



























tions around the claims for Human Rights in Eastern Europe after the Conference of Helsinki (1975), and whether these contacts exerted any pressure or had any influence, for instance, on the U.S. Congress Helsinki Commission.

Inspired by the previous conference series *Encuentros Españoles de Estudios sobre la Europa Oriental*,<sup>27</sup> UCM's Symposium on Communist Eastern Europe has not only given the chance to all those who have recently began their research careers to publicise their works but also provided a meeting space for them to share their ideas and experiences and to improve their ongoing projects, promoting the creation of networks between future specialists in the humanities and social sciences who will certainly contribute to a better and more widespread knowledge of Eastern European history in Spain.

*proofreading Tristan Korecki*

---

<sup>27</sup> Five interdisciplinary conferences about Eastern and Central Europe, coordinated between 1998 and 2006 by the law specialist Carlos Flores Juberías. Certainly an unprecedented and much worthy effort to bring together the disperse research proposals of the different specialists on the area, that materialized in several volumes: *idem* (ed.), *Actas del I Encuentro Español de Estudios sobre la Europa Oriental* and *Actas del III Encuentro español de estudios sobre la Europa Oriental* (Valencia, 1999, and 2002–4 respectively); *idem* (ed.), *De la Europa del Este al este de Europa: actas del IV Encuentro Español de Estudios sobre la Europa Oriental, Valencia del 22, 23 y 24 de noviembre de 2004* (Valencia, 2006); finally, *idem* (ed.), *España y la Europa Oriental*.