

INSFO News

1

The Newsletter of the ESF programme on the Occupation in Europe: the Impact of National-Socialist and Fascist Rule (INSFO)

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Contents

Introduction

Team 1:
The war for legitimacy in political and cultural life p. 2

Team 2:
The continuity of the churches p. 2

Team 3:
The occupied economies p. 3

Team 4:
The structure of daily life p. 4

Team 5:
The migration of the masses p. 4

Team 6:
The persecution of the Jews and Gentile reactions p. 5

Steering Committee p. 6

Introduction

The programme Occupation in Europe: The Impact of National Socialist and Fascist Rule (INSFO) was launched in September 2000 by the Executive Committee of the ESF. The programme was prepared by the National Socialist Occupation Policy network that has also received support from the ESF. In November 2000 the programme got off to a flying start with a conference in Trento, Italy. From the outset the programme posed two core questions: (1) What is the immediate impact of war and occupation on the lives of the occupied peoples? and (2) What are the consequences of war and occupation during the first phase of postwar reconstruction? The preparatory group has also selected six themes. Careful study of these themes, by six research teams, would yield relevant answers to the main questions.

Since that first conference, the teams have been working hard to produce answers to the core questions. In September 2003 the programme had a very successful mid-term conference in Jachranka, near Warsaw. The participants not only took part in intensive workshops run by the six teams, but also in several plenary sessions discussing three topics relevant to all the researchers.

First, a general discussion took place on the results of the evaluation of INSFO which had been undertaken by the ESF. The generally very positive conclusions of the Standing Committee for the Humanities were unanimously considered an important stimulus for the programme. Second, the team leaders reported on the progress made by the teams since the start of INSFO in general and since November 2002 (the last

meeting of the steering committee) in particular. These contributions enabled a discussion of the so-called milestones and the final publication programme. Third, as recommended in the mid-term evaluation, the participants discussed the six planned monographs that will be published as a series by Berg Publishers.

The steering committee convened during the conference in Poland (September 2003) and agreed that, at its meeting scheduled for the spring of 2004, it would decide, whether to apply for an extension of the programme. At its following meeting in May 2004 the steering committee duly decided to apply for an extension of the programme until 30 June 2005. Subsequently ESF has granted INSFO the extension.

It is clear that INSFO has entered its final phase and the steering committee considers it very important to conclude the programme with a conference. Holding the conference in 2004 would be too early for the majority of the teams. The steering committee prefers to organise the conference in the spring of 2005 (April 28 and 29), when most of the teams will be able to present substantial results of their work. There will also be ample opportunity for a preliminary evaluation of the programme as a whole and a discussion of a possible continuation of the international cooperation.



The tanks of the Leclerc division liberating Strasbourg

Team 1:

The war for legitimacy in political and cultural life

Team Leaders:

**Professor Pierre Ayçoberry (France),
Dr. Martin Conway (UK) and
Professor Peter Romijn (Netherlands)**

Papers that were presented during the workshops in Strasbourg (2001), Gent (2002) and Poland (2003) will be published by December 2004 in a special issue of *Contemporary European History*. The issue will contain five contributions by members of the team, and an introduction.

Team 1's final publication will be a collective piece of work. Team members are invited to contribute to specific chapters and the team leaders will have a heavy responsibility, as well as a mandate, to produce a coherent book. During the workshop in Jachranka, Poland, the chapters of the book were conceptualised as follows.

Chapter 1. Political legitimacy in mid-twentieth century Europe, an introduction

The chapter explores the role of legitimacy in the history of mid-twentieth century Europe, from the crisis of the 1930s to the different political settlements which had emerged in Europe, both east and west, by the end of the 1940s.

Chapter 2. Heritages in legitimacy

The purpose is to link European politics in the first half of the twentieth century with longer-term sources of legitimacy.

Chapter 3. National struggles for legitimacy

Chapter 4. The war for legitimacy at the local level

This chapter will take the book to the level where legitimacy is a very visible force. The local administrative level was the one that most directly and concretely connected individuals, interest groups and communities to the larger administrative and political processes.

Chapter 5. Culture and legitimacy

A thematical exploration of the cultural processes that enabled political communities to negotiate and (re-)constitute political legitimacy during the 1930s and 1940s.

Chapter 6. Legitimacy and the making of the post-war order

The final chapter is intended to discuss the political outcome of the Second World War from the perspective of popular expectations about the performance of post-war regimes.

The team discussed the first drafts of the chapters during its fourth workshop in Amsterdam (20-22 September 2004).

Team 2:

The continuity of the churches

Team Leaders:

**Professor Jan Bank (Netherlands)
and Professor Lieve Gevers (Belgium)**

The leaders and members of the team are engaged in writing contributions to a common publication of the results of their workshops. The volume entitled *Religion in Europe during the Second World War* will be published in the series *Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia* of the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) in 2005.

The monograph on the *Continuity of the Churches in Europe during the Second World War* will be written by the team leaders. The provisional selection of themes is as follows:

Part 1: Pre-war developments

Chapter 1: Church and state/nation in Fascist Italy and National Socialist Germany

Chapter 2: Church and state/nation in western and northern Europe

Chapter 3: Church and state/nation in central and eastern Europe

Chapter 4: Church and state/nation in the Soviet Union

Part 2: Church and state/nation during the Second World War

Chapter 5: Church and state/nation in the occupied countries of central, eastern and southeastern Europe

Chapter 6: Church and state/nation in the occupied countries of western and northern Europe

Chapter 7: Church and state/nation in the satellite states of Germany (Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, Romania, Bulgaria, Vichy France and Denmark)

Chapter 8: Church and state/nation in the occupied parts and free provinces of the Soviet Union

Part 3: Ideology and religious life during the war

Chapter 9: Roman Catholicism

Chapter 10: Protestantism

Chapter 11: Greek and Slav Orthodoxy

Chapter 12: Jewish religion before and during the Holocaust

Chapter 13: Islam

Part 4: Post-war developments

Chapter 14: Religious consciousness in Italy, Germany and Austria after the surrender

Chapter 15: Church and religion in western Europe

Chapter 16: Church and religion in eastern Europe

Chapter 17: Post-war ecumenism

Evaluation: the debate on the attitude of Pope Pius XII and on the policy of the Christian churches.

The fourth annual workshop of the team was held in Rome (30 September-2 October 2004). The theme of this workshop was Religious Life and Theological Confrontation 1939-45.



French priest in Normandy guides American Troops

Team 3:

The occupied economies

Team Leaders:

Professor Richard Overy (UK) and Professor Alice Teichova (UK)

Team 3 intends to produce two books of essays by way of mid-term publications. The first one will include the papers presented at the three workshops that have taken place so far. The second volume will consist of papers that have been presented during the fourth workshop of the team.

The fourth workshop took place in Utrecht, the Netherlands (3-4 September 2004). The theme of this workshop was Reconstruction.



Number of employees in Germany during WW I and WW II

On this occasion the team decided that for the final publication, four team members, who are specialists from western, southern, eastern Europe and Russia, will write papers summarising the themes of the four workshops, and also on some of the themes that were repeatedly discussed in every workshop; for example food production and distribution. The editorial team, which will consist of the team leaders and the acting co-team leader Dr. Hein Kleimann, will rewrite and edit these papers into chapters.

Team 4: *The structure of daily life*

Team Leaders:

Dr. Robert Gildea (UK) and Professor Olivier Wieviorka (France)

The team will produce a book on daily life in occupied Europe that will consist of six comparative chapters as follows:

- Chapter 1. Surviving hunger*
- Chapter 2. To work or not to work*
- Chapter 3. Intimate relations*
- Chapter 4. The school as a cultural interface*
- Chapter 5. Resistance from everyday life to counterstate*
- Chapter 6. Resistance and reprisals*

The team discussed the draft chapters and the introduction at its last workshop that took place in Madrid (30 September-3 October 2004).

A school in Milan occupied by bombed out families



Team 5: *The migration of the masses*

Team Leaders:

Professor Gustavo Corni (Italy) and Dr. Tamas Stark (Hungary)

The papers presented at the first workshop have been published in a special section of the *Annali dell' Istituto storico italo-germanico in Trento XXVII* (2001). Also the essays arising from the second and third workshop have been published in the *Annali dell' Istituto storico italo-germanico in Trento XXVIII*, 2002 and *XXIX*, 2003.



Germans expelled from Belgrade pause in Bratislava, Slovakia

The team has decided that the book will be a collective piece of work, with a number of authors working on a chapter. The contents of the book are as follows.

Chapter 1. Introduction – an analysis of the evolution of the ideas of population transfer from the end of the First World War.

Chapter 2. The plans – reconstruction of various plans and projects to create ethnically and racially homogeneous nations.

Chapter 3. The events/the implementation of the plans – population transfers by National Socialist Germany and Fascist Italy; flight, expulsion of Germans and other population transfers; the fate of displaced persons at the end of the Second World War.

Chapter 4. The experience – the subjective perception and experience of civilians and POWs touched on by these, mostly forced and violent, movements and transfers.

Chapter 5. Memory – collective and individual re-elaboration of such events and traumas in post-war Europe.

The fourth workshop of the team took place in Graz, Austria (9-12 September 2004).

Team 6:

The persecution of the Jews and Gentile reactions

Team Leader:

Dr. Beate Kosmala (Germany)

Papers that were presented during previous workshops have been published in the volume *Facing the Nazi Genocide: Non-Jews and Jews in Europe*, edited by Beate Kosmala and Feliks Tych (Berlin 2004). The volume, which has 12 studies, is conceived as an introduction to a comparative approach to the problem of the persecution of the Jews in the countries ruled or occupied by the Nazis and their allies.

The team's final publication has as working-title: *Facing the Catastrophe – Jews and non-Jews in Europe*. It will present collaboratively written essays, comparing and contrasting the behaviour and attitudes of local people in several countries, facing the Holocaust. The book will have five chapters as follows:

Chapter 1. The implementation of anti-Jewish measures and legislation (Italy and Slovakia).

Special emphasis will be given to the following questions: which anti-Jewish measures and legislation were enacted, when and under what conditions was this done, who took the initiative, how were the laws applied, and how did Gentiles and Jews react.

Chapter 2. The deportation (Netherlands and Germany).

An important aim is to seek similarities and differences in the behaviour and attitudes of people in the occupied Netherlands and in Nazi Germany itself: did people – Jews and non-Jews – react differently, and if so, in which ways?



The major of Lublin ghetto in front of a bulletin board of the Jewish congregation

Chapter 3. The physical violence against Jews perpetrated by Gentiles.

Chapter 4. The persecution of Jews and the Holocaust as reflected in the Jewish and non-Jewish underground press (France and Poland).

One of the central questions is whether there was a real attempt by the underground press in each of these countries to understand the unique situation of the Jews.

Chapter 5. Commissioning the past (Romania and Belgium).

Team 6 had its fourth workshop in May 2004 in Bratislava, Slovakia. On that occasion the team finalised the plan for each chapter of the final publication and decided on the composition of the editorial board.

INSFO Steering Committee

Prof. Wolfgang Benz (Co-Chair)

Technische Universität Berlin
Ernst-Reuter-Platz 7, 9. OG
10587 Berlin
Germany
Tel: +49 30 31423154
Fax: +49 30 31421136
E-mail: zfa10154@mailszrz.zrz.tu-berlin.de

Prof. J.C.H. Blom (Co-Chair)

NIOD
Herengracht 380
1016 CJ Amsterdam
Netherlands
Tel: +31 20 52 33 815
Fax: +31 20 52 33 888
E-mail: j.blom@niod.nl

Prof. Lena Berggren

Institutionen för historiska studier
Umeå universitet
901 87 Umeå
Sweden
Tel: +46 90 786 96 19
Fax: +46 90 14 33 74
E-mail:
Lena.Berggren@histstud.umu.se

Prof. David Cesarani

Department of History
Royal Holloway
University of London
Egham
London TW20 0EX
United Kingdom
E-mail: kcu92@diap.pipex.com

Prof. Hans Fredrik Dahl

Universitetet i Oslo
Institutt for Medier og
Kommunikasjon
Postboks 1093
0317 Blindern Oslo
Norway
Tel: +47 22 85 04 31/00
Fax: +47 22 85 04 01
E-mail: h.f.dahl@media.uio.no

Prof. Waclaw Dlugoborski

Ul. PCK 6/11
40-057 Katowice
Poland
Tel: +48 32 2 516 904

Prof. Hagen Fleischer

P.O. Box 3809
10210 Athens
Greece
Tel: +30 29552060
Fax: +30 17424 8979
E-mail: hagen@acropolis.net

Prof. Luigi Ganapini

Università di Bologna
Dipartimento di Discipline
Storiche
Piazza Risorgimento 6
20129 Milano
Italy
Tel: +39 02 76 00 91 55
Email:
ganapini_l@mail.cib.unibo.it

Mr. José Gotovitch

CEGES/SOMA
Résidence Palace
Wetstraat 155, bus 2
1040 Bruxelles
Belgium
Tel: +32 2 287 48 11
Fax: +32 2 287 47 10
E-mail:
jose.gotovitch@cegesoma.be

Dr. Jouko Jokisalo

University of Oulu
Faculty of Education
P.O. Box 2000
90014 Oulu
Finland
Tel: +358 8 553 3702
E-mail: jjokisal@ktk.oulu.fi

Prof. Georg Kreis

Universität Basel
Europa-Institut
Gellertstrasse 27
4020 Basel
Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 317 97 67
Fax: +41 61 317 97 66
E-mail: georg.kreis@unibas.ch

Dr. Edouard Kubu

Charles University
Institute of Economic and
Social History
Celetna 20
116 42 Prague 2
Czech Republic
Tel: +42 2 244 91111
Fax: +42 2 244 91615
E-mail: eduard.kubu@ff.cuni.cz

Prof. Henry Rousso

Institut d'Histoire du Temps
Présent
Bâtiment Laplace – ENS Cachan
6, Avenue du Président Wilson
94235 Cachan cedex
France
Tel: +33 1 474 06 800
Fax: +33 1 474 06 803
E-mail: rousso@ihp.cnrs.fr

Dr. Karl Stuhlpfarrer

Universität Klagenfurt
Institut für Zeitgeschichte
Universitätstrasse 65-67
9020 Klagenfurt
Austria
Tel: +43 463 2700 2241
Fax: +43 463 2700 2297
E-mail: karl.stuhlpfarrer@uni-klu.ac.at

Dr. Anette Warring

Roskilde University
Department of History and
Social Theory
Postbox 260
4000 Roskilde
Denmark
Tel /Fax: +45 46 74 23 97
E-mail: anew@ruc.dk

Programme Coordinator

Dr. Conny Kristel

Nederlands Instituut voor
Oorlogsdocumentatie
Herengracht 380
1016 CJ Amsterdam
Netherlands
Tel: +31 20 52 33 840
Fax: +31 20 52 33 888
E-mail: c.kristel@niod.nl

ESF Liaison:

Madelise Blumenroeder

European Science Foundation
1, quai Lezay-Marnésia
BP 90015
67080 Strasbourg cedex
France
www.esf.org
Tel: +33 (0)3 88 76 71 51
Fax: +33 (0)3 88 37 05 32
E-mail: mblumenroeder@esf.org

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