Postcommunism in Africa: A Cross-Regional Perspective

Communism in many ways was a unique experience. The same has been said about postcommunism. Most of our knowledge is based on Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. We know very little about other world regions. How did Afrocommunist countries experience the triple transition of political, economic, and societal transformation? What are there Leninist legacies in Africa? This conference seeks some preliminary answers to these important questions.

Friday 27 May, 2016 (CEU, Nador 9, Gellner Room)

13.00 – 13.30 Matthijs Bogaards (Central European University) - Words of welcome and introduction
14.15 – 15.00 Sokol Lleshi (University of Gothenburg): Late Socialism in East Central Europe and Africa
15.00 – 15.30 Coffee break
16.15 – 17.00 Tom Lodge (University of Limerick): The South African Communist Party
17.00 – 17.30 Coffee break
17.30 – 19.00 Marina Ottaway (Woodrow Wilson Center) - Keynote speech: Beyond Communism and Post-Communism: Change and Stagnation in 21st Century Africa
19.00 – 20.00 Reception

Saturday 28 May, 2016 (CEU, Nador 9, Gellner Room)

10.00 – 10.45 Christopher Clapham (University of Cambridge): Ethiopia and the Failure of the Soviet Model in Africa
10.45 – 11.30 Kelly Askew (University of Michigan): Shifting Labor Regimes and the Privatization of Self-Reliance in Tanzania
11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break
11.45 – 12.30 Pekka Virtanen (University of Jyväskylä): A Comparison of Post-Communist Transitions in Benin and Mozambique
12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break