

BENJAMIN FROMMER
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Professional Experience

Associate Professor, Department of History, Northwestern University, 2005-present.
Wayne V. Jones Research Professor in History (2010-2012).

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Northwestern University, 1999-2005.

Education

Harvard University, Ph.D. in History, November 1999.

Harvard University, Master of Arts in History, June 1993.

Columbia University, Bachelor of Arts, *Magna Cum Laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*, May 1991.

Books and Current Manuscript Projects

The Road to Theresienstadt: The Persecution of Bohemian and Moravian Jews, 1938-1945.

The history of the development, implementation and enforcement of antisemitic measures in the Nazi Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. Book project in progress.

Czechoslovakia: From Birth to Death (and Beyond), 1918-2004. Under contract with Blackwell Publishing.

National Cleansing: Retribution against Nazi Collaborators in Postwar Czechoslovakia.

New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005. Translated and published in Czech as: *Národní očista: Retribuce v poválečném Československu.* Prague: Academia, 2010.

Articles and Book Chapters

“Legitimacy in Inter-War Europe” (co-authored with Peter Romijn) in *The War on Legitimacy in Politics and Culture*, ed. by Martin Conway and Peter Romijn (Oxford and New York: Berg Publishers, 2008), 29-65.

“Denouncers and Fraternalizers: Gender, Collaboration, and Retribution in Bohemia and Moravia during the Second World War and After.” *Gender and War in 20th-Century Eastern Europe*, ed. by M. Bucur and N. Wingfield (Bloomington: Indiana UP, 2006).

“Getting the Small Decree: Czech National Honor in the Aftermath of the Nazi Occupation.” *Constructing Nationalities in East Central Europe*, ed. by Pieter M. Judson and Marsha L. Rozenblit (New York: Berghahn Books, 2004), 267-282.

“Retribution as Legitimation: The Uses of Political Justice in Postwar Czechoslovakia,” *Contemporary European History* 13:4 (2004), 477-492.

“To Prosecute or to Expel? Czechoslovak Retribution and the ‘Transfer’ of the Sudeten Germans,” in Philip Ther and Ana Siljak, eds., *Redrawing Nations: Ethnic Cleansing in East-Central Europe, 1944-1948* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2001), 221-240.

“Expulsion or Integration: Unmixing Interethnic Marriage in Postwar Czechoslovakia.” *East European Politics and Societies* 14:2 (Spring 2000), 381-410.

Fellowships and Grants

Fulbright Senior Research Scholar to the Czech Republic	2009-2010
Visiting Fellow, Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Vienna	2004-2005
International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) research fellowship	2003
American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Postdoctoral Fellowship	2002-2003
Harvard University Center for European Studies Dissertation Writing Grant	1998-1999
Jacob K. Javits Fellowship for the Humanities	1993-1996, 1998
International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) research fellowship	1997
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship	1996-1997
Harvard University Center for European Studies Dissertation Research Grant	1996
Center for European Studies Opportunity Grant for preliminary dissertation research	1994
Harvard University Center for European Studies German Language Training Grant	1993
Fulbright (IIE) Scholar to Czechoslovakia	1991-1992
American Council of Learned Societies Summer Language Training Grant (for Czech)	1991

Invited Lectures (selected)

“The Enforcement of Anti-Semitic Measures in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia,” Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for European History and Public Spheres, Vienna, Austria, 15 June 2010.

“Retribution Fatigue: Why Czech Courts Became Lenient over Time,” Institute for Contemporary History, Prague, Czech Republic, 9 June 2010.

“Building the ‘Ghetto without Walls’: How Czech Fascists, Prague Bureaucrats and the Local Police Enforced Antisemitic Regulations in the Protectorat,” Collegium Carolinum, Munich, Germany, 7 May 2010.

“Czech Jews and their Neighbors before, during, and after World War Two,” University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 11 October 2007.

Invited book lectures on *National Cleansing* (Cambridge UP, 2005): University of Florida, Gainesville, 8 March 2006; University of Wisconsin, Madison, 3 March 2006; Österreichisches Ost- und Südosteuropa-Institut, Vienna, Austria, 31 May 2005; Collegium Carolinum, Munich, Germany, 18 March 2005; Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, 20 January 2005.

“Confronting the Legacy of Nazism: The Extraordinary Trial of Two Ordinary Women, Prague 1947.” Center for Austrian Studies, U. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, 13 Nov. 2003.

“The Great Unmixing: The Expulsion of the Germans from Eastern Europe.” University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 31 March 2000.

Conference and Panel Organization

Primary organizer and director of the Ninth Annual Czech Cultural Workshop, Northwestern University, Evanston and Chicago, Illinois, 25-27 April 2008.

Organizer of “War Crimes Trials as Sources for Writing History,” Roundtable, American Historical Association annual meeting, Washington, D.C., 9 January 2004.

Co-organizer of “Compensating for History? Restitution and Retribution for World War Two Crimes” Symposium, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 19-20 May 2000.

Book Reviews

- Cornwall, Mark and R. J. W. Evans, eds. *Czechoslovakia in a Nationalist and Fascist Europe, 1918-1948*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. *The English Historical Review* CXXIV:507, 496-99.
- Curp, T. David. *A Clean Sweep? The Politics of Ethnic Cleansing in Western Poland, 1945-1960*. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2006. *The American Historical Review* (December 2008), 1624-25.
- Haar, Ingo and Michael Fahlbusch, eds., *German Scholars and Ethnic Cleansing, 1920-1945* (Oxford and New York: Berghahn Books, 2005), *Central European History* 41:4 (December 2008), 710-12.
- Rothkirchen, Livia. *The Jews of Bohemia and Moravia: Facing the Holocaust*. Lincoln, NE and Jerusalem: University of Nebraska Press and Yad Vashem, 2005. *Association of Jewish Studies Review* (2008), 209-11.
- Blaive, Muriel. *Une déstalinisation manquée: Tchécoslovaquie 1956*. Brussels: Éditions Complexe, 2005. *The American Historical Review* 111:4 (Oct. 2006), 1276.
- Noel Calhoun, *Dilemmas of Justice in Eastern Europe's Democratic Transitions*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004. *IWM Post* 87, winter 2005.
- Naimark, Norman M. *Fires of Hatred: Ethnic Cleansing in Twentieth-Century Europe*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001. *Canadian-American Slavic Studies*.
- Jiřík, Václav. *Nedaleko od Norimberku: Z dějin Mimořádného lidového soudu v Chebu v letech 1946 až 1948*. Cheb: Svět křídel, 2000. *Bohemia* 44/1 (2003), 266-68.
- MacDonald, Callum and Jan Kaplan. *Prague in the Shadow of the Swastika: A History of the German Occupation, 1939-1945*. Vienna: WUV Universitätsverlag, 2001. HABSBUrg Net (H-Net) Reviews 2002/26 (18 December 2002).

Paper Presentations (Selected)

- "Victims are Perpetrators: Wartime Violence, Postwar Revenge, and their Interwoven Legacy in Central Europe," Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, 18 April 2009
- "The Not-so-Strange Case of Milan Kundera," Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Vienna, Austria, 26 September 2009.
- "One Country, Two Reckonings: A Comparison of Slovak and Czech Trials of Nazi Collaborators," Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, 7 November 2008.
- "Czechoslovak Justice (and Injustice) before, during, and after February 1948," The Elliot School of International Affairs at George Washington University, Washington, DC, 24 October 2008.
- "Narratives of Sudeten German Suffering: The Czechs' Special Role," Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto, Canada, 13 October 2007.
- "The Postwar European Reckoning: A Comparative Approach to the Punishment of War Criminals and Collaborators." American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) National Convention, Washington, DC, November 17, 2006.

- “In the Shadow of the Iron Curtain: The Czech/Slovak - German/Austrian Borderlands from the Second World War to the European Union (1945-2004),” World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES), Frankfurt-an-der-Oder, Germany, 29 July 2005.
- “One Country, Two Reckonings: Slovak and Czech Retribution against Nazi Collaborators,” Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Vienna, Austria, 12 April 2005.
- “From Democratic Paragon to Nationalist Hypocrite: American Historiography Revisits Czechoslovakia,” Collegium Carolinum annual conference, Bad Wiessee, Germany, 13 November 2004.
- “War Crimes Trials as Sources for Writing History: Czechoslovakia,” American Historical Association annual meeting, Washington, D.C. , 9 January 2004.
- “Prague People’s Court 1947: Two Women and a Nation’s Past,” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention (AAASS) National Convention, Toronto, Canada, 20 November 2003.
- “Reflections on the Consequences of Ethnic Cleansing in Czechoslovakia.” German Studies Association annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, 20 September 2003.
- “Retribution as Justification: Legitimizing the ‘Transfer’ and the Regime in Postwar Czechoslovakia.” European Science Foundation Workshop, “Moments of Transition,” Ghent, Belgium, 15 September 2002.
- “The Consequences of Ethnic Cleansing in Czechoslovakia.” Princeton University Davis Center conference, “Unsettling Europe: Migration and Its Aftermath in the Twentieth Century,” Princeton, New Jersey, 4 May 2002.
- “Victims and Perpetrators: Czech Women under Nazi Rule and After.” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) National Convention, Arlington, Virginia, 17 Nov. 2001.
- “Dismembering the Bourgeoisie: The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Bat’a Trials.” Czech Cultural Studies Workshop, U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 23 March 2001.
- “Mutual Condemnation, Mutual Compensation: Making Amends for a Decade of Czecho-German Ethnic Violence, 1938-1948.” Symposium on “Compensating for History,” Northwestern U., Evanston, Illinois, 20 May 2000.
- “People’s Courts and Popular Justice in Czechoslovakia, 1945-1948.” Czech Cultural Studies Workshop, U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 15 April 2000.
- “National Purification: Retribution against Nazi Collaborators in Postwar Czechoslovakia.” Symposium on the “Dilemmas of East Central Europe: Nationalism, Dictatorship, and the Search for Identity,” Columbia U., New York, 24 March 2000.
- “Defining and Punishing Collaboration after the Czechoslovak ‘Revolutions’ of 1945 and 1989.” AAASS, St. Louis, Missouri, 21 November 1999.

University Service and Awards (selected)

Co-Director, Central and Southeastern Europe Study Group (BCICS)
Steering Committee, Center for Historical Studies (2008-)
Humanities Council, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities (2008-)
Director of European Studies, 2006-2009.

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of History, 2005-2008.

2007 WCAS Distinguished Teaching Award

Awarded yearly to three professors in the Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences.

Foreign Languages

Czech, French, German, Russian, and Slovak.

Editing and Consulting

Manuscript referee: Cornell University Press, Harvard University Press, Oxford University Press, Pittsburgh University Press, Purdue University Press, Palgrave Macmillan, *Contemporary European History*, *East European Politics and Societies*, *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historique*, *The Journal of Cold War History*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Nationalities Papers*, and *Slavic Review*.

Historical Consultant, *The Fighter*, award-winning documentary film.

Undergraduate and Graduate Teaching (selected)

“Nations and Nationalism” (graduate)

“The Historiography of the Habsburg Monarchy” (graduate)

“The Historiography of Communist East Europe” (graduate)

“The Disintegration of Yugoslavia.”

“The Second World War in Europe and Asia” (team-taught).

“The History of Modern Europe since 1750.”

“The Culture and History of Eastern Europe” (team-taught).

“East-Central Europe from the First to the Second World War, 1914-1945.”

“East-Central Europe under Communist Rule and Beyond, 1945 to the Present.”

“Retribution against War Criminals and Collaborators in 20th-Century Europe.”

“Divided Continent: Eastern and Western Europe, 1945-1989”