

The Ukrainian Free University in the Intellectual History of the Transnational Ukrainian Community after WWII

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In 1945 the Ukrainian Free University (UFU) was re-founded in Munich. Throughout the post-war period the UFU not only prolonged its educational and scientific tradition of the previous Prague period, but also extended it and received additional impulses from new teachers, who came from both Soviet Ukraine and Western Ukraine and who represented various scientific and political experiences. The Ukrainian Free University was the focus of the educational and scientific activity of Ukrainian Displaced Persons (DPs) but after the move of the most DPs overseas the UFU, as the only Ukrainian university “in the free world”, it took on a role of an intercontinental intellectual center for the entire global Ukrainian transnational community. Although situated in Munich, Germany, UFU was also deeply connected with Ukrainians on the North American continent and received not only financial backing, but also teaching and other academic support from them as well. Also, Ukrainians from the US were students and postgraduate students of UFU.