

east central europe

A GUIDE TO BASIC PUBLICATIONS

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EDITOR



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preface

CONCEPT AND PURPOSE

In the summer of 1966 the Subcommittee on East Central and Southeast European Studies (American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council) initiated a two-pronged survey of language and area studies and of the corresponding bibliographic resources in the field. Earlier this year the first stage of this investigation came to a conclusion with the publication of *Area and Language Studies: East Central and Southeastern Europe*, under the editorship of Charles Jelavich. The second stage was entrusted to me, with a mandate for the compilation of two separate books containing a highly selective and judiciously evaluated inventory of the most important publications relating to these two areas. The present guide on East Central Europe and its companion volume on Southeastern Europe bring the entire survey to fruition.

East Central Europe is viewed here as a congeries of four countries which are inhabited by a population of varying ethnic backgrounds, tongues, and religions. East Germany holds a place sui generis as a product of recent political developments. The peoples of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland, living in a territory sometimes referred to as the borderlands of Western civilization, can pride themselves on memorable cultural traditions spanning well over a millennium of recorded history. Yet much of their existence has been passed under foreign influence or rule and even at times of relative normalcy their sovereignty has often been imperiled by external pressures and encroachments. Throughout the ages they have stubbornly preserved their national identity and, firmly rooted in Western tradition, have inscribed numerous illustrious pages in the world's intellectual history, from Hus, Comenius, and Copernicus to Chopin, Dvořák, and Liszt. Since the seventeenth century, emigrants from those lands have come to America's shores in ever increasing numbers, finding a new home and freedom from oppression and want, and making notable contributions to American life, both in peacetime and in wartime.

Aside from some similarities among these nations with respect to their historical experience and cultural heritage, mutual geographic proximity, and present inclusion in the Soviet domain, the area per se reveals few homogeneous and unifying characteristics in terms of well-defined geographic borders, close linguistic affinity, or a feeling of belonging together on the part of its components. The collective term East Central Europe therefore lacks precision and is susceptible to differing interpretations. Nevertheless, it is in frequent usage by geographers and area specialists and serves as a common denominator for area study programs organized within academic institutions. Thus, we too have chosen to adopt the concept East Central Europe in the title for this publication.

The complexities and obvious limitations of an undertaking such as ours — which requires sifting the most essential writings on the present and past of a multinational and multilingual conglomerate — can be graphically illustrated by a few rough statistics. The aggregate book output for the past fifty years in and about the area under scrutiny exceeded in all probability 600,000 titles. Supposing that a mere 20 percent of this total is of continuing research value, the agonizing problem still persists of selecting for this current guide some 5,000 out of a potential reservoir of at least 120,000 publications. Along similar lines, one might mention the plethora of literature published just on very narrowly circumscribed facets of the total picture. For example, self-contained and book-length bibliographies of a mass of writings exist on personalities such as Comenius, Mickiewicz, Morisz, Masaryk, and many others. A recent bibliography of Polish dictionaries fills 286 pages, and a listing of Slavic works of literature in English translation was published in two massive volumes.

Inexorable limitations of time, manpower, and funds dictated that the essential record of knowledge of such enormous proportions be telescoped into one single volume. High selectivity was the obvious *modus operandi* toward that end. In facing the prospect, I found solace in an idea of the Spanish philosopher Ortega y Gasset, who some thirty years ago envisioned the role of the future librarian as that of a sensitive filter standing between man and the unending flood of print. When espousing such an assignment, the bibliographer must assume cheerfully — so to say as an occupational hazard — the task of navigating the perilous channel between the Scylla of too much and the Charybdis of too little — especially since such a voyage makes no provision for travel insurance against the slings and barbs of the critic who may doubt the wisdom of the course charted.

We profess candidly that we have not been able to conjure up either a magic formula for miniaturizing knowledge or a technique for a foolproof selection process. But, despite these reservations, we venture to hope that we did manage to come up with a relatively concentrated distillate of information which can be reconstituted into a panoramic and synoptic view of the area. This guide traces general contours, as would a large-scale map, the further exploitation of which is best served by reference to more detailed small-scale maps. To translate this thought into the present context, it would

be very desirable if in the future the data of this bibliography could be expanded through a whole series of specialized subject bibliographies.

Keeping in mind the need of maximizing the informational potentiality of our guide, we have given generous coverage to bibliographic material both in separate chapters and in the context of specific subjects. Such bibliographic sources should be regarded as a sort of master key to a wealth of other literature which could not be explicitly included here. Thus, with proper exploration, only very few targets of bibliographic search should, in the final analysis, remain *terra incognita*.

In a situation marked by an unprecedented proliferation of printed information and by the evolution of the study of the area from a single discipline to a constantly widening complex of subspecialties, a far-reaching degree of multidisciplinary teamwork was the obvious answer to the problem posed by a selective approach. Thus, this work embodies the collective subject and area expertise of many specialists from this country and abroad. It was our common aim to base the selection of publications on scholarly and informational merits only and to reflect the character of the individual entries in thoughtful and restrained comment. The design and structure of the guide, including allocation of space by language and subject, as well as the overall direction of the project, were my responsibilities. Our editorial policy endeavored to preserve as much as possible the authentic style and format of the contributors' presentation, subject to the needs of bibliographic consistency. When major alterations, expansions, or contractions appeared indicated for reasons of balanced coverage or topical coherence, I strove, circumstances permitting, to resolve such questions with the advice and consent of the contributor concerned.

This guide addresses itself to a multiple audience — the educated general reader, the researcher, the student, the teacher, and the librarian. It is our hope that it may serve several useful functions: as a study aid to those who wish to work on one or more aspects of the area; as a classroom tool for the more advanced investigation of the area; as a medium for the development of concentrated library collections at the growing number of educational institutions which are extending their programs in the field; and, finally, as a basis for determining important out-of-print material and identifying hitherto neglected domains of published research.

SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION

Scope. This volume records basic books, periodicals, and, occasionally, articles of special pertinence, on the lands and peoples of Czechoslovakia, East Germany (including, in a separate section, the Lusatians and Polabians), Hungary, and Poland. The subject coverage focuses on the political, socioeconomic, and intellectual life — along with the organization of scientific research activities — in the respective areas of Europe. Science and technology per se are outside the ken of this conspectus. The bibliography lists writings in languages indigenous to the countries concerned, as

well as in other languages in which significant contributions to the knowledge of the area have been made. Among the latter, the emphasis is on English-language publications. In determining the relative language representation we were guided both by the relevance of the material and by the presumed linguistic capabilities of the book's potential reading public. In keeping with the intended function of this bibliography as an area research aid, its temporal reach spans primarily the more recent period of statehood of the various countries, although the background and general historical development leading up to the present are given consideration. As a rule, the latest imprints included are those which were available for physical inspection in the early part of 1968.

Methodological Approach. For each country the material is structured under eight or nine major sectors of knowledge, which are subdivided into more specialized categories as suggested by the particularities of the respective country. The availability of a substantial body of information offering a total view of the area or segments thereof counseled the inclusion of an introductory overview.

The intertwined and stratified character of knowledge, particularly in its application to the study of an area, renders the strict delineation of a discipline an arduous task. Where is the Great Divide between history and politics and government? How can a precise boundary be drawn between the societal and political systems of a country? Is there a readily identifiable demarcation line between the national characteristics of a people and the makeup of its society? In the face of such uncertainties the reader will be well advised not to limit his bibliographic investigation to the seemingly indicated chapter or section heading but to refer in case of need to kindred and contiguous topical sections.

To improve subject control we have followed the practice—notwithstanding a very acute shortage of space in this volume—of including in two or more subject contexts such identical titles as deal significantly with several subjects. Such multiple listings by different contributors sometimes bear divergent assessments—a fact which underscores the inherently subjective and personal nature of book evaluation, as well as the versatility of coverage by some publications. The prefatory table of contents, detailed statements of content at the beginning of major chapters, and an extensive author-title-subject index should guide the reader and enhance reference use.

Entries. We have endeavored to keep the form of entry as succinct and nontechnical as is consistent with the need for clear bibliographic identification of a title. Basically, the Library of Congress bibliographic style was followed because it permits ready referrals to, and collation with, the widely used Library of Congress printed cards and catalogs. Occasional departures from this procedure were thought advisable in the interests of economy of space and simplified presentation. English translations are given for titles cited in the Slavic languages and in Hungarian. Alternate versions of authors' names are indicated parenthetically. The consecutively numbered lead entries are followed by annotative comments, often accom-

panied by additional citations of collateral writings. Within subject groups, entries usually are in alphabetic order. Divergent methods, such as arrangement by chronology or topical affinity, are explained in footnotes wherever they are employed.

The Cyrillic alphabet is transliterated according to Library of Congress practices, as a rule, but ligatures have been omitted.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My foremost thanks go to the team of distinguished contributors and consultants on foreign-language publications who, notwithstanding many pressing professional commitments, spiritedly responded to my call and joined forces in our venture. Their names are mentioned individually in the roster of participants which appears elsewhere in this book. I was most fortunate to benefit again in this current enterprise from the invaluable help of my colleagues Robert V. Allen and Robert G. Carlton, who served as Assistant Editors. They stood at my side in almost every phase of the project. Their rare combination of talent as bookmen and area specialists was an incalculable asset in melding a mass of raw material into a homogeneous entity. Additionally, Mr. Carlton undertook the task of preparing the very detailed index. Barbara A. Burkey, Constance Carter, and Ruth M. Miller helped with the preparation of prefatory matter. The aforementioned assistants are on the staff of the Library of Congress.

In various phases of our undertaking the need arose to seek ad hoc advice on specific questions from specialists here and abroad. Among those who gave generously of their thought and time were Andrew Gyorgy (George Washington University) and Albert Tezla (University of Minnesota, Duluth). I am much indebted to Werner Philipp (Freie Universität, Berlin) and Mathias W. Bernath (Südost-Institut, Munich) for arranging the participation of their staffs in recommending pertinent German-language materials for final selection by the subject compilers.

A veritable key aide on the team, to whom I am greatly obliged, is Martha L. Rose who, undaunted by a spate of drafts in a Babel of languages and a profusion of diacritical marks, exhibited both initiative and dispatch in preparing the final manuscript for the printers. Basil Nadruga and Gerald F. Stowell checked many an item in this volume against the pertinent catalogs and bibliographic sources. And finally, my wife, Emily I. Horecky, has once again—as perennially—borne with my involvement in such an undertaking. Beyond this, she was of truly indispensable assistance in taking a most active hand in a vast variety of editorial and administrative endeavors.

The present volume was sponsored by the Subcommittee on East Central and Southeast European Studies under the dynamic chairmanship of Charles Jelavich (Indiana University), who was the moving spirit in activating the overall project. Gordon B. Turner, Vice President of the American Council of Learned Societies, guided the operational aspects of this project, and I am profoundly grateful to him for his unflagging support and generous

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