

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

DIRECTION – STALINISM

A POSTWAR SIGNPOST FOR CENTRAL
AND EASTERN EUROPE

May 28-29, 2025

IPN's President Lech Kaczyński Central History Station
at 107 Marszałkowska Street in Warsaw



Photograph by Władysław Hasior from the series „Roadside Poetry”;
The Dr. Tytus Chałubiński Tatra Museum in Zakopane



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28 May 2025

9:30 — 10:00 Introduction

Chair: Tomasz Kozłowski (Institute of National Remembrance)

10:00 — 12:00 Panel I: Sovietization

- 10:00 — 10:20 **Aleksandar Životić (Belgrade University, Serbia):** Interrupted Sovietization. Ideological and Political Strongholds of the Yugoslav Experience of Stalinism (1944—1948)
- 10:20 — 10:40 **Mirosław Szumiło (Institute of National Remembrance / Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland):** Communist Power Elites in Poland and Czechoslovakia in 1948—1953. An Attempt at Comparison
- 10:40 — 11:00 **Adam Dziuba (Institute of National Remembrance, Poland):** „Revolutionary Vigilance”. The Origins and Consequences of the Third Plenary Debate of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers’ Party (11—13 November 1949)
- 11:00 — 11:20 **Artur Troost (University of Warsaw, Poland):** Stalinism as a Directive Not Only for Central and Eastern Europe. The Hardening of the Course of Western Communist Parties in the Early Post-War Period

12:00 — 12:15 — Break

12:15 — 13:55 Panel II: The Foundation of the Governance: the Security Apparatus

Chair: Władysław Bułhak (Institute of National Remembrance)

- 12:15 — 12:35 **Nadia Boyadjieva (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria):** The Soviet Union, the Bulgarian State Security Apparatus, and the Imposition of Stalinist Rule in Bulgaria (1944—1949)
- 12:35 — 12:55 **Paweł Sztama (Institute of National Remembrance / Museum of Cursed Soldiers and Political Prisoners of the Polish People’s Republic, Poland):** „The Security Organs of the Polish Committee of National Liberation Also Work Badly [...]”. On the First Cadres of the Communist Security Service in Poland (1944/1945)
- 12:55 — 13:15 **Robert Klementowski (University of Wrocław, Poland):** Stalinism — an Episode in the Process of Security Apparatus’s “*Longue Durée*”

13:55 — 15:00 — Break

15:00 — 16:15 Panel III: Economic Planning and Industrialization

Chair: Bogusław Tracz (Institute of National Remembrance)

- 15:00 — 15:15 **Goran Arčabić (Zagreb City Museum, Croatia):** Planned Industrialization in Yugoslavia (1947—1952)
- 15:15 — 15:30 **Thomas Sniegon (Lund University, Sweden):** Czechoslovakia in the Shadow of Hiroshima and the Gulag
- 15:30 — 15:45 **Magdolna Baráth (Historical Archives of the Hungarian State Security, Hungary):** Laying the Economic Foundations of the Proletarian Dictatorship in Hungary

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9:00 — 11:20 Panel IV: Ideology and Propaganda

Chair: Rafał Opulski (Institute of National Remembrance / The Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow)

- 9:00 — 9:20 **Mario Jareb (Croatian Institute of History, Croatia):** The Imposition of Communism in Croatia/Yugoslavia at the End of the Second World War Through the Eyes of the First Croatian/Yugoslav Dissident Bogdan Radica
- 9:20 — 9:40 **Klejdi Këlliçi (University of Tirana, Albania):** The Politicization of Motherhood in the Early Years of Socialism in Albania
- 9:40 — 10:00 **Monika Wiśniewska (Institute for the History of Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland):** „State children.” Institutional Child Care in Socialist Countries as Exemplified by the Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic
- 10:00 — 10:20 **Bogusław Tracz (Institute of National Remembrance, Poland):** Stalin's Cities as Part of the Personality Cult
- 10:20 — 10:40 **Tomislav Anić (The Catholic University of Croatia, Croatia):** The Court as an Organ in the Struggle Against the Class Enemy: Judiciary, Private Property, and the Seizure of Assets in Croatia/Yugoslavia after World War II

11:20 — 11:40 — Break

11:40 — 13:40 Panel V: Diplomacy and Internationalism in the Stalinist World

Chair: Adam Dziuba (Institute of National Remembrance)

- 11:40 — 12:00 **Anna Patecka-Frauenfelder (University of Łódź, Poland):** In Anticipation of a Peace Treaty with Germany. The Polish Press and the Post-War Reality in Germany
- 12:00 — 12:20 **Rafał Opulski (Institute of National Remembrance / The Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow, Poland):** The Socio-Political Situation in Central and Eastern Europe in the Light of the Reports of the Diplomatic Missions of Poland in the First Years of Stalinism
- 12:20 — 12:30 **Konrad Rokicki (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland):** The Forms and Content of Poland's Communist Diplomacy in the First Post-War Decade
- 12:30 — 13:00 **Sylvia Szyc (Institute of National Remembrance, Poland):** The Burden of Internationalism. Eastern Bloc Countries Towards the Korean War (1950—1953)

13:40 — 14:30 — Break

14:30 — 16:00 Panel VI: Towards Destalinization

Chair: Grzegorz Wołk (Institute of National Remembrance)

- 14:30 — 14:50 **Mark Kramer (Harvard University, USA):** Stalin's Death and Outbreaks of Mass Unrest in East-Central Europe, May—June 1953: A Reassessment
- 14:50 — 15:10 **Paweł Sasanka (The Witold Pilecki Institute of Solidarity and Valor, Poland):** The Crisis of the Party Bureaucracy as an Element of the Crisis of the System of Power in Poland in 1955—1956
- 15:10 — 15:30 **Paul Maddrell (Loughborough University, UK):** Walter Ulbricht, the Stasi, and Destalinization

16:00 — End of the Conference



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