

## ABSTRACTS

### FROM POLNA TO PRAGUE: THE ROUTE TO THE SLÁNSKÝ TRIAL

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This contribution describes, in a longterm perspective, the nationalistic and anti-Semitic tendencies, which culminated in the Slánský trial in Prague in 1952. Using the example of the biography of diplomat and author F. C. (Franz Carl) Weiskopf, who in 1952 was relieved of his post as ambassador to China and later left Czechoslovakia for the GDR, the author demonstrates that the Prague lawsuits were due to an intersection of two lines of conflict: a rather short-term ideological axis, where both the traditions of the workers' movement and the Manichaeism of the early Cold War period had an effect, and a long sequence of ethnic affiliations. According to the author, in Czechoslovakia the Soviet switch of positions in the Near East coincided with the aftereffects of the nationality conflicts and Jewish acculturation dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Thus, the Slánský tribunal continued the tradition of the Moscow trials of 1936-1938 as well as those of both trials against Leopold Hilsner in 1899 and 1900, the last grand trials with ritual murder charges in the Bohemian Lands of the old Habsburg Monarchy.