – 10:45 coffee break

10:45 – 12:00 **PANEL VI: Communist security apparatus and counter-intelligence**

Chair: Jan Goldman (The Citadel)

Kristina Burinskaitė (Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania): „Invisible“ war in Lithuania in 1944-1953: „Games“ of Soviet secret services and Lithuanian partisans

Corina Snitar (University of Glasgow): “Need to Know” during the 1956 crisis within the Soviet Block

Paweł Jaworski (University of Wrocław): "Stay particularly sharp". Surveillance of Baltic Sea border in Poland after WWII

Przemysław Gasztold, Władysław Bułhak (Institute of National Remembrance):
Need to Know: Polish intelligence and crises in the Middle East during the Cold
War

12:15 – 13:15 lunch break

13:15 – 14:45 PANEL VII: “Shallow intelligence” and Counterintelligence

Chair: Ivo Juurvee (International Centre for Defense and Security)

Aleksandar Zivotic (University of Belgrade): Intelligence agents, spies,
saboteurs and security services. A „small war” on the Yugoslav-Albanian
border (1948-1953)

Barak Bouks (Bar-Ilan University): Hezbollah's Terror Perpetrations Across
the Israeli-Lebanese Border: Incursions, Rocket Launching & Construction
of Tunnels

Shlomo Shpiro (International Intelligence History Association): The Cross
Affair: Israeli Intelligence Early Cold War Cross-Border Operations

Marek Hańderek (Institute of National Remembrance): Crossing borders or
building walls? Polish military intelligence under the cover of the Neutral
Nations Supervisory Commission in South Korea 1953-1956

14:45 – 15:00 coffee break

15:00 – 16:30 **PANEL VIII: Cases and Methods**

Chair: **Anna Abelmann** (International Intelligence History Association)

Kevin Riehle (Brunel University London): Soviet Border Guard Defectors

János Kemény (University of Public Service): Intelligence Defectors in the Cold War: The Forgotten Case of Ernő Bernát

Grzegorz Wołk (Institute of National Remembrance): Polish marielitos? General Jaruzelski's failed emigration operation. The perspective of the secret services

Tomasz Kozłowski (Institute of National Remembrance): Open sesame! A secret operation of stealing American diplomatic cables by Polish counterintelligence: scale, consequences, analysis of the collection of stolen documents

16:30 – 17:00 End of the conference and the presentation of the next conference venue and idea



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