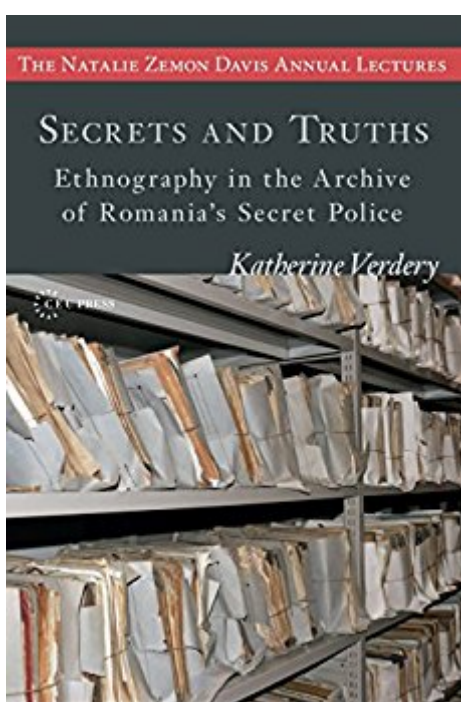


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Secrets And Truths: Ethnography In The Archive Of Romania's Secret Police (The Natalie Zemon Davis Annual Lecture Series Book 7)



Synopsis

Nothing in Soviet-style communism was as shrouded in mystery as its secret police. Its paid employees were known to few and their actual numbers remain uncertain. Its informers and collaborators operated clandestinely under pseudonyms and met their officers in secret locations. Its files were inaccessible, even to most party members. The people the secret police recruited or interrogated were threatened so effectively that some never told even their spouses, and many have held their tongues to this day, long after the regimes fell. With the end of communism, many of the newly established governments—among them Romania—opened their secret police archives. From those files, as well as her personal memories, the author has carried out historical ethnography of the Romanian Securitate. *Secrets and Truths* is not only of historical interest but has implications for understanding the rapidly developing “security state” of the neoliberal present.

Book Information

File Size: 3687 KB

Print Length: 199 pages

Publisher: Central European University Press (October 7, 2014)

Publication Date: October 7, 2014

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00OAAHORI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #518,486 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #26

in Kindle Store > History > Europe > Romania #161 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Europe > Eastern Europe #182538 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction

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