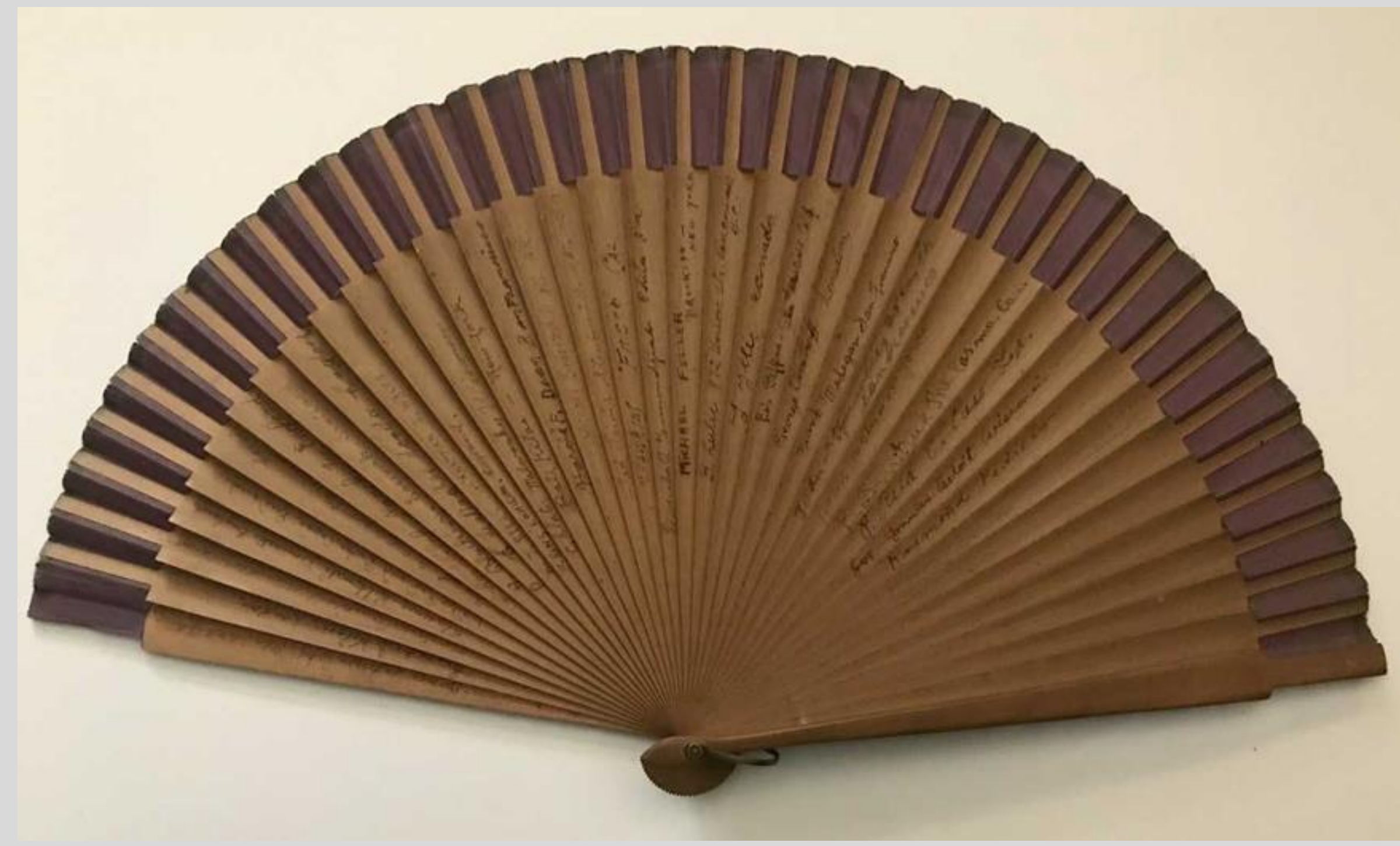


# A Fan, A Photo, and the Spanish Civil War

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## Route to Spain



## Maslowski in Spain, ca. 1938



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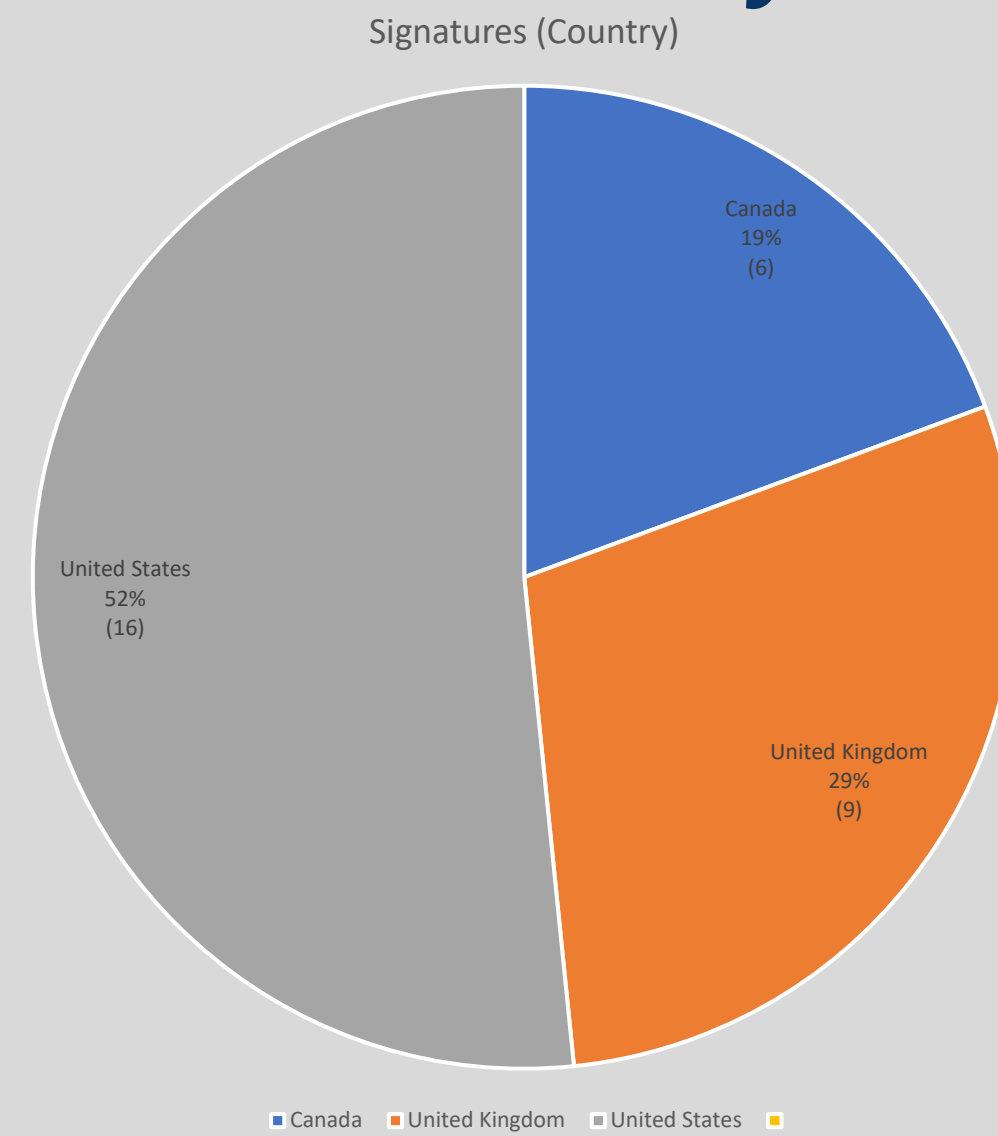
## Research Question

What are the stories of the men who signed their names on the back of the fan, and how do they deepen our understanding of the Spanish Civil War?

## Abstract

This is a student-led research project mentored by Dr. Björn Krondorfer of the Martin-Springer Institute of NAU and historian Dr. Ana Varela-Lago. This project is based on items possessed by Han Maslowski, an International Brigades volunteer, and aims to educate a public audience about the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) by telling the stories of a select few members of the International Brigades who left their signatures on the back of one of the project's artifacts, a Spanish fan. The Spanish Civil War pitted General Francisco Franco, aided by Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany, against the Spanish Republic which was aided by the Soviet Union and the International Brigades. Since March 2021, the team has found records of the volunteers through the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives, the International Brigade Archives, and other sources. This information paints a fuller picture of these volunteers' experiences, unique involvements, and motivations during the Spanish Civil War. Some of our findings have already been published in Spain and in the United Kingdom, in the September 2021 issue of the "No Pasarán" Magazine.

## Nationality



## Maslowski ID Card



## Current Results

After months of conducting research on the American volunteers who signed the fan, the next phase of this project was to decide on the most effective way to tell their stories within the context of the Spanish Civil War. We first compiled our findings into short, biographical profiles which consisted of their birthplaces, personal lives before the war, involvements during the conflict, religious ties, and political affiliations. Next, we identified key themes, events, and players in each of those accounts to construct cohesive narratives. We are currently creating historical entries to contextualize the global situations for readers of our website.

## Location (State) on Fan



## Research Methods

- Utilized publications, films and discussions with experts about the Spanish Civil War and the International Brigades to gather contextual data
- Searched International Brigades archives such as the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archive (ALBA) to gather basic information about the men who signed the fan
- Utilized the Russian Archives, Ancestry.com, and archived newspapers to gather further primary sources on the men
- Organized raw biographical data and information about the fan, the International Brigades, and the Spanish Civil War with Google Drive
- Wrote narratives with our existing data about the lives of the men who signed the fan
- Created website with Wix and posted initial findings about the men
- Wrote further narratives with our data around chosen themes (desertion, politics, espionage, etc.)
- Currently editing existing narratives and transitioning website to WordPress