

Sami Suodenjoki

Abstract: Denunciation fomenting the atmosphere of surveillance in Finland, 1898–1905

At the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, an unprecedented number of Finnish rural people sent letters to the Chancellery of the Governor-General of Finland. Amid the political turbulence caused by the Russian government's integration measures, these letters inflamed the Finnish-nationalist press because they were presumed to contain political denunciations against other citizens. The letters of denunciation and their senders were extensively covered in the contemporary media, and the alarmed views of nationalist newspapers were later adopted by national historiography, which tended to view denunciations as part of the increasing espionage and surveillance of the imperial regime. However, few scholars have examined the rural letters sent to the imperial government or the people who actually wrote them. This article fills the gap by analysing the content and senders of 206 letters sent from the Finnish countryside to the Governor-General between 1898 and 1905. The article examines the motives and social background of the senders and contemplates how citizens' urge to approach the Governor-General was fuelled by the attempts of the Russian government to tighten its grip over the Finnish civil society.

The article argues that a majority of the senders were lower-class rural inhabitants such as small farmers, tenants and agricultural workers whose letters were essentially motivated by experiences of mistreatment and not having a voice. Most of the letters can be called requests or complaints but many of them also contained denunciations concerning anti-government activity. Typical targets of the denunciations were civil servants, priests and landowners who were accused of circulating seditious literature, agitating against conscription or slandering the tsar or the Governor-General. The Chancellery of the Governor-General welcomed the letters from rural inhabitants as evidence of popular support to the imperial regime and occasionally launched investigations based on the denunciations. In some cases, the denunciations may even have contributed to the arrests and expulsions of nationalist activists. On the other hand, many of the senders ran into difficulties because information about their letters to the Governor-General leaked to the public, exposing them to discrimination by their nationalist fellow inhabitants.

Keywords: letters of denunciation, Russification, Finland, 19th century

Tuomas Laine-Frigen

Abstract: Psychology and the politics of child protection after 1956 in Hungary

Hungary in the early 1950s, led by Stalin's "best pupil" Mátyás Rákosi, was a faithful follower of the Soviet line. This was manifested in the fields of culture and science. Thus, most of the psychological research was labelled ideologically dangerous bourgeois pseudo-science. After the death of Stalin, followed by Khrushchev's anti-Stalinist critique and the policies of "peaceful coexistence", a science-political opening was experienced in the Eastern Bloc. In addition to sociology, cybernetics and Mendelian genetics, psychology was rehabilitated and introduced into the centrally directed communist academic system.

In Hungary, the bad memory of Rákosi's dictatorship was added with the experience of the 1956 revolution and its violent suppression. After 1956, one-party dictatorship was forced to change the methods of governing. Social and economic policies were adopted to legitimize the system and to build a kind of a paternalist welfare state. In this task, psychological expertise was needed. The article investigates the discourse of child- and educational psychologists in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Child protection was a high political priority for the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. It was one of the fields in which psychological expertise was articulated and used as a tool to adapt people to Socialist society.

Keywords: psychology, child protection, socialist state, Hungary, 20th century

Ville Laamanen

Abstract: Cultural diplomacy in Lubyanka's shadow: Olavi Paavolainen's encounters in the Soviet Union in 1939

Finnish writer Olavi Paavolainen (1903–1964) visited the Soviet Union in the summer of 1939 as a guest of VOKS, the All-Union Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. By introducing memos produced by VOKS officials as well as Paavolainen's own notes and correspondence, this article offers a rare microhistorical analysis of how Soviet society tried to present itself to a liberal, non-communist foreigner immediately after the Great Terror of 1936–1938. Since there were no guarantees that Paavolainen would produce a favorable travel account, accepting him was a calculated risk for VOKS and its vice-chairman Grigorij Hejfec, who was not only a veteran of the Soviet secret police but, like his guest, also a well-travelled cosmopolitan. While additional research is needed before wider conclusions can be reached, Paavolainen's trip indicates that, in 1939, VOKS was

recovering from the political purges and exploring new strategies in its cultural diplomacy operations. Although Paavolainen never managed to write the book he planned, the surviving sources illustrate that he encountered a society that presented itself as rational, technological and scientific but that was also troubled by the shadows of the Great Terror.

Keywords: soviet society, Stalin's terror, cultural encounters, 20th century

Raita Merivirta

Forced sterilisations and slum clearances: the poor and the limits of civil rights in Delhi during the Emergency (1975–1977)

The Emergency (26 June 1975–21 March 1977), declared by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, was a period of autocratic rule during which the press was censored, judicial procedures and democratic rights, such as freedom of assembly, were suspended and opposition politicians arrested in India. Slum clearance campaigns and forced sterilisations, which were programmes led by Indira Gandhi's son Sanjay Gandhi and targeted especially at the poor inhabitants of Delhi, constitute some of the worst excesses of the Emergency rule.

In this article I examine the selective use of power and trampling of civil rights by the Indian government during the Emergency and the effect of these on the lives of the poor in Delhi at the time. I also discuss whether this 21-month period was as exceptional a period as is often assumed with regard to the government programmes the poor were subjected to.

Since the Indian press was heavily censored during the Emergency, my primary sources consist of the political exposés and resistance literature that was published right after the end of the Emergency in 1977 and 1978. My main primary source is John Dayal and Ajoy Bose's book *For Reasons of State: The Emergency in Delhi* (1977) which focuses on the lives and experiences of ordinary (poor) people in Delhi during the Emergency.

The article shows that though the suspension of civil rights during the Emergency applied to all citizens of India, all classes of the Indian society, it was mostly the poor population that suffered from it and whose rights were most severely trampled upon by such programmes as forced family planning and slum clearances. The possibilities of the poor to take part in the civil society were much more limited than those of the middle class and in the circumstances in which the oppressive government measures were targeted especially at the poor their possibilities to influence

decisions over their own lives were diminished even further.

Keywords: family planning policies, forced sterilizations, slums, censorship, India, 20th century

Jari Eloranta ja Pavel Osinsky

Abstract: First World War and its effects on revolutions in Russia, Finland, Spain and China

Revolutions and civil wars have been researched abundantly within different fields of science, but usually the approach has not been truly interdisciplinary. With the approaches of comparative sociology and historical research we can obtain a new aggregate picture of why in two of the key revolutions of the first half of the 20th century – namely, in Russia and China – Socialists/Communists won and why in two others – Finland and Spain – they lost. There are two main explanations for these processes: the mobilization for the world wars and the resultant breakdown of societal structures, as well as the alliances between the peasants and the revolutionaries, which also encompassed promises of redistribution of land and lessening of the authoritarian rules.

Keywords: revolutions, civil wars, historiography, China, Finland, Russia, Spain, 20th century

Kimmo Elo

Abstract: "Pakaslahti case" and the methodology of intelligence research

After the Cold War, new archival sources have been made available for researchers. This includes material from the archives of former socialist intelligence services. Although these materials could improve our understanding of Cold War history, the use of intelligence materials can be tricky and bound with several methodological and practical pitfalls. Especially contemporary intelligence history that discusses issues and persons in the near past needs to consider ethical questions often unfamiliar to "normal" history writing. In this respect, historians using materials related e.g. to espionage should take methodological considerations especially seriously but also be extremely careful when drawing consequences based on material from archives of intelligence services.

This article will present a not-so-often used method called "the ladder to the best explanation" based on hypothesis testing. The method helps the researcher to eliminate weak explanations in order to achieve a robust and well-tested explanation. The method will be used to testify whether Alpo Rusi's reasoning, presented in his recent book, about the real person behind the code

name "Andreas" can be justified as scientifically valid and robust. "Andreas" was an "informal collaborator" of East German foreign intelligence during the 1970s and 1980s. The article will evidence several weaknesses and pitfalls in Rusi's reasoning, most of them related to research methodology and the use of archival sources.

Keywords: socialist state, DDR, Stasi, intelligence archives, 20th century