

# CALL for PAPERS

## Conflicts and Conflict Models in Industrial Cities (1850-1939) in East Central Europe

**Marburg 4-5 October 2018**

In the course of industrialization processes, newly founded cities in denominational and ethnical mixed regions created a special environment for the formation of conflicts and conflict resolution strategies. As all migrants arrived mostly in fast growing boomtowns, visions and concepts of a new beginning for everyone and a melting pot for new urban societies arised. Social conflicts among first and second generation migrants were often more intense than religious, linguistic and ethnic conflicts. At the same time, supporters of modern nationalism feared such "denationalized" urban societies. They escaped in urban criticism and launched concepts according to which "foreign" immigrants had only "guest status". A special understanding of urbanity grew out of this constellation, which reflects on conflict resolution models.

What does this mean for conflict constellations in such industrial cities? Have they developed delayed and expressed initially as social conflicts? Under what conditions and which forms were social conflicts transformed into ethnic conflicts? To what extent did crucible concepts have relevance and how were they transformed into the 20th century? Under which conditions could conflicts cool down, even be resolved or continue into the present?

The interdisciplinary conference focuses on East Central European industrial cities being on the climax of their development between 1850 and 1939 (e.g. Lodz as a textile city, Daugavplis and Minsk as railway junctions and industrialization centers, Boryslav and Drohobycz as centers of the mineral oil industry, Salgótarján as a city of the mining and steel industry etc.).

In order to open up a comparative perspective, proposals for comparison cases from other meso regions or diachronic case studies are also welcome, especially from Central and Western Europe, but also from India or South Africa. Furthermore, literary visions of

industrial urban life (urban criticism) and sociological case studies are of interest. The conference aims to provide a comparative theoretical analysis of conflict constellations in dynamically growing industrial cities.

The conference will be held at the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe in cooperation with the LOEWE focus group "Conflict Regions in Eastern Europe". Conference languages are German and English.

Responsible contact persons are  
Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Bömelburg  
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Dr. Heidi Hein-Kircher  
(Herder Institute Marburg).

Please send your application (one-page abstract  
and short CV) until December 31st to:  
[forum@herder-institut.de](mailto:forum@herder-institut.de)



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