



The University of
Nottingham

Centre for the Study of Post-Conflict Cultures and School of Modern Languages and
Cultures

Writing under Socialism Past and Present: A Comparative Approach

Friday 11 July 2008

12.30-13.30 *Arrival and registration* (light sandwich buffet provided)

13.30-14.00 *Welcome and Introduction*
Roger Woods, University of Nottingham

14.00-15.00 **Panel 1: Taboos and Criticism**

Breaking the Taboos in Socialist Yugoslavia
David Norris, University of Nottingham

Ismail Kadare's Critique of Albanian Socialism
Peter Morgan, University of Western Australia

15.00-15.30 Coffee/Tea

15.30-17.00 **Panel 2: Negotiating Space: Writers and Functionaries**

**The Limits of Artistic Dissent and Accommodation under Dictatorship:
Bertolt Brecht, Kurt Maetzig, and the Cultural Politics of the Early GDR**
Mark W. Clark, University of Virginia's College at Wise

Dramatists and the campaign for theatre reform in the late GDR
Laura Bradley, University of Edinburgh

**"Islands of Goodness, Realm of Grey": Writing and Publishing in
Czechoslovak Academia during Normalization (1969-1989)**
*Libora Oates-Indruchová, University of Masaryk/Institute for Advanced Study,
Budapest*

17.30-18.30 **Print Culture and the New Media in Post-Socialist China**
Michel Hockx, School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London)

19.00-20.30 Conference Dinner

20.30-21.30 **Round Table Discussion: Experiences of Writing under Socialism**

Writing in Cuba

Pedro Perez-Sarduy, London Metropolitan University

Writing in Bulgaria

Judith Wermuth-Atkinson, University of Columbia

Saturday 12 July 2008

Panel 3: Writers and Revolution

9.30-10.30 **The Workshop of Poetry; Culture and the Sandinista Revolution**

Mike Gonzalez, University of Glasgow

Ay Dios, Ampárame: Race, Poetry and Music in Revolutionary Cuba

Conrad James, University of Birmingham

10.30-11.00 Coffee/Tea

11.00-12.30 **Panel 4: Ideology, the Past and Re-examining the Socialist Writer**

Hu Feng and the Politics of Modern Literary Criticism in China: The Hu Feng Incident Revisited

Ruth Y.Y.Hung, University of Oxford

Living Antifascism: Greta Kuckhoff's writings in *Die Weltbühne*

Joanne Sayner, University of Birmingham

The GDR author revisited: the Case of Post-89 East German Writing

Jenny McKay, University of Leeds

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 **Panel 5: State Institutions and the Writer**

The free publishing market vs. the socialist state. The Polish Writers' Union in the 1970s and 1980s

Karolina Ziolo, University of Sheffield

Bringing Writing to the Masses, the Literary Workshop Movement in revolutionary Cuba

Meesha Nehru, University of Nottingham

Heiner Müller: The Art of Censorship

Ann Stamp Miller, Simpson University

15.00-15.30 Coffee/Tea

15.30-17.00 **Panel 6: Socialist Journals Between Conformity and Criticism**

Writing to order? Soviet literature and the Stalinist past in the Khrushchev era

Polly Jones, University College London

Double Agents: The Editorial Habitus and the 'Thick' Socialist Literary Journal

Matthew Philpotts, University of Manchester

Post-Censorship or Controlled Debate: *Neue Deutsche Literatur* and the publication of Elfriede Brüning's *Septemberreise*

Sara Jones, University of Nottingham

17.00-17.30 Close