

IX. Biennial Czech Society for Eighteenth Century Studies Cultural Transfers in Habsburg Monarchy in 18th Century Prague, 22–24 November 2023

The question of cultural transfers has been a rewarding topic of historical research for several decades. This year's Biennial of the Czech Society for Eighteenth Century Studies will focus on the question of cultural transfer in the Habsburg Monarchy roughly between 1680 and 1820, when the Danube Empire was opening up to Western European culture, but also becoming a model of the "Enlightenment" transformation of society and state for other European regions. The dynamic "circulation of knowledge", its democratization and gradual vernacularization (also in the sense of sharing information in non-elite languages) became a characteristic feature of this epoch in Central Europe as well. This exchange of information took place both towards the centres of the monarchy, as well as across the various Habsburg lands, including the Italian regions, the imperial territories, and later within the newly annexed Galicia.

The forthcoming Biennial seeks to grasp the process of adaptation of new ideas, cultural impulses and social practices in the Central European space, mainly on the basis of the following thematic areas:

- Centres of "import": Adoption and adaptation of new models of French, English, Italian, imperial (Catholic and Protestant) environments; the role of foreign institutions (universities, art, engineering, military academies...) and domestic centres (societies, schools, universities...)
- Transfer agents: scientists and literati, artists and artisans, soldiers, diplomats and courtiers...
- Media of transfer I – printed material: printing houses and publishing houses; newspapers, journals..., transformations and (re)adaptations including translations, shaped in an environment of increasing plurality of media across countries, genres and media
- Media of Transfer II – Languages (the role of translations, the relationship between vehicular and vernacular languages, the question of biglosia/triglossia; the role of Latin, French, German, Slavic languages; language in official communication, education, scientific and private communication)
- Media Transfer III – Ideas (new scientific / social / economic theories and concepts)
- Membranes of transfer: the role of (seemingly) "peripheral", border regions that served as a "membrane" to other cultures, to which they mediated a "way" to the "inland" (Silesia; (Upper)Hungary/"Slovakia", Tyrol, Salzburg...)
- Objects of transfer: material culture and its influence by foreign models, architecture and art, ceremonial and religious practices, patterns of everyday behaviour, scientific discoveries and knowledge; adaptation of modes of governance, models of social reform (circulation of legal and administrative texts and practices), etc.

The Biennial will be held in English, German, French, Czech and Slovak. We are looking forward to you abstract of about 300 words in English by 30 June 2023. You can also attach a second version of your abstract in another language. After a proper peer-review process,

the conference papers will be published in the journal *Cornova – Revue of the Czech Society for Eighteenth Century Studies* (<https://service.ucl.cas.cz/en/cornova-journal>), registered in the ERIH+ database and in open access mode. The Biennale is organised in cooperation with CEFRES French research center in Humanities and Social, www.cefres.cz

On behalf of CSECS

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