

National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Department of History, MA in Jewish Studies Program
Ukrainian Association for Jewish Studies • United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies

public
lecture

SETH BERNSTEIN



MOVING AGENCY: JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH MIGRANTS TO AND FROM SOVIET UKRAINE IN THE POSTWAR AND EARLY COLD WAR

In 1945, millions of East Europeans found themselves outside their homelands as a consequence of World War II. Most of these so-called displaced persons from the Soviet Union returned to the USSR. Other groups became non-returners in allied-occupied Europe. From the east, Poles and Jews from Poland who had spent the war in the USSR went to Poland and beyond. Meanwhile, ethnic Ukrainians in Poland went to Soviet Ukraine.

This talk focuses on the agency of migrants and their neighbors in experiences of movement after World War II. Displaced persons could often not change the circumstances surrounding them. However, they could hew their social identities to official categories to avoid or mitigate the consequences of migration. By playing on international politics in the early Cold War, they gained personal agency.

Dr. Seth Bernstein is assistant professor of history at Higher School of Economics and was Pearl Resnick Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2017. His book *Raised under Stalin: Young Communists and the Defense of Socialism* appeared with Cornell University Press (2017).

This program is possible thanks to the generosity of The Piotr and Basheva Polsky Memorial Initiative for the Study of Ukrainian Jewry

The public lecture
will take place on

22 March 2018
Thursday
18:00

Office of the NaUKMA
Jewish Studies programs

Kyiv, Voloska Street 8/5,
Building 5, basement

All guests are requested
to be seated by 18:00