

Silenced Church. The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Between the Soviet Authorities and the Vatican (1944–1978)

International Conference
15th - 16th February, 2024
German Historical Institute Warsaw



After the Second World War, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church found itself in a situation where its leadership had to deal with the Soviet authorities on its own. After the liquidation “councils”, starting with the L’viv Council in 1946 and ending with the Council of Prešov in 1950, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church strived to survive in underground. At the same time, it became a hostage to attempts of establishing a political dialogue between Moscow and the Vatican, as well as to the search for ecumenical dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Russian Orthodox Church. How all those projects affected the situation in western Ukraine on the ground? How the Vatican policies developed and how those developments influenced the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church?

In addition to the triangle: Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church – the Soviet authorities – the Vatican, our conference aims to reveal and analyse the influence of such actors as the Russian Orthodox Church, the Ukrainian nationalist underground, the Roman Catholic bishops, primarily of those countries where Greek Catholics lived, the Ukrainian diaspora, etc. The main focus is put on Ukraine, but a transregional approach is especially welcome in papers that would examine similar church-state relations in Central and Eastern Europe of that time.

Program

Thursday, 15th February

9.00-09.15 Welcome speech and opening by Miloš Řezník and Oleh Turij

9.15-09.30 Introduction to the conference by Viktoriia Serhienko

9.30-10.00 Keynote lecture by Gerhard Simon (online)

University of Cologne

The Temporary Liquidation of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Soviet Galicia

10.00-10.20 Viktoriia Serhienko

GHI Warsaw

Declassified Vatican Archive for Pius XII's Pontificate and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church: Research Challenges and Prospects

10.20-10.40 Discussion
Moderated by Natalia Shlikhta

10.40-11.10 *Coffee break*

Panel I. Post-War Liquidations of Greek-Catholic Church Structures

11.10-11.30 Roman Skakun (online)
Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv)
The "Lviv Council" of 1946 as a Soviet Secret Police Operation: A Case of Building and Employing an Agent Network within a Religious Denomination

11.30-11.50 Natalia Shlikhta
National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Kyiv)
A Separate Model of "Reunification"? On the Liquidation of the Greek Catholic Church in Transcarpathia (1940s–1960s)

11.50-12.10 Jan Pisuliński
University of Rzeszów
Przesiedlenie ludności ukraińskiej a Kościół greckokatolicki w Polsce podczas i po II wojnie światowej

12.10-12.30 Yavhen Usoshyn (online)
Independent researcher
Stan Kościoła białoruskiego grecko-katolickiego w końcu i po II wojnie światowej

12.30-12.50 Discussion
Moderated by Oleh Turij

12.50-14.00 *Lunch break*

Panel II. Ad fontes. Studies on the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Historical Sources

14.00-14.20 Nadezhda Beliakova
University of Bielefeld
From the 'Underground' to the State Archives: Unraveling the Specifics of Soviet State Documents on the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church's Experience in the 1970s

14.20-14.40 Władysław Bułhak
Institute of National Remembrance (Warsaw)

Tajne aspekty polityki wschodniej Watykanu w czasie zimnej wojny: Wątek ukraiński

14.40-15.00 Katrin Boeckh (online)

Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (Regensburg)

The Greek Catholic Church in the Diplomacy between the Holy See and the Kremlin

15.00-15.20 Kerstin Jobst

University of Vienna

A Ukrainian-Catholic Saint on the Run. The 'Rescue' of the Relics of St. Jozafat from Occupied Vienna

15.20-15.50 Discussion

Moderated by Franziska Schedewie

15.50-16.20 *Coffee break*

16.20-17.30 Round table discussion "Giving the Word to *Silenced Church: New Sources and Approaches to the Study of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church*"

Andrzej Grajewski, Rafał Łatka, Natalia Shlikhta, Jaroslav Skira, Oleh Turij

Moderated by Viktoriia Serhiienko

18.00-20.00 Book Presentation: Andrii Portnov „Polska i Ukraina: Wspólna historia, asymetryczna pamięć”

Friday, 16th February

Panel III. Between Resistance and Cooperation: Greek Catholics in Soviet Ukraine and Eastern Bloc

9.00-9.20 Anna Bisikalo

Harvard University (Cambridge)

Adaptations of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church under Different Legal Regimes in Soviet Ukraine and Communist Poland, 1957-1968

9.20-09.40 Igor Hałagida

University of Gdańsk

Kościół greckokatolicki w Polsce w okresie „małej stabilizacji”

09.40-10.00 Taras Bublyk (online)

Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv)

The Case of Aesculapius: the Problem of Episcopal Succession in the Lviv Archdiocese in the 1950s–1970s

10.00-10.20 Zsofia Kiss-Kökenyessy (online)

Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest)

“Prohibited, Tolerated, Supported”. The Situation of the Hungarian Greek Catholic Church in Hungary between 1950–1990

10.20-10.40 Peter Šturák (online)

University of Presov

Persecution of the Greek Catholic Church in Slovakia by the Totalitarian Regime in 1945-1968

10.40-11.10 Discussion

Moderated by Kerstin Jobst

11.10-11.40 *Coffee break*

Panel IV. Dialog between Ukrainian Greek Catholics, Roman Catholics, and Christian Atheists

11.40-12.00 Jaroslav Skira

University of Toronto

Incarceration in the Gulag to Exile in Rome: Josyf Cardinal Slipyj’s Memoirs, his Presence at the Second Vatican Council and Their Relevance for Today

12.00-12.20 Iryna Hnidyk

Lviv Polytechnic National University

A Voice from the Silence: Representation of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church at the Second Vatican Council

12.20-12.40 Kateryna Budz

University of Edinburgh

‘A Different Rite, but the Same Faith’: The Relations between the Greek Catholics and the Roman Catholics in the Soviet Union

12.40-13.00 Nelia Martsinkiv (online)

Duquesne University (Pittsburgh)

The Role of Religiosity and Local Traditions in the Ukrainian Dissident Movement

13.00-13.30 Discussion

Moderated by Semion Lyandres

13.30-14.40 *Lunch break*

Panel V. Ukrainian Greek Catholic Believers and Hierarchs: Between Soviet Propaganda and Real Stories of Survival

14.40-15.00 Svitlana Hurkina

Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv)

The Soviet 'War against the Vatican' and the Ukrainian Greek Catholics in the Post-World War II Era

15.00-15.20 Anatolii Babynskyi (online)

University of Notre Dame

Exiled Shepherds: Ukrainian Greek Catholic Bishops and the Persecuted Church in Soviet Ukraine, 1958–1978

15.20-15.40 Liliana Hentosh

Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv)

Soviet Propaganda and Metropolitan Sheptytskyi's Image in Ukrainian Collective Memory

15.40-16.00 Anca Sincan (online)

Research Centre for Humanities (Budapest)

Nihil de nobis sine nobis! The Underground Romanian Greek Catholic Church in the 1970s

16.00-16.30 Discussion

Moderated by Roman Wysocki

16.30-17.00 Book presentation

17.00-18.00 Final discussion

18.00-19.30 *Dinner*

Organisation:

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