



Illumination from Epistola Mathildis Suevae
ad Misegonem II Poloniae Regem
(Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf,
Ms C 91, fol. 3v [lost today])



Germans and Poles in the Middle Ages – the Perception of the ‘Other’ and the Presence of Mutual Stereotypes

Thursday, 24th May – Sunday, 27th May 2018

Germans and Poles in the Middle Ages – the Perception of the ‘Other’ and the Presence of Mutual Stereotypes

24th – 27th May 2018

The conference addresses the mutual perceptions of Germans and Poles over the course of the Middle Ages. Additionally, for purposes of comparison and to generate methodological questions, other ‘contact-zones’ of Germans with their neighbors such as France, England, Bohemia and the Holy Land will be presented. And there will also be lectures on modern German-Polish perceptions of one another. Research in recent decades shows clearly that the perception of ‘Otherness’ tells us much about the ‘construction of the Self’. An important aspect within this is the ‘communication community’ (Karl W. Deutsch). Does a given author understand the language, symbols, or customs/rituals of the ‘Other’? Is he really interested in them, or do authors only use them as a backdrop to give form to the supremacy of their own community? – Switching the view to the ‘protagonists’ within the texts, there is certainly a need to classify groups of ‘Otherness’: If a medieval author writes about individuals (for instance: princes) or regional and social groups (for instance: German merchants in Silesia or Teutonic Knights) or the whole people of a given nation (‘the Germans’, ‘the Poles’), the frame of reference is definitely different and needs to be taken into consideration.

Venue:

Instytut Historii im. Tadeusza Manteuffla, sala im. Joachima Lelewela (conference room), Rynek Starego Miasta 29/31, 00-272 Warszawa / Warsaw | **Only on Thursday, 24th May:** Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau / Niemiecki Instytut Historyczny, conference room (on the third floor), Karnicki Palace, Al. Ujazdowskie 39, 00-540 Warszawa / Warsaw

Organizers:

Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences
German Historical Institute Warsaw

Conception and organizational responsibility:

dr hab. Andrzej Pleszyński (UMCS w Lublinie), and dr hab. Grischa Vercamer (IH PAN)

Languages:

English (majority of the lectures), German, Polish (for discussion), in some instances: German-Polish simultaneous translation (i.e., the first lectures on Friday from 9.30 till 13 o'clock)

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Liber iuris civilis civitatis Cracoviae
(Archiwum Państwowe w Krakowie, rkps 1420, s. 1)



Deutsches
Historisches Institut
Warschau



Nemiecki
Instytut Historyczny
w Warszawie



Jahre / lat
DHI Warschau
NIH w Warszawie

Max Weber
Stiftung

Deutsche
Geisteswissenschaftliche
Institute im Ausland

Thursday, 24th May

- 18.00 **Keynote lecture**
Stefan Dyroff (Bern)
Germans and Poles 1830–1939. Mutual Perceptions and a One-sided Transfer to England (*lecture given in German with simultaneous Polish translation*)
- 19.30 Reception
(Important: The location for the keynote and the reception will be the German Historical Institute in the Al. Ujazdowskie 39, 00-540 Warszawa)

Friday, 25th May

- 9.00–9.30 Welcome and introduction
- 9.30–11.00 **SESSION 1 (MIXED)¹⁾: GERMAN-POLISH STEREOTYPES IN MODERN TIMES / HAGIOGRAPHICAL EXTERNAL ASCRIPTION (1)**
Jarochna Dąbrowska-Burkhardt (Zielona Góra)
Contemporary Stereotypes within German-Polish Relations. A Linguistic Approach (*lecture given in Polish with simultaneous German translation*)
- Stephan Flemmig** (Jena)
Poland, Silesia and Prussia in the Hagiographic Sources of the Empire (*lecture given in German with simultaneous Polish translation*)
- Coffee break
- 11.30–13.00 **SESSION 2 (MIXED): HISTORIOGRAPHY: POLES TOWARDS GERMANS / CONTACT ZONE: SILESIA**
Sławomir Gawlas (Warsaw)
The Perception of the Holy Roman Empire and Its People in the Eyes of the Polish Elites in the 15th Century (*lecture given in Polish with simultaneous German translation*)

Wojciech Mrozowicz (Wrocław)
Between Stereotypes and Real Experience: The Silesian People in the Middle Ages with Respect to Their Neighbours (in Hagiographical and Historiographical Sources) (*lecture given in Polish with simultaneous German translation*)

13.00–14.30 Lunch (in the IH PAN)

14.30–16.00 **SESSION 3 (MIXED): POLES TOWARDS GERMANS / HAGIOGRAPHICAL EXTERNAL ASCRIPTION (2)**

Andrzej Pleszczyński (Lublin)
The Image of the Germans and the Holy Roman Empire in Polish Historiography until the 13th Century

Roman Michałowski (Warsaw)
Polish Hagiographic Sources and Their View of the Germans in the Middle Ages

Coffee break

16.30–18.00 **SESSION 4: HISTORIOGRAPHY: GERMANS TOWARDS POLAND AND THE POLISH PEOPLE**

Volker Scior (Bochum)
Poland and the Polish People in Early and High Medieval German Historiography

Norbert Kersken (Marburg)
Poland and the Polish People in Late Medieval German Historiography

19.30 Dinner: *Restaurant Studio Buffo, ul. Marii Konopnickiej 6, 00-491 Warszawa*

Saturday, 26th May

- 9.00–10.30 **SESSION 5: ZONES OF COMPARISON: THE HOLY LAND AND FRANCE**
Kirstin Skottki (Bayreuth)
Constructing Otherness in the Chronicles of the First Crusade
- Georg Jostkleigrew** (Münster)
Alterity and ‘Genre’. Reflections on the Construction of ‘National’ Otherness in Franco-German Contexts
- Coffee break

11.00–12.30 **SESSION 6: CONTACT ZONE: PRUSSIA**

Grischa Vercamer (Frankfurt/Oder – Warszawa)
Historians within the Teutonic Order (Ordensgeschichtsschreibung) in Prussia in the Middle Ages with Regard to Poland

Adam Szweda (Toruń)
Urban Historians (städtische Geschichtsschreibung) in Prussia in the Middle Ages with Regard to Poland

12.30–14.00 Lunch (in the IH PAN)

14.00–15.30 **SESSION 7: LITERATURE AND OTHERNESS**

Martin Langner (Krakow)
Perception of Poland in Peter Suchenwirt’s Heraldic Poems. Reflections on the Dependence between Assessments and Genres

Florian Schmid (Greifswald)
Constructions of the Self and the Other: Images of Poland and Their Roles in Medieval German Epics and Poetry

Coffee break

16.00–17.30 **SESSION 8: CONTACT ZONE: POMERANIA AND MEDIEVAL TOWNS IN POLAND**

Stanisław Rosik (Wrocław)
Between Julius Caesar and Attila. The Origins of the Pomeranians in the Social and Cultural Memory of the Empire (Bamberg) and Western Pomerania from the 12th to the 14th Century

Marcin Starzyński (Krakow)
National Conflicts in Fourteenth-Century Krakow

19.30 Dinner: *Restaurant Rusiko, winebar, Al. Ujazdowskie 22*

Sunday, 27th May

9.00–10.30 **SESSION 9: ZONES OF COMPARISON: BOHEMIA AND ENGLAND**

David Kalhous (Brno)
...rogans eum sibi in auxilium contra superbiam Teutonicorum. The Imaging of Theutonici in Bohemian Medieval Sources between the Ninth and Fourteenth Centuries

Isabelle Chwalka (Mainz)
No Interest? How English Historiographers Perceived the Empire in the 12th Century

Coffee break

11.00–11.30 **Thomas Wünsch** (Passau)
Concluding remarks

Final discussion

¹⁾Due to the simultaneous translations in the first two blocks, the themes are mixed.