

ZFW – ESA – Joint Conference

Theoretical and Methodological Challenges for Humanities, Social and Cultural Sciences, Facing the Multiple Crises in Europe

The crises in Europe are piling up - climate crisis, refugee crisis, democracy crisis. These are compounded by accelerated digitalisation, polarising globalisation and singularisation of our living worlds, and for the last two years, a bitter war has been raging in Europe. In response to these multiple crises, the humanities, social and cultural sciences increasingly make critical diagnoses, pleading for new types of society models. While the current existential risks concern the general elementary ways of being and living of humans, there are emerging concepts in the humanities and social sciences that dissolve the general and universal ones into historical-cultural ones or regard scientific methodology as a political agenda and even lead to the radical conclusion that matters of facts are to be transformed into matters of concerns. Without any doubt, Science and Technology Studies, Cultural-, Gender-, Postcolonial-, and Animal Studies introduce important perspectives on the effects and influences of cultural, political, and social contexts on the different ways of establishing phenomena

and producing science. Paradoxically, this very revival of the historical, cultural, and social political contexts puts into question objectivity or even the intersubjective validity of scientific research, which is supposed to produce those new generally valid social models of societal cohesion.

The fundamental problem, that arises here and is to be discussed at the conference is the relationship between the real social facts and events, which are referentially and indexically based on experience, data and all that is facticity, to the inherent logic of meaning systems and, in addition, to the lifeworld self-interpretations and its historical-semantic self-referential reconstructions. We welcome contributions to both analytic, hermeneutic-phenomenological, existential-analytical and other theoretical approaches of conceptualization in the humanities, cultural, and social sciences, as well as reflections on their corresponding consequences for new lifeworld practices and modes of existence that can lead to a new spirit of coexistence.

Organisers:

Gallina Tasheva (Münster) – gallina.tasheva@uni-muenster.de

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Frank Welz (Innsbruck) – frank.welz@uibk.ac.at

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Muenster 6. – 8. June 2024

Location

Senatssaal im Schloss, Schlossplatz 2

wissen.leben

Program

Thursday, 6. Juni

14:00h – 14:30 *Welcome address – Monika Stoll, Prorektorin für Forschung der Universität Münster*

Keynote

14:30 – 15:30 Dirk Baecker (Witten/Herdecke): The Meaning of Meaning Overflow Within the Structure and Culture of Society

15:30 – 16:00 *Coffee break*

Revising the Theory of Society – Moderation: Gallina Tasheva (Münster)

16:00 -17:00 Marta Soler (Barcelona): Power and Solidarity in the Dialogic Society

17:00 – 18:00 Csaba Szaló (Brno): Revising Weberian Theory of Rationalisation from the Perspective of Critical Phenomenology

Starting 18:30: *Get-together in Caputo in der Königstraße 59*

Friday 7. Juni

Multiple Modernities, Cultural Relativism and the Humanities – Moderation: Csaba Szaló (Brno)

9:30 – 10:30 Benjamin Zachariah (Postdam): Postcolonial Normativity and Culturalist Intersubjectivity

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:00 Sebastian Luft (Paderborn): How Should the Humanities Deal with Cultural Relativism?

12:00 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

European Crises, Normativity, and the Public Sphere – Moderation: Marta Soler (Barcelona)

14:00 – 15:00 Frank Welz (Innsbruck): The European Crises and Social Thought: Methodological Pitfalls Between Kant and Foucault

15:00 – 15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30 – 16:30 Lucas Janz (Berlin-Oxford): Heidegger's Multi-Layered Conceptions of Truth and Normativity

16:30 – 17:30 Friedrich Weißbach (Münster-Berlin): On the Relationship Between Trust and Public Sphere

17:30 – 18:30 Simon Truwant (Leuven): From Post-Truth to Truth Pluralism Towards a New Ethics of Public Debate

Saturday, 8. Juni

Immanent creation of Life and Coexistence – Moderation: Frank Welz (Innsbruck)

9:30 – 10:30 Nicola Mühlhäußer (Münster): The immanent creation of life instead of judging the 'facts' – an approach following Deleuze and Guattari

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 -12:00 Gallina Tasheva (Münster): Elementary Forms of Existence. From the European Enlightenment of Reason to the New Enlightenment of Coexistence

12:00 – 12:30 *Concluding Discussion*