Conference Goals

The conference investigates the interconnection of the nation-state and globalization, both historically and in the present. From the 1970s, belief in the obsolescence of the nation-state and nationalism became prominent across the political and disciplinary spectrum, from international relations to history, reflecting economic shifts in the West. Meanwhile, the transnational turn in cultural studies and the social sciences has come to draw attention to identities beyond the nation, ranging from subnational and local cultures to global cosmopolitanism. Thus in today’s globalized world, goods, ideas, cultural works and people seem to cross borders and circulate without limits. Yet the interconnectedness of domestic, foreign and international policy, as well as manifestations of globalization in the everyday and cultural realms, seems to face challenges posed by a retreat from multilateralism and cooperation. Thus, belief in the obsolescence of the nation-state seems misplaced given ongoing events in different world regions and the entanglement of nation-states and nationalism in globalizing projects. Investigating how they remained resilient under globalization and now appear resurgent is thus pressing.

Drawing on area studies’ traditional strengths, evident in its multiregional and multidisciplinary perspectives, the conference examines whether the current recalibration of relations of the national and global is exceptional and what options are open for a multilateral and global future in the realms governance, transnational political and economic ties, global communication infrastructure, and mobility and migration. These themes form the focus of the conference panels. Historical and cultural approaches highlight the legacies of empires and nation-states in forging a global world that emerged alongside and out of colonialism and imperialism.

The conference thus asks: How did the nation-state come to be seen as passé across many disciplines and regions? What political, economic, social and cultural consequences has teleological faith the nation-state’s obsolescence had? How has the nation-state been a crucial element of globalization rather than its antithesis? How are the global and transnational entangled in the current national resurgence? And how have the national, subnational and local proven both resilient in the face of globalization and also co-constitutive of the global world?
Conference Program

Thursday, 2 May 2019

Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS)
Room 319, Altes Finanzamt, Landshuter Str. 4, Regensburg

18:00-20:00

WELCOMING ADDRESS
Prof. Dr. Udo Hebel
President of the University of Regensburg and Chair of American Studies

KEYNOTE LECTURE
Nation-States and Modern Globalization
Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell (University of Leipzig)

OPENING RECEPTION – kindly supported by IOS

Friday, 3 May 2019

Großer Sitzungssaal, Room PT 3.0.79, Universitätsstr. 31, Regensburg

09:00-10:45
Session 1: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ORDER IN CRISIS: GLOBAL GOVERNANCE VS. NATIONAL SOVEREIGNITY?

Seeking Strategic Autonomy: How Europe can cope with transatlantic fragmentations
Prof. Dr. Stefan Fröhlich (FAU, Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Donald Trump's “America First” Agenda, Transatlantic Relations and the Liberal International Order
Dr. Jackson Janes (American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC)

‘Is International Law International?’ Reflections on the Politics of International Law in the Post-Soviet Space
Dr. Cindy Wittke (IOS - Leibniz Institute of East and Southeast European Studies, Regensburg)

Chaired by Dr. Gerlinde Groitl (University of Regensburg)

COFFEE BREAK
11:00-12:45
Session 2: PANEL
THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER IN CRISIS: ANTI-GLOBALISM IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD?

The Costs and Benefits of Globalization: A decade of experience and unchartered waters ahead
Prof. Dr. András Inotai (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest)

On the Motives for and Rationality of Anti-globalist Policies
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Jerger (University of Regensburg)

Three Ingredients for Anti-Globalism in the United States
Hegemonic Decline, Technological Progress, Domestic Policy Failure
Prof. Dr. Welf Werner (Heidelberg Center for American Studies, University of Heidelberg)

Chaired by: Dr. Olga Popova
(IOS – Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies, Regensburg)

LUNCH – UNIKAT, UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

14:00-15:45
Session 3: PANEL
COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY: GLOBAL STRUCTURES, NATIONAL DISCOURSES?

Title tbc
Dr. Antje Glück (Teesside University)

The Global Needs the Local: Digital Infrastructures and National Resources
Prof. Dr. Christiane Heibach (University of Regensburg)

Title tbc
Prof. Dr. Wulf Kansteiner (Aarhus University)

Chaired by: Prof. Dr. Bernhard Dotzler (University of Regensburg)

COFFEE BREAK

16:15-17:30
TURBO TALKS
DOCTORAL AND POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS’ PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Russia’s Normative Alternative? The Internalization of Norms of Civil and Political Rights and the Dynamics of Contestation
Evgeniya Baklaova (IOS, Regensburg)

Verena Baier (University of Regensburg)

Chaired by: Dr. Paul Vickers (CITAS, University of Regensburg)

18:00-20:00
KEYNOTE LECTURE
How the Global became National after 1989:
Economic Thinking at Non-Aligned Banks, the United Nations, and the World Bank
Prof. Dr. Johanna Bockman (George Mason University, Virginia)
DINNER – KNEITINGER KELLER
Galgenbergstraße 18, 93053 Regensburg

Saturday, 4 May 2019
Großer Sitzungssaal, Room PT 3.0.79. Universitätsstr. 31, Regensburg

09:15-11:00
Session 4
PANEL
REMAKING NATIONS AND REGIONS: CITIZENSHIP, BORDERS AND MIGRATION

Moving Borders, Mobile Labour, Migrant Nations
Prof. Dr. Manuela Bojadzijev (Leuphana University, Lüneburg/ Humboldt University Berlin)

Unmaking Borders: Liberal Global Orders and Freedom of Movement
Jun. Prof. Dr. Jannis Panagiotidis (University of Osnabrück)

Visualizing Protest: African (Diasporic) Art and Contemporary Mediterranean Crossings
PD Dr. Heike Raphael-Hernandez (University of Würzburg)

Chaired by Prof. Dr. Ulf Brunnbauer
(IOS – Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies/ University of Regensburg)

COFFEE BREAK

11:15-13:00
Session 5
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
BEYOND THE NATION: FROM LOCALISM TO COSMOPOLITANISM

Title tbc
Prof. Dr. Volker Depkat (University of Regensburg)

Postcommunist postcolonialism in Russia and Poland
Prof. Dr. Dirk Uffelmann (University of Passau)

Title tbc
Prof. Dr. Fernando Vallespin (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

Objectively obsolete and yet rapidly resurgent: National literature in the age of Angloglobalism
Prof. Dr. Dirk Wiemann (University of Potsdam)

Chaired by Prof. Dr. Sabine Koller (University of Regensburg)

13:10-13:30
CONCLUDING DISCUSSION

Chaired by Prof. Dr. Jochen Mecke (University of Regensburg)

This conference is kindly funded by the Hans Vielberth Foundation of the University of Regensburg