
Foreword

This book arose out of the conference ‘Central and Eastern Europe After the First World War’, held between 31 January and 2 February 2018 in the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Berlin. We are especially grateful for the hospitality and support provided by Ambassador Dr Peter Lizák and Dr Viera Polakovičová, Embassy counsellor and Director of the Slovak Institute, both before and during the conference. The conference organisers were the Institute of European Network Remembrance and Solidarity, Warsaw, and the Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans in Eastern Europe, Oldenburg, in partnership with the University of Leipzig – Centre for Area Studies; the Jagiellonian University of Cracow, Department of Historical Anthropology; the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Department of History; the Hungarian Academy of Science, Institute for Humanities, Research Center for History; the Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca; and the Slovak Institute in Berlin.

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The present volume has been prepared in collaboration with the open-air exhibition designed by European Network Remembrance and Solidarity, ‘After the Great War. A New Europe 1918-1923’, which has already visited a number of European cities and is continuing its tour.

The purpose of the European Network is to enable multilateral collaboration in the analysis and presen-

tation of the history of the 20th century. The network has become a forum for international discussion of historical facts, and of historical images and the cultures of memory. A key aspect of its work is the acknowledgement of the perspective of the ‘other’, shaped by each individual’s own specific historical experiences. These experiences include the First World War, which did not end in 1918 in Eastern Europe, where political and social conflicts, some of them violent, persisted until 1923. The introductory historical overview and the specific case studies in this volume present the origins, actors and events of these five turbulent years.

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Editors, in March 2021

