

LECTURE/WORKSHOP

SUMMARY

Lithuania, Poland - Vilnius 2022

Speaker : Alain Blum

The deportations of the populations of the western territories of the USSR annexed in 1939-1940, then resumed from 1944 onwards till 1952, affected in particular Lithuania and the western Ukraine, this last one having been part of Poland before 1939. They led hundreds of thousands of people to the Soviet north and Siberia and were based on three principles: an imaginary enemy rooted in a representation of social and political antagonisms, a will to spread fear in order to carry out collectivization after the war, and a technique of counter-insurgency. We will discuss these three principles, the fate of the deported populations, as well as the uncertain and complexity of their returns to their motherland or other place once Stalin died.