

*"The spirit of postsocialism:  
common spaces and the production  
of diversity"*

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Introduction: 1989 and post-socialism today

- 1) Common spaces of Europe
- 2) Regionalization and economic integration
- 3) Beyond Vision Europe (or post-socialist internationalism)
- 4) From post-socialism to post-collectivism
- 5) Governmentality, biopolitics, and subjects

# Introduction

*Did Somebody Say Totalitarianism?*  
Slavoj Žižek (2001)

....1989 as an ending?

.... Communism and the spaces of dissent?

.... We are all post-socialists now

# 1989 and post-socialism today

- 1<sup>st</sup> wave transition studies
  - Transition, transitology, and policy transfer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> wave transition studies
  - Recession, deindustrialization, and regional economic collapse,
  - The Great Depression of 1989-1996/7
- 3<sup>rd</sup> wave transition studies
  - Devaluation, FDI, and harmonization
- 4<sup>th</sup> wave transition studies
  - From harmonization to differentiated regional economic formations, hybrids, recombinants, and social segmentation

# 1) Common spaces of Europe

- 1989 as rupture and the dream of a return to Europe
- Economic integration: outsourcing, harmonization, banking and credit, Enlargement, common currency
- Labor market integration: regional production networks, trade facilitation and infrastructural projects, and migration streams
- Integration and the consequences of the current financial crisis

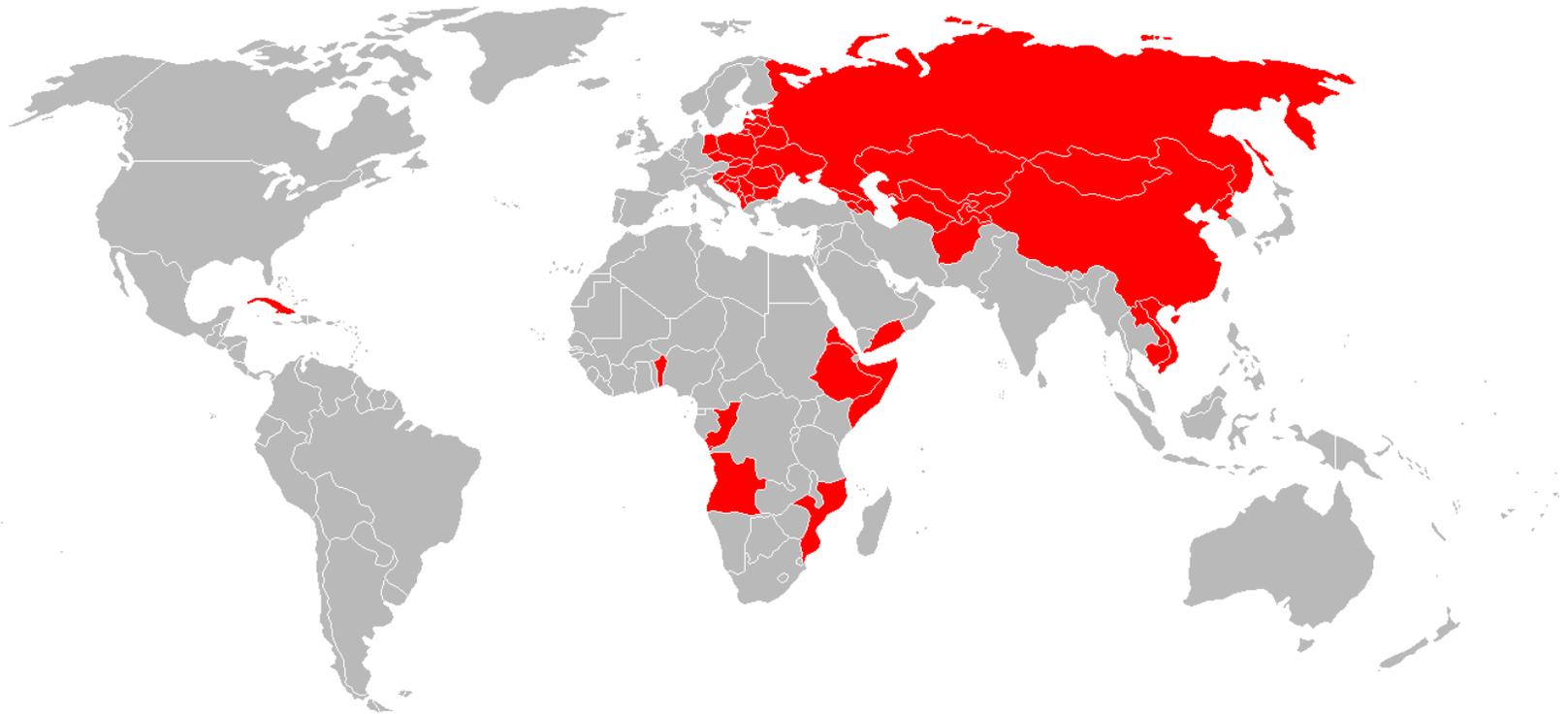
## 2) Regionalization and economic integration

- Complex and contested convergence
- Domesticated and embedded neoliberalism
- Hybrid and recombinant economies
  - Semi-core and semi-peripheral combinations of heavy/light and basic/complex leading industries
  - “fairly permanent and self-sustaining configurations” (Greskovits)
    - Klausian welfare national state
    - Portarian workfare postnational regime

# 3) Beyond Vision Europe (or post-socialist internationalism)

- New regional geographies of new economic activity
  - Transborder geographies of assembly
  - Pan-European labor markets
  - GSP+, double transformation and bilateral regional integration
  - Trafficking
  - China and the consequences of market socialism
- *Fadaiat* (through-space)

## 4) From post-socialism to post-collectivism



*MAP. Countries (using present-day borders) that have been ruled by a one-party Marxist-Leninist state at some point in their history.*

## 5) Governmentality, biopolitics, and subjects

- Diverse forms of economic life
- Specificity of economic practice
- New economic subjects
- Gorbachev's injunction
  - Social Justice
  - Citizenship
  - Rights
    - In whatever form they are being produced