

Russia and Eastern Europe

[Wilson Centre: Hungarian uprising](#)

The uprising began in Hungary as a spontaneous nationwide revolt against the People's Republic of Hungary and its Soviet policies, while in Poland similar political uprisings began in October 1956. The Documents, most of which are working notes, are from 1956 and come from Russia and Bulgarian archives.

[Euro Docs](#)

Euro Docs lists primary documents related to the history of Hungary. Government legal documents are available from both Hungary and the Soviet Union, both World War One and Two, the 1956 uprising, and foreign relations with the US.

[The National Security Archive: Hungarian uprising](#)

The National Security archive was founded in 1985 by journalists and scholars to act as a check against government secrecy. The website contains a number of Soviet documents from 1956.

[Stasi Library](#)

The Stasi library provides a simple multimedia access to selected contents of the Stasi archive. In addition to documentary material of this online offer includes videos, audio recordings and photographs of the Stasi. The site is in German but it can be translated.

[German Historical Institute: Making the History of 1989](#)

The Roy Rosenzweig Centre for History and New Media at George Mason University received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities to create *making the History of 1989*. The database is divided into 5 sections: Introduction essay, Primary sources, scholar interview, teaching modules and case studies. The section on primary sources is split into sources by country, giving an overview of each countries perspective on events.

[Wilson Centre: Berlin Wall](#)

This section contains documents on the history of the Berlin Wall. The documents range from 1953, when troops were deployed to guard the border, to the aftermath of collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1990.

[The Avalon Project](#)

The Avalon Project lists of primary documents from the 20th century, including diplomatic relations of the USSR, the US and Great Britain. Database also offers an insight of World War I and II, and the Cold War.

[Central Intelligence Agency \(CIA\)](#)

The Historical Review Program, part of the CIA Information Management Services, identifies, collects and produces historically relevant collections of declassified documents. These collections, cantered on a theme or event and with supporting analysis, essays, video, audio, and photographs, are showcased in a booklet and DVD that are available to the academic realm and the public.

[Library of Congress: Herblock Gallery](#)

This selection of political cartoons by Herblock in the library of Congress shows the satirical representation of the cold war. The small selection contains cartons that are satires of the Berlin Wall, Nikita Khrushchev, the space race and the cold war in general. The site has also provided a small description of each cartoon to explain the political context.

[The Harvard Project on the Soviet Social System Online](#)

The Harvard Project on the Soviet Social System Online provides access to digitized materials selected from the Harvard Project on the Soviet Social System. The digital collection consists chiefly of summary transcripts of 705 interviews conducted with refugees from the USSR during the early years of the Cold War.

[German Propaganda Archive: East German Propaganda](#)

This page is part of the German Propaganda Archive, a collection of translations of propaganda material from the East German era. This page covers propaganda in the German Democratic Republic (the GDR) for the period 1949-1989

[US National Archives: The Berlin Crisis of 1961](#)

The National Declassification Centre of the National Archives and Records Administration and the Historical Collections Division of the Central Intelligence Agency have partnered to publish newly declassified documents that reveal intimate details of the five month Berlin Crisis of 1961. The site has made available a wide range of documents from the 1961 Berlin Crisis, from memorandum by the Secretary of Defence to letters from President Kennedy to General Lauris Norstad during the crisis

[Wilson Centre: Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan \(1979\)](#)

The Wilson Centre has a section of documents on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan that began in December 1979. The documents begin before the war, spanning from 1968 to 2004. The collection contains many different types of documents, but a large number of them are memos, cables, and Politburo decisions

[The Soviet Experience in Afghanistan: Russian Documents and Memoirs](#)

This site contains 23 documents covering the Russian invasion of Afghanistan between 1979 and 1989. The site has included minutes taken from Politburo meetings, in which Afghanistan was discussed and letters between Russian political and military leaders. The entire collection of documents has been translated into English from Russian for users to read. Website is not compatible with Internet Explorer

[Gulag History](#)

Many Days, Many Lives presents the history of this system through a archive of video, art, artefacts, photographs, and the life stories of former Gulag prisoners. Online exhibitions take visitors on a thematic exploration of Gulag life, including a virtual tour of the reconstructed camp and museum made possible by the Gulag Museum at Perm-36.

[President of Russia](#)

Database contains documents, speeches and transcripts of the Presidency of Vladimir Putin.

[Margaret Thatcher Foundation](#)

The Margaret Thatcher Foundation is an online archive of records, reports and transcripts of Margaret Thatcher's political career. Archive has transcripts of Thatcher's and Mikhail Gorbachev dialog regarding Germany.

[The National Security Archive: The Shevardnadze file:](#)

The National Security archive was founded in 1985 by journalists and scholars to act as a check against government secrecy. The link takes you directly to a brief outlay of Eduard Shevardnadze and primary source related to his involvement in ending the cold war.

[Wilson Centre: Gorbachev](#)

This database contains conversations and notes related to Gorbachev ranging from 1986 to 1989.

[Ronald Reagan: Presidential Library and Museum:](#)

The Public Papers of the President: Ronald Reagan, 1981-1989 contain the statements, speeches and papers released by the Office of the Press Secretary during the Reagan Presidency. Database contains Reagan's meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev.

[Hoover Institute: Soviet Union](#)

Several collections relating to Soviet dissidents and defectors complement an extensive collection of samizdat materials. Microfilm and digital copies of materials documenting the Soviet state and Communist Party apparatus and the workings of the KGB in the USSR and its national republics allow study from varied perspectives. Other collections concern US-Soviet relations, including citizen diplomacy and friendship organizations aimed at defusing international tensions during the Cold War.

[The George Washington University: Cuban Missile Crisis:](#)

The Cuban Missile Crisis section has a number of documents from 1962, when the Cuban Missile Crisis was taking place. The documents contain Letters from President Kennedy to Premier Khrushchev, Letters from Fidel Castro to Khrushchev, C.I.A reports on Cuba and more.

[Wilson Centre: Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia](#)

This section contains documents on the 1968 Prague Spring in Czechoslovakia and the Soviet invasion in response. The documents are from various sources, but the bulk of them come from the Central State Archive of Social Organizations of Ukraine. Mostly comprised of reports, notes, and memorandums, the growing unrest in Czechoslovakia is discussed, along with border control problems, and the Warsaw Pact's eventual military intervention

[National Archives: Focus on Film, Cold War](#)

Focus on Film has dedicated a section of its online film archives to the Cold War. This section contains a range of archive clips with background information. The films are new reports that were covering the events, as they were taking place. The Yalta Conference, Berlin Airlift, Korean War, The Hungarian Revolution, The Prague Spring and the Vietnam War are represented by the archive.

[Euro Doc: Czechoslovakia 1918 – 1993](#)

This Archive has created a section dedicated to Czechoslovakia, which contains a number of primary source documents that are related to its relationship with the U.S.S.R. Students can find sources from the Prague Spring (1968), for example, Alexander Dubcek's Action Programme of the Communist Party.

[The University of Michigan: Special Collections Library](#)

This web site contains material from the days immediately following the invasion, and they reflect the atmosphere in Czechoslovakia at the time. The exhibition includes copies of, political cartoons, posters and pamphlets, Soviet propaganda, Czech Resistance materials (in Russian) and Newspapers.

[Havel at Columbia: The Velvet Revolution](#)

At the invitation of President Bollinger, Václav Havel arrived at Columbia University October 26th 2006 for a seven-week residency featuring lectures, interviews, conversations, classes, performances, and panels centred on his life and ideas. This site includes a section on the 'Velvet Revolution (1989), including archive footage from the period and a panel in which Alexander Dubcek gives his thoughts on the revolution.

[Historiana: The 1968 Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia](#)

Historiana has made available a digitalised collection of document from 1968 when the Soviet Union invaded Czechoslovakia. All the documents shown have been translated from Russian into English. The site contains C.I.A reports from the period which cover all the events that took place during the Invasion.

[The Wilson Centre: 1980-81 Polish Crises](#)

The Polish Crisis of 1980-1981 began with a wave of strikes across Poland and the formation of the first independent labour union in a Soviet bloc country. Most of these documents are from Russian archives and record the Soviet response to the Polish crisis, including preparations for military intervention.

[Regional Oral History Office \(ROHO\):](#)

The Regional Oral History Office (ROHO), a division of The Bancroft Library, documents the history of California, the nation, and the interconnected global arena. ROHO produces carefully researched, audio/video-recorded and transcribed oral histories and interpretative historical materials for the widest possible use. Documents include oral accounts of Hungarians living during the countries communist era.