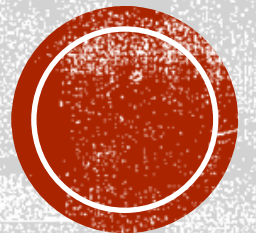


# HOW TO CONCEPTUALIZE DEPORTATION MEASURES BY RUSSIAN REGIMES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pzfpc9Z1o>

Andriy Kohut



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“Why is the deportation of Mariupol residents a repetition of history?”

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“Deportation.ru. They ‘can repeat’”

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“Russia deports Ukrainians (once again)”

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“Deportation of Ukrainians: How Modern Russia Repeats the Crimes of the Soviet Union”

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“Long before Ukrainian deportations, Soviets abducted Baltic citizens”

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## CONTEXT

March 22, 2022 – The Times:

“Russia plans kidnapping and violence in ‘great terror’ to end Kherson protests”

*Even if we have to deport as many as half the city — we are ready for that*

October 6, 2022 — President of Ukraine Speech :

*More than one million six hundred thousand Ukrainians have already been deported to Russia.*



# RESEARCH QUESTION

- Can we talk about the repetition, or even the historical continuity of Russian deportations from the territory of Ukraine?
- How comparable are the deportation measures of the Russian Empire, the Soviet Union, and contemporary Russia?
- How can we conceptualize contemporary Russian forced eviction from the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine?



## Empire and imperialism

- Empire is a relationship, formal or informal, in which one state controls the effective political sovereignty of another political society. It can be achieved by force, by political collaboration, by economic, social, or cultural dependence.

*(Edward W. Said, Michael W. Doyle)*

## Colonial dependence

- economic exploitation of the periphery was not limited to direct capital transfers but also manifested itself in the compulsion to which the colonies and dominions were subjected in developing their agriculture, industry, culture, demographic patterns, and habits of consumption.

*(Ewa Thompson)*

# RUSSIAN REGIMES (FRAMEWORK)

- Russian Empire
- Soviet Union
- Contemporary Russia



# RUSSIAN EMPIRE

- Exile to Siberia

Measure of punishment for:

- Criminal offenses,
- Political beliefs,
- Uprising and revolutionary actions.

- Mass resettlement of ethnic groups

Tools of imperial conquest and territorial control:

- Forced resettlement from the border,
- Forced to emigrate out of the Empire,
- Determination of the territory prohibited for habitation.

- First World War mass displacement

Forced by circumstances:

- refugees.

Forced eviction from front line

- forced evacuated,
- enemy subjects,
- unreliable element.



# SOVIET UNION

Extremely wide use of mass deportations as a tool:

- punishment for political crimes (broad understanding of "political"),
- political repressions,
- cleansing from the enemies of the people,
- counterinsurgency issues,
- accelerated sovietization,
- social engineering.

Second World War deportations

- cleaning of the newly occupied territory,
- preventive eviction of an unreliable element,
- punishment for collaboration (revenge on traitor nations),
- forced evacuation
- element of counterinsurgency.

Cold War deportations

- counterinsurgency measure,
- accelerated Sovietization,
- cleaning from an unreliable element.



# PRESENT RUSSIAN DEPORTATIONS

Forced displacements mainly after the start of a large-scale invasion

- forced evacuation,
- filtration (interrogations),
- prohibition to leave areas of displacement,
- deportation across the front line (particular cases).

Key issues for analysis:

- lack of information,
- unfinished process.



# PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

Present Russian deportation from the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine:

- has common features with the previous Russian regime's actions during the two world wars;
- greater extent repeats the patterns of forced displacement during the First World War:
- logic of the deployment of the eviction process, its chaotic nature,
- connection with internal propaganda,
- unexpected consequences of "quick war" failure,,

In the public sphere, the comparison with the Soviet deportations is prevail.

