



DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
Niemiecka Centrala Wymiany Akademickiej

- Call for Papers -

International Conference "Europe from the Outside / Europe from the Inside"

7th – 9th June 2018, Wrocław

We are delighted to announce the International Conference **“Europe from the Outside/ Europe from the Inside”**, scheduled for **7th-9th June 2018**, which will take place at the Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies of the University of Wrocław. The conference will be organized in collaboration with Institute for German Studies (University of Birmingham, UK), and the Centre Canadien d’Études Allemandes et Européennes (CCEAE), Université de Montréal.

We invite and encourage **paper proposals** from early career researchers (doctoral students and master’s-level students) affiliated with Centres for German and European Studies, which are currently funded, or have previously been funded, by the DAAD. Paper proposals for the conference’s interdisciplinary panels can originate in any discipline of the social sciences, humanities or cultural studies, including political science, law, sociology, history, literary studies, linguistics, and economics.

The topic of the conference

Europe and Germany are facing a number of fundamental challenges. A multitude of on-going crises—particularly the economic and financial crisis, the refugee crisis, the crisis of the rule of law, and the Brexit crisis—are raising vital questions for Germany and the European Union. The conference will examine various scholarly and public discourses with regard to these challenges and intends to discuss them from different disciplinary perspectives, but with an interdisciplinary focus. The conference is interested in juxtaposing EU-internal and EU-external approaches to analysing the issues at hand. While the conference wishes to promote an

interdisciplinary exchange on these issues in their complexity, a common frame of reference remains the question of Germany's role in today's Europe.

Objectives

The conference aims to bring together junior scholars from DAAD centres who are working on different aspects of humanities and social sciences with a focus on the topics of the conference. We expect the juxtaposition of the inside and outside perspectives to be instructive for both researchers and practitioners dealing with and interested in European integration, the EU, and Europe in a broader sense. The DAAD Centres, with their global network and their interdisciplinary nature, are by definition concerned with these issues and are therefore the primary recipients of the call. In addition to the academic output, the conference will promote networking among early career researchers from the DAAD Centres worldwide and thus facilitate synergies, collaboration and research impulses that could initiate common research projects. Against this background, the conference intends to provide a venue for exploring collaboration opportunities, such as a joint book project by junior researchers of the DAAD Centres with the support of senior scholars from the centres. The volume may be published in the Nomos book series of the WBZ.

The conference will be open to **all** DAAD centres, as the organizers place great emphasis on the multicultural nature of the exchange, by explicitly inviting the DAAD Centres from various continents. **The conference language is German but individual English-language contributions will also be accepted.**

We encourage early career scholars and PhD candidates representing different disciplines at the Centres for German and European Studies and their partner institutions to submit a short paper proposal (max. 300 words) in German (individual English-language proposals can also be submitted) on one of the focus topics together with a short bio (academic title, affiliation, research interests). The deadline for paper proposal is 30 April 2018.

Submissions should be e-mailed to conference_europe@wbz.uni.wroc.pl

The language of the conference is German, with some possible exceptions granted to papers in English. We will notify applicants by early May 2018 whether their paper has been selected for the conference.

Financial Support:

DAAD funding allows us to cover all costs for travel and accommodation of all paper-giving participants and moderators from DAAD Centres. The DAAD can only cover travel costs in accordance with the German Federal Travel Expenses Act (Bundesreisekostengesetz, BRKG) including economy flights and second-class railways tickets. **Early career researchers without any DAAD Centre affiliation are welcome to apply as well, but with their own funding.**

PANELS:

All scheduled panels are interdisciplinary, open to viewpoints based on various disciplines and their intersections, e.g. political science, history, economics, literature and culture. The focus topics outlined below are suggestions and might be subject to change.

Focus Topics:

1. Public discourses

Public discourses reflect socio-political and cultural developments, as they can be understood as reactions to real-life changes and as predictions of upcoming changes. However, they can also follow an intrinsic logic, since they are shaped by public actors as well. Public discourses can incorporate established views, collective experiences, prejudices, and aspects of collective identities. In addition, different discursive platforms (e.g. traditional mass media or social media such as Twitter) can offer various (and sometimes competing perspectives).

This panel will deal with discourses on Europe and on Germany's role in Europe, with particular attention to various discourse logics, discourse coalitions and discourse power in the public space.

2. Cultural transfers

The European nation-states are shaped by their respective cultures. At the same time, cultures overlap, influence one another and are also internally diverse. Mutual cultural impact is as old

as the emergence of cultures itself. In this regard, cultural transfers are the consequence of the conscious or unconscious adoption of practices or perspectives of other cultures. Cultural transfers can be perceived either as an inspiration and enrichment or as a threat to the authenticity of one's culture, perceptions which highlight the double-edged nature of perception of cultural transfer(s).

The panel will explore the phenomenon of cultural transfer(s) and the ambivalence of its perception as well as the discursive assessment of such cultural transfer(s) in Europe and Germany.

3. Conflict and reconciliation

Europe has a long history of conflict and reconciliation. The experience of the two world wars has shown in a dramatic way how essential reconciliation is for Europe and its citizens. The European Union has become an important platform for balancing conflicts and conflicting interests. At the same time, new conflicts have emerged with regard to compensation and reconciliation. Conflicts over monuments, history textbooks or reconciliation gestures are only some of different aspects of new fault lines. Germany played a central role in the world wars and has a particular responsibility in this regard. This responsibility has in turn generated reconciliation efforts on Germany's part. These efforts are reflected both in the historical re-assessment of the 20th century and in the political programs for the integration of Europe and Germany within European institutions.

The panel will deal with the course of reconciliation efforts, their perceptions in and outside of Europe and conflicts surrounding them.

4. Migration

Europe has a long tradition as a continent of migration. Migration from Europe to other continents has been as important as migration to Europe from different parts of the world. The recent migration influx to Europe has made the issue not only particularly visible but also contested in socio-political terms. The European continent with its demography, culture, economies and politics was shaped to a great degree by various migrations. Nevertheless, discourses on migration are heavily influenced by perceptions of migration at both the political and the societal level (including anxiety or fear of strangers) and shape contemporary European politics and public reactions.

The panel will discuss the question of how migration and its public perceptions have been reflected in the various areas of European societies and cultures.

5. Power relations

Relations between countries and their populations are often characterized by power asymmetries. The size of the countries, but also their economic power and their cultural impact differ significantly. Therefore, the effects of these type of power relations can vary to a large degree. Threats and threat perceptions are common, but protection and various forms of support between states also often occur and are sought. Currently, long established power relations seem to be shifting. This is visible, for instance, in the relative withdrawal of the US as a guarantor of the European and global security and its apparent shift towards more isolationist and competitive positions. In the process, Germany's role is also likely to change.

The panel's aim will be to analyse power relations not only in terms of (geo-)political power but also by taking into account other forms of power in the realm of culture (the role of "taste", for example), language and economic activities.

6. Bordering and Re-Bordering

The definition of borders as well as the dissolution of borders is an essential concern in and for Europe, both historically and currently. This also applies to the limitation of people's movement and to the limitation of economic activity. The European Union has pursued a project of internal "de-bordering" and simultaneously selective re-bordering with the non-EU countries. Both these processes are currently the subject of intense discussion and controversy. This applies to migration restrictions (see panel 6) as well as to economic processes (e.g. CETA and TTIP). Yet the process of "observation and categorization" is also a form of identification and of demarcation against, others. The self-description of Europe establishes a distinction from the "non-European". Similar processes occur with self-description and foreign ascription of what makes up nation states.

This panel will focus on discursive and performative bordering and re-bordering processes in interaction with each other and on different conceptions of Europe's inner and outer borders.

7. Ideological conflicts

In Europe and beyond, ideologies and ideological perspectives are in the process of realignment. The liberalization of markets and European integration are being increasingly

called into question, as are developments towards more liberalization in terms of civil rights. Emancipation movements and anti-discrimination policies are being met with growing opposition as populist and nationalist actors gain increasing support. As a result, the ideological landscape of Europe and Germany is also changing.

This panel will explore how this ideological realignment is occurring and how it is shaping European countries in areas such as cultural policy, minority policy or economic policy. In particular, the panel is interested in ideological reconfigurations affecting interactions between countries in Europe and beyond.

8. Cities in transition

Cities are spaces with on-going social and cultural change where processes of diversification are enacted. New trends of social change are often first visible in cities or even arise in them, which makes cities fascinating laboratories for scholars. In particular, the new cultural and social trends can be observed in cities as if under a magnifying glass. These changes make cities one of the most vivid objects for both public debates and scholarly research.

The panel will deal with cities, and with their social and cultural transition in particular. The exploration of these sub-national (and transnational) units complements the perspective of other panels, which are primarily focused on individual countries and groups of countries.

9. European and global Germany

Multiple power shifts in Europe and in the world raise the question of Germany's repositioning of itself in Europe and beyond. The withdrawal of some countries from international responsibility and the ambition of other countries to move towards more international relevance and acceptance are pushing Germany into taking a more influential position in Europe and the world. Still, it is largely uncertain how the new role of Germany (sometimes labelled "semi-hegemony") will develop, and with what effects.

The panel will discuss what new roles are being envisaged for Germany in Europe and the world from different perspectives and by different countries, regions and continents. These various perspectives should decipher what political expectations vis-à-vis Germany are being formulated (for instance, in the spectrum between a global power role and a contained follower) and what contradictions are inherent in these expectations.