

Vladimir Solonari, Ph.D.

- Associate Professor
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Education

- Ph.D. from Moscow State University (1986)

Research Interests

Russian History, Eastern Europe, Holocaust

Recent Research Activities

Vladimir Solonari's research focuses on the policy of ethnic cleansing in World War II Romania. The book he is currently writing will show how various factors led to the steep radicalization of Romanian policy towards its national minorities during World War II, first of all Jews. It will argue that the Romanian government's avowed policy aim in the first phase of the war was complete "purification" of the country from all ethnic non-Romanians and will explain why this aim was never achieved. The book will trace reactions of various social groups to the government's measures and will explain how those reactions in turn impacted actual policy pursued by the government. Vladimir Solonari was a Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy, and a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. He is the author of a number of articles on the history of Romania and Moldova, as well as on Moldovan politics.

Selected Publications

Books

- *A Satellite Empire: Romanian Rule in Southwestern Ukraine, 1941-1944* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2019)
- *Purifying the Nation: Population Exchange and Ethnic Cleansing in Nazi-Allied Romania* (Washington, Dc and Baltimore: Woodrow Wilson center Press and Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010) was published in Romanian translation.
- *Purifying the Nation: Population Exchange and Ethnic Cleansing in Nazi Allied Romania* Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009

Articles/Essays

- *Forthcoming* "Record Weak: Romanian Judiciary in Occupied Transnistria" forthcoming in *Journal of Romanian Studies*, vol. 3 # 1 (April 2020), 28 pp.
- "On the Persistence of Moral Judgment: Local Perpetrators in Transnistria as Seen by Survivors and Their Christian Neighbors" in Claire Zalc and Tal Bruttman, eds., *Microhistories of the Holocaust* (New York: Berghahn, 2017), pp. 190-208. Paperback, 2018.
- "A Conspiracy to Murder: Explaining the Dynamics of Romanian 'Policy' towards Jews in Transnistria" in *Journal of Genocide Research*, 2017 vol. 19, # 1, 1–21.
- "Nationalist Utopianism, Orientalist Imagination, and Economic Exploitation: Romanian Aims and Policies in Transnistria, 1941–1944" in *Slavic Review* vol. 75, no. 3 (Fall 2016), 583-605.
- "Hating Soviets—Killing Jews: How Antisemitic Were Local Perpetrators in Southern Ukraine, 1941–42?" in *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* vol. 15, no. 3 (Summer 2014): 505–33.
- "Public Discourses on the Holocaust in Moldova: Justification, Instrumentalization, and Mourning" in Joanna Michlic and John-Paul Himka, eds., *Bringing the Dark Past to Light: The Reception of the Holocaust in Post-Communist Europe* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2013), 377-402.
- "Ethnic Cleansing or Crime Prevention? Deportation of Romanian Gypsies" in Anton Weiss-Wendt, ed., *The Nazi Holocaust of the Gypsies*. (Oxford, UK: Berghahn, 2013), 96-119.
- "In the Shadow of Ethnic Nationalism: Racial Science in Romania" in Rory Yeomans and Anton Weiss-Wendt, eds., *Racial Science in Hitler's New Europe, 1939-1945* (Lincoln, NE: Nebraska University Press, 2013), 259-286.
- "Normalizing Russia, Legitimizing Putin," *Kritika: Explorations of Russian and Eurasian History* 10 (Fall: 2009), 835-846.
- "An Important New Document on the Romanian Policy of Ethnic Cleansing during World War II," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 2007 21: 268-297.
- "Patterns of Violence: Local Population and the Mass Murder of Jews in Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina, July-August 1941," in *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 8 (4: 2007), 749-787.
- "Regulation of Ethnic Relations in Post-Soviet Countries: The Cases of Latvia and Moldova Compared/UREJANJE MEDETNIČNIH ODNOSOV IN POST-SOVJETSKIH DRŽAVAH: PRIMERJAVA MED LATVIJO IN MOLDOVO" in *Razprave in gradivo*, N 52 (2007), pp. 316-342.
- "'Model Province': Explaining the Holocaust of Bessarabian and Bukovinian Jewry," *Nationalities Papers*, Vol. 34, No. 4, September 2006, pp. 471-500.
- "Creating 'a People': A Case Study in Post-Soviet History-Writing." *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, Vol. 4, No. 2, 2003: 411-448.

- "From Silence to Justification?: Moldovan Historians on the Holocaust of Bessarabian and Transnistrian Jews." in *Nationalities Papers*, Vol. 30, No. 3, 2002: 435-457.
- "Narrative, Identity, State: History Teaching in Moldova." *East European Politics and Societies*, Vol. 16, No. 2, 2002: 415-446.

Book Sections/Chapters

- "Trandniestria: Old Problems, New Developments" in *Beyond EU Enlargement*. Berthelsman, 2002.
- "Moldova: Two Conflicts with Different Histories" in *Societies in Conflict: The Contribution of Law and Democracy to Conflict Resolution*. Council of Europe, 2000.
- "Regulation of Ethnic Relations in Post-Soviet Countries: the Cases of Latvia and Moldova Compared" in *Constitutional, Legal, and Political Regulation and Management of Ethnic Relations*. Ljubljana, 2000.
- "The Political Elite of the Republic of Moldova" in *The New Elite in Post-Communist Eastern Europe*. Texas A&M Pres, 1999, 188-200.
- "Difficulties in Constructing a Nation-State in the Republic of Moldova" in *The Transformation of the Nation-State in Europe at the Dawn of the 21st Century*. Council of Europe, 1998: 369-380.
- With Vladimir Bruter, "Russians in Moldova" in *The New Russian Diaspora: Russian Minorities in the Former Soviet Republics*. M.E. Sharp, 1994: 72-91.

Awards

Research Incentive Award, 2019

Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena fellowship 2014

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend (archival research in Kiev, Ukraine, 2010)

Research Grant from the Holocaust Education Foundation. 2009

Fellowship at Yad Vashem, The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, Jerusalem, Israel, 2009

Pinchas and Mark Wisen Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington DC, 2008