

Editorial Introduction

Meyer Weinshel

University of Minnesota

As has been the case for the past five years, the CEY continues to publish outstanding undergraduate research from the many disciplines within Central European Studies. With the appearance of the CEY's sixth volume, I am excited to share another excellent collection of articles that showcase the breadth and depth of undergraduate research today. Eight articles appear in this issue, which is an astounding number considering the challenges we and our students faced only a few years ago during the pandemic. My editorial team and I are grateful for this volume's authors and readers, and for their continued interest in the Central Europe Yearbook.

As we continue to broaden the scope of the journal, I am also pleased to highlight scholarship in not only the field of History, but also in other fields such as German and Russian Studies. We hope this will encourage undergraduates and recent graduates from a variety of fields to submit their work for review, whether it be an article-length paper, historiographical essay, translation, or multimedia project.

When perusing the titles of this volume, and upon a closer reading of the articles, it is undeniable that many of these scholars and their work are in dialogue with one another. There are resonances to our current moment, and sometimes frighteningly so. Two of this year's articles appear in German, a friendly reminder that the CEY also publishes in other languages besides English. **Harper Crosson** addresses an important chapter in Viennese history, particularly for Red Vienna, when socialists influenced by Julius Deutsch sought to meld working-class and mass politics with sport, albeit with mixed results. **Arushi Nair**, the issue's other German-language author, combines personal experiences and their own scholarly interventions to discuss the supposedly egalitarian and radical spaces of Berlin's night club scene. Both papers address different temporal moments in two distinct cultural capitals in Central Europe, but both address how utopian politics often fail to reach imagined outcomes. The editors of this journal are especially grateful for their willingness to publish their work in German.

Several of the articles ask vital questions regarding historiography, while others probe questions of nationalism and mass politics at the turn of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th. **Nicholas Sessums** addresses the current moment for Russian and Ukrainian Studies scholarship, particularly for the study of the Ukrainian-Russian borderlands that have faced the brunt of the Russian invasion. Larger, structural questions regarding disciplinarity also shape Sessums' article, as Slavic Studies in general faces both external and internal challenges in today's academy. **Arushi Nair**, in addition to their article on Berlin's club scene, has contributed a second essay to this volume based on a research project completed for the Mellon-Mays Fellowship. Nair introduces scholars to foundational texts for the study of Romani and Sinti culture in Germany, and the challenges researchers will face due to the marginalization and discrimination Roma and Sinti writers and artists have experienced before and after the Nazi Holocaust. Both Sessums and Nair highlight the continued role of memory in their respective fields.

Similarly, other articles in this volume address questions of memory, and how they shape collective and scholarly understanding of our past and present. **Libby Edwards** examines the politics of naming a *Wissenschaftskolleg* in Greifswald after Alfred Krupp, who was tried for war crimes for his use of slave labor. Greifswald, a city with a long, storied history of its own stretching back to the Hanseatic League, has since the unification of East and West Germany seen an uptick in antisemitic acts and neonazi activity. As editor, I stress to readers that these terrifying political trends are sadly not new, and have been part of modern German politics for over 150 years. **Flora Warshaw** traces the links between post-1871 German nationalism (and nationalist parties) and antisemitism, both of which fueled right-wing populism following the Wars of German Unification.

Paula Krajnik also addresses 19th century politics, notably in the parts of historic Silesia that remained under Habsburg rule, and sought greater autonomy within Austria-Hungary. As these nationalist conflicts increased across Central Europe, it is thus important to understand how the politics of assimilation affected Central European Jews in 19th-century Germany. **Josephine Porter** conducted important research on Jewish women's identities in 19th-century Central Europe in the aftermath of the Enlightenment. Porter specifically focuses on the life and work of Rahel Varnhagen, whose life and work gained renewed interest thanks to Hannah Arendt. Arendt, a German-Jewish philosopher and one of the most prominent thinkers of the 20th century, continues to shape our understanding of totalitarianism today.

In conclusion, we at the CEY and the Center for Austrian Studies are excited to publish this terrific set of essays, written by talented undergraduates and recent graduates from around the world.