



Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam (ZZF)
Am Neuen Markt 1, 14467 Potsdam, Germany

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ZZF Potsdam invites to the Final Conference of the International Joint Research Project “Physical Violence and State Legitimacy in Late Socialism”

The conference – placed in Berlin, 27 February – 1 March 2014 - addresses the following questions: How did the party- state control violence after Stalin? How did political legitimation change after 1956? To what extent did physical violence disappear from politics? How was physical violence in the private sphere dealt with? Did these changes contribute to the decline of communism?

The conference will open with a public Key Note Speech (in German) by Jan Philipp Reemtsma (Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung) titled: “Was ist eigentlich Gewaltforschung? Einige systematische Bemerkungen”

The network investigates the relationship between physical violence and state legitimacy after Stalinism. The project’s international research network is contributing to the debates about the nature of communist dictatorships, to the causes of the European revolutions of 1989 and the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991. Its aim is to strengthen international cooperation and support comparative and transnational research in the field of communist studies.

The historical research network on violence after Stalinism is funded by the Leibniz-Gemeinschaft. The project is hosted by the Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam (ZZF) in cooperation with the Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg and the European University Institute in Florence.

Programme of the conference - please visit the ZZF Website www.zzf-pdm.de
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The Centre for Contemporary History is an interdisciplinary research institute based in Potsdam, Germany. The Centre’s focus is contemporary German and European history. The ZZF is an institute of the Leibniz Association (WGL). The institute’s academic research is currently organised in five departments: Communism and Society; Economic and Social Change during the 20th Century; Changing Concepts of the Political; Regimes of the Social Sphere: Urban Society, Welfare Stat, and Rationalisation during the 20th Century; Contemporary History of the Media and Information Society