

## Editor's Annual Report | *Central European History* | 2020

Prepared by *CEH* Editor Monica Black (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) for the Central European History Society (CEHS)

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This report summarizes aspects of *CEH*'s operations for the 2020 calendar year. It provides highlights, an overview of the journal's production and publication functions, and statistics concerning submissions.

### I. The 2020 publication year, in brief

**New editorial board members:** The Editor is tremendously pleased to report the appointment of three new board members: Jennifer L. Allen (Yale University), Tiffany N. Florvil (University of New Mexico), and Daniel Siemens (Newcastle University). The journal and its Editor are enormously grateful to these scholars for their willingness to serve in this important capacity on behalf of the journal, the field, and the profession. *CEH* also wishes to thank three former board members who gave generously of their time over a number of years before rolling off the board this year: Donna Harsch, Thomas Kühne, and Benjamin Ziemann.

**Book reviews:** Mirna Zakić has continued to perform great feats for the journal, even under the very trying conditions of Covid-19. In 2020, she commissioned 173 reviews. Of the single-authored books reviewed, 59 were written by women and 98 by men; 16 multiply-authored (or -edited) books were also reviewed. Among the reviewers were 84 women and 89 men. The reviewers work in the USA, Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, Israel, Hong Kong, Australia, and New Zealand.

Mirna has commissioned a forthcoming review essay on recent literature about Nazi New Order/fascist transnationalism and two further "Screening History" essays: one on Philip Kerr's *Bernie Gunther* novels and history seen through the lens of noir fiction; another will take up the films of Christian Petzold and the cinematic memory of both WWII/the Holocaust and the GDR.

Mirna and Monica Black worked together to publish the Forum "History, Self-Interest, and Polyphony," convened by Michael Meng, which concerned Yair Mintzker's *The Many Deaths of Jud Süß* (*CEH* 53:1).

**Editorial features:** For the thirtieth anniversary of the events of 1989/90, the Editor invited Jennifer L. Allen to convene a forum with Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann, Christina Morina, and Patrice Poutrus called "The Unexpectedness of Events: GDR-Born Academics on Becoming Historians after 1989 – 90." A forum on how the pandemic is affecting historians of central Europe's research programs is forthcoming in 2021.

The Editor continues to solicit submissions for two editorial features, *The Present is History* and *Creative Approaches to the Past*. There are essays in the pipeline for both features, and at least two are likely to

publish in 2021. The first essay published under the *Present is History* rubric, Gavriel D. Rosenfeld’s “An American Führer,” is currently *CEH*’s “most-read” article.

The Editor is working with five different guest editors (or guest-editor teams) on special issues.

**Membership:** *CEH* counted 196 members at 2020’s end, a slight uptick from 2019, when we counted 182 members (which was 20 fewer than in 2018).

**New cover design:** In March 2020 (issue 52:1), *CEH* debuted a redesigned cover. Each issue now features a cover image drawn, whenever possible, from one of the issue’s research articles.

**FirstView:** The journal began using the FirstView system this year, which allows research articles to be published on-line before the journal appears in print. We hope this allows contributors’ research and reviews to gain greater exposure sooner.

**Publication schedule:** Covid-19 presented multiple, serious challenges this year, slowing or otherwise hindering all aspects of the journal’s work, from submission rates to the timeliness of reader reports to the production schedule. The March issue of 2020 (53:1) appeared on time (23 March). June (53:2, a special issue) appeared on 27 August. The September issue (52:3) appeared on 10 November. At this writing (21 December), the December issue (53:4) has been mostly approved, and will likely publish in mid-late January.

## II. Statistics concerning submissions and published articles

**Table 1: Publication Overview**

Volume and Number	Articles	Review Articles/Forums	Book Reviews	Other	Pages
53/1-3 (2020)	23	4	60	1	699
52/1-4 (2019)	24	4	25	4	742
51/1-4 (2018)	14	2	18	29	733
50/1-4 (2017)	14	3	49	8	599
49/1-4 (2016)	12	2	68	3	534
48/1-4 (2015)	17	4	72	3	606

**Table 2: Editorial Summary**

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Articles Submitted</b>	43	50	44	63	52	58
<b>---Sent out for peer review</b>	--23 (53%)	---43 (86%)	---30 (68%)	---44 (70%)	---30 (58%)	---18 (31%)
<b>Articles Accepted</b>	5	15	3	6	13	17
<b>Articles to be Revised/Resubmitted</b>	7	6	14	7	10	3
<b>Articles at Referees</b>	8	8	13	19	8	6
<b>Articles Rejected</b>	23	23	12	24	27 (52%)	44

---by Editor	--20	---16	---11	---18	---19 (70%)	---40 (91%)
---After peer review	--3	---7	---1	---6	---8 (30%)	---4 (9%)
Acceptance rate	12%	30%	20%	20%	21%	28%

**Table 3: Submissions and Published Articles by Geographic Location (by author's institutional affiliation)**

	United States	Germany/ Austria/ Switzerland*	UK/ Canada/ Australia/ New Zealand*	Elsewhere	TOTAL
<b>Submissions</b>					
<b>2020</b>	<b>20 (47%)</b>	<b>7 (16%)</b>	<b>4 (9%)</b>	<b>12 (28%)</b>	<b>43</b>
2019	22 (44%)	3 (6%)	8 (16%)	17 (34%)**	50
2018	24 (55%)	3 (7%)	7 (16%)	10 (23%)	44
2017	31 (51%)	11 (17%)	9 (14%)	11 (17%)	63
2016	20 (38%)	6 (12%)	8 (15%)	18 (35%)	52
2015	22 (38%)	2 (3%)	6 (10%)	28 (48%)	58
<b>Articles</b>					
<b>2020 (53)</b>	<b>14 (6%)</b>	<b>2 (9%)</b>	<b>4 (17%)</b>	<b>3 (13%)</b>	<b>23</b>
2019 (Vol. 52)	8 (44%)	1 (6%)	6 (33%)	3 (17%)	18
2018 (51)	10 (71%)	0 (0%)	2 (14%)	2 (14%)	14***
2017 (50)	2 (17%)	2 (17%)	8 (67%)	0 (0%)	12
2016 (49)	8 (57%)	2 (14%)	4 (29%)	0 (0%)	14
2015 (48)	12 (57%)	3 (14%)	4 (19%)	2 (10%)	21

\*Beginning in 2016, the German-speaking and non-US English-speaking countries comprise two separate categories; for 2015 and earlier, Australia, Austria, Canada, and Switzerland were included in "other"

\*\*4 from Poland, 2 each from Czech Republic, Romania, and Slovenia, 1 each from France, Greece, Hong Kong, Norway, Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine

\*\*\*Does not include:

a) the essays in the commemorative issue (51/1), which had 24 participants from the following countries: USA (18), Canada (2), Australia (1), France (1), Germany (1), United Kingdom (1)

b) the international forums published in 51/2 and 51/4, which had 20 participants from the following countries: USA (13), Germany (3), UK (2), Italy (1), Netherlands (1)

**Table 4: Submissions and Articles Published by Time Period**

	Up to 1750	1751-1870	1871-1918	1919-33	1933-45	1945-pres
<b>Submissions</b>						
<b>2020*</b>	5 (10%)	3 (6%)	9 (18%)	5 (10%)	12 (25%)	15 (31%)
2019*	2 (4%)	8 (17%)	8 (17%)	8 (17%)	12 (26%)	9 (19%)
2018	4 (10%)	3 (8%)	6 (15%)	5 (13%)	3 (8%)	19 (48%)
2017	0 (0%)	1 (2%)	13 (22%)	6 (10%)	14 (24%)	24 (41%)
2016	3 (5%)	7 (13%)	12 (22%)	6 (11%)	12 (22%)	15 (27%)
2015	3 (6%)	6 (12%)	13 (24%)	1 (2%)	16 (33%)	17 (35%)
<b>Articles</b>						
<b>2020** (1 &amp; 3)</b>	0 (0%)	3 (15%)	4 (20%)	5 (25%)	5 (25%)	3 (15%)
2019**	2 (11%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	2 (11%)	5 (29%)	6 (35%)
2018 (Vol. 51)**	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (14%)	1 (7%)	9 (64%)	2 (14%)
2017 (50)	1 (8%)	1 (7%)	4 (29%)	2 (15%)	1 (7%)	6 (43%)

2016 (49)	1 (8%)	3 (23%)	3 (23%)	1 (8%)	3 (23%)	2 (15%)
2015 (48)	1 (5%)	2 (10%)	4 (20%)	2 (10%)	5 (26%)	5 (26%)

\*Article submissions covering multiple time periods are counted in each category that applies. Submissions that were desk rejected as inappropriate for the journal are not classified. Submissions that were appropriate for the journal but rejected for other reasons *are* classified.

\*\*Does not include essays in commemorative issues, features, or fora.

**Table 5: Submissions and Articles Published by Geographic Location**

	"Germany"	Elsewhere
<b>Submissions</b>		
2020	22	25 -5 on Austria/Switzerland
2019	36	14 --3 on Austria
2018	35	9 --5 on Austria/Habsburg
2017	50	13 --6 on Austria/Habsburg/Switzerland
2016	47	8 --5 on Austria/Habsburg/Switzerland
2015	40	18 --8 on Austria/Habsburg
<b>Articles published</b>		
2020 (53)	19	5 -2 on Austria/Switzerland
2019 (Vol. 52)	18	0
2018 (51)	13	1 --1 on Austria/Habsburg
2017 (50)	12	2
2016 (49)	15	2
2015 (48)	16	2

**Table 6: Impact Factor**

Year	Impact Factor	5-year Impact Factor
2019	0.271	0.458
2018	0.481	0.547
2017	0.485	0.471
2016	0.196	0.324
2015	0.271	0.243
2014	0.326	0.394