

Organizing Institutions: Romanian Cultural Institute / Center for the Study of Post-Communist Societies
Department of Government and Politics - University of Maryland College Park (Comparative Politics
and Political Theory Fields) / Cold War International History Project (Woodrow Wilson International
Center for Scholars), Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies - Edmund A. Walsh School
of Foreign Service (Georgetown University) / Embassy of Romania

IDEOLOGICAL STORMS

Intellectuals and the
Totalitarian Temptation

Day 1 - November 14, 2011 Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20004

9.00 – 10.10 am Welcome remarks

Christian Ostermann

(Director, History and Public Policy Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars)

Keynote address:

Mark Lilla (Columbia University)

Political Innocence and Its Modes

10.15 – 10.25 am – coffee break

10.30 am – 12.10 pm

Avatars of Communism in Europe

Discussant: Cristina Vatulescu (New York University)

Jeffrey Herf (University of Maryland), The Persistence and Passing of an Illusion: Intellectuals and Communism in East Germany and in the West German New Left

Michael David-Fox (Georgetown University), Illusions of Influence and the Mystique of Power: The Fellow-Travelers and Stalin as Philosopher-King

Angelo Mitchievici ("Ovidius" University, Romania), Shadows of Paradise: Romanian Intellectuals and the Soviet Union

Balazs Trencsenyi (Central European University), Hungarian Intellectuals and Communism: Illusions, Revisionism, and Disillusion

12.15 – 1.30 pm – lunch break

1.35 – 3.15 pm

Politics between Revolution and Utopia

Discussant: Ian Ward (University of Maryland)

Richard Wolin (City University of New York), The Anti-Totalitarian Itinerary of Claude Lefort

Stanislao G. Pugliese (Hofstra University), Resisting the Totalitarian Temptation: Carlo Rosselli and Ignazio Silone

Michael Scammell (Columbia University), Arthur Koestler and the Temptations of Utopianism

Jeffrey Isaac (University of Indiana in Bloomington), What Albert Camus Learned About Political Violence

Day 2 - November 15, 2011 – Embassy of Romania
1607 23rd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008

9.00 – 10.15 am: Welcome remarks

Adrian Vierită (Ambassador of Romania to the US)

Horia-Roman Patapievi (President, Romanian Cultural Institute)

Keynote address:

Vladimir Tismaneanu (University of Maryland)

Radicalism, History, and Utopia. Re-reading E. M. Cioran

10.20 – 10.30 am coffee break

10.35 am – 12.15 pm

From Extremes to Disillusion in Eastern Europe

Discussant: Dennis Deletant (Georgetown University)

Constantin Iordachi (Central European University) - Romanian Intellectuals and the Specter of Interwar Fascism

Vladimir Petrovic (Institute of Contemporary History in Belgrade), Yugoslav Intellectuals and the Concept of Ethnic Cleansing

Michal Kopecek (The Institute of Contemporary History, Prague), Czech Intellectuals and the National Road to Socialism

Cristian Vasile ("Nicolae Iorga" History Institute, Romanian Academy), Party Intellectuals and Romanian National Stalinism

12.20 – 2.00 pm lunch break

2.10 – 3.50 pm

Intellectuals and the Challenges of a Century

Discussant: Dick Howard (SUNY)

Nikos Marantzidis (University of Macedonia-Thessaloniki), Greek Intellectuals and the Fascination of Communism: 'The Failed Grafting' (1924-1949)

Jan Werner Mueller (Princeton University), A Post-Post-Liberal Order: Intellectuals and the Reinvention of European Democracy after 1945

Jeffrey Wasserstrom (University of California Irvine), China's Shades of Red--Or How 'Communist' is the Chinese Communist Party?