In 1923, Soviet authorities began a nationalities program that promised to create a new society. Ukrainization would advance non-Russian languages and culture. Communist authorities believed that Ukrainian instruction promised the “moral regeneration” of children, but feared that it might incite nationalism. Ultimately, the Communist Party did not trust the Young Pioneers and the Communist Youth League (the Komsomol) to protect against nationalism. It chose to strengthen the authority of the school, replacing progressive education with a conservative pedagogy that offered less room for variant interpretations of curricular content.

MATTHEW PAULY is an assistant professor in the Department of History at Michigan State University. He is a historian of nationalism, education, and childhood and specializes in Russia and Eastern Europe.

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