



Max Weber
Foundation

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German Humanities
Institutes Abroad



HEINRICH
BÖLL
STIFTUNG

Leibniz Research Alliance “Value of the Past” – Annual Conference 2025

Re- | Visions of history in right-wing populism and the far right.

European and global perspectives

Monday, 8 September – Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Venue: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstr. 8, 10117 Berlin

Preliminary programme

Monday, 8 September 2025

13:30 – 14:15

Greetings and introduction

Clara Frysztacka (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

Bettina Böhm (Leibniz Association)

Martin Sabrow (Speaker of the Leibniz Research Alliance “Value of the Past”)

Achim Saupe (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam)

14:15 – 16:00

Panel 1: Right-wing memory politics: Approaches and ideological contexts

Moderation: Achim Saupe (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam)

Paula Diehl (Kiel University)

The Complexity of Populism

Berber Bevernage (Ghent University) / Walderez Ramalho (Santa Catarina State University)

Why do right-wing populists presence the past?

Kornelia Kończal (Bielefeld University)

Mnemonic Populism in Contemporary Europe

16:30 – 18:00

Panel 2: Global Perspectives

Moderation: Sabine Mannitz (Peace Research Institute Frankfurt)

Richard Steigmann-Gall (Kent State University)

Trump, National Memory, and the Fascism Question

Sirupa Roy (University of Göttingen)

The New Civilizational Project and the Mainstreaming of the Political Right in India

David M. Malitz (German Institute for Japanese Studies Tokyo)

Pushing Alternative Pasts, Losing the Future? Historical Narratives of Japanese Right-Wing Populist Parties

19:00 - 21:00 Public evening event (in German, simultaneous translation into English)

Rechte Geschichtsmythen.

Eine Herausforderung für Gesellschaft, Wissenschaft und Politik

(Right-wing historical myths. A challenge for society, academia and politics)

Greetings: Jan Philipp Albrecht (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

Moderation: Christine Watty (Deutschlandfunk Kultur)

Input-Keynote: Volker Weiß (Hamburg)

“Geschichtsrevisionismus heute”

(“Historical Revisionism Today”)

Panel discussion:

Frank Bösch (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam)

Constanze Itzel (House of European History Brussels)

Katja Meier (Member of the Saxon State Parliament and former Saxon State Minister for Justice, Democracy, Europe, and Equality, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)

Volker Weiß (Hamburg)

Tuesday, 9 September 2025

09:00 – 10:30

Panel 3: Right-wing inventions of traditions

Moderation: Arnold Bartetzky (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig)

Klaus Oschema (German Historical Institute Paris)

Brave knights, pure maidens and devote Christians? Conveying right-wing political agendas through distorted images of the (European) Middle Ages

Georg Schuppener (Jan Evangelista Purkyně University Ústí nad Labem)

Misuse and appropriation of Nordic-Germanic mythology in German right-wing extremism – Roots and further development

Adamantios Skordos (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig)

Central topoi of right-wing populist politics of history in contemporary Greece

11:00 – 12:30

Panel 4: Right-wing histories after 1945 and the Holocaust

Moderation: n.n.

Gideon Botsch (Moses Mendelssohn Center Potsdam)

“Fictional-historical counter narratives”: Holocaust and Second World War in right-wing historiography and memory

Marie Müller-Zetzsche (Moses Mendelssohn Center / Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam)

Historical references to Europe in right-wing extremist discourses in the post-colonial era

Andrea Martini (Paris 8 University / Institute for the History of the Resistance and Contemporary Age, Verona)

“Au nom des silencieux” (On behalf of Silent Ones): The Construction of the Post-1945 Far Right

Narrative Canon and the Reaction of Democracies

14:00 – 15:30

Panel 5: Contemporary revisionisms in right-wing populism

Moderation: n.n.

Stefan Couperus (University of Groningen)

Exploiting the Past: How politico-cultural opportunity structures enable far-right historical revisionism in the Netherlands

Robert Heinze (German Historical Institute Paris)

Colonial revisionism – a 'balanced approach'?

n.n.

16:00 – 18:00

Postgraduate seminar – “Meet the authors” (in German)

Moderation: Clara Frysztacka, Achim Saupe

With Frank Bösch, Magdalena Saryusz-Wolska, Jakob Schergaut

19:00

Conference Dinner (for speakers only)

09:00 – 10:45

Panel 6: Performances, Popular Culture and Media

Moderation: n.n.

Karin Reichenbach (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig)
The Suggestive Power of Sensory Experience – Neopagan History Popularisation in Poland and its Relation to Museums and Academia

Katrin Kremmler (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz) /

Tatyjana Szafonova (Charles University Prag)

Contemporary Pan-ideological Revivals: Turanism in Hungary and Pan-Slavism in Slovakia

Magdalena Saryusz-Wolska (German Historical Institute Warsaw)

Right-wing histories in Polish newspapers

11:15 – 12:45

Roundtable: How to react? Academic and democratic answers in public history

Moderation: Clara Frysztacka (Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung)

Jakob Schergaut (Buchenwald Concentration Camp Memorial / Friedrich Schiller University Jena)

History Instead of Myths – Combatting Fake History Through Research

Michał Bilewicz (University of Warsaw)

Using localized memory to confront antisemitism: Experiences from the School of Dialogue

Branimir Đurović (Youth Initiative for Human Rights Belgrade)

"Uncertain past - Through activism against denial"

12:45 – 13:15

Final discussion
