

CFP: New approaches to the history of the Suwalkija

During recent decades, the history of the Suwalkija (also Lithuanian: Sudūva or Užnemunė, Polish: Suwalszczyzna), one of the ethnographic regions of Lithuania and Poland, has received little attention in historical and cultural-historical research. Reasons for this are that the historical region was divided between Lithuania and Poland in 1920 and that numerous documents are kept partly in Lithuanian and partly in Polish archives, as well as in Minsk.

In 1795 Prussia occupied this region during the Third Partition of Poland. After the Tilsiter Peace Treaty (1807) it became part of the Duchy of Warsaw. Although, the Prussian and Napoleonic phases lasted only for a short time, they had a lasting effect, particularly in the legislative, economic, and cultural fields. In addition to Lithuanians and Poles, the region's population consisted of numerous Germans and Jews. At the end of the 19th century the literacy rate was also quite high. During the negotiations between Hitler and Stalin in the late summer of 1939, a part of the region, the Suwałki triangle or the Suwałki corner, also played a role. In November 1939, the territory was annexed to the Prussian administrative district of Gumbinnen.

After the Second World War, the historical region belonged partly to the Lithuanian SSR and partly to the People's Republic of Poland. The strict isolation of the USSR prevented joint research on regional history.

Many regional museums both in Lithuania and Poland are nowadays actively engaged in historical and cultural-historical issues concerning the region. There is also research on different ethnic groups. A workshop planned for autumn 2020 will bring together research representatives for the first time and discuss projects, research plans, and perspectives.

We are particularly interested in:

- Research questions on the history of the late 18th and 19th century in the region
- Issues of intra-ethnic relations in the region
- Urban planning and economic aspects in the 19th century
- Confessional relations in the 19th century
- History of migration in the 18th and 19th centuries

We request abstracts for presentations of max. 300 words and a short CV as well as information on active and passive language skills by 30 March 2020 by e-mail to the address below. Young

academics and students in advanced Master's programmes are encouraged to apply. Possible languages: Lithuanian, Polish, German and English.

The two-day workshop will take place on 14-15th October 2020 at the Regional Museum in Marijampolė. It is organised by the Vilnius Branch of the German Historical Institute Warsaw in cooperation with the Regional Museum Marijampolė. Travel and accommodation for promised contributions will be covered by the organisers.

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