

## ANTI-COMMUNIST REVOLUTION IN TEMESVÁR/TIMISOARA

**Romania 1989**  
**The 16th Anniversary**

On December 15, 1989, Reformed-Calvinist pastor, László Tőkés, who had criticized Ceausescu's atheist communist regime for mistreatment of his fellow ethnic Hungarians was ordered deported.

A human chain of Reformed believers was formed around his manse in Temesvár/Timisoara. The feared securitate (the state secret police) and militia were unable to gain access. Tőkés thanked the crowd and advised them to leave. Several hundred stayed in groups close to the flat. Believers remained.

By 7:00 p.m. the crowds extended for several blocks and included many students from the local university, Hungarians, and Romanians in a human chain first singing hymns.

Cries were then raised, "Down with Ceausescu!", "Down with the regime!", and "Down with Communism!". The crowd moved out from around Tőkés's flat and church, crossed a bridge, and headed for the city centre and Communist Party headquarters.

The Hungarian protest in faith encouraged a general popular revolt throughout Romania, and Ceausescu's communist dictatorship fell on 22 December 1989.

*In his famous country-wide broadcast speech of 20 December 1989, dictator Nicolae Ceausescu labelled the Timisoara rebels as hooligans and fascists. He promised order and severe punishment for the guilty. The bloody days preceding his deposal, included **suffering, blood, and tears**, which passed accordingly.*

*Then came the miraculous liberation, euphoric joy and great hope; the fall of Ceausescu, Christmas, and New Year's. The people's revolt considered a revolution brought festive moments and days. But these were followed by miserable weekdays, returning to the past.*

*( ) Ceausescu did not die. He lives on within his followers, within the privileged of the system, in its structure and spirit, in its hardly modified, democratically repainted continuing policy. The exposed representatives of the revolutionary resistance of Romania are still in continuous danger. László Tőkés, 1992*



**No tanks could stop the uprising.**



**The free city: Temesvár/Timisoara.**



**The anti-communist protest, 21 December 1989.**

## WHAT COMMUNISM ACTUALLY IS

During the whole Soviet era, all writing and talking about the Communist killings was prohibited. In the autumn of 1988, a newspaper in the island of Saaremaa, Estonia was able to publish an eyewitness account of a survivor:

*As far as I know, only three persons were shot to death and later found in the well. All the others were tortured to death. They numbered about a hundred. Nobody knows the exact number. The methods of torture were numerous; one man had his lips cut off, another his nose, his tongue and his ears. Many had their feet boiled, some one-foot and others both feet. There were also victims from whose backs pieces of skin were cut out and whose hands were bound behind their backs with barbed wire. A few had their eyes cut out. One woman had her breasts cut off. I was there when the bodies were removed from the cellars. During the day, thousands of people came to look for their loved ones. Many found them. It was a horrible sight, one I will never forget.*  
(Communism and Crimes against Humanity in the Baltic states, by Andres Küng)

**How is it that the average western person has some general knowledge of major historical events but do not know that approximately 100,000,000 people were slaughtered under Communist regimes?**

The answer is simple: they were never taught about the Communist death machine. The victims:

China	65.0 million
Soviet Russia	20.0 million (roughly)
North Korea	2.0 million
Cambodia	2.0 million
Africa	1.7 million
Afghanistan	1.5 million
Vietnam	1.0 million
Eastern Europe	1.0 million
And many more (e.g., Cuba and Latin America)	

*(The Black Book of Communism, Stephane Courtois, et al., p. 4.).*

Those horrors existed from Communism's concrete establishment in 1917. As Stephane Courtois, director of research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in France, writes in 'The Black Book of Communism': "Having gone beyond individual crimes and small-scale ad-hoc massacres, the Communist regimes, in order to consolidate their grip on power, turned mass crime into a full-blown system of government."

One should consider that during czarist rule between 1825 and 1917 (**92 years**), approximately **3,932** people were executed for their political beliefs or activities. In contrast, the Bolsheviks after holding power for just **four months** had executed **15,000** people.

Moreover, under the czars, with their primitive methods of agriculture, Ukraine was known as the bread-basket of the world; its grain was a major Russian export. But from 1932 to 1933, after peasants rebelled against Stalin's collectivization of their farms that forced them to relinquish their grain to the government, an estimated **6 to 7 million Ukrainians were deliberately starved to death** by this engineered famine.

If you go now to the Ukraine or the North Caucasus, wrote Malcolm Muggeridge, a British journalist, in 1933, exceedingly beautiful countries and formerly amongst the most fertile in the world, you will find them **like a desert**; no livestock or horses; villages deserted; peasants famished, often their bodies swollen, unutterably wretched. (To the Victims of Communism, Lest We Forget, Jeff Jacoby, Boston Globe, December 7, 1995.)

To reveal a significant immediate explanation as to why Communism's horrors were slow to reach the West, **we find deliberate lies being reported as fact**. For example, Edouard Harriot, a senator and leader of the Radical Party in France, wrote on his return from that region the same year (1933): I have crossed the whole of Ukraine, and I can assure you that the entire country is **like a garden** in full bloom. (The Black Book of Communism, p.159)

The lesson is that Western left-wing intellectuals, politicians, and journalists sympathetic to the Communist cause, conducted their own propaganda campaigns. They succeeded in covering-up Communism's true nature (evil and ugly), with egregious and horrendous deceit.

As Harriot's report illustrates, the Western Communist sympathizers concealed how Communist regimes often used mass famine, for example, as a weapon against enemies of the people. An enemy was anyone, or any social group, who was merely suspected of opposing them. As a result, when Communist sympathizers were faced with Muggeridge-like reports, they could dismiss the **truth** of such reports, with their own pre-printed words, which were outright **lies**.

**Why do Communism's apologists maintain their efforts to conceal or at least downplay these horrors?**

The answer lies in the fact that they still hold Communist theory in high regard.

Unable to evade or deny Communism's record of mass slaughter, (lest they become as detached from reality as the deniers of the Holocaust), they nonetheless still hold that Communism is noble in theory but failed in practice, because its dictators themselves were evil and failed to properly implement Marxist ideology.

Today, they maintain that faith despite that among the central tenants of Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto are calls for the start of violent force against the bourgeois and the establishment of a proletariat dictatorship which led to the mass death tolls in each nation that adopted this ideology (From Never Known to Never Forget, Joseph Kellard, New York, 2002).

Indeed, would a Nazi apologist let alone face no condemnation for suggesting via the media that Nazism is noble in theory but failed only because Hitler was evil? Never. And rightfully so.

In the 20th Century, there evolved two equally inhumane totalitarian regimes Communism and Nazism, both of which resulted in millions of victims. The defeat of Nazism in the 2nd World War allowed its crimes to be investigated and condemned, and the guilty persons to be tried. The Communist system has [supposedly] collapsed, but a similar international condemnation has not followed. (Resolution adopted by the 16th European Peoples Party Congress, Brussels, 5 February 2004)

Indeed. The first crack on the inhuman totalitarian rule was the anti-communist Revolution of Hungary (1956). It was cruelly defeated by the Soviet Union and brought millions of victims into a period of repression afterwards

In 2006, preparing for the fiftieth anniversary of Revolution of Hungary, we are still waiting for a Trial of Communism.



*Victims of the famine resulting from the collectivization of farms in Ukraine in the 1930s.*



*Tortured and exterminated protestors during the 1989 revolution in Temesvár, Romania.*



*The found murdered in Estonia, 1941.*



*Brutality of Communists massacred an estimated thousand protestors in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, 1989.*

## HOW TO STEEL A REVOLUTION ?

The 1989 anti-communist revolution in Romania remains a painful and intricate case. It was a real revolution in Temesvár/Timisoara, which started on December 15th and spread to Kolozsvár/Cluj, Nagyszeben/Sibiu, Brassó/Brasov, some other big cities and Bucharest, which were similarly gripped by the Timisoara residents' hopes to get rid of a despotic regime. The death rows of the repressive regime claimed numerous innocent victims in all these locations.

But how is it that the **greatest numbers of victims fell after 22 December 1989**, a date which officially marked the end of the Ceausescu dictatorship and the day zero of democracy? Who was shooting after that date and on whose order? The terrorists – this was the answer provided by the then provisional rulers, headed by a former activist of the Romanian Communist Party, Ion Iliescu who in the 80s had fallen out of favour of Nicolae Ceausescu. The terrorists however never had a face or a name.

Radio Romania International reported that Dan Voinea, the leader of the prosecutors' team investigating the revolution file says that the terrorists never existed.

*The terrorist phenomenon was a diversion created with a view to turning the anti-communist feeling born in Timisoara into an anti-terrorist one. Whereas before 22 December, people fought against the former party activists and the securitate, after that date, fuelled by their fear of terrorists, they started loading the soldiers' guns, shooting with them and wandering about after an invisible enemy.*

But who orchestrated this diversion? For 16 years, anti-communist hard-liners among others have been mainly directing their suspicion towards Ion Iliescu, undoubtedly the main beneficiary of the fall of the dictatorship. Iliescu is also on prosecutor Voinea's list of suspects, though he is not the only one.

*Not only Mr. Iliescu, but those who took power on 22 December 1989 and who were members of the group that took office at the Ministry of Defence are responsible for the victims reported after that date. There are two categories of people: those shooting in the street and those orchestrating such activities. Both groups of people are guilty of murder, attempted murder, the deprivation of liberty and were accomplices to such crimes. These are the major crimes laid down in this file.* declared Dan Voinea.

The new authority which was taking shape, as set forth by prosecutor Dan Voinea, behaved ruthlessly: in order to stay in power, the communists shot at people and stayed in office. The scenario is firmly rejected by Ion Iliescu, who denounced alleged lack of logic to the investigators' arguments.

These preliminary conclusions in the investigation into the revolution have made the headlines in December 2005. Romanian daily *Evenimentul zilei* says, quote Prosecutor Voinea accuses: Iliescu and his people have 942 deaths on their conscience. Under the heading 'The Comrade's Terrorists', daily *Ziua* describes the so-called foreign mercenaries allegedly hired by Ceausescu as "a lie of the Iliescu regime".

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*Transylvanian Monitor is available here:*

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