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## Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary ........................................ 3  
Information on Use ......................................... 3  
Access .................................................................. 3  
Citation .................................................................. 3  
Biographical Note ............................................. 3  
Scope Note .......................................................... 4  
Related Resources .............................................. 4  
Subject Headings ............................................... 4  
INVENTORY ...................................................... 4
Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.KRISTOPPOSTERS

Title  Kristof, Ladis Donabed. Soviet Posters. Collection

Date  1963-1990

Size  6 linear feet (15 folders)

Repository  Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  Fifteen posters produced in the Soviet Union and Romania between 1963 and 1990, collected by Romanian-born political science professor Ladis Donabed Kristof. The majority of the posters date from 1963-1971 and celebrate space exploration and holidays or community events, or commemorate Lenin. The two posters from 1990 promote The Christian Democratic National Peasants’ Party, a Romanian political party created after the revolution ending communist rule in Romania in 1989.

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Kristof, Ladis Donabed. Soviet Posters. Collection, [Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Ladis “Kris” Donabed Kristof was born on November 26, 1918 in Cernauti, Romania to parents Witold Krzysztofowicz and Maria Zawadzki Krysztofowicz. He studied forestry at the University of Poznan, Poland from 1937-1939, returning to Romania at the outbreak of World War II. Kristof was inducted into the German-allied Romanian army but soon imprisoned for working simultaneously for Polish intelligence; he was released when Romania changed sides in the war in 1944. During Soviet invasions into Romania in the 1940s, Kristof escaped Romania by swimming across the Danube River into Yugoslavia, where he was taken to an internment camp and subjected to forced labor. In 1950 Kristof arrived in Western Europe where he made arrangements to emigrate to the United States, moving to Portland, Oregon in 1952 and eventually becoming a U.S. citizen in 1958. After Kristof earned his BA from Reed College in 1955, he moved to Chicago where he met and married Jane McWilliams in 1956 and had a son,

Scope Note
The Ladis Donabed Kristof Collection of Soviet Posters contains fifteen posters produced between 1963 and 1990 in the Soviet Union and Romania. The collection has been organized chronologically. Thirteen posters were produced in the Soviet Union between 1963 and 1971, with text in Russian. Of these, six celebrate and commemorate Lenin, the early twentieth-century Socialist Revolution, and the soldiers who fought in World War II (2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8), three are related to the Space Race, celebrating missile defense technology and advances in space exploration (1, 5, 9), two celebrate community events or holidays (May 1st and the “Communist Subbotnik,” a weekly obligatory community-clean-up effort; 11, 12) and two are related to domestic and international politics (in favor of pan-European peace agreements and against single-source procurement, 10, 13). The remaining two posters were produced in Romania in 1990 to promote the new Christian Democratic National Peasants’ Party (14, 15). The party was founded in December 1989 in the wake of the 1989 revolution which ended communist rule in Romania. The posters call for members to join the party, state the nine tenets of the party’s creed, and commemorate the fall of the original National Peasant Party with the imprisonment of Iuliu Maniu and Ion Mihalache in 1947. The text is written in Romanian.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

Bakwin, Dr. Harry and Dr. Ruth Morris Bakwin. Soviet Posters. Collection

Subject Headings
• Kristof, Ladis K. D.
• Posters, Soviet
• Propaganda, Soviet
• Space race--Soviet Union
• Romania--Politics and government--20th century

INVENTORY

Box 0
Folder 1
"Glory to the Soviet cosmonaut Valery Bykovsky!" (Glory to the Soviet cosmonaut Valery Bykovsky!), 34 x 87 cm, Moscow, 1963
Box 0
Folder 2
K. S. Andreevich and K. N. Grigoryevna, "Song about Lenin" (\\textcopyright 1967), 103 x 83 cm, 1967

Box 0
Folder 3
A. Saldre, "Lenin 1870/1970" (\\textcopyright 1969), 87 x 68 cm, Kalinin, Russia, 1969

Box 0
Folder 4
O. Savostyuk and B. Uspensky, "Lenin" (\\textcopyright 1969), 85 x 175 cm, Moscow, 1969

Box 0
Folder 5
"Motherland Shield" (\\textcopyright 1969), 77 x 59 cm, Moscow, 1969

Box 0
Folder 6
B. Berezovsky, "The name and cause of Lenin will live forever!" (\\textcopyright 1970), 118 x 58 cm, Kalinin, Russia, 1970

Box 0
Folder 7
"Glory to October!" (\\textcopyright 1970), 70 x 107 cm, Moscow, 1970

Box 0
Folder 8
K. V. Pavlovich, "To the Soviet soldier - Glory! 1941/1945" (\\textcopyright 1970), 97 x 68 cm, Kiev, 1970

Box 0
Folder 9
V. Briskin and V. Viktorov, "I am walking on the moon!" (\\textcopyright 1970), 88 x 59 cm, Moscow, 1970

Box 0
Folder 10

Box 0
Folder 11
K. Mistakidi, "Long live May 1, day of international solidarity of workers in the fight against imperialism, for peace, democracy, and socialism!" (\\textcopyright 1971), 59 x 117 cm, 1971

Box 0
Folder 12
V. Sachkov, "Everyone to the communistic Subbotnik!" (\\textcopyright 1971), 59 x 118 cm, Moscow, 1971

Box 0
Folder 13
"For Pan-European security!" (\\textcopyright 1971), 88 x 59 cm, Moscow, 1971
Box 0
Folder 14
"Brothers! Call for the Christian Democratic National Peasant Party" (APELUL
PARTIDULUI NAȚIONAL ȚĂRĂNESC - creștin democrat – FRAȚILOR!), 61 x 43
cm, Romania, 1990

Box 0
Folder 15
"Romanian Brothers. The Christian Democratic National Peasant Party" (PARTIDUL
NAȚIONAL ȚĂRĂNESC - creștin și democrat - Frați români), 48 x 34 cm, Romania,
1990