

JEWISH LIVES UNDER COMMUNISM

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New Perspectives

EDITED BY

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This volume is dedicated to the late David Shneer (1972–2020), whose premature death comes as a shock to historians and Jewish Studies scholars all over the world. David was not only the author of perhaps the most brilliant contribution to this volume but he was above all our mentor and friend who, generously and with great intellectual enthusiasm, supported the project from the beginning. He not only participated in the international conference “New Approaches to the History of the Jews under Communism,” which was held in Prague in May 2017 and inspired this volume, but was also the scholar we consulted throughout its preparation—from the first tentative table of contents, through subsequent versions of the introduction, to almost the end of our work on it.

The content and structure of the volume, stressing transnational ties between various Jewish communities both in the Eastern Bloc and beyond the Iron Curtain and considering the history of the Jews under Communist regimes in connection with previous historical periods, follow David Shneer’s innovative and revolutionary vision of how to approach twentieth-century Jewish history in Central and Eastern Europe.

