



Conference

Galicia in the 20th Century. A Region in the Shadow of Empires

3-5 June 2010

Center for Urban History of East Central Europe in Lviv

Working languages: English, German, Ukrainian

Over the last years and decades Habsburg Galicia increasingly became a scholarly paradigm that combined different research trends. Galicia during the long 19th century suits perfectly as a case study for analyzing questions of multiculturalism. Different approaches from different academic disciplines – like history, cultural studies, literature, linguistics, Jewish studies, Slavonic studies or German studies – can be chosen. Until recently research on issues of multiculturalism focused on hybrid and multiple identities, belated modernisation processes, as well as on mutually crossed and competed claims and forms of domination over this region.

The term “Galicia” was and is interpreted in many different ways: It can be associated with the backward crownland of the Habsburg Empire, a specific literary landscape, a multicultural Arcadia, as well as a national Piedmont. The perspectives und constructions of this space are at least as multilayered as the province’s cultures and the different spellings of this region: Галичина – Galizien – גאליציע (Galitsye) – Galicja. We thus better should talk of several “Galicias”, formed by various traditions and narratives, which even today are often elaborated separately. In retrospect this separation is one of the consequences of research traditions based mainly on the national paradigm. The multicultural structure of the region was a leitmotiv for various nostalgic discourses, which considered the entangled tensions and relations mostly in general terms. In fact the various realities of Galicia interacted with each other, had an impact on one another and were interlinked, both in cooperation and confrontation.

The aim of this conference is to encourage a discussion that goes beyond the national and interdisciplinary borders and to remap Galician-studies. The focus lies on different interactions in this historical region. Galicia with its overlapping nationalities, confessions and languages was a space of mixing, hybridisation and cultural transfer. Until very recently these phenomena have posed a rather neglected aspect in comparison with the nation building projects in Galicia.

This historical region was invented by the Austrian bureaucracy during the First division of Poland-Lithuania in 1772 and disappeared from the European map in 1918; however, it has experienced a noteworthy revival in Ukraine and Poland since 1989. This revitalization serves as the starting point of this conference, which aims to discuss the continuities of Habsburg Galicia in the 20th century.

A major question thus will be in what way the conditions established under Habsburg rule influenced the following forms of authority, interactions and conflicts, as well as how they were transformed under the rule of new states or empires (Poland, Soviet Union). The Nazi occupation of Galicia and the Holocaust should in this context as well be discussed as the most important of several violent factors that dramatically changed the region during the 1940s. Another main issue of the conference should be discussing the consequences of inter-cultural interactions still relevant today and in the future. At the same time we want to encourage the communication between various academic, literary, economic and political (re)constructions of Galicia.

The following questions are going to be addressed at the conference: How did the protagonists of multicultural Galicia interact and mutually influence one another? What kind of experiences could we get from historical Galicia? In what way do they influence the present and the future? How to handle Galicia’s heritage in the age of globalization and what experiences/obligations will this comprise? How was Galicia shaped by Empires, the World Wars, the Holocaust and the expulsions? How is Galicia nowadays represented and discussed?

Conference program

Opening, Thursday, June 3rd

07.00-09.00

Round table discussion 1: Galicia. Discursive Constructions

Chair: Roman Dubasevych

The conference will start with one of three panel discussions, which is dedicated to the semantic crossroads of various Galicia-discourses. Various national (state) codes of these perceptual contexts form the main topic of the discussion, as well as questions concerning the role of power and rule in these discourses. Furthermore, the problem of a one-sided, purely emphatic projection of multiculturalism will be debated.

Panel discussion with: Danuta Sosnowska (Warsaw) | Christoph Augustynowicz (Vienna) |
Tarik Cyril Amar (Lviv) | Klaus Hödl (Graz)

Reception (Open end)

Friday, June 4th 2010

Conference opening

Panel I: Violence, War and Gender

Chair: Angelique Leszczawski-Schwerk | Ihor Kosyk

In the first half of the 20th century Galicia became a place for a large range of violence- and war-experiences. They started with World War I and continued through the Polish-Ukrainian War on former Galicia in 1918-1919 and culminated in the atrocities of World War II. These conflicts caused profound changes in this area; they had tremendous effects on its population as well as on the political and social situation. Consequently these outcomes of violence had a strong impact on people's memory and literature – for instance, as victims of the military operations or as representatives of the resistance movement in the underground. These experiences should be examined in particular through the perspective of gender (gender studies).

09.10-10.30

Jan Surman (Minnesota) |
"Rus' does not dance": Student Protests of 1907 in Lviv

Joanna Dufurat (Wrocław) |
Gender in combat: Polish women in fight in Lviv and East Galicia (1918 - 1919)

Martin M. Weinberger (Vienna) |
Der Erste Weltkrieg als Konfrontation der Geschlechter. Krieg und Gender in der österreichischen Literatur über Galizien (The First World War as Gender-confrontation. War and Gender in the Austrian Literature about Galicia)

10.30-11.00

Coffee break

11.00-12.15

Dalia Ofer (Jerusalem) |
Jewish Women in Resistance or Resistance of Women: revisiting concepts and events

Olena Petrenko (Bochum) |
Verehrt und verachtet: Zur Problematik biographischer Rekonstruktion von Frauenschicksalen in der UPA (Idolised and despised: The problem of biographical reconstruction of female fates in the UPA)

12.15-13.30

Lunch

Panel II: Pogroms and Expulsions

Chair: Klemens Kaps | Ihor Datsenko

During the Nazi-occupation various pogroms took place in Galicia, which faced a strong participation among the local population. This topic, controversially debated in East Central Europe over the last years, serves as starting-point for discussing the relationship between external oppression and internal collaboration and/or participation in genocide and expulsions. Hence, this panel examines differences and parallels of pogroms and discusses the issue of continuity. Hereby the context of state rule as well as social and intercultural relationships are highlighted. The chronological frame reaches from the end of the 19th century to World War II. This panel should allow the elaboration of explanatory tools as well as the limits of comparative analysis.

- 01.30-03.00 Tim Buchen (Berlin) |
The pogrom in Western Galicia in 1898
- Jerzy Mazur (Towson University) |
The anti-Jewish pogroms in Western Little Poland in November 1918
- Eva Reder (Vienna) |
Comparing the pogroms of Lviv 1918/19 and Cracow 1945
- 03.00-03.30 *Coffee break*
- 03.30-04.30 John Paul Himka (Edmonton) |
The Pogrom in Lviv in 1941
- Francisca Solomon (Vienna) |
Die Deportation der Juden aus der Bukowina (The deportation of the Jews from Bucovina)
- 04.30-05.00 *Coffee break*

Panel III: The Long Shadow of Empires – Galicia postcolonial?

Chair: Natalia Budnikova | Klemens Kaps

Imperial rule decisively influenced the interethnic relationship in this multicultural region and was Galicia's main feature in the 19th and the 20th centuries. As imperial and national borderland Galicia was an object of various "civilizing-" or "appropriation-" projects. During this panel the interrelation between imperial and national appropriations of Galicia will be discussed as well as the convenience and limits of postcolonial studies' terminology.

- 05.00-07.00 Roman Dubasevych (Greifswald) |
Mixture Galicia: Threat or failed chance? On the perception of hybridity in the works of Ukrainian authors
- Andrea Komlosy (Vienna) |
Österreichische Interessen an der Wiederentdeckung Galiziens nach 1989 (Austrian interests in rediscovering Galicia)
- Philipp Hofeneder (Vienna) |
Karl Marx zwischen Galizien und der Sowjetunion. Die Sprachenpolitik der Ukraine in den 1920er Jahren. (Karl Marx between Galicia and the Soviet Union. The language policy of Ukraine in the 20s of the 20th Century)
- Tarik Cyril Amar (Lviv) |
Der NS-Diskurs über Galizien (The National Socialist discourse about Galicia)

Saturday, June 5th 2010

Panel IV: Cultural Memory

Chair: Simon Hadler | Roman Dubasevych

The main topic of this panel will be the Renaissance of Galicia over the last years and decades as an academic research topic, in memory discourses and marketing strategies. The historical narrative's turn towards culture, politics and tourism evokes the question of how to deal with Galicia's past. It also stimulated debates about different ways of memory and ethics – including literature, art, design of the public space and memory politics.

- 09.30-10.30 Katarzyna Kotyńska (Warsaw) |
Австрійський Львів у польській прозі ХХ ст.: втрачений рай? (Austrian Lemberg in the Polish prose of the 20th Century – a lost paradise?)
- Roman Holyk (Lviv) |
Country of Towns, Country of Villages? Stereotypes about Galicia in Ukrainian and Polish Mentality in the 19th and 20th Century
- 10.30-11.00 *Coffee break*

- 11.00-12.30 Vasyl Rasevyč (Lviv) |
Visualising Galicia: Constructs, interpretations, instrumentalisations
Andrij Portnov (Kyiv) |
Competing Memories of War, Competing Veterans of War in East Galicia (in the context of post-Soviet Ukraine)
- 12.30-02.00 *Lunch*
(Presentation and Poster session: PhD-program “Austrian Galicia and Its Multicultural Heritage” – résumé and outlook of a PhD-project)

Round table discussion II: Galicia as a virtual space

Chair: Ihor Kosyk | Angelique Leszczawski-Schwerk

Based on the approaches of Panel IV this round table serves for a discussion on Galicia in the internet. The main issues will be the following: What new discourses can we find in new media such as internet-forums and -newsletters? In what way does the internet contribute to the creation of a transnational discursive space? What influences does such a virtual discursive space have on the shaping of historical narratives? The round table discussion is connected with the presentation of several scholarly and cultural web-sites.

- 02.00-03.30 Introductory presentation: Sara Froschauer (Vienna) |
The Presentation of Central Europe in internet platforms
Presentations (15 minutes each): Oleksandr Khokhulin (Blog Mankurty, Lviv) | Ihor Balyns'kyj (zachid.net, Lviv) | Katalin Teller (Kakanien revisited, Vienna) | Kamil Janicki (histmag.org, Cracow) | Sofia Dyak, Serhii Tereshchenko (Center for Urban History of East Central Europe, Lviv)
Discussion of the websites and blogs with Żanna Słoniowska (Kraków)
- 03.30-04.00 *Coffee break*

Round Table discussion III: Quo vadis, Galicia? Research paradigms on the crossroads

Chair: Andreas Kappeler (Vienna)

Let us draw some conclusion after two decades of a Galicia-hype in academic research. During this closing round-table we want to present the results of the conference as well as to discuss the future potential of Galicia-studies, their national, transnational and interdisciplinary paradigms.

- 04.00-05.00 Impulse: Julia Sushytska (Redlands) |
Eastern Europe: The Self that is also its Other
Discussion with: Katarzyna Kotyńska (Warsaw) | Harald Binder (Vienna/Lviv) | Julia Sushytska (Redlands) |
Klemens Kaps (Vienna)

Contact

For further information and registrations for attendees of the conference, please contact:

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