



**Max Weber**  
Stiftung

Deutsche  
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Institute im Ausland

**Lithuanian Institute of History**

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## **VIOLENCE AND THE CRISIS OF GOVERNANCE IN EAST CENTRAL EUROPE, 1905-1925**

Online Conference, 13 November 2020

The first decades of the 20th century witnessed an unprecedented crisis of governance in the region stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea. The gradual decline and then eventual collapse of three European empires brought by the Great War and the Russian Revolution spelled the end to the old imperial forms of government and unleashed a frenzy of new armed conflicts and nation-making. This wider crisis in East Central Europe has been described as the long-term continuous cycle of violence (Holquist, 2003). It was characterized by the initial weakness of new post-Versaillian state orders that competed among themselves and with various internal actors that claimed authority in the existing power vacuum and general disorder.

The collapse of state structures created a space for a variety of violence-oriented groups that tried to enforce their own political, social, religious, ethnic or simply criminal agendas on local populations. The conference will explore the complex relationship between state collapse and violence in East Central Europe by focusing on these violent groups: their leaders, memberships, aims, relations with state actors and their limits of power. Scholars from several countries will examine their activities (paramilitarism, warlordism, terror, pogroms, economic activities and population policies) to shed more light on the transformative moment of East Central Europe. Through comparative discussion and debate organized in themed subject panels, this conference will work towards a transnational understanding of the origins, nature and consequences of violence in the wider European region.

## PROGRAM

	Time (LT)	Time (DE)	Time (UK)	Time (US)
Greetings from the organisers	10.00-10.05	09.00-09.05	08.00-08.05	03.00-03.05
Keynote - John Horne (Dublin) - <i>When Did the Great War End?</i>	10.05-10.35	09.05-09.35	08.05-08.35	03.05-03.35
Discussion	10.35-11.00	09.35-10.00	08.35-09.00	03.35-04.00

### Panel 1 - *Social Order, Administrative Violence and Criminality before, during and after WWI*

No.	Presenter	Title	Time (LT)	Time (DE)	Time (UK)	Time (US)
1.	Claire Morelon (Padua)	Democratization and Its Discontents: Upholding the Social Order in the Bohemian Lands, 1905-1925	11.00-11.10	10.00-10.10	09.00-09.10	04.00-04.10
2.	Andrea Grifante (Vilnius)	Military Administration, Violence and Civilians in Lithuania, 1914-1918	11.10-11.20	10.10-10.20	09.10-09.20	04.10-04.20
3.	Vytautas Petronis (Vilnius)	Wartime Banditry in Lithuania, 1914-1920	11.20-11.30	10.20-10.30	09.20-09.30	04.20-04.30
Discussion			11.30-11.50	10.30-10.50	09.30-09.50	04.30-04.50
Break			11.50-12.00	10.50-11.00	09.50-10.00	04.50-05.00

## Panel 2 - *Post-WWI Violence*

No.	Presenter	Title	Time (LT)	Time (DE)	Time (UK)	Time (US)
1.	Béla Bodó (Bonn)	The White Terror in Hungary, 1919-1921: The Social Profile of the Right-Wing Paramilitary Groups and Motivational Structure of Their Members	12.00-12.10	11.00-11.10	10.00-10.10	05.00-05.10
2.	Gergely Bődök (Budapest)	Red Terror in Hungary	12.10-12.20	11.10-11.20	10.10-10.20	05.10-05.20
3.	Jochen Bohler (Jena)	The Central Government, Local Institutions, and Paramilitaries during the Battle for the Polish Western Borderlands, 1918-1921	12.20-12.30	11.20-11.30	10.20-10.30	05.20-05.30
4.	Tomas Balkelis (Vilnius)	The Logic of Violence in the Polish-Lithuanian Conflict, 1920-1923	12.30-12.40	11.30-11.40	10.30-10.40	05.30-05.40
Discussion			12.40-13.10	11.40-12.10	10.40-11.10	05.40-06.10

Lunch/Breakfast break			13.10-14.00	12.10-13.00	11.10-12.00	06.10-07.00
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## Panel 3 - *Crises, Redistributions and Epidemics*

No.	Presenter	Title	Time (LT)	Time (DE)	Time (UK)	Time (US)
1.	Maciej Górny (Warsaw)	Railways and the Crisis of Governance in East Central Europe 1918-1921	14.00-14.10	13.00-13.10	12.00-12.10	07.00-07.10
2.	Klaus Richter (Birmingham)	Violence and Property Redistribution. Interwar Poland, Lithuania and Latvia from Independence to the Great Depression	14.10-14.20	13.10-13.20	12.10-12.20	07.10-07.20

3.	Łukasz Mieszkowski (Warsaw)	Symbolic and Physical Violence in the Fight against Typhus on Polish Railways and at Repatriation Points, 1918-1922	14.20-14.30	13.20-13.30	12.20-12.30	07.20-07.30
Discussion			14.30-14.50	13.30-13.50	12.30-12.50	07.30-07.50

Break			14.50-15.00	13.50-14.00	12.50-13.00	07.50-08.00
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**Panel 4 - *Anxieties, Pogroms and Violence - Beyond Comparison?***

No.	Presenter	Title	Time (LT)	Time (DE)	Time (UK)	Time (US)
1.	Darius Staliūnas (Vilnius)	Military Pogroms in Lithuania, 1919-1920	15.00-15.10	14.00-14.10	13.00-13.10	08.00-08.10
2.	Raul Carstocea (Leicester)	Shifting Anxieties: 'Judeo-Bolshevism' and the Radicalisation of Anti-Semitic Violence in Romania after the First World War	15.10-15.20	14.10-14.20	13.10-13.20	08.10-08.20
3.	Julia Eichenberg (Berlin)	Beyond Comparison? The challenges of applying comparative historical research to violence in general (and the violent post-war period in particular)	15.20-15.30	14.20-14.30	13.20-13.30	08.20-08.30
Discussion			15.30-15.50	14.30-14.50	13.30-13.50	08.30-08.50

Break			15.50-16.00	14.50-15.00	13.50-14.00	08.50-09.00
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