

WOMEN & GENDER

IN

CENTRAL and EASTERN EUROPE, RUSSIA, and EURASIA

A Comprehensive Bibliography

VOLUME I

*Southeastern and
East Central Europe*

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PREFACE

As the first comprehensive bibliography on women and gender in East Central Europe and Eurasia in this millennium, the present publication is designed as a reference work for scholars and students in several fields: Russian, Soviet, and Post-Soviet studies, European Studies, Slavic Studies, Women's and Gender Studies. Since the late 1970s the study of women and gender in general has grown by leaps and bounds, and it has infused and reshaped all humanities and social science fields. A similar rethinking of the history, literature, and culture of Russia, the Successor States, and East Central Europe has been predicated upon the application of methodologies that have been associated with women's studies and gender issues. The bibliography is a tribute to the tremendous efforts of scholars working on these themes in "Slavic Studies" (which, of course for historical reasons, has included many non-Slavic peoples,) as well as a vehicle for spurring new research.

The project originated in a running list of books and articles that appeared in the newsletter Women East-West (WEW). WEW began in December 1986 as a newsletter whose audience consisted of past and present participants in the Women's Seminar (now called a Discussion Group) organized by Marcelline Hutton in 1982 as part of the Summer Research Laboratory run by the Russian and East European Center (REEC) of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. The group met annually at the REEC Summer Research Laboratory through 2005. In October 1989 the newsletter became a publication of the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS), an affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS). From the first issue, WEW had a bibliographic section listing books and articles of interest and carrying reviews and notes about them. Irina Corten first broached the idea of including a wider historical range of bibliography by and about women in the Soviet Union and East Central Europe and furnished a first list of eight pages for the third issue (October 1987). The idea was to inform scholars around the world of the work on women's studies and gender issues having to do with this broad geographical swath and to encourage further research and teaching. Occasionally, Mary Zirin, the editor of WEW from its inception until no. 53 (May 1998), combined the listings from the newsletter into one desktop edition and offered it for sale, with proceeds going to AWSS. By spring 1998, the portion of the bibliography devoted to Russia and the Successor States alone consisted of approximately 4,000 titles (which made the possibility of transferring all entries into a bibliographic database for this publication impracticable).

By contrast, the section on Eastern and Central Europe was more modest, comprising about twenty percent of the entire list. This spurred Irina Livezeanu, who began a three-year term as the chair of the AWSS Research Committee in 1996, to attempt to gather what we presumed to be a small amount of literature concerned with women and gender in that part of Europe and make it available to the scholarly community. Taking over Mary Zirin's list devoted to the countries located west of the former Soviet Union, she undertook to expand it, with the help of a shifting team of assistants and with generous contributions from colleagues on two continents. Attempting to put the East Central European bibliography on the web proved to be beyond the ken of the AWSS Research Committee. But a bound and printed bibliography did not. In that case, a two-volume work including one on the older, much better developed and larger literature on Russia, the Soviet Union, and its successor states made most sense. It was Patricia Kolb's idea, our invaluable editor, to make this work a two-volume set, thus also offering to publish the second tome, which Mary Zirin and Christine Worobec compiled.

In addition to incorporating June Pachuta Farris's regular bibliographic contributions to WEW since 1999, the editors and, in the case of East Central Europe, graduate research assistants and faculty colleagues in many

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countries, scoured bibliographies, reference works, and web sites to produce the present publication. While the composite of bibliographic entries on Russia represents a field that has grown remarkably in depth and sophistication since the early 1980s, the entries on the Successor States and East Central Europe represent generally later, and therefore more modest developments in scholarship. We have, however, incorporated titles in languages beyond English, and in some cases the resulting list goes far beyond our initial expectations in both quantity and quality. Both volumes are designed to inspire new research and teaching focused on women and gender in comparative perspective.

Many of the individual titles are translated into English or annotated to include brief descriptions of major works as well as the table of contents of most collections and anthologies. Given the accessibility and importance of unpublished graduate work, M.A. and Ph.D. theses are also part of the bibliographic record in volume one. Due to space considerations, only Ph.D. dissertations are included in volume two. We have marked the electronic revolution that exploded while we were at work on this project by including citations to web sites and online resources. In addition to making scholarship on women and gender issues accessible, and in keeping with Mary Zirin's original design, the bibliography emphasizes the lives and creative endeavors of individual women. It is accordingly organized by personages as well as themes. Cross-referencing of entries as well as citations to other reference works are meant to facilitate users' research endeavors.

Although this is a bibliographic project, we are keenly aware of the effect of academic categories on research and scholarship. We have no underlying political agenda. The chapters into which we organized these two volumes in no way represent support or sympathy for any previous, present or future political arrangement. Nor, for that matter, does the fact that several places situated to the west of Russia but that have been in the past, and are now again, independent states, are here included in volume 2, symbolize any political preference or nostalgia. In this respect we were guided by the need for consistency and by historical considerations, namely the fact that modernity and modern notions of femininity and masculinity in Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, and Central Asia, began under Russian and/or Soviet cultural hegemony. We envisage the two volumes being used together much of the time.