

The aim of the project is to take a comparative look at a period of intellectual production that is often treated as a transitional period between the birth and formation of socialist states and their dissolution. We are talking about the period of de-Stalinization, which lasted from about the mid-1950s to the mid-1970s. During this period, many interesting and original works were published, which significantly shaped the intellectual climate of this period and influenced the theoretical discourses of the late socialist period and the subsequent systemic transformations. This project tries to take a closer look at the discussions in the area of philosophy and social sciences of this period and to capture what was original and influential in them, how these discussions tried to cope with the rapidly changing local and international reality, and how the concept developed during this period later influenced the language of the social sciences and humanities in the following decades. In particular, the project looks at what we believe to be the most interesting debates of this period, namely the changing understanding of political emancipation. Reaching for and discovering both national traditions and the attempt to further develop and transform the Marxist, communist idea of internationalism forced philosophers, intellectuals and academics to rethink what political emancipation is and what form it can take. The hypothesis of the entire project is that it was precisely the discussions about the national and international that took place in philosophical and theoretical debates around emancipatory ideas during the period of de-Stalinization that permanently shaped the theoretical landscape in socialist and post-socialist countries. In order to gain a comparative perspective, the project confronts the history of intellectual production in Poland and the Czech lands.