The East German 'Stasi' and Vietnam
Between 'Fraternal Solidarity' and Distrust
Co-sponsored by the Sigur Center for Asian Studies

with

Martin Grossheim
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

This presentation will examine how the former East German Ministry of State Security contributed to state building and “modernization” in North Vietnam by providing considerable aid to Hanoi’s security apparatus during and after the Vietnam War. At the same time, it will show that the mutual cooperation was not unlimited, and present the monitoring by both the North Vietnamese and the GDR’s intelligence apparatus of Vietnamese students studying in East Germany as the most prominent example of mutual distrust. The presentation draws mainly on untapped Stasi files on this inter-communist cooperation and official Vietnamese language histories of the Ministry of Public Security.

Dr. Martin Grossheim is a Residential Fellow at the Wilson Center working on a project entitled "The East German 'Stasi' and the Making of the Autocratic State in Vietnam." He received his doctorate in Southeast Asian history from Passau University, Germany, where he teaches in the Department of Southeast Studies. He is the author of The Party and the War: Debates and Dissent in North Vietnam (2009) and Ho Chi Minh, The Mysterious Revolutionary: Life and Legend (2011), both published in German.

Tuesday, April 8, 2014
12:30 – 1:45 pm
Lindner Family Commons
1957 E Street NW, Room 602
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