



POLYCENTRISM AND EMPIRE

Citizenships, Forms of Participation and Identities in Imperial Formations from Antiquity to the 20th Century

Tuesdays | 6–8 pm | Bldg. 11 | R. o.09 and online

■ **15.4.2025**

Book launch: Ulrike von Hirschhausen, Jörn Leonhard, *Empires. Eine Globalgeschichte, 1780-1920*, München 2023. With Ulrike von Hirschhausen (online only)
Monika Wienfort (Potsdam)

Polycentrism and Regional Centres of Power within Imperial Structures

■ **22.4.2025**

Visualizing the Ruler in the Roman Empire. The Transformation of Imperial Self-Representation in the Provinces (online only)
Nicola Barbagli (Trier)

■ **29.4.2025**

Composite Monarchy, Polycentric Monarchy or Imperial System? Spanish Monarchy in the Early Modern World (online only)
Aurelio Musi (Salerno)

■ **6.5.2025**

His Majesty's Kingdoms and Provinces. The Early Modern Habsburg Monarchy: Asymmetries and Transformations (on site in Potsdam)
Petr Mata (Vienna)

■ **13.5.2025**

The Roman Citizenship in the Greek Cities of the Roman Empire: A Tempting Perspective or Just an Option? (on site in Paris Nanterre)
Gabrielle Frija (Gustave Eiffel)

- **20.5.2025**
Polycentrism and Empire: Negotiating Subjection in Spanish America, c. 1500-1800 (online only)
Christopher Storrs (Dundee)
- **27.5.2025**
The Making of the African Refugee Regime: Thinking through Difference, Participation, and Identities (on site in Potsdam)
Marcia Schenck (Potsdam)

Law and Legal Systems within Empires

- **3.6.2025**
Law, Legal Cultures and Legal Status under German Colonialism (on site in Potsdam)
Ulrike Schaper (FU Berlin)
- **10.6.2025**
Law and Legal Systems within Empires. Medieval Europe and the *ius commune* (online only)
Diego Quaglioni (Trento)
- **17.6.2025**
Ethos, Circumcision, and the Egyptian Priests. Law between the Centre and the Periphery (on site in Potsdam)
Jakub Urbanik (Warszawa)

Identity and Memory within Imperial Systems

■ **24.6.2025**

**Polycentrism in Nomadic Context: the Case of
the Mongol Empire (on site in Paris Nanterre)**
Marie Favereau (Paris Nanterre)

■ **1.7.2025**

**Rewriting Political and Cultural Identities in
Medieval and Early Modern Mediterranean
(online only)**
Luciano Gallinari (CNR-IsMed)

■ **8.7.2025**

**St. Petersburg, Moscow, Odessa, Riga –
Imperial Identities and Memory in Imperial
Cities of the Russian Empire (on site in Potsdam)**
Jan Kusber (Mainz)

If you want to register to attend the online
lectures, please send an email to:
sekretariat-altertum@uni-potsdam.de



Empires have characterized most phases of world history and have been correspondingly studied and discussed in History as well as in Social and Political Sciences. In spite of the existence of a clear centre, empires, because of their dimensions, are also characterized by a strong polycentrism, necessary for an effective administration of the diverse areas included in the imperial formation, but very visible, beyond the level of institutions and administration, in the often uneasy coexistence of central and local systems, as well as in stratified and complex structures of identity and historical memory. The focus of the cycle is an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural analysis of this “tension” between centrality and polycentrism in historical empires from Antiquity to the 20th century, conducted through lectures by internationally renowned experts of the topic.



Location



Organizers

Universität Potsdam | Historisches Institut

Prof. Dr. Filippo Carlà-Uhink & Prof. Dr. Monika Wienfort

In cooperation with: Università degli Studi di Cagliari,
Université Paris-Nanterre, EDUC



Further information:
www.uni-potsdam.de/hi-altertum