Eastern Europe's New Conservatives:
Varieties and Explanations from Poland to Russia
International Conference at the Institute for
East European Studies of the Freie Universität Berlin
9-10 February 2017

Freie Universität Berlin
Seminarzentrum
Raum L 116 Silberlaube, Erdgeschoss
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Eastern Europe’s New Conservatives: Varieties and Explanations from Poland to Russia

9 February

9.30 OPENING

Prof. Dr. Katharina Bluhm and Dr. Mihai Varga, FU Berlin: Introduction. Delineating our approach on New Conservatism

10.00-17.30 POLITICAL ECONOMIC TRANSITION AND THE RISE OF NEW CONSERVATISM moderated by Prof. Dr. Katharina Bluhm, FU Berlin and Ewa Dąbrowska, University of Amsterdam

Prof. Dr. Andrei Yakovlev, Higher School of Economics, Moscow: When and why ordinary people and elites in Russia started to turn to non-liberal thinking?

Prof. Dr. Katharina Bluhm, FU Berlin: Russian ideologues and their core concepts for a conservative countermovement against neoliberalism

11.30-12.00 Coffee Break

Prof. Dr. Krzysztof Jasiecki, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Warsaw: “Conservative modernization” and the rise of populism in Poland. The case of law and justice

Prof. Dr. Jochen Roose and Prof. Dr. Paweł Karolewski, University of Wrocław: The Electorate of Right Populist Parties. Poland in comparative perspective

13.30-14.30 Lunch

Dr. James Dawson and Dr. Sean Hanley, University College London: The illiberal drift of East-Central European liberal mainstream: Lessons from a discursive institutionalist account of pre- and post-accession politics in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic

Dr. Martin Mendelski, MPIfG Cologne: Explaining post-communist transformation through vicious and virtuous reform cycles

16.00-16.30 Coffee Break

Dr. Dušan Spasojević, Belgrade University: Serbian Progressive Party: From nationalist radicalism to pro-European populism

Prof. Dr. Urban Vehovar, Primorska University, Koper, Slovenia: Slovenia – a case of unreflected conservatism

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9.30-11.30 GENEALOGIES OF CONSERVATIVE IDEAS moderated by Prof. Dr. Mark Bassin, Södertörn University

Prof. Dr. Paul Robinson, University of Ottawa: Universalism and particularism in Russian conservatism

Ewa Dąbrowska, University of Amsterdam: In search of subjectivity. Conservatism and economic nationalism in contemporary Poland and Russia

Dr. Áron Buzogány and Dr. Mihai Varga, FU Berlin: Of ‘clotted structures’ and intellectual circles: Ideational foundations of illiberal democracy in Hungary

11.30-11.45 Coffee Break

Dr. Martin Mendelski, MPIfG Cologne: Explaining post-communist transformation through vicious and virtuous reform cycles

13.45-14.30 Lunch

Dr. Antonija Petričušić, Mateja Čehulić and Dr. Dario Čepo, University of Zagreb: In the name of discrimination: Capturing the democratic process by conservative religious political movement in Croatia

Dr. Zorica Mršević, Belgrade University: New Conservatism and freedom of assembly

15.30-15.45 Coffee Break

Dr. James Dawson and Dr. Sean Hanley, University College London: The illiberal drift of East-Central European liberal mainstream: Lessons from a discursive institutionalist account of pre- and post-accession politics in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic

Dr. Martin Mendelski, MPIfG Cologne: Explaining post-communist transformation through vicious and virtuous reform cycles

17.00-17.30

Prof. Dr. Katharina Bluhm and Dr. Mihai Varga, FU Berlin: Wrap-up session. Some tentative conclusions

Dr. Tobias Köllner, University of Magdeburg: Religious and political conservatism in post-socialist Russia: Empirical findings from ethnographic fieldwork