

und Polen in Leipzig deutlich macht. Die Verflechtung der unterschiedlichen Ebenen solcher Kontakte, die Entstehung diverser Abhängigkeiten und Aushandlungsprozesse, die eigensinnige Aneignung von staatlich vorgeschriebenen Verordnungen, die der Autor mit einer Fülle alltagsbezogener Beispiele belegt, eröffnen einen neuen Blick auf die Gesellschafts- und Alltagsgeschichte der DDR. Zuletzt wird anhand der zahlreichen alltäglichen Praktiken auch die Einstellung von Menschen gegenüber der Obrigkeit beschrieben, was einen wichtigen Beitrag zur Erforschung von Haltungen und Interaktionen zwischen Herrschenden und Beherrschenden darstellt.

München

Anna Pelka

**Sociology and Ethnography in East-Central and South-East Europe.** Scientific Self-Description in State Socialist Countries. Hrsg. von Ulf Brunnbauer, Claudia Kraft und Martin Schulze Wessel. (Bad Wiesseer Tagungen des Collegium Carolinum, Bd. 31.) Oldenbourg. München 2011. 308 S., graph. Darst. ISBN 978-3-486-70461-7. (€ 49,80.)

In this volume contributors discuss the development in both these academic fields in the Soviet Bloc countries. This will definitely be welcomed by those interested in the history of science in the Soviet bloc, especially given the growing recognition this field has enjoyed in recent years. Everyone knows anecdotes about the Lysenko affair and the supposed necessity of putting Lenin's Collected Works in the footnotes in virtually all academic disciplines. However, the history of science in the context of state socialism has been covered in depth only in the field of natural sciences with a particular significance accorded to the Soviet military-industrial complex.<sup>1</sup> A history of early developments of the humanities in the USSR has been covered to some extent by Slava Gerovitch in the context of the fascination with cybernetics.<sup>2</sup> The personal lives of several scientists working in humanities has been also covered in the vast literature on the supervision of intellectual elites by secret police services, or cleansings at universities after the tensions of March 1968 in Poland and the Prague Spring in Czechoslovakia. *Sociology and Ethnography* fills a gap in the history of the humanities by showing a multifaceted picture of the development of both disciplines in the context of state socialism. When starting to read this book I had expected a volume which was principally concerned with covering the history of the "Sovietization" of both academic fields. I was positively surprised rather to find a collection of submissions covering a wide perspective of the history of academic discourse and the development and evolution of organizational structures during the whole period of state socialism.

The articles collected in the volume are especially successful in showing how several different factors influenced the establishment of academic discourse in both disciplines. A quotation from the article of Călin Cotoi on Romania clearly shows the complexity of such influences. "The gambit of 'scientificity' was at this time played between historical materialism, Western structural-functionalism, empirical research, and fieldwork, but also interwar models of national science" (p. 135).

The second strength of the volume lies in showing the complex relations between scientists and state authorities. Both disciplines played a special role in the state social policies. In the introduction the editors clearly point out these roles: "Ethnography was thus thought to have an important role in the creation of a socialist national culture. [...] Sociol-

<sup>1</sup> LOREN R. GRAHAM (ed.): *Science and the Soviet Social Order*, Cambridge/Mass. 1990; ALEXEI B. KOJEVNIKOV: *Stalin's Great Science. The Times and Adventures of Soviet Physicists*, Singapore et al. 2004.

<sup>2</sup> SLAVA GEROVITCH: *From Newspeak to Cyberspeak. A History of Soviet Cybernetics*, Cambridge/Mass. 2002.

ogy [...] was considered by the regime to be an important intellectual technology for raising the efficiency of planning and thus improving society" (p. 8). Further contributors discuss how specific empirical research conducted by scientists could lead to tensions between scientists and the authorities. In the case of ethnology this could be research which revealed some ethnic tensions in those countries where, as the result of the communist regime's policies, all ethnic and religious minorities were supposed to coexist peacefully. Another interesting issue discussed in the submissions is how ethnographers interested in the currents of contemporary rural communities started conducting research into the new form of such communities – collective farms. Needless to say, such research showed that collective farm employees' lives were far different from the picture painted by official propaganda. In the case of sociology, submissions discuss a similar case – empirical research which showed that not only were there still class conflicts in the supposedly classless states, but moreover, such research showed that the state-socialist authorities' social policies had caused the emergence of these new social conflicts and social inequalities.

All articles in the volume are provided with extended bibliographies which include not only relevant academic works, but also several obscure research reports originally published for internal use only. This volume with submissions which cover the conceptual language of both disciplines as well as organisational structures and empirical research, will definitely be invaluable for those interested in the history of intellectual life in the Soviet bloc. However, the volume with its mass of detailed information concerning the academic discourse and everyday academic practice of ethnographers and sociologists could well prove difficult to read for those without some academic training in these disciplines.

Wrocław

Patryk Wasiak

**1989 und die Rolle der Gewalt.** Hrsg. von Martin Sabrow. Wallstein. Göttingen 2012. 428 S. ISBN 978-3-8353-1059-9. (€ 34,90.)

**Jahre des Umbruchs.** Friedliche Revolution in der DDR und Transition in Ostmitteleuropa. Hrsg. von Clemens Vollnhals. (Schriften des Hannah-Arendt-Instituts für Totalitarismusforschung, Bd. 43.) Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. Göttingen 2011. 406 S., graph. Darst. ISBN 978-3-525-36919-7. (€ 59,95.)

Anlässlich des 20. Jahrestags der Revolution(en) von 1989 in Osteuropa fanden erwartungsgemäß zahlreiche Tagungen statt. Beide hier zur Rezension vorliegenden Sammelbände sind Ergebnisse solcher Tagungen. Der Sammelband *1989 und die Rolle der Gewalt* geht auf eine Vortragsreihe des Zentrums für Zeithistorische Forschung in Potsdam aus dem Jahre 2009 zurück. Der Band *Jahre des Umbruchs* dokumentiert eine Tagung, die ebenfalls 2009 in Dresden vom Hannah-Arendt-Institut für Totalitarismusforschung in Kooperation mit der Sächsischen Landeszentrale für politische Bildung organisiert wurde.

Sind zwanzig Jahre eine ausreichende zeitliche Distanz, um neue Erkenntnisse über die Revolutionen von 1989 zu gewinnen? Viele Akteure von beiden Seiten der Barrikade leben noch und äußern sich über die selbst erlebte Vergangenheit. Das bringt oft neue Einblicke in die Ereignisse, beeinflusst aber auch die Art und Weise, wie über die Zeitgeschichte heutzutage gesprochen wird. Für den Hrsg. des ersten Bandes, Martin Sabrow, ist es trotzdem an der Zeit, die bisherigen interpretatorischen Klischees zu hinterfragen (S. 22).

Die Autoren des ersten Sammelbandes suchen somit nach neuen Erklärungen „für die überraschende Gewaltlosigkeit der Revolution von 1989“ (S. 7). In seinem einleitenden Beitrag über die Rolle der Gewalt in Ostdeutschland stellt Sabrow die aus seiner Sicht unzureichenden Begründungen der Gewaltlosigkeit des DDR-Regimes dar, wie z.B. die „zielgerichtete Respektierung der Grenzen verantwortlichen Handelns“ (S. 19) oder die entzogene militärische Unterstützung Moskaus. Stattdessen sieht er eine Entwicklung von der Achtung hin zur Verachtung der Gewalt im politischen Alltag, die sich in sozialistischen Gesellschaften nicht zuletzt dank der „Zivilisierung“ des Westens nach 1945 (S. 28)