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NEW PERSPECTIVES AND PATHS IN THE POST-COMMUNIST HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF THE MOUTHS OF THE DANUBE

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Abstract: During the Cold War the issue of the Danube river was highly politicized. The two-sided division of the world after the Second World War –into Communism and Capitalism – brought about the bipolarity of interests and, obviously, of historiographical opinions. The main cause for confrontation was the legal regime of the Danube: the doctrine of the international character of waterways (supported by Western historiography) versus the doctrine of riverine sovereignty (in Communis historiography). The confrontation of the two historiographies monopolized and influenced th econclusions of historians, especially of those in the Communist Bloc. After the fall of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe, Communist historiography on the history of the Mouths of the Danube needed to be reinterpreted. Simultaneously, new research directions emerged, some of them involving interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary approaches. Our study seeks to analyze historiography both from the Communist period, as to discuss its shortcomings, as well as the current research directions that have been opened on the history of the Mouths of the Danube.

Keywords: historiography, Mouths of the Danube, Cold War, post-Communist era, waterway regime

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