

Panel series at the 2nd Congress of Association of Borderland Studies, Vienna and Budapest, July, 2018

The German Historical Institute in Warsaw (GHI) is organizing an interdisciplinary panel series on multilingualism in border regions for the 2018 Association for Borderland Studies World Conference, to be held July 10-14, 2018, in Vienna and Budapest.

We invite proposals for presentations that analyse the cultural and political implications of multilingualism in the interwar Polish state. The legacy of the three empires that had incorporated this territory prior to 1918 deeply influenced both bureaucratic tradition and everyday communication. Furthermore, roughly every third citizen of the new nation state was a non-Polish speaker. The complexity of these challenges generated a set of institutional, scientific and private responses with particular effect on the population of Poland's ethnically and linguistically diverse borderlands. We want to know the extent to which multilingual communication could or could not generate processes of change in knowledge and practices. We are therefore interested in concrete analyses of (past) everyday language practices, as well as in how knowledge contributed to shaping language usage in Poland's border regions. Presentations that explicitly reflect on sources, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches will be especially welcome.

Possible topics include:

- Language regulations and practices: language regulations were at the heart of policy measures and provoked intense discussions about power, space, social relations, and the future of Polish border regions. The interrelationship between regulations and practices allows us to unravel the relationship between (state) institutions, minority organisations and transnational networks in shaping the everyday usage of languages by borderland inhabitants
- Language acquisition: the approach towards language in the teaching system and in teacher training, the interrelationship between representation, motivation, and the acquisition of a language
- Knowledge production and circulation about the usage of language: within families (as preservers of traditional social and cultural knowledge) and within social and cultural science disciplines
- Border and minority policies within the interwar Polish state

The panels will be organized and coordinated by Machteld Venken (University of Vienna) and Maciej Górny (GHI Warsaw/Polish Academy of Sciences). Proposals for complete panels are preferred and should include four papers, a moderator, and a commentator (if necessary, we can help find moderators and commentators). Propositions for individual presentations are also welcomed. Please send a brief CV and a proposal for a session or individual paper (no more than 300 words) by **July 31, 2017**, to zielinska@dhi.waw.pl. The successful candidates will be informed soon afterwards. They will have to submit abstracts of their sessions online on the website of the 2018 Association for Borderland Studies World Conference before **August 15, 2017**, and abstracts of individual papers between August 16 and **September 30, 2017**.

The GHI will provide lump sum travel grants to successful applicants from outside of Europe (up to 1,400 Euro per participant) and Europe (up to 800 Euro per participant, depending on travel costs).