

In conclusion, *Story of Cohesion* is a scholarly, rigorous, original work that innovatively describes the development of ÚESA and its predecessors. It is a unique contribution to the history of academic institutions in Slovakia. The book will be of interest to anyone interested in the history of science. Its originality, analytical depth, modern approach, and appropriate design may inspire other similar Slovak institutions to begin documenting their histories.

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PERSIAN, Jayne. *FASCISTS IN EXILE. Post-War Displaced Persons in Australia*. London: Routledge, 2024, 192 pages.

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“Every nation has its ‘history wars’, contentious debates about the past, what happened and why it is still important. The past, after all, is intrinsic to the idea of nationhood.”¹ This is how Glenda Sluga started her study in the book *The Historian’s Conscience. Australian Historians on the Ethics of History* from 2004, and its thought-provoking idea clearly continues to resonate within historical community, providing a stimulus for researchers, particularly in the selection of their topics.

In “Fascist in exile“, historian Jayne Persian brings attention to the intricate dynamics of post-war history, migration, and the impact of fascist emigres on Australia and Europe. In the first chapter, the author describes the general development of post-war regulations and the political and legal consequences for Nazi collaborators and other prisoners of war in the countries of Central Eastern Europe. In this chapter, she also illustrates how Western countries dealt with the issue of former Nazi collaborators trying to escape Soviet influence in the context of the Cold War.

The author then describes the decisions of the Australian government regarding the reception of displaced persons, including the system of Australian migration policy and its bureaucratic apparatus. This chapter also includes information within the international context, such as United Nations resolutions. The author demonstrates the steps taken by the Australian government using specific examples of displaced persons and the criteria for their acceptance. She describes the efforts of the Australian government representatives to reinstate the immigration regime act of 1901, which aimed to prevent the integration of racial diversity. The problematic past was perceived only in terms of leaning towards communist ideology and connections to the Soviet Union.

In the following chapter, the focus shifts to describing the emerging resistance of part of the Australian population in the 1950s and 1960s against the actions of the Australian

1 SLUGA, Glenda. Whose History. In MACINTYRE, Stuart, ed. *The Historian’s Conscience. Australian Historians on the Ethics of History*. Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 2004, s. 127.

government in connection with the mass acceptance of former Nazi collaborators as war criminals, whose problematic past was not thoroughly investigated upon arrival in Australia. The author supplements this chapter with testimonies from individuals in the Jewish community who were exposed to specific anti-Semitic attitudes and behavior. Jayne Persian also draws on contemporary correspondence, court records, or media articles for individual cases. Another distinct group in this chapter is the emerging anti-fascist groups.

The author divides the fourth chapter into two separate case studies focusing on the activities and continuity of the Hungarian and Croatian fascist movements, whose members were resettled in Australia – Nyilaskeresztes Párt – Hungarista Mozgalom and Ustaša.

In the last chapter, the author concludes her book with a description of events related to the opening of legal proceedings in the 1970s and 1980s regarding war crimes under the War Crimes Act and the methods of investigation by the Australian Special Investigations Unit (SIU). In the case of investigative files, the author processed unpublished information only recently made available from the SIU archive.

In addition to the main research question of how the migration routes of individuals associated with Nazi Germany could have been influenced and what insights can be gained about their impact on international and national structures in Australia and Europe, the book has another objective. It belongs to an unofficial series of publications with interdisciplinary characters dealing with national and global far-right political policies or manifestations. In the introduction the author also states that, through her research, she aims to bring a change in the semantic perception of fascist emigrants, approaching them as active political actors with their own influence on social structures. The author clearly defined her research question, which she managed to answer, and also prompted further questions within her conclusion in this area of study.

Within this topic, it would be appropriate to distinguish and formally separate the far-right political spectrum from social movements, which often use different methods, as the author treats them as a universal subject. Following this, it would also be suitable to consider the cultural aspect in such a topic, which could have influenced these groups, as the author mentions that displaced persons should be perceived primarily as political subjects, providing readers with a one-dimensional perspective.

It is also unfortunate that the author does not delve further into the introduction to provide a broader overview of methodological details and structures that could possibly answer some of the critical remarks. Similarly, she does not detail how the book should contribute to the current discourse on the concept of historical guilt, vaguely stating that representatives of the far-right political spectrum have misused this topic in recent decades without further specification.

One of the biggest positives of this publication is the author's chosen timeframe for addressing this issue. Although it focuses on the period from 1945 to 1952, the book also deals with later periods, especially in the case of political changes that occurred in Australia in the 1970s and 1980s, as well as the societal perception of the Holocaust or Nazi collaborators in an international context. In the conclusion, the author argues that the chosen topic is important for the contemporary social discourse on the perception

of the concept of historical guilt or subjective dealing with the past, emphasizing the importance of historical research and consistency in interpretation. One of the drawbacks might be the author's descriptive and partly narrative approach. In several cases, it might involve simplification and lack of effort for an interpretation of the historical text. When mentioning selected realities or historical contexts, there are several instances where references to a broader literature that works more with selected definitions are missing. For example, there is only a brief description of the wartime Slovak state, specifically the Hlinka Guard, which, without any closer definition, is referred to as a basic right-wing group participating in the deportation of the Jewish population. In this case, it is very important to mention the context of the establishment of the Hlinka Guard and the political-legal system of the Slovak state. Describing this type of context could inform readers about the functioning of Nazi collaborators in Central and Eastern Europe, the very regions the author focuses on within the issue of the migration of displaced persons after the Second World War.

The selection and processing of this topic are surely a very positive addition to world historiography and it demonstrates the capability to offer new perspectives on the role of fascist emigres in shaping post-war societies, challenging conventional historical narratives. In addition to the selection of the topic itself, it is also important to note that Jayne Persian, through her research, brought a wide spectrum of information from primary sources that could be useful in processing other topics within historical research. The book has the potential to appeal to various researchers and motivate them to consider the international context and the possibilities of using contextual analysis within their own methodological framework.

Jayne Persian's research could also help the public sphere learn more about the complexity of fascist and far-right movements in general. By precise examination of these historical events, the book *Fascists in Exile* aims to create useful materials that can make it easier for readers to understand the different aspects of the historical events.

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UNITED IN DIVERSITY: Contemporary European Jewry in an Interdisciplinary Perspective. Edited by Marcela Menachen Zoufalá and Olaf G. Glöckner. Berlin; Boston: De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2023, 242 pages.
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The publication is the sixty-second volume in the series *European-Jewish Studies*, which focuses on publishing research that examines the relations between Jewish populations and the majority in specific European countries or during specific periods, primarily in the historical context of the twentieth century. Naturally, the most frequently addressed