

25 Years of Revolution

Comparing revolt and transition from Europe 1989 to the Arab World 2014

8-9 January 2014 - Playfair Library Hall, Old College - University of Edinburgh

Programme:

8 January

coffee/tea available from 9.30 am

10.00-10.15 Welcome Directors, CASAW, CRCEES, CEELBAS

10.15-12.30 Panel 1 Chair: Sean Hanley
Thinking through Revolutions: Comparative Narratives

Is Social Revolution Possible in the 21st-century?
Neil Davidson

'Revolution as Secular Miracle: The Political Theologies of 1989 and the "Arab Spring"'
Tim Beasley-Murray

Human Rights Revolutions? From the End of Communism to the Arab Spring
Ned Richardson-Little

12.30-1.30pm Lunch

1.30-3.45 Panel 2 Chair:
Elites, continuities, negotiations

Reassessing Czechoslovakia's 1989 Revolution
David Green

The Primacy of Stability: Central Asia, the Soviet Collapse and the Arab Spring
Luca Anceschi

3.45-4.15 coffee/tea

4.15-6.00 Keynote address and discussion: *Common themes: Misleading Analogies*
Professor Rosemary Hollis
Professor of Middle East Policy Studies and Director, Olive Tree Programme City University

6.00 pm Drinks – 19 George Square – Common room

9 January

Coffee/tea available from 9.30

10.00 – 11.30 Panel 3 Chair:
Representations: Memories and media

Martyrs of revolutions
Ieva Zakareviciute

Representations of the Middle East: National values and Russian state media
Emma Heywood

11.30-12.00 coffee/tea

12.00-13.30 Panel 4 Chair:
The Gaze from afar: International politics as frameworks for analysis

“Addressing the World:” Comparative Perspectives on International Audiences, Political Protest, and Revolutionary Change
Robert Brier, German Historical Institute in Warsaw

Revolutionary Situations and International Relations
Zelal Ozdemir

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch

2.30-4.45 Panel 5 Chair:
Transitions: Building new societies and polities

Constitutions that Suppress Constitutional Democracy: The Experience of the Post-Tyrannical Middle East
Feisal Amin Rasoul al-Istrabadi

Personnel Change or Personal Change? Alternatives to Political Isolation Law in Libya
Roman David

The role of civil society in democracy building and transition processes after 'colour revolutions' and the Arab Spring: comparative study on the example of Ukraine, Georgia, Tunisia and Egypt
Asya Kudlenko

4.45-5.00 coffee/tea

5.15-6.00 Wrap-up discussion

6.00 pm Reception – 19 George Square – Common room