

# Nationalism & Socialism in East Central Europe

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It is a terrible mistake to be a small country in the middle of Europe. – *István Deák*



Map credit: <https://www.secretmuseum.net/map-of-east-central-europe/map-of-east-central-europe-maps-of-eastern-european-countries/>

The lands between Germany and Russia continue to be a laboratory for political ideas and ambitions. From the collapse of dynastic empires following World War One and the creational of national states, through the cataclysmic geopolitical and demographic transformations of World Two, from the Cold War era rule of Soviet-style regimes through their collapse, to the expansion of the European Union through today, political and social forces have fostered experimentation with nationalism and socialism, along with forms of fascism, communism, populism and democracy. We will pay special attention to intergroup and individual/state relations, voluntary and forced migration, survival, modernization, and dissent using a variety of primary and secondary sources, including novels, film and music, and innovative pedagogies. We will seek to understand the roots of today's headlines, against a global backdrop.