

# International Conference

## Other Europes. Concepts, Histories, Narratives

November 19–21, 2025



Organisation:

Jan Rupp (Univ. Giessen), Bettina Severin-Barboutie (Univ. Clermont-Ferrand),  
Katharina Stornig (Univ. Vienna), Niels F. May (GHIP)



Research Centre  
for the Study of Culture



universität  
wien  
Institut für Geschichte



Université  
franco-allemande  
Deutsch-Französische  
Hochschule



Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

In the wake of anti-EU movements, the return of full-blown war and growing anti-democratic tendencies on the European continent, competing concepts, histories and narratives of Europe loom large in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century present. So does, by the same token, the need for dialogue over conflicting and shared historical narratives if Europe's proverbial unity in diversity and the underlying democratic values are to unfold. This conference starts from the assumption that while – social, political, gender, ethnic or religious – diversity is often seen as a cause of problems it may also serve as a means to counter recent trends of eroding unity, democracy and societal cohesion in Europe today and in the future. Indeed, socially marginalized positions, subaltern perspectives and historically shifting peripheries can be seen as vital to critically assessing and rethinking Europe by adding more plural, polyvocal accounts of 'other Europes' and 'other Europeans'.

Bringing together international scholars of various disciplinary backgrounds, the conference seeks to examine Europe and European history from marginalized, peripheral and subaltern perspectives. More specifically, it asks how concepts, histories and narratives of 'Europe' are changed or altered once they are retold by groups that lack access to (political, economic, social) power, or that experience societal or cultural marginalization on grounds of, e.g., nationality, race, class, gender, religion, age or sexuality. By doing so, the conference aims to contribute to recent works that have deconstructed linear, success-oriented or binary narratives and opened up long-term perspectives on European integration.

---

The event will be held in English, French and German.

No registration is required for attending in person.

Online participation is available for the round table on November 20 (17.30–19.30) via [Zoom](#).

## ■ Wednesday, November 19

### From 13.00 Arrival of Participants and Registration

13.30 Welcome: Mareike König (GHIP)

**Introduction:** Jan Rupp (Univ. Giessen), Bettina Severin-Barboutie (Univ. Clermont-Ferrand), Katharina Stornig (Univ. Vienna), Niels F. May (GHIP)

## Concepts

### 14.00 Panel I: Other Europes – Imagination and Practice

Chair: Niels F. May (GHIP)

**Jan-Hinnerk Antons** (Univ. Greifswald), Ein erschwingliches Europa ohne Grenzen? Jugendliche Interrail-Erfahrungen und kognitive Karten des Kontinents

**Christian Jacobs** (FU Berlin), A Migrant ›Other Europe‹. The Moroccan Moussem Festivals in the European 1980s

**Chiara Johannesmeier** (Univ. Bielefeld), Europa in ›lebensweltlichen Peripherien‹. Westdeutsche und italienische Bürgerbriefe nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg

16.00 Coffee Break

### 16.15 Panel II: Place and Space – Locating Other Europes

Chair: Oliver Schulz (Univ. Clermont-Ferrand)

**Nicolas Moll** (Univ. Sarajevo), Sarajevo vs. Maastricht. Transnational Mobilizations for ›Another Europe‹ During the Bosnian War, 1992–1995

**Adrien Nonjon** (Sorbonne Univ.), L'Intermarium et ses dynamiques illibérales en Europe centre-orientale. Analyse comparative d'une altérité européenne et de ses récits en Pologne et en Ukraine

**Aleksandra Tobiasz** (Univ. Ljubljana), Europe Seen from its East-Central Fringes

## ■ Thursday, November 20

### Histories

#### 9.30 Panel III: Imperial and Colonial Europe

Chair: **Brian Shaev** (Univ. Leiden)

**Alexandros Balatsoukas** (Univ. Giessen), From Periphery to Centre. Greece's Hellenocentric Reimagining of Europe's Boundaries in the Post-Ottoman Era

**Larissa Kopytoff** (Univ. South Florida), ›To Return Home from the Hajj«. Repatriating European Colonial Subjects Across Imperial Boundaries

10.50 Coffee Break

#### 11.20 Panel IV: Ever Closer Europe

Chair: **Nikola Tietze** (Centre Marc Bloch)

**Lisa Fahrni** (Univ. Heidelberg), Peripherie im Zentrum Europas? Historische Referenzen in den Benelux-Staaten im westeuropäischen Einigungsprozess

**Marine Pierre** (Univ. Geneva), Turkish Interlocutors and the European Parliament. Dialogue, Reactions and Competing Projections (1979–2009)

12.40 Lunch

#### 14.15 Panel V: Global Europe

Chair: **Elena Bacchin** (Univ. Vienna)

**Katharina Stornig** (Univ. Vienna), Au Pairing in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century between Nationalization, Europeanization and Globalization

**Riley Linebaugh** (Univ. Potsdam), Historicizing European Modes of Differentiation. Xenologie and Léopold-Joseph Bonny Duala-M'Bedy

**Yavuz Yildirim** (Univ. Nigde), The Short Story and History of European Social Forums in the Search of Another Europe

16.15 Coffee Break

**17.30 Round Table: Other Europes. Past, Present, Future**

**Giuliana Laschi** (Univ. Bologna), **Wolfgang Schmale** (Univ. Vienna), **Éric Bussière** (Sorbonne Univ.), **Gianna Zocco** (ZFL Berlin)

Chair: **Catherine Horel** (CNRS/CETOBaC)

Dinner

■ **Friday, November 21**

**Narratives**

**09.00 Panel VI: European Narratives Across Media**

Chair: **Jan Rupp** (Univ. Giessen)

**Nils-Christian Terp** (Univ. Jena), ›Europa macht es vor/Wir bleiben unter uns. European Narratives in Popular Music, 1971–2024

**Perrine Val** (Univ. Montpellier), L'Europe communiste vue par des cinéastes africains en devenir

**Marleen Rensen** (Univ. Amsterdam), Studying ›Other Europes‹ Through the Lens of Life Writing

11.00 Coffee Break

**11.20 Panel VII: Marginalized Voices and Peripheral Stories**

Chair: **Bettina Severin-Barboutie** (Univ. Clermont-Ferrand)

**Alexandra Preitschopf** (Univ. Klagenfurt), Marginalisierte Stimmen für ein demokratisches Europa. Gegen-Narrative der liberalen russischen Emigration im Frankreich der Zwischenkriegszeit

**Kwame Osei-Poku** (Univ. Accra), From Awe to Disenchantment. Reflections and Articulations of Europe in African-Authored Travelogues and Travel Memoirs During the Colonial Period

**Patrick Farges** (Univ. Paris Cité) and **Elissa Mailänder** (Science Po Paris), Penser des lieux de mémoire européens non binaires à l'ère du wokisme? Une perspective d'histoire du genre et des sexualités

**13.20** Lunch

### **14.00 Panel VII: Marginalized Voices and Stories**

**Silvia Richter** (Univ. Frankfurt/Main), Europe in the Diaspora. Narratives of Jewish (Re)Migration in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries

**Nicole Colin** (Univ. Aix-en-Provence), Im toten Winkel der Erinnerung. Die ungehörten Geschichte(n) der Roma als konstitutives Element des europäischen Narrativs

### **15.20–16.00 Concluding Discussion**

Chair: **Niels F. May** (GHIP)

## Notes

