



**35 years since
„Black January“ in Baku in 1990:
Military Interventions on the Eve of
the Breakup of the Soviet Union**

Monday, 20th January, 2025

12.00 p.m.

Quartier Leech (Vortragssaal)

Leechgasse 24

8010 Graz



LUDWIG
BOLTZMANN
INSTITUT
Kriegsfolgenforschung



35 years since „Black January“ in Baku in 1990:

Military Interventions on the Eve of the Breakup of the Soviet Union

12.00 p.m.

Moderation

Anna Graf-Steiner

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Research on Consequences of War

Welcoming remarks

Barbara Stelzl-Marx

Director of Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Research on Consequences of War

Professor of European Contemporary History at University of Graz

Rovshan Sadigbayli

Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Austria, Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the OSCE and other International Organisations in Vienna

12.30 p.m.

Introduction

Peter Ruggenthaler

Dep. Director of Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Research on Consequences of War

„Soviet Intervention Policy 1986-1990“

12.45-2.15 p.m.

Presentations

Farid Shafiyev

Ambassador, Chairman of the Center of Analysis of International Relations (Air Center)

„20 January: Tragedy and Narratives“

Nadia Boyadjieva

Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; Harvard University

„Baku 1990 as an example of Soviet Violation of Human Rights“

Harvey Dzodin

Senior Fellow at the Center for China and Globalization (CCG), Former Vice President of ABC Television in New York

„Black January: Perception of events as portrayed in the Western media“

Mark Kramer

Director Cold War Studies Program
Harvard University

„Official Responses to Ethnic Unrest in the Soviet Union“

2.15-3.00 p.m.

Round Table

Moderation: Stefan Karner

This year marks the 35th anniversary of "Black January" (January 19-20, 1990), when Soviet troops brutally suppressed independence movements in Azerbaijan, killing 147 civilians and injuring 744.

This crackdown, part of broader Soviet efforts to prevent the Union's disintegration, highlighted the regime's use of force against peaceful civilians, as seen in Tbilisi (1989) and Vilnius (1991). Being gross Human rights violations, these events have not yet received international political and legal assessment.

This conference examines the "Black January" within the broader context of the USSR's collapse and Soviet military intervention policy, the challenges of civilian protection during conflicts, and the role of historical analysis in understanding and addressing these events.

Registration:

<https://eveeno.com/520487305>

