

FORUM HISTORIAE 1/2022

Intellectuals and the "national question" in the post-1918 East Central Europe

Issue editors: Barbora Buzassyová and László Vörös

In the recent years we have witnessed many debates about the status and future direction of the intellectual history. In its broadest definition, intellectual history embraces the study of intellectuals, ideas and intellectual patterns over time. For many, it represents a vanishing discipline, set aside by more fashionable approaches of social and cultural history. These theoretical disputes were, however, almost exclusively led by western scholars, which led to marginalization of the voices and insights of Eastern European practitioners of intellectual history. Our aim is to explore the viability of this approach as a means of broader understanding of East European contemporary history. The majority of discussions about European history were occupied by the idea of nation, which shaped the intellectual discourse in this region since the 19th century up to the present times. In contrast to the former ventures into this topic, in our attempt to grasp the enduring character of nationalist tradition in Eastern Europe we would like to focus on what Friedrich von Hayek once called "second-hand dealers of ideas": scholars, philosophers, historians, journalists, writers and other intellectual groups and figures more than professional politicians. We intend to analyse the circumstances which allowed that "national question" survived the various political regimes and the roles intellectuals played in this process.

The manuscripts should focus on following topics:

- intellectual writing as a tool for legitimization, dissemination and preservation of nationalist tradition
- how intellectual writing contributed to making up nationalist discourses, how these discourses evolved and were transformed in the changing (political) climate
- what vocabularies and discursive strategies were employed to translate the "national question" into different political contexts
- how intellectuals constructed their relationship with the national ideology pressed upon them by political elites
- variants of "national tradition" and various understandings of the "nation" developed by different intellectual groups
- what intellectuals sought through engagement with these ideas

Submission deadline: 20 March 2022

Submissions

Language: English

Length: 15 to 35 standard pages (1800 characters per page)

Style: submissions must follow the "Style Manual for the Authors"

(<http://www.forumhistoriae.sk/en/dokument/instructions-authors>) (manuscripts that do not comply will be rejected or returned upon receiving for correction)

All submissions should be sent to (both) email addresses:

barbora.buzassyova@savba.sk;

histvoro@savba.sk