

ABSTRACT

Czecho-Slovakia

SZARKA, László: Nation-state Plans and the ‘New’ Europe:

T. G. Masaryk and the Foundation of the Czechoslovak State

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The essay examines the process of the foundation of the Czechoslovak state in the context radicalizing Central-East European nationalisms during World War I. It analyses how Czech and Slovak émigrés managed to achieve – and what role Polish, Serbo-Croatian, and Romanian political groups had had in the fact that – the governments of the Entente Powers opted to dissolve the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy in 1918. On the basis of Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk’s draft plan *New Europe* published in 1918, the author emphasizes the focus on historical German-Slav conflict, and that in the face of expropriation of a concept of Mitteleuropa by Pan-Germanism, one of the most important aims of the Great War was the nation-state transformation of Central Europe.

HALÁSZ, Iván: Nationality Language Rights During the Provisory

Public-law Arrangements in Czechoslovakia: The Reception

of Former Rights and the New Rules between 1918 and 1920

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The study focuses on the first year and a half of Czechoslovak nationalities policy, that is the period before the adoption of the language act in 1920. In theory, the reception of former Austrian and Hungarian legislation was (to have been) applicable, but practice proved to be more complicated. Already at the end of 1918 Slovakia had adopted a legal norm seeking to regulate the official use of the Slovak language and the languages of nationalities. In the Czech part of the country, the highest administrative court interpretation of former Austrian norms had a crucial role. The study therefore deals relatively at length with the foundation of the Czechoslovak Republic and its reception law norms.

**ÁBRAHÁM, Barna: To Leave or Remain? Slovak Dilemmas
in the Autumn of 1918**

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By way of introduction, the study reviews the ideological and politicized 20th-century notion of the foundation of Czechoslovakia, emphasizing that Czech and especially Slovak history studies the sources objectively and broadly, the parallel tendencies, among which not only the Czechoslovak solution had a

chance to be realized. The author presents the three main trends in Slovak state-law thought, their assessment of national self-determination, the secession of Slovaks in October 1918, and their joining the new state. The traditional tendency of loyalty to Hungarian patriotism (Uhrófilism, 'Hungarofilism') had been able to command a large following, but was defeated by the military fall and the successful diplomatic activity of émigrés. The Czechoslovak orientation had been supported by a few only – could indeed hardly have been openly under war law – but became dominant due to the organizations in the USA and Russia, and especially the Czech-Slovak National Council in Paris. The third force was the masses of unorganized industrial labour and their social-democrat leaders. Their natural choice would have been a unified but democratizing Hungary, but the national party leadership, having no sympathy for language and national rights, was gradually alienated from them, and, following the lead of the Austrian-German and Czech socialists, joined the Slovak National Council founded by middle-class parties, and accepted the idea of a Czech-Slovak state.

CŠERNICKÓ, István: Language-ideology Foundations of the Establishment (first) Czechoslovak Republic

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Language ideology has had a prominent role in the creation of modern nation states. The central place of a language – even language making, as evidenced by the successor states of the former Yugoslavia – is an important means of nation building. The study focuses on Czechoslovakism and the ideology behind the Czechoslovak language and its repercussions in Subcarpathia in the period of the birth a Czechoslovak state in 1918–1919. The theoretical justification of the annexation of Subcarpathia to Czechoslovakia found language ideology also useful. In the framework of Pan-Slavism, the similarities between Ruthenian/Ukrainian languages and the Czechoslovak language were regarded as proofs of these languages being the dialects of the same language. The study demonstrates that state language policy, in accordance with political objectives or other aims and interests, sees the similarities and identicalities between languages/ dialects as determining, or, vice versa, differences as defining. Language and language versions thus become not only matters of linguistic but also social, political, cultural, and historical expression. The study shows, on the example of the establishment of the Czechoslovak state, how language ideologies serve as justifications for political decisions and constructions.

KOLLAI, István: Sure these are Just Such Towns. Post-modern History Telling about the Beneš Decree Period in Slovak Memory Culture

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The collective punishment of Slovakia Hungarians – their deprivation of citizenship, prohibition of language use, and deportation – is a series of

events still burdening Slovak–Hungarian relations, which are characterized by tabooing, relativizing or non-discussing in official Slovak memory policy. At the level of cultural memory however, literary works do appear that speak (among others) about this period. The study compares the most influential ones among them. The novels by two Slovak and two Hungarian authors (Ladislav Ballek, Pavol Rankov, Lajos Grendel, and Péter Hunčík) represent a history telling born in a characteristic, post-modern condition, and formulate several dilemmas and questions about the ‘years of deprivation’ (of civil rights) in their own ways. It is of particular interest in the novels that the scenes of the authors in their youths are the same (Léva [Levice] and Ipolyság [Šahy]), and the personal worlds of the authors and the subjective sources of their memories can thus be compared on several counts.

On the Frontiers

JANKÓ, Ferenc – JOBBITT, Steven: The Geographic Discovery of Burgenland. Science and Regional Identity Policy in the Interwar Years 95

The study focuses on the role of geographic knowledge creation in the scientific exploration of Burgenland after World War I and in grounding the identity of the region. On the basis of popularizing and scientific literature available, the study discusses the descriptions for sometimes literal geographic discovery, touristic and homeland appreciation, and, with the rise of German imperial ideology, geopolitical rediscovery purposes separately. In the countless examples cited, various individual, scientific and political motives worked in the discursive process producing knowledge, and the explorers of the area followed different objectives and strategies in grasping the geographical essence of Burgenland. The legitimacy of the area in the face of Hungary could be weighed as could the need for endowing it with a new Austrian identity, claiming similarities with Alpine Austria, or, on the contrary, emphasizing its different easterly or transitional traits.

Review

ROGOJANU, Dumitru-Cătălin: Legionary Movement or Nepotism at the Romanian Institute in Berlin during World War II

Irina Matei – Lucian Nastasă-Kovács: *Cultură și propagandă. Institutul Român din Berlin (1940–1945)*, Editura Mega, Cluj, 2018

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TIMOCE-MOCANU, Cosmina: The Gusti School and Migration

Rostás Zoltán – Florentina Țone (ed.): *Despre migrație și emigrație la*,
Editura Paideia, București, 2018

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HORVÁTH, Valéria: Industrialization of Migration

Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen – Ninna Nyberg Sorensen (eds.): *The Migration Industry and the Commercialization of International Migration*, Routledge,
New York, 2013

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