

---

# Pagans Reborn! The History of Modern Slovak Paganism 1990 – 2025

Michal Puchovský\*<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute for Sociology of Slovak Academy of Sciences – Slovaquie

## Résumé

From its beginnings in the second half of the 19th century to the present, modern Paganism has become a global phenomenon, finding sympathizers in many countries across North America, Europe, and Australia. This conference paper aims to summarize the history of modern Paganism in Slovakia from its emergence in the early 1990s after the fall of communist regime to the present.

The study poses several research questions: How was modern Paganism shaped by societal, political, and economic changes after the fall of communist regime in Slovakia? What did the modern pagan scene look like in its early days? Which groups can be identified as the main representatives of modern paganism in Slovakia today? In what ways is it like and different from modern paganism in other post-Soviet countries?

Methodologically, this conference paper is grounded in the tradition of historical sociology, which combines historical and sociological methods. In the process of summarizing the history of modern Paganism in Slovakia, I have used various sources, including primary literature (books authored by local charismatic leaders of modern Paganism, newspaper articles and interviews, radio programs, and blogs), secondary literature published so far, and personal interviews with key figures in Slovak paganism.

An additional source of information comes from semi-structured interviews with modern Pagans from Slovakia, conducted by the author as part of the research within the project APVV-22-0063 Reproductions of Religious and World-view Structures in Slovakia: A Hundred and Fifty Years of Change, carried out between 2024 and 2025.

**Mots-Clés:** modern paganism, historical sociology, Slovakia, secularization

---

\*Intervenant