

2003 International Symposium in Chiba University

Program:

The Significance of Historical Legacies of Socialism in Eastern Europe in the Age of Globalization

1 Aims

Since the socialist regime in Eastern Europe collapsed in “1989”, liberalization and marketization is making advance under the so-called globalization. Poland, Czech and Hungary are expected to join EU in 2004. The process of liberalization and marketization, however, are still faced with lots of difficulties. Joining EU without solving these difficulties will not only bring more serious difficulties in Eastern Europe itself, but produce unstable factors for UE as well as the world as a whole.

What then are the problems that face Eastern Europe in the process of liberalization and marketization? Of course there are many technical problems, but one of the most essential problems seems to be the fact that there are no consensus among the people on what stance they should take toward the late socialist regime.

As for as we find from the writings concerning East European transformation, there are two kinds of opinions. One stresses the universal significance of the US-European models of development, while the other suspects the western (IMF) models (Eric Hobsbawm, *The New Century*, 1999; Joseph Stiglitz, *Globalization and Its Discontents*, 2002; *ibid*, *Whither Socialism*, 1994; W. Kymlicka and M. Opalski, *Can Liberal Pluralism be Exported?*, 2001). But even among the authors who belong to the latter, quite a few point to the significance of the legacies of socialism. We can list just such works as I.T.Berend, *Central and Eastern Europe 1944-1993* (1996); E.B.Kapstein and M.Mandelbaum eds. *Sustaining the Transition: The Social Safety Net in Postcommunist Europe* (1997); M. Burawoy and K. Verdery eds. *Uncertain Transition: Ethnographies of Change in the Postcolonial World* (1999); K. Verdery, *What was Socialism, and What Comes Next?* (1996).

As the prerequisite, we should like to discuss

- 1) Why the socialist regime collapsed at that particular time?
- 2) Has the socialist regime left nothing behind in history of the region?

Then we should like to discuss about the legacies of socialism under the following

topics.

- 1) Were there any such difficulties for the region to adapt itself (economically, politically, socially and culturally) to the western system as were produced particularly because of the experiences of socialism?
- 2) Were the difficulties smaller if the experiences of socialism were better made use of in Eastern Europe?
- 3) Do the experiences of socialism have any role in maintaining some independence of the region amid the globalization?
- 4) Does the experience of socialism have any effect on the mental activities of the peoples of the region?

2. Date:

12 – 13 December, 2003

3 Place:

Multi-media Conference Room in Chiba University

4 Guests to be invited from abroad

Professor Ivan T. Berend (UCLA, former President of the International Association of the Historical Sciences)

Professor Jacek Kochanowicz (Warsaw University, University of Central Europe)

Professor Piotr Hranaszek (Jagiellon University, Poland)

Professor Domonkos Szoke (Kossuth Lajos University, Hungary)

Professor Robin Okey (University of Warwick, UK)

Professor Helmut Konrad (University of Graz, Austria)

Professor Nurcan Ozgur Baklacioglu (Istanbul University, Turkey)

5 Host researchers in Japan

Professor Yoichi Kibata (Univ. of Tokyo)

Professor Masayuki Iwata (Chiba Univ.)

Professor Shingo Minamizuka (Chiba Univ.)

Professor Hiroaki Ozawa (Chiba Univ.)

6 Schedule

12. December (Fri)

1 3 : 0 0 – 1 4 : 0 0 Inauguration Lecture

Socialism seen from the Economic History

By Professor Ivan T. Berend

1 4 : 0 0 – 1 5 : 0 0

Why the socialist regime collapsed?

By Professor Jacek Kochanowicz

1 5 : 0 0 – 1 6 : 0 0

What has remained of socialism?

By Professor Masayuki Iwata

1 6 : 0 0 – 1 7 : 0 0

Discussion

13. December (Sat)

1 0 : 1 0 – 1 2 : 0 0

Session I

Legacies of Socialism I: Social and economic aspects

1) Continuity of Polish Agricultural Systems: Professor Piotr Hranaszek

2) Continuity and Discontinuity of Agrarian Societies in Hungary:

Professor Shingo Minamizuka

1 3 : 1 0 – 1 5 : 0 0

Session II

Legacies of Socialism II: Aspects of Social Thoughts

1) Legacies of Social Thoughts in Hungary: Professor Domonkos Szoke

2) Social Democracy in East Central Europe: Professor Helmut Konrad

15:10-17:00

Session III

Legacies of Socialism II: Political aspects

1) Liberal legacies in East European Politics : Professor Robin Okey

2) Migration, Citizenship and Albanian Question in Former Yugoslavia :

Professor Nurcan Ozgur Baklacioglu

1 7 : 1 0 – 1 7 : 3 0

Comment

Globalization and Eastern Europe: Professor Yoichi Kibata

General comments: Dr. Nigel Swain (Visiting Professor at SRC,

Hokkaido University, Lecturer of the University of Liverpool, UK)

17:30-

Closing

7 Language Used

English