

FORCED MIGRATION AND CIVILISATION UNDER STALINISM

Katrin Boeckh

From the very beginning, the Stalinist regime employed transferring people as an instrument to consolidate its rule over certain regions. This was also the aim when the ethnic mix hitherto prevalent in western Ukraine was massively altered during the Sovietization of this region. The author of the present contribution takes a closer look at forced migration during the entire postwar period, in the country itself as well as cross-border. The following case groups are examined: the exchange of population between the Soviet Union on the one hand and Poland and Czechoslovakia on the other, the expulsion of Jews from northern Bukovina to Romania, the repatriation of Ukrainian “East workers”, and the influx – decreed by administrative measures – of Soviet, predominantly Russian, skilled labour to bolster the ranks of government authorities, industry, and agriculture.