



**Maynooth
University**
National University
of Ireland Maynooth



TRINITY
COLLEGE
DUBLIN



Embassy of the Czech Republic
in Dublin



MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

1918 and the Old-New Europe



The Armistice of 1918 and the subsequent re-organisation of East-Central Europe into a region of nation-states is an historical moment hardly less revolutionary than the events in Russia the preceding year. In the centennial year of these important transformations, we propose a workshop that re-visits 1918. A series of panel sessions will discuss different perspectives and approaches for understanding the important changes that took place in the region at this time, focussing especially on transnational connections, structural and historical continuities, and marginal voices that have been fully or partially concealed by the emphasis on a national *tabula rasa* in 1918. We contend that 1918 is an ambiguous and contradictory pivot, one which created an ‘Old-New Europe’ caught between the forces of the imperial past and those of the national future.

The workshop was made possible through generous support from the Decades of Commemoration Committee at Maynooth University, the Irish Association of Russian, Central, and Eastern European Studies, the Embassies of the Czech Republic (Czechia) and Slovakia, and the Jean Monnet Chair (Professor John O’Brennan) at the Centre for European and Eurasian Studies, Maynooth University.

RSVP at Johnpaul.newman@mu.ie [by Friday 12 October, spaces limited]

Thursday October 18 (Trinity Long Room Hub)

18.00 Keynote Lecture Alexander Watson (Goldsmiths College)

“Without Any Revolution and Riots”. The Quiet Collapse of the Habsburg Empire, 1918
(Part of the ‘1918 and the New Europe’ lecture series)

Friday October 19 (Maynooth University, Iontas Building, Seminar Room, First Floor)

9.15 – 9.30 Introductory Remarks

9.30 – 11.15 Panel One: Loyalty and Disloyalty at War

Chair: Filipe Ribeiro De Meneses

- Rok Stergar *“Will we still get the salary on November 1st”: The Transition from Habsburg Empire to Yugoslavia as a Journey into the Unknown*
- Róisín Healy *Anti-Imperial Continuities? Ireland and Poland in and after World War I*
- Kerstin Jobst *Revolution and the End of Empire in the Periphery: the Crimea*
- Tamara Scheer *November 1918 and the Habsburg Army’s exit from the War*

11.15– 11.30 Refreshment Break

11.30-13.15 Panel Two: Continuities and Discontinuities after 1918

Chair: Alexander Watson

- Aneta Stępień *Women’s Organisations and Anti-Semitism in Poland after 1918*
- Lili Zách *“Compulsory Independence’: Irish reactions to the birth of the Republic of German-Austria”*
- Mel Farrell *A Democratic Revolution? Cosgrave, de Valera, and the Consolidation of Democracy in Post-Revolutionary Ireland*
- Joanna Urbanek *Polish Legionaries and their Relations with the Austrian Authorities*

13.15-14.00 Lunch Break

14.00 – 15.45 Panel Three: The Birth of Czechoslovakia – a Central European Exception?

Chair: Jana Fischerová

- Jiří Hutečka *Coming Home Going to War: Czech Soldiers’ Narrative of the Transition to Czechoslovakia, 1918-1919*
- Adam Hudek *Integrating Slovakia into Czechoslovakia (1918-1920)*

15.45-16.00 Refreshment Break

16.00 – 17.45 Panel Four: Historical Legacies of 1918

Chair: Marian Lyons

- John Paul Newman, *“Honour for Honour”*: *Entangled Cultures of Victory in interwar Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia 1918-1929*
- Balázs Apor *Leader Cults and Historical Legacies in Twentieth Century Hungary*
- Tea Sindbæk Andersen/Ismar Dedović *Remembering 1918 in Post-Communist Croatia and Serbia: End of War or End of State?*
- Jana Fischerová *1918 in the Cultural Policies of Communist Czechoslovakia: The Competing Cults of Masaryk and Gottwald*

19.30 Conference Dinner, Maynooth