

Field report about his stay at the EEGA Campus by Dr. Constantin Katsakioris

I had the honor to join the Centre for Area Studies as a fellow of the exciting research “springboard” Eastern Europe – Global Area from June 8 to June 22, 2017. I am researching the training of Third World elites in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe during the Cold War and, more broadly, the cooperation in the fields of education and culture between the socialist countries and the Third World. The project places emphasis on the quantitative and qualitative dimensions of the cooperation, on the relevance of the training programs to developing countries and on their concrete impact. The competition between East and West for the training of postcolonial elites is analyzed within the framework of the global Cold War. Besides, I also study the students’ political activity, race relations, intermarriage, and other issues of Alltagsgeschichte.

During my fellowship I had the opportunity to give two talks and to benefit from a great feedback. But apart from the talks, I had the chance to meet great people with whom I am sure that we will stay in contact and collaborate in projects and initiatives. I enjoyed the discussions, the friendship and collegiality of the Leipzig research community and I am grateful both to the Centre for Area Studies and to the Geisteswissenschaftliche Zentrum Geschichte und Kultur Ostmitteleuropas.