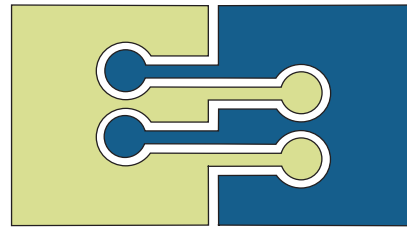


**Supervised research stay at the
Open Society Archives in Budapest,**

supported by:



B A Y H O S T

**Stay in Budapest with 19 students from the University of Regensburg,
22.–29. January 2011**

During the winter semester 2010/11 Dr. Friederike Kind-Kovács and Dr. habil. Natali Stegmann, both members of the *Department of Southeast- and East European History* at the *Regensburg University*, spent with 19 students a week in Budapest. The stay was part of two seminars, „(Daily-) Life between conformism and non-conformism during state socialism“ (Kind-Kovács) and „Socialist and international public spheres since 1968“ (Stegmann). The main purpose of the student travel was a research stay at the *Open Society Archives* (OSA) in Budapest, which accommodate the holdings of *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* (<http://www.osaarchivum.org>). Apart from our interest in the archive, we aimed to strengthen the contacts to our Erasmus partner university, the *Central European University* (CEU, <http://www.ceu.hu>). The programme was completed by thematic guided tours and walks through the city. After we reached Budapest by train on Saturday, the 22nd of January, we participated on Sunday in a guided tour through the socialist statue park *Memento Park* with a following bus trip through „socialist Budapest“. The *Memento Park* is located on the outskirts of Budapest and collects socialist monuments which were removed from the city after 1989 (<http://www.szoborpark.hu>). On Monday the staff of the OSA provided an introduction into the activities and holdings of OSA. The afternoon was dedicated to a series of joint teaching sessions for students from the University of Regensburg and from the CEU. The classes were organized in the framework of the Erasmus partnership and involved Prof. Dr. Marsha Siefert (History Department) and Prof. Dr. Susan Zimmermann (Gender Department) in the collaboration. The evening ended with a reception which aimed at encouraging the informal networking amongst the students. The following days we spent with supervised archival research. The students researched topics of their own choice, which were continuously modified throughout the research stay. In the late afternoons, the programme was enriched by guided tours. One afternoon a member of the *Holocaust Memorial Centre* (<http://old.hdke.hu>) guided the group through the Jewish neighbourhood. Another afternoon was spent at the *Terror House*; this rather ambiguous and controversial museum encourages its visitors to compare the history of the two totalitarian systems in Hungary (<http://www.terrorhaza.hu>)*. These visits were rounded up by a talk given by the director of the OSA, István Rév, who critically analyzed the genesis and conception of the *Terror House*. Concluding, the stay in Budapest offered students a profound insight into the practice of archival research; a skill which many of the participating students will employ for their individual research projects.

* Compare f.i. http://www.nytimes.com/2002/08/02/news/02iht:budapest_ed3.html?pagewanted=print; <http://www.jewishaz.com/jewishnews/020726/budapest.shtml>; http://www.exhibitfiles.org/terror_house; http://www.exhibitfiles.org/terror_house_another_look; eingesehen am 6. Januar 2011.