

Need to Know XII/2023 IIHA Annual Conference: Intelligence and Security in border regions

Graz, Austria

17th October - Young Researchers Forum N2K/IIHA, University of Graz, RESOWI center

Young Researchers Forum 14:00 – 16:00

Chair: Sylwia Szyc

Moderators: Thomas W. Friis, Władysław Bułhak

Stefanie Kirchweiger, 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

Anne Rheder, LfV in Schleswig-Holstein

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

18:30 Dinner/Informal Get-Together at the castle St. Martin

18th October – conference, day 1, castle of St. Martin

Introduction 9:00-9:30

Moderation: Dieter Bacher

Barbara Stelzl-Marx, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Research on Consequences of War

Karol Polejowski, IPN *to be confirmed*

Shlomo Shpiro, IIHA

9:30-10:00 Keynote Speaker: Michael Lohnegger (Direktion Staatsschutz und Nachrichtendienst, DSN), *topic to be announced*

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

Chair: Barbara Stelzl-Marx

1. 10:00-10:15 Dieter Bacher, Connecting dots. Complementary methods in researching Czechoslovakian intelligence in Austria during the early Cold War
2. 10:15-10:30- Philipp Lesiak, Networks and Neutrality. Early Cold War Austria and the Czechoslovak Legacy

3. 10:30-10:45 Daniel Belousek, Sending couriers to Czechoslovakia as a part of anti-communist resistance in the first half of the 1950s
4. 10:45-11:00 Magdolna Barath, In the Shadow of the Iron Curtain. The Austrian-Hungarian Border between 1948 and 1965

11:00 – 11:30 discussion

11:30 – 11:45 coffee break

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

Chair: Peter Ruggenthaler

5. 11:45-12:00 Bernhard Escherich, From need to know to ability to generate: Generative AI and the future of intelligence history research on borders and spheres of influences
6. 12:00-12:15 Thomas Boghardt, Project AERODYNAMICI. CIA cover Operations in Ukraine, 1949-1953
7. 12:15-12:30 Ivo Juurvee, GRU Tactical PSYOPS in Ukraine – do they play by Soviet handbook?
8. 12:30-12:45 David Jaklin, The paramilitary – intelligence nexus of Group Wagner and its role in the war in Ukraine.

12:45 – 13:15 discussion

13:15 – 14:30 lunch break

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

Chair: Wolfgang Krieger

9. 14:30 – 14:45 Mark Kramer, Soviet Intelligence Operations in the NATO-Warsaw Pact Border Regions
10. 14:45 – 15:00 Jacek Tebinka, Rumours about Soviet attack on Romania in November 1968. Intelligence and decision making during the Cold War
11. 15:00 – 15:15 Nadia Boyadjieva, Intelligence Operations in Balkan Border Regions during the Cold War
12. 15:15 – 15:30 Tilman Lüdke, Across and Beyond Ideological Borders: The Org. Gehlen/ BND between Israel and the Arab States, 1945 – 1968

15:30– 16:00: discussion

16:00 – 16:15 coffee break

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

Chair: Charlotte Backerra

13. 16:15-16:30 Yaacov Falkov, A Vital Contributor to the Country's National Security": Intelligence Activity of the Soviet Border Guard Forces, 1957-1991
14. 16:30-16:45 Agnes Jobst, The Reconnaissance Department of the Hungarian Border Guard Force in the People's Republic of Hungary
15. 16:45-17:00 Paul Maddrell, The Stasi and the inner-German border, 1950-1989

17:00 – 17:30 discussion

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

1. 09:00-09:15- Thomas Riegler, From „Shooting gallery“ to neutral ground: Cold War Vienna as a contested sphere of influence and intelligence hub
2. 09:15-09:30 Adrian Hänni, Switzerland as an Intelligence Hub and Borderland from World War I to the Present
3. 09:30-09:45 Ali Dogan, The importance of East Berlin for Iraq's intelligence operations in Europe
4. 09:45-10:00- Tommy P. Christensen, A thin Blue line. The Baltic Sea as a border region in the Early Cold War

10:00 – 10:30 discussion

10:30 – 10:45 coffee break

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

Chair: Jan Goldman

5. 10:45-11:00 Kristina Burinskaitė, „Invisible“ war in Lithuania in 1944-1953: „Games“ of Soviet secret services and Lithuanian partisans
6. 11:00-11:15 Corina Snitar, “Need to Know” during the 1956 crisis within the Soviet Block
7. 11:15-11:30 Paweł Jaworski, "Stay particularly sharp". Surveillance of Baltic Sea border in Poland after WWII
8. 11:30-11:45 Przemysław Gasztold, Władysław Bułhak, Need to Know: Polish intelligence and crises in the Middle East during the Cold War

11:45 – 12:15 discussion

12:15 – 13:15 lunch break

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

Chair: Mike Goodman

9. 13:15-13:30 Aleksandar Zivotic, Intelligence agents, spies, saboteurs and security services. A „small war“ on the Yugoslav-Albanian border (1948-1953)
10. 13:30-13:45 Barak Bouks, Hezbollah's Terror Perpetrations Across the Israeli-Lebanese Border: Incursions, Rocket Launching & Construction of Tunnels
11. 13:45-14:00 Shlomo Shpiro, The Cross Affair: Israeli Intelligence Early Cold War Cross-Border Operations
12. 14:00-14:15 Marek Hańderek, Crossing borders or building walls? Polish military intelligence under the cover of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in South Korea 1953-1956

14:15-14:45 – discussion

14:45 – 15:00 coffee break

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

Chair: Anna Abelmann

13. 15:00-15:15 Kevin Riehle, Soviet Border Guard Defectors
14. 15:15-15:30 Kemény János, Intelligence Defectors in the Cold War: The Forgotten Case of Ernő Bernát
15. 15:30-15:45 Grzegorz Wołk, Polish marielitos? General Jaruzelski's failed emigration operation. The perspective of the secret services
16. 15:45-16:00 Tomasz Kozłowski, Open sesame! A secret operation of stealing American diplomatic cables by Polish counterintelligence: scale, consequences, analysis of the collection of stolen documents

16:00 – 16:30 discussion

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