THE WORKSHOP

During the «long 20th century», political decisions and their implementation have been inconceivable without experts and their expertise. As a result, they recently developed into a promising interdisciplinary area of research. In societies describing themselves as «knowledge societies» and framing knowledge as an important pillar of development, experts were ascribed the role of modern day prophets: they framed the notions of the world, its nature and its environments, diagnosed transformations and continuities and provided advice how to improve certain political schemes and measures. But they were not only observers. They took also active parts in the shaping and implementation of political programs. Thus, they were active in international organizations, cooperated in national and transnational networks and provided technical assistance on missions on the spot or worked in the field in order to evaluate and improve the local situation. In this way experts had to perform their expertise according to different and often overlapping contexts. They used organizational and personal networks to pursue international, national or local agendas, and struggled through supposed objectivity and their personal advocacy. All these aspects are in the center of the workshop, which will be the platform for international scholars to discuss the role of experts in historical perspective in specific contexts and on different levels.

THE PROJECT

The project »Knowledge of the World – Heritage of Mankind: The History of UNESCO Cultural and Natural Heritage« started in July 2013. Taking the World Heritage Program governance institution as a prism, it sets a focus on the shifting of structures, institutions and actors, perceptions and agency in the 1970s and 1980s. The framework project of Dr. Andrea Rehling »UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage: Cosmopolitanization of Collective Memory« analyses the World Heritage program in its totality as an institution of global governance from its intellectual roots in the 19th century to the establishment of a global strategy for a balanced World Heritage List in 1994. Elke Ackermann investigates the history of the Galápagos Islands as a model for natural heritage sites; Elsa Duval examines Aachen Cathedral as a monument imbedded in an urban landscape; Julia Röttjer analyses the history of Auschwitz Concentration Camp with its memorial and Museum as ›dissonant heritage‹ in international context; and Benedetta Serapioni deals with the contentious and multi-faceted history of the old town and city walls of Jerusalem as World Heritage Site.

ORGANIZED BY

Leibniz Institute of European History Mainz
UNESCO World Heritage Research Group (SAW)

Knowledge of the World – Heritage of Mankind: The History of UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage

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**Panel 2: Experts in Networks: Cooperation and Collaboration across Borders and Boundaries**

Chair: Katharina Stornig (IEG Mainz)

15:45 Raf de Bont (Maastricht): White Men in Suits: Conservation Conferences and Expert Networks in the short 20th Century

16:45 Martin Deuerlein (Tübingen): »Everything that we've done so far is now outdated« - Soviet Foreign Policy Experts and the Transformation of International Politics in the 1970s

17:45 Frank Reichherzer (Potsdam/Berlin): The Trilateral Commission. Managing Global Interdependencies in the 1970s

20:00 Dinner

**Panel 3: Interacting Experts: Organized Experts and the Multi-Level Game of Expertise**

Chair: Esther Möller (IEG Mainz)

09:00 Amalia Ribi Forclaz (Geneve): Negotiating the Gap between Field and Office: Agricultural Experts and International Organizations, 1920s-1950s

10:00 Simone Turchetti (Manchester): In the Thick of Boundary Work: Experts at NATO during the Cold War

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Valeska Huber (London): Literacy Experts as Cold Warriors: The Case of Frank C Laubach


13:15 Lunch

14:30 Frank Rexroth (Göttingen): Commentary

Final Debate

15:30 Farewell