The Ukrainian Experiment: State-Building in Practices (1917-1922)

Workshop of LabEx-EHNE Paris,
the GHI in Paris and the IKK Jena

The Ukrainian experiment between 1917 and 1922 is a paramount example of state-building in practices under the conditions of war and civil war. It produced a variety of ephemeral state structures: an « All-Ukrainian » Central Council (Rada), a People's Republic, a People's Republic of Soviets, a Ukrainian Puppet State (Hetmanate) at the mercy of the Central Powers, and a Ukrainian government-in-exile in Paris. In the end, Warsaw and Moscow bluntly divided Ukraine between them, incorporating the western part (the former Austrian province of Galicia) into the Polish Second Republic and the eastern part into Bolshevik Russia. The workshop will question the traditional view of state-building in the wake of the Great War as pursued by either nationalist or socialist zealots. It rather will shed light on the grey zone of negotiation, cooperation, and interdependence of these two major movements of the times. Our choice is to focus less on political or military leaders and more on the bureaucratic elites which were charged to put the theory of state building into practice.

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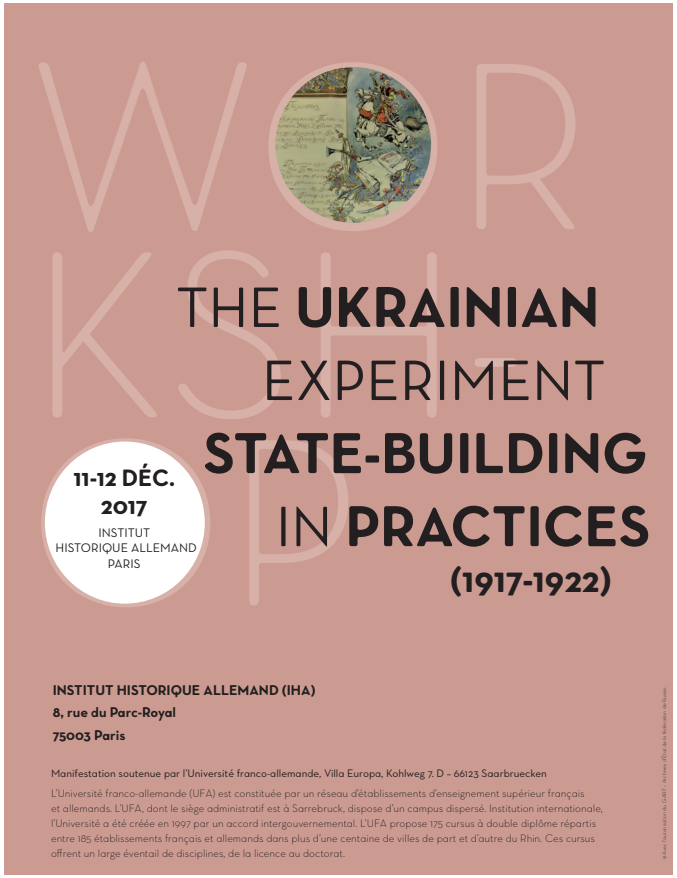
Manifestation soutenue par
l'Université franco-allemande.

L'Université franco-allemande
est constituée par un réseau d'établissements d'enseignement supérieur français et allemands. Créée en 1997 par un accord intergouvernemental, elle propose 175 cursus à double diplôme répartis entre 185 établissements français et allemands.

L'Imre Kertész Kolleg est un institut pour l'étude interdisciplinaire et transnationale des événements historiques du XX^{e} siècle en Europe centrale et du Sud-Est.

L'objectif principal du projet EHNE
est d'éclairer la crise que connaît actuellement l'Europe en reconstruisant une historiographie nouvelle de l'Europe qui s'adresse tout autant au monde scientifique qu'au monde enseignant, aux citoyens et aux politiques.



Université franco-allemande
Deutsch-Französische Hochschule

IMRE KERTÉSZ KOLLEG JENA
Europas Osten im 20. Jahrhundert. Historische Erfahrungen im Vergleich

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DHIP IHA

11 décembre 2017

18:00-18:45 Mikhail Minakov
(Frankfurt on the Oder/Kiev)

Keanote 'Modernizing Ukraine: Revolutions and Distopias in the 20th Century'

Revolution is the event of launching new beginnings in the public sphere, and thus modernity is being constructed through revolution. In the 20th century, Ukraine has gone through a series of revolutions: in 1917/22, 1932/39, 1945/49, 1953/56, 1989/91; however instead leading to modernization, they had – after shortlived progresses – the reverse effect. This lecture will review the logic of socio-political experimentation in 20th century Ukraine and the revolutionary practices in Eastern Europe.

18:45-19:30 Discussion

19:30-21:00 Reception

12 décembre 2017

09:30-10:00 Welcome / Introduction
(Jochen Böhler, Jena/Paris,
François-Xavier Nérard, Paris)

10:00-11:00 Panel 1: The Look 'from Above' and 'from Below'
(Chair: Mikhail Minnakov,
Frankfurt on the Oder/Kiev)

Iryna Vushko (New York)
Ukrainian Nationalism
and State-Building

Dimitri Tolkatsch (Freiburg)
The Ukrainian Peasants
and State-Building
Discussion

11:00-11:30 Coffee/tea break

11:30-12:30 Panel 2: 'The Left'
(Chair: François-Xavier Nérard, Paris)

Serhiy Hirik (Kiev)
The Borotbists and Ukrainian
State-Building

Eric Aunoble (Geneva)
Constructing a Revolutionary State.
The Example of Soviet Ukraine
in Early 1919
Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

12 décembre 2017

14:00-15:00 Panel 3: Violence
(Chair: Jochen Böhler, Jena/Paris)

Stephen Velychenko (Toronto)
"You Can Get a Lot Further
with a Kind Word and a Gun
than with just a Kind Word." Violence,
Propaganda, and State-Building
in Revolutionary Ukraine

Thomas Chopard (London)
Anti-Jewish Violence in the
State-Building of the Directory
(Ideology and Practices)
Discussion

15:00-16:00 Panel 4: Failed Concepts
(Chair: Corine Defrance, Paris)

Jakob Mischke (Vienna)
Scientific State-Building:
Stanislav Dnistrjanskyj's Concepts
for an Ukrainian State
in Eastern Galicia

Immo Rebitschek (Gießen)
Pavel Skoropadskyi's Failed Efforts
of Ukrainian State-Building
Discussion

16:30-17:00 Coffee/tea break

17:00-18:00 General Plenary Discussion

18:00 End of Workshop