

PAPRIK@2F. Internet Portal: Political Archives Research Indexation Komintern and French Archives

The PAPRIK@2F Research Project is designed to increase our knowledge of the communist phenomenon in France and abroad. It extends over the first half of the XXth century (1917-1947). Thanks to an archival corpus opened to the scientific community, it intends to build an internet portal which will centralize information and offer a greater insight into the world of archives dealing with communism.

The Paprik@2F program's priority is to create a new website dedicated to political archives in order to provide a bigger picture of the communist world. Archives from the inside as well as from the outside of the communist world, especially from state surveillance and repression, will be dealt with. It is a question of linking existing collections (those kept at the National Archives and the so-called Moscow archives) with the same register of indexation and inventory. The Paprik@2F research program will also collect archive material that is still kept in Moscow, as well as agit-prop material (tracts, pamphlets, posters, photographs and films). These new major on-line archival resources will contribute to the renewal of the communist historiography in France and abroad.

Both inventories and archival data will therefore be made available through various databases which are as we speak mostly isolated from one another. Creating this archival network will require to "harvest" these various databases thanks to appropriate tools. The Paprik@2F portal will therefore be a useful guide for researchers as well as teachers and merely curious visitors.

The Parpik@2F project will widen the actual historical fields in communist history and will contribute to the half-a-century-long debate over the diversity of communism in Europe and the world. Transfers, circulations and comparison, as well as interactions with the State and local/regional variations, will offer the main pattern of interpretation of the archive material that will be brought to light thanks to the project. Biographical inquiries (individual/collective) will complete this vast scientific program. All this will cast a new light over the main "events" of communist history between the two world wars.

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