

Invitation

Workshop

„Notions of Europe:

Communist Policies, Perceptions, and Propaganda Toward European Integration“

Organisation: Institute for Modern and Contemporary Historical Research of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

Friday, 22 April 2016, 14.00 – 16.00

Strohgasse 45/Mezzanine, 1030 Vienna

Programme

Chair and Comment: Günter J. Bischof (University of New Orleans)

Alessandro Brogi (University of Arkansas) – Looking West: the Evolution of the Italian Communist Party toward European Integration and NATO, 1964-1989

Karlo Ruzicic-Kessler – Between Threat and Opportunity: The Yugoslav Communists and Western European Integration

Maximilian Graf (University of Vienna) – The Austrian Communists and Europe: Opposing Integration and Western European Internationalism

Discussion

This Workshop considers the attitude of communist parties toward the Western European integration process. Three case-studies will portray communist-party positions on the scenario of ever closer integration during the Cold War. The Italian Communist Party (PCI) was the most important Western European communist movement, given its influence on national and international politics. Its transition from a stance of opposition to the European Economic Community (EEC) to one endorsing it will be portrayed. In power throughout the Cold War, the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) played a distinctive role in Yugoslav-EEC relations, which spanned a range from distrust and fear of isolation to the search for mutual agreement. Finally the example of the Austrian Communist Party (KPÖ) shows how a party from a neutral country developed its own ideas on European integration during the Cold War.

Registration required:

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