

Abstract

The collection of papers is dedicated to the student movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s, to the images thereof after 50 years, as they remained in the memories of the participants and as viewed by some younger analysts. Their approaches to the topic range from the memories through reflections of the underlying experience to more general deliberations and analyses. Many a time the participating authors endeavour to thematize and explain their respective personal experience, analytically evaluate it, and place it in the context of the social processes in Yugoslavia, Europe, and the United States at the time, while explaining those processes themselves. The common denominator of the contributions is the understanding that the student movement cannot be viewed as a self-completed and self-consistent project, separated from the then social developments. It was close to a spontaneous reaction to concrete historical situations, which took place at different levels – such as the questioning of fundamental life patterns and values, as a theoretical, ethical, aesthetic or creative impulse, whereas the political issues, however, represent only one of the movement segments. The diachronous image of the movement seems to be similarly elusive, as there are several differences between the movement up to 1968, and between 1969 and 1974, the two movement phases being connected mainly by the recognition of and the decision to play the role of an active social entity, only secondary by their goals.

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