Call for Papers
Yearbook of the Institute of East-Central Europe (YIESW)

East-Central Europe: re-focusing the debate

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Academic debate and popular media discourse about East-Central Europe at present tend to offer a very detailed account of specific aspects of developments in the region. Frequently, these detail-focused accounts of reality are produced at the expense of excluding from the analysis factors that shape the broader international and global contexts in which the countries located in East-Central Europe operate. While the apparent urgency of challenges that unfold in this region at the present time seems to increase, the tendency to treat East-Central Europe as a ‘special case,’ i.e., situated in a limbo defined by its Communist past and detached from developments shaping the rest of the world, intensifies. At the level of empirical analysis, this tacit methodological reductionism renders the debate on East-Central Europe devoid of a comparative perspective and precludes the possibility of acquiring a more comprehensive insight into the nature, scale, and possible implications of contemporary regional developments. At the level of conceptual analysis, this way of addressing the specificity of the region results in knowing more and more about less and less of the overall reality. The objective of this Issue of the Yearbook of the Institute of East-Central Europe (YIESW) is to re-focus the debate about East-Central Europe presently highlighting a variety of conceptual and empirical angles otherwise absent in the debate.

To this end, the Editors of this Issue of YIESW invite those interested Authors to submit paper topic proposals, which aim to explore the nexus that unfolds between East-Central Europe and such issues as: the Brexit referendum; the 2016 US elections; security concerns; trade issues; multilateralism; transatlantic relations, including the future of NATO; transnational security concerns, particularly migration or human trafficking; and nationalism. Interdisciplinary approaches are welcome.

Prospective Authors are kindly asked to submit their paper proposals (300 words), including the Author’s name and affiliation, to the Editors of the Issue at: avisvizi@gmail.com and cgm7@nyu.edu until February 28, 2017. Selected Authors will be invited to submit final drafts of their papers (6000 words, including bibliography; Oxford referencing style) by May 15, 2017. Please contact the Editors with further questions. Thank you.