

THE POWER OF ASYMMETRY OR THE STRUGGLE FOR TRUTH

Invective Practices in Premodern Europe

International Conference in Prague

7th–9th October 2024



ORGANIZATION:

Marius Kraus (TU Dresden), Christian Jaser (Universität Kassel)

Věra Soukupová (ÚČL AV ČR), Václav Žůrek (CMS FLÚ AV ČR)

Academic Conference Centre (AKC)

Husova 4a / Jilská 1, Praha 100 00

MONDAY / MONTAG (October 7 2024)

12:30 Welcome / Willkommensgrüße

VĚRA SOUKUPOVÁ (Praha)

MARIUS KRAUS (Dresden)

13:00 The Power of Invectivity and the Techniques of Invective Asymmetrisation. An Introduction

MARIUS KRAUS (Dresden), MATOUŠ JALUŠKA (Praha)

PANEL I:

THE RENAISSANCE OF DISPARAGEMENT

FUNCTIONALISM OF INVECTIVITY AND ASYMMETRISATION

- Chair: GERD SCHWERHOFF -

13:40 The Art of (Re-)Creating Invectives from the Past. The Case of Jan Długosz (1415-1480)

ZDZISŁAW KOCZARSKI (Lublin)

14:20 The Grand Prince Behaves like an Antique Tyrannical Emperor. About the Character Assassination of Ivan the Terrible in Central and Eastern European Renaissance Texts

CORNELIA SOLDAT (Köln)

15:00 COFFEE AND TEA BREAK / KAFFEE- UND TEEPAUSE

PANEL II:

AFFECTIVE ASYMMETRIES

GENDER AND EMOTION PERSPECTIVES

- Chair: PABLO M. BORGIALLI -

15:30 Hate Speech? Asymmetries and Invective Communication in Medieval Gender Relations

JULIA BURKHARDT (München)

16:10 Ehehlichkeit – Unehehlichkeit – Unehrlichkeit. „Hure“, „Hurensohn“ und ihre Herabsetzung in der Frühen Neuzeit

RONNY STEINICKE (Dresden)

16:50 Asymmetrical Emotional Ascription or How to Measure Prejudice and Empathy Walls in Premodern Polarized Societies. A Case-Study of Medieval Livonia

WOJTEK JEZIERSKI (Göteborg)

17:30 COFFEE AND TEA BREAK / KAFFEE- UND TEEPAUSE

18:00 KEY NOTE LECTURE / ABENDVORTRAG

Ad hominem. Invective and the Art of Insult

ANITA TRANINGER (Berlin)



TUESDAY / DIENSTAG (October 8 2024)

PANEL III,1:

IDENTITY AND OTHERING

GROUP DYNAMICS OF IN- AND EXCLUSION IN RELIGIOUS CONTEXTS

- Chair: DUŠAN COUFAL (Anti-Heretical Discourse) -

- Chair: KAJETÁN HOLEČEK (Anti-Judaic Discourse) -

09:00 *Perfidissimi hussite heretici*. The Image of the Hussites in Fifteenth-Century Sermons from Silesian Manuscript Collections

EWELINA KACZOR (Lublin)

09:40 All the Aces in One Hand. A Medieval Inquisitor's Repertoire of Textual Tools

PAVLÍNA CERMANOVÁ (Praha)

10:20 *Mendaces, homicidis peiores, fures*. Invectives in Medieval Anti-Heretical Writings

ADAM POZNAŃSKI (Lublin)

11:00 COFFEE AND TEA BREAK / KAFFEE- UND TEEPAUSE

11:30 Das Pejorativum „jüdisch denkend“ (ἰουδαίόφρων) als Element der antilateinischen Polemik in Byzanz

GRIGORI KHISLAVSKI (Erfurt)

12:10 The Language of Exclusion. Labels for Jewish Converts and their Descendants in the 15th and 16th Century Adriatic Space and their Use

BENJAMIN SCHELLER (Duisburg-Essen)

12:50 LUNCH BREAK / MITTAGSPAUSE

PANEL III,2:

IDENTITY AND OTHERING

GROUP DYNAMICS OF IN- AND EXCLUSION IN POLITICAL CONTEXTS

- Chair: CHRISTIAN JASER -

14:30 Insulting the King in 15th Century Bohemia. Politicum or Religious Engagement?

VÁCLAV ŽŮREK (Praha)

15:10 Asymmetrisation of Powers. Cultural Conflicts Against the 'Turks' and Political Propaganda Against Rulers of Italy

LUDOVICA SASSO (Münster)

15:50 *Ceterum opinetur ut libet, barbari tamen sunt*. Cultural Heritage, National Asymmetrisation, Political Claims in the Fight Between Jean d'Hesdin and Francesco Petrarca

PABLO M. BORGIALLI (Dresden)

16:30 COFFEE AND TEA BREAK / KAFFEE- UND TEEPAUSE



PANEL IV:

THE ART OF INSULT

VISUAL ASPECTS OF INVECTIVE ASYMMETRISATION

- Chair: STANISLAVA FEDROVÁ -

17:00 Spreading Safe Theological Doctrine, Cult and Christian Unity Against Splitting Ideologies and Asymmetries. Beautiful Madonna as a Means of Consolidations in the Midst of the Crisis of the Church

PETR JINDRA (Plzeň)

17:40 Visual Rhetoric of Conflict and its Transformation. Bohemian Context 14–16th Century

KATEŘINA HORNÍČKOVÁ (Praha / Olomouc)

MICHAL ŠRONĚK (Praha)

WEDNESDAY / MITTWOCH (October 9 2024)

PANEL V:

MAKING TRUTH. FIELDS OF CONFLICT, STRATEGIES AND FIGURES

- Chair: VÁCLAV ŽŮREK -

09:00 „Als er geschmäht wurde, die Schmähung nicht erwiderte“ (1 Petrus 2,23). Die Beleidigung Jesu in tschechischen Erbauungsschriften des Spätmittelalters

PAVLÍNA RYCHTEROVÁ (Wien)

09:40 Confrontation or Compromise? Search for Religious Truth in Fifteenth-Century Bohemia: A Case Study of Ctibor Tovačovský

VĚRA SOUKUPOVÁ (Praha)

10:20 Unheard Accusations. Competing Truth Claims on Conspiracy and Fraud in Asymmetrical Power Relations of the Late Middle Ages

MARCEL BUBERT (Münster)

11:00 COFFEE AND TEA BREAK / KAFFEE- UND TEEPAUSE

11:30 CLOSING REMARKS / ABSCHLUSSKOMMENTAR

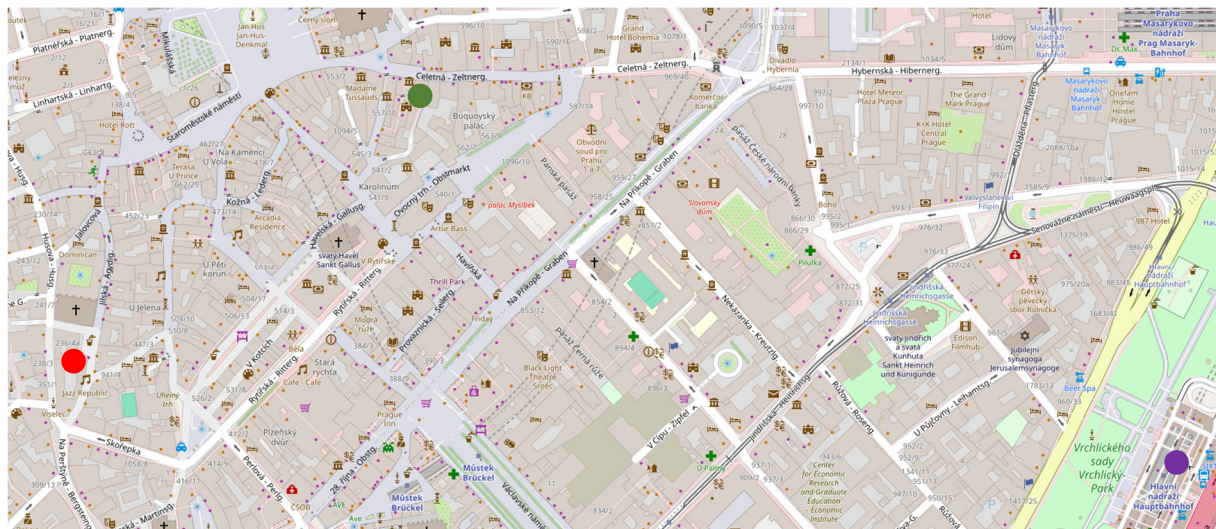
GERD SCHWERHOFF (Dresden)

PAVEL SOUKUP (Praha)



When it comes to constituting and maintaining social cohesion, contemporary political discourse usually warns against social polarization and division, while also invoking values such as solidarity and cooperation. From an analytical point of view, however, the roots of human communities are more diverse and contradictory. A group may have come into being by command or consensus, by contract or propaganda, by necessity or kinship, by all at the same time, or in another way altogether. Particularly effective are such concepts that enable a group to recognize and determine itself through some kind of conflict with others. The “we” is thus often constituted in demarcation and in contrast to “the other(s)”.

This mechanism of communication was also decisive in premodern Europe, from the Middle Ages to the early modern period. It can be observed in ever-changing constellations, from the confrontation between orthodox believers and “heretics” to the humanists’ vituperation and the Enlightenment’s contempt towards the common people. The manifold patterns of intercommunitary disparagement is the focus of this conference.



SOURCE: www.openstreetmap.de

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