

Building Bridges with Paper: Newspapers, Journals, and Books of the Ukrainian Diaspora in the West during the Cold War

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At the beginning of the Cold War the Ukrainian diaspora found itself completely separated from the motherland: in this climate Ukrainian newspapers, journals, and books published in the West played an immensely important role in building a strong feeling of national belonging because they constituted a renewed and common public sphere for the Ukrainian emigrants scattered around the world. Moreover, these publications became a key-element in the diplomatic and cultural relations between the two blocs, as they emerged as a new field of confrontation but also of interaction both in general and within the specific Ukrainian context. I will present the main features of the history of Ukrainian publications in the West focusing mainly on three areas of production: I will first make an account of major newspapers and weekly journals, bearing in mind their different geographical spread and the interaction both among themselves and with similar Soviet publications. Then, I will describe the environment of the monthly journal *Suchasnist'* and the publishing house Prolog, which had a specific relationship with the CIA and the propaganda efforts towards Soviet Ukrainians. Finally, I will recount the successful story of the published Smoloskyp and of its owner, Osyp Zinkevych, who was a central figure in spreading the voice of Ukrainian non-conformist intellectuals and dissidents.