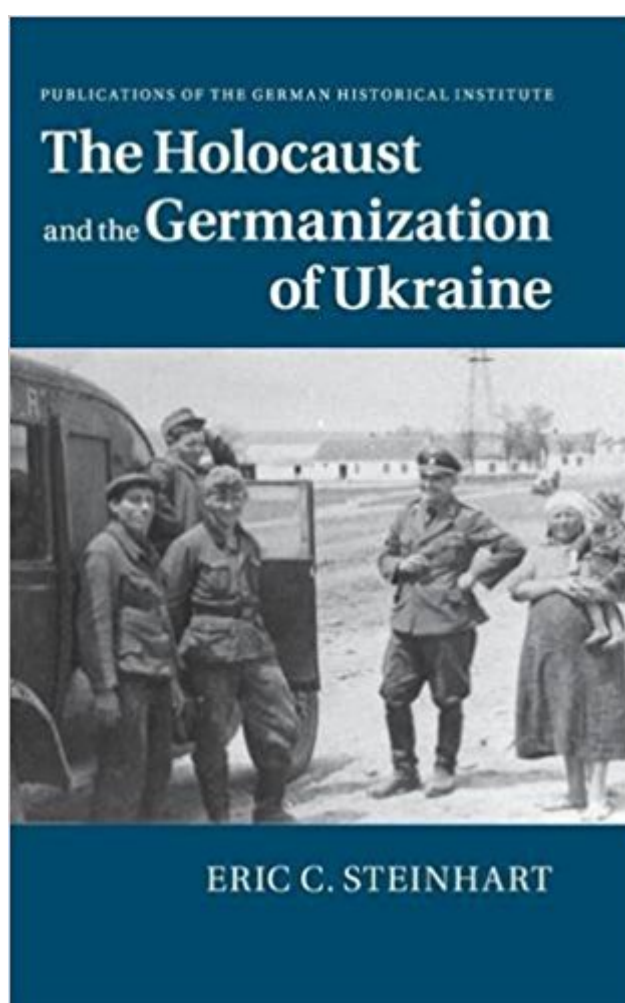


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The Holocaust And The Germanization Of Ukraine (Publications Of The German Historical Institute)



Synopsis

The German invasion of the Soviet Union during the Second World War was central to Nazi plans for territorial expansion and genocidal demographic revolution. To create "living space," Nazi Germany pursued two policies. The first was the systematic murder of millions of Jews, Slavs, Roma, and other groups that the Nazis found undesirable on racial, religious, ethnic, ideological, hereditary, or behavioral grounds. It also pursued a parallel, albeit smaller, program to mobilize supposedly Germanic residents of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union - so-called Volksdeutsche or ethnic Germans - as the vanguard of German expansion. This study recovers the intersection of these two projects in Transnistria, a portion of southern Ukraine that, because of its numerous Volksdeutsche communities, became an epicenter of both Nazi Volksdeutsche policy and the Holocaust in conquered Soviet territory, ultimately asking why local residents, whom German authorities identified as Volksdeutsche, participated in the Holocaust with apparent enthusiasm.

Book Information

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"Meticulously analyzing the interactions between ethnic Germans and the SS murder troops in Transnistria, Eric Steinhardt shows how Nazi rule turned neighbors into mass murderers. The Holocaust and the Germanization of Ukraine is a fascinating and yet disturbing inquiry into one of the least researched areas of the Holocaust, well written and based on a huge amount of newly discovered archival sources - an outstanding model of a micro-history." Thomas Kühn, Clark University "Clearly written and argued, and based on new archival research, this is an important

book for scholars of the Holocaust, eastern European and Soviet history, and twentieth-century Europe." Wendy Lower, Claremont McKenna College "This book is a thoroughly researched and well-organized study of the Holocaust and Nazi German occupation policies in the southern Ukraine region called Transnistria by the Romanians who joined in the invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 ... Highly recommended. Most levels/libraries." Choice

Using wartime records and postwar West German and Soviet investigative materials, this book probes the local dynamics of the German occupation and the collaboration in the Holocaust in southern Ukraine. Through the lens of a regional study, it contributes to recent scholarly interest in the Holocaust in the Soviet Union by analyzing why many local residents decided to participate in the Holocaust.

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