



## Culture and International History III

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This conference addresses scholars from the fields of history, art, musicology, political science, international relations, cultural studies, and anthropology. Scholars from and focusing on areas outside of Europe and North America are particularly welcomed. We will advertise and market the conference to prospective participants through the regional academic internet groups, university flyers, as well as local research networks in Australia, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas.

The conference will consist of a total of 10 panels, each complete with three presenters and a chair/commentator. A program committee consisting of three experts will review all proposals and select the 30 best submissions. In total we will limit the conference to 50 active participants, including interested graduate students, faculty members, teachers and other experts from around the world.

Culture and International History III will be organized in partnership of the *Zentrum für Nordamerikastudien* at the *University of Frankfurt* and the *institute for cultural diplomacy*. It will be take place in the *University of Frankfurt's* guest facilities on Frauenlobstrasse near Bockenheimer Warte. The guest residence, a former residential home built in the 1920s, includes two large conference rooms and is equipped with the most up-to-date technical equipment. At least one of the sessions will take place in the historic and newly-renovative IG-Farbenhaus on Grüneburgplatz 1, now commonly known as the university's Campus Westend. Frankfurt is the home of continental Europe's most important airport and is also easily accessible by train or car. Participants arriving from overseas will fly directly to Rhein-Main Airport, then take the subway or bus to the campus.

The conference will last 2.5 days, from December 19 to December 21, 2005. Past experience has shown that this period shortly before the seasonal holidays is particularly attractive. In many universities, this is the end or the break of the semester and allows international participants to visit Germany during the Christmas period.

The purpose of this convention is to further the research and expand the network among the burgeoning group of cultural administrators, political observers and scholars interested in the field of culture and international relations. A conclusive session at the end of the convention will field all topics discussed during the previous days and pave the way for a publication. The best twelve best papers will appear in the series *Explorations in Culture and International History*, edited by Jessica C. E. Gienow-Hecht & Frank Schumacher with *Berghahn Press* in Oxford and New York.

The publication will specifically address the question of new directions in the study of culture and international history. Individual papers will focus on 12 different regions/countries grouped around the following sections, and each section will comprise two different chapters looking at different geographic areas.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MISSION**

The institute for cultural diplomacy is an international center of dialogue, exchange and analysis designed to address major world issues through the lens of culture. The organization promotes culturally sensitive leadership globally while striving to improve mutual understanding between countries, cultures, leaders and citizens. icd is a non- partisan, independent and nonprofit organization with its head offices in New York City and Berlin, and affiliate offices in Los Angeles and Paris. By encouraging dialogue, icd helps to confront challenges and create opportunities in an international community where understanding cultural identities is increasingly vital to diplomatic relations between peoples and nations.

The Zentrum für Nordamerika Forschung at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main was founded in 1979. It represents the second-largest and second-oldest interdisciplinary research institute dedicated to the study of North America at a German university. ZENAF explicitly focuses on the United States, Canada and Mexico. It is designed to bring together representatives and resources from various fields including law, economics, political sciences, history, geography, and American studies. The mission of ZENAF is to disseminate information on North American politics, culture and society in the Federal Republic. Staff members are assistant professors, associates, full professors and students.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS WITH CULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL HISTORY I & II**

Culture and International History I and II both evoked a strong interest among the community of researchers interested in international relations. The first conference resulted in a volume published by Berghahn Books which became so popular among readers on the college and upper division level that the publisher, inundated with in-advance orders, decided to come out with a paperback version right away. Thanks to this broad response on the part of students and academics, the publisher then urged the editors to submit a second collection of essays based on a new conference in December 2002. This conference was attended by approximately 65 participants from Asia, Europe and the Americas. The organizers selected the twelve best papers and are currently preparing them for publication. Numerous scholars have already contacted the organizers to see whether there will be another conference dedicated to this topic in the near future.

## **CULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL HISTORY III**

The conference's mission is to bring together scholars from all five continents in order to discuss their research and identify new trends of investigation. The purpose of this convention is to expand the network among the burgeoning group of cultural administrators, political observers and scholars interested in the field of culture and international relations. A conclusive session at the end of the convention will field all topics discussed during the previous days and pave the way for a publication. The best twelve best papers will appear in the series *Explorations in Culture and International History*, published by Berghahn Press in Oxford and New York. The conference will specifically address the question of new directions in the study of culture and international history. While areas such as the influence of NGOs, women, academics and doctors has recently received scholarly interest, we still lack a theory and a synthesis of these many co-existing approaches. We will advertise and market the conference to prospective participants through the regional academic internet groups, university flyers, as well as local research networks in Australia, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas.

## **TARGET POPULATION**

This conference addresses scholars from the fields of history, art, musicology, political science, international relations, cultural studies, and anthropology. Scholars from and focusing on areas outside of Europe and North America are particularly welcomed. Contributions from both senior and junior scholars are welcome as are papers from experts working outside academia (politics, the media, think tanks).

## **METHODOLOGY**

We will circulate a call for papers in early February 2005, setting a deadline for applications for March. We will then select some 30 papers according to the following priorities: 1. novelty and originality of approach (collection of sources, line of argument, group of protagonists); 2. areas outside of the western hemisphere are particularly welcome; 3. papers dealing with time periods prior to the cold war and, indeed, prior to the twentieth century. 4. papers presented as a complete panel. The papers will be selected by a program committee consisting of five experts working at European and American universities. During and after the conference, the editors of the series "Explorations in Culture and International History" will select twelve papers in accordance with the design for the book (see below). Authors will be asked to submit the final version by March 2006. Given the length of a typical review process, the publication should come out in 2007. Members of ZENAF in cooperation with the program committee will select the papers, stay in touch with the participants and prepare the manuscript for publication. ICD will organize the financial side of the venture and manage the logistics on the ground.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Conference: (2 Days)

We will begin the conference with an introductory session and a keynote address outlining the challenges facing scholars of international history today. The remainder of the conference will then be structured in a total of 10 sessions, with each one consisting of three presentations. Each section is independent from the other and will follow the model presented below. The papers presented will not be final; indeed, we hope that the discussions at the conference will contribute significantly to the final shape of the individual presentations. We expect to publish less than half of the papers presented. However, if the authors were interested, ICD would be happy to publish all the papers also on our website to give a wider audience access to this new and exciting research.

We assume that it will take 20 months to publish the conference volume. Authors will be asked to revise their presentation on the basis of the conference discussions and submit their papers three months later (March 2006). The editors will review the manuscripts and, if necessary, ask the authors to make revisions. The final version should be arriving at Berghahn Book's office no later than August 31, 2006. Guidelines from Berghahn state that it takes the press roughly 12 to 15 months to publish a book (the press will first solicit one or two outside reviews who possibly ask for more revisions before the manuscript will copyedited and go to the printer).

## **CONFERENCE CURRICULUM**

### ***1. The Social Structure of Diplomacy***

*Countries: Spain and Russia*

This section will look at the inner workings of diplomatic culture, notably the question what rites, symbols and customs (monarchical visits, ceremonial dinners, pompous wedding ceremonies) shaped and continue to shape the policy-making process

### ***2. The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in the Making of an International World***

*Regions: unspecified; here we will be looking for studies on different organizations such as the League of Nations, the Catholic Church or the House of Medici*  
*institute for cultural diplomacy and Zentrum für Nordamerika Forschung*

This section calls attention to state-like organization which, however, were never part of or represented the state. It addresses the question how the notion of an international world came about even though the prime requirement -- a shared system of values and beliefs -- never developed.

### ***3. Cultural Pursuit and Cultural Persecution***

*Regions: Latin America and Asia*

This section is based on the existing literature on cultural imperialism, in this section we compare incidents of cultural persecution, domination and resistance, such as the persecution and extinction of indigenous people (Latin America) and the domination of one national culture over another (Japan/China)

### ***4. Competing Visions of Modernity***

*Countries: India and Great Britain*

While the study of modernity preoccupies many western scholars today, few are aware how in the early twentieth century, diplomats and intellectuals around the world developed visions of modernity. Southeast-Asian critics such as Rabindranath Tagore, for example, held very different views of the future development of the world than his European colleagues. A comparison and contrast of different regional approaches will reveal that non-western observers challenged Western visions of modernity, including bureaucracy, international cooperation and conflict, industrialization.

### ***5. The Demise of the West as the Center of Cultural Diplomacy***

*Regions: Indochina and Africa*

This section entails a theoretical debate on the question to what extent our understanding of cultural diplomacy and international cooperation has been shaped by preexisting notions of national preponderance, governmental organization, and political culture.

### ***6. Parallels between the Premodern and Modern Eras (before and after 1789)***

*Countries: Germany and Australia*

In "Parallels between the Premodern and Modern Eras," scholars will contrast incidents of cultural diplomacy and/or unofficial international cooperation before and after the French Revolution, i.e. before and after the rise of the nation-state. Many of today's political instruments -- such as the use of informal groups and foundations for diplomatic ends -- were already known in among royal ambassadors in Europe in the Middle Ages and the Early Modern period.

## **RESULTS**

On the basis of our previous two conference, we anticipate that the result of this symposium will be twofold: first, it will yield a book for a broader academic market as well as interested readers outside of the university. Second, we hope to develop a network of researchers interested in this subject complete with a website, newsgroup and, if possible, more follow-up conventions.