Call for Papers
_Jahrbuch für Historische Kommunismusforschung (JHK) 2018_

The Stalinisation of the Communist Parties in the 1920s – mechanisms, protagonists, opponents

The communist party landscape, which was established globally after the Russian October Revolution of 1917, initially represented an ideologically heterogeneous movement, embracing Leninists, left Socialists, council communists, utopians and even Anarchists. Driven by revolutionary impatience, this was initially a militant and disputatious movement; but, during the 1920s, had conformity imposed upon it by the now consolidated hegemony of the Communist Party in Moscow. The transformation of the global party landscape has been described in scholarly literature as well as in the media as Bolshevisation, Sovietisation or even Stalinisation. This represents one of two main themes in the 2018 issue of _JHK_.

The second main theme is devoted to those communist supporters, functionaries and intellectuals who did not accept this process of organisational and intellectual subordination, who opposed it or, in the course of the decade, broke with Moscow’s variant of communism.

The first of these themes calls for an examination of the process of Stalinisation using examples of communist parties for different parts of the world. The focus should be on the 1920s. What the 2018 issue of _JHK_ would like is documentary-based depictions, which analyse the initial situation in the parties before their transformation in order to address the process of transformation. The editors of _JHK_ expressly call for contributions which also focus on non-European parties.

The second main theme of _JHK 2018_ takes communism as a whole during the twentieth century. We would like not only biographical studies and sketches of activists who join at the movement formation and either broke with the party or were expelled; the editors also hope to receive portraits of communist mavericks, oppositionists, dissidents and
‘renegades’, who in the following decades became critics and analysts of communism, whether within or beyond the territories dominated by the Soviet Union. The *JHK 2018* especially welcomes portraits of personalities who are not known or little known among its German readers. The second main theme is, in equal measure, geared towards identifying the internationalism of the Soviet claim to hegemony as well as the circumstances that also produced critics within the ranks of Moscow-centric communism.

With these two central themes concerning the Stalinisation of the communist movement on the one hand and, on the other, Communists who resisted the Soviets’ claim to dominance or broke with Moscow the *JHK 2018* is dedicated to the memory of the life and work of its founder, Professor Dr Dr h.c. Hermann Weber – who would have celebrated his ninetieth birthday in 2018.

Please submit your proposal for *JHK 2018* by 25 January 2016 in the form of a short summary (2,000 characters) sent to the editors. This should illustrate the contours of your topic, its sources and methodology, as well as providing information on your main areas of research.

The *JHK* carries essays, biographical sketches, contribution to the ‘Forum’ section, reports from the archives and assorted other contributions. As a general rule, they should not exceed a limit of 25-50,000 characters (including spaces and footnotes). Only in individual cases translation from other languages can be arranged by the editors. Unfortunately a commission cannot be paid for articles. The *JHK* will appear in print in the March of that year. Articles submitted go through the peer-review process and, if accepted, will be proof-read. For this reason, articles must be received by 9 January 2017, unless otherwise agreed.

For further information about the *JHK*: [www.bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de/jahrbuch](http://www.bundesstiftung-aufarbeitung.de/jahrbuch)
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