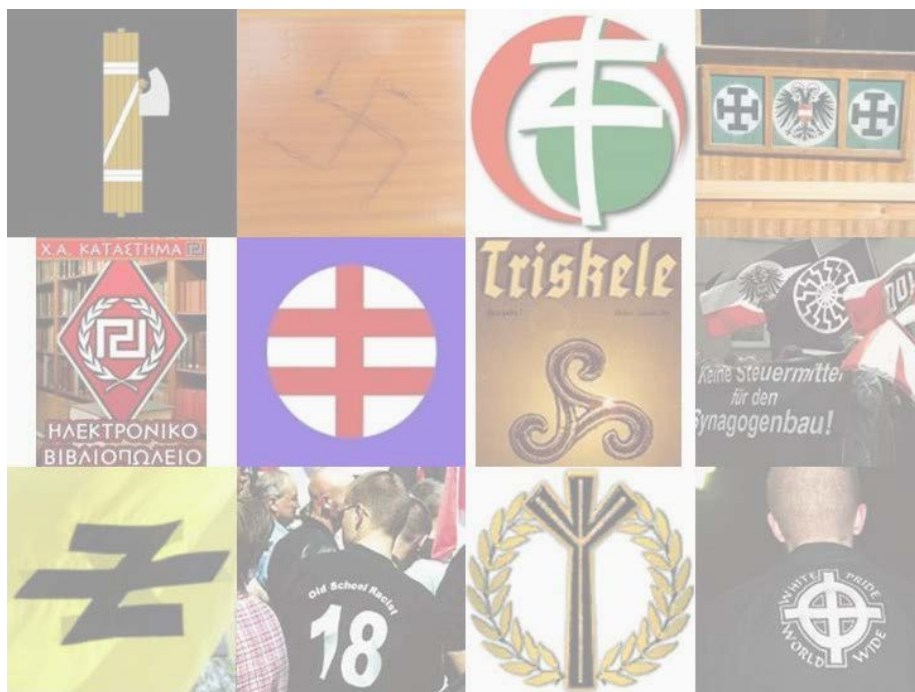


International Colloquium of the History Cluster of the Ludwig Boltzmann Society

Transnationalization of the Far Right: the Case of Interwar and Present-Day Europe



Grillparzerhaus, Johannesgasse 6, 1010 Wien
December 1 - December 2, 2016

Organizers

Peter Becker, Institute for History of the University of Vienna

Gerhard Botz, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Historical Social Science, University of Vienna

Agnieszka Pasiaka, Institute for East European History of the University of Vienna

Philipp Ther, Institute for East European History of the University of Vienna



In recent years, the issues of resurging xenophobia, expansion of far right (including right extremism and populism) have come to dominate political debates in Europe and beyond. Consequently, the subject of far right has attracted attention from scholars from different disciplines, who have considered its relation with European integration, economic crisis, migration, and who have highlighted the context of globalization as a source of discontent and new forms of action. While existing studies mostly reflect the variety of the extreme right scene, they also make evident some common patterns characterizing far-right actors, namely anti-establishment rhetoric, anti-liberalism, anti-pluralism, xenophobia (anti-Islamism and/or anti-Semitism), to name but some. Similarly, while being attentive to the historical specificities, an increasing number of scholars encouraged a reflection on the analogies between the current “crisis of democracy” and the events and break down of (half) democracies in many European states during the 1930s.

Our conference aims at contributing to this debate by reflecting on the transnational dimensions of far-right activism. Drawing inspirations from the transnational history approach, we propose an analysis of complex, synchronic and diachronic, cross-territorial and cross-temporal exchanges between far right ideologies and practices, focusing on two historical periods: the 1930s and the post-1989 era. We are particularly interested in exploring:

- How does the crisis of models of liberal democratic politics and economy manifest and how is it expressed? How do new, alternative models emerge?
- How are legitimation discourses being construed across different movements, regions, and forms of activism?
- What are the platforms of cooperation between different far-right actors? What role new media have played in the process of internationalization?
- How does the broadly understood language of far right reflect mutual influences and connections (or lack thereof)?
- How does the idea of “Europe” feature in the far-right discourse? How do the processes of “Europeanization” relate to the far-right transnational activism?

Contact

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Program

Thursday, December 1, 2016

10:00-10:30 Registration and coffee

10:30-11:00 Welcome & introductory remarks

11:00-13:00 Opening session: Far-Right Scene in the Long 20th Century

Chair: Agnieszka Pasieka, University of Vienna

- Mabel Berezin, Cornell University, Ithaca
Security Crises: Extreme Nationalism and Threats to Democracy in Europe
- Harold James, Princeton University
Can There Be a Fascist International? Some Historical Reflections
- Jürgen Kocka, Berlin Social Science Center
Capitalism, Kapitalismuskritik and democracy: a long-term perspective

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 Session II: European Far-Right Actors of the Interwar Era

Chair: Philipp Ther, University of Vienna

- Arnd Bauerkämper, Free University of Berlin
Asymmetric Exchange and Conflict in a Changing Magnetic Field. Conceptual Deliberations on Investigations of Transnational Fascism in Europe from 1922 to 1945
- Robert Gerwarth, University College Dublin
Anti-Bolshevism and the Transnationalization of the European Right in Interwar Europe
- António Costa Pinto, University of Lisbon
The Diffusion of Right-Wing Authoritarian Models and Institutions in the 1930s. A Success Story?

16:00-16:30 Coffee break



16:30-18:00 Session III: Exchanges and Mutual Influences among European Fascisms

Chair: Philipp Lesiak, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Research on Consequences of War, Graz

- Rory Yeomans, University College London
Primordial Frontiersmen and Political Tourists: Travel Writing, Transnational Encounters and Discourses of Europeanness in Fascist Croatia
- Izabela Mrzygłód, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw
Student Leaders at the University of Warsaw and the Model of Far-Right Leadership in the 1930s
- Oliver Schmitt, University of Vienna
Faschismus auf Augenhöhe? Das transnationale Selbstverständnis des rumänischen Legionarismus

Friday, December 2

9:30-10:00 Coffee

10:00-11:30 Session IV: Visual Culture, Transgression, and the Language of Protest

Chair: Ingo Zechner, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for History and Society, Vienna

- Virag Molnar, New School for Social Research, New York
The Toolkit of Nationalist Populism in Contemporary Hungary: Symbols, Objects, and New Media
- Peter Hervik, Aalborg University
The Danish News Media Communication, Neo-Conservative Bonds and the Transnationally Shared Core Values
- Juraj Buzalka, Comenius University, Bratislava
New Europe's Post-Peasant Integralism

11:30-12:00 Coffee break



12:00-13:30 Session V: Platforms of the Far-Right Cooperation

Chair: Tatjana Thelen, University of Vienna

- Graham Macklin, Teesside University, Middlesbrough
Anglo-American Extreme Right-Wing Militant Networks
- Thomas Grumke, University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and management of North Rhine-Westphalia, Gelsenkirchen
The International of Nationalists: Transatlantic Transfer of Right-Wing Extremist Ideology and Strategies
- Agnieszka Pasieka, University of Vienna
Nationalists without Borders: Far-Right Encounters in Contemporary Europe

13:30-15:00 Lunch

15:00-17:00 Session VI: Far Right in an Interdisciplinary Perspective: Concepts, Ideas, and Research Prospects

Chair: Peter Becker, University of Vienna

- Kathleen Blee, University of Pittsburgh
Rethinking the Far-Right
- Douglas Holmes, Binghamton University
Fascism: The Anthropological Conundrum
- Gerhard Botz, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Historical Social Science, Vienna
Concluding Remarks

followed by the **final discussion** with the conference participants and the audience

17:00 Summing-up of the conference