

## NOTICEBOARD

### Scholarships Awarded by the German Historical Institute London

Each year the GHIL awards a number of research grants to German postgraduate and postdoctoral scholars to enable them to undertake research in the UK. Scholarships are generally awarded for a period of up to six months, depending on the requirements of the research project. Scholarships are advertised at [<https://www.hsozkult.de>] and on the GHIL website. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, educational background, list of publications (if any), and an outline of the project, together with a reference from a supervisor confirming the relevance of the proposed archival research. Applications should be sent to [stipendium@ghil.ac.uk](mailto:stipendium@ghil.ac.uk). Please note that as a result of the UK leaving the EU, new rules apply to research visits. **Please refer to the scholarship guidelines for further information.** If you have any questions, please contact [stipendium@ghil.ac.uk](mailto:stipendium@ghil.ac.uk). German scholars present their projects and initial research findings at the GHIL Colloquium during their stay in the UK.

In the first round of allocations for 2024 the following scholarships were awarded:

*Almuth Ebke* (University of Mannheim): Das Andere der Moderne: Historisch-kritische Bibelforschung, Geschichtsdenken und das Konzept der Moderne, ca. 1830–1920

*Lucas Haasis* (University of Oldenburg): Das Bremer Schiff Concordia: Eine globale Mikrogeschichte

*Charlotte Hoes* (University of Göttingen): Gefesselte Wildnis: Zur Zirkulation von Tieren im 20. Jahrhundert

*Martin Meiske* (Deutsches Museum, Munich): Kulturen und Kosten der Wartung: Der Aufstieg von Kreosot und sein prekäres Erbe

*Talha Murat* (FU Berlin): Between Empires: Ottoman Egyptian Sufi Thought at the Turn of the Century (1882–1908)

*Deborah Schlauch* (University of Marburg): Exporting Images: Französische Malerei in England zwischen Grand Siècle und Enlightenment

### **Prize of the German Historical Institute London**

The Prize of the German Historical Institute London is awarded annually for an outstanding PhD thesis on

- German history (submitted to a British or Irish university),
- British history or British colonial history (submitted to a German university), or
- British–German relations or British–German comparative history (submitted to a British, Irish, or German university).

The prize is 1,000 euros and will be presented on the occasion of the GHIL's Annual Lecture on 25 October 2024.

To be eligible, applicants must have successfully completed doctoral exams and vivas between 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024.

#### *Application Details*

To apply, send one copy of the thesis with:

- a one-page abstract,
- examiners' reports on the thesis,
- a brief CV,
- a declaration that the work will not be published before the judges have reached a final decision, and
- a supervisor's reference

to reach the Director of the German Historical Institute London, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2NJ, by 31 July 2024. Applications and theses should be sent by email as a PDF attachment to: [prize@ghil.ac.uk](mailto:prize@ghil.ac.uk).

If the prize-winning thesis is on British history, British colonial history, British–German relations, or British–German comparative history, it may also be considered for inclusion in one of the GHIL's publication series.

**Summer School 2024**

*The British Empire and the History of Capitalism*. Twenty-first Summer School in British History and the History of the British Empire, LMU Munich, 3–6 September 2024.

Capitalism, broadly understood as an economic and social order characterized by profit-seeking and market exchange, has become constitutive of modern societies. The expansion of trade between Europe and Asia since early modern times has facilitated a boom in capitalist enterprise not only in North-Western Europe, but also in large parts of the world that became linked to the global economy. The coercive, exploitative practices of colonialism and the expansionist forces of imperialism undergirded this global growth of capitalism. The history of capitalism and capitalist expansion on the back of European imperialism has long drawn the interest of historians. For example, the colonial capitalism of the cash crop plantations in the Americas and the parallel growth of the transatlantic slave trade have been much debated for their impact both on the rise of industrial capitalism in the nineteenth century and on the current shape of the world. The emergence of world markets under the auspices of industrialization and imperialism went hand in hand with a transformation of economic structures and global labour relations. The British Empire stood at the centre of these fundamental shifts in the world economic order. Global capitalism on the back of empire catapulted Britain into becoming a global economic power, arguably at the cost of its colonies, such as South Asia.

This summer school will engage with the history of capitalism in the British Empire, especially in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Our tutors, Maxine Berg (University of Warwick), Karolina Hutkova (LSE), and Tirthankar Roy (LSE), will discuss key questions regarding the development of capitalism in the British transatlantic economy as well as in the relations between Britain and South Asia, stressing the circulation of resources (capital, knowledge, people, and/or materials) and the economic, social, and political conditions behind and resulting from those developments. Finally, the course will explore how the history of capitalism in Britain's imperial past

has shaped, and continues to shape, modern Britain and its former colonies. The summer school is part of the ongoing collaboration between the German Historical Institute London and LMU Munich. The course convenors are Alexander Engel (LMU Munich) and Indra Sengupta (GHIL).

The course is aimed at advanced BA or MA students of history or other related subjects at all German universities.

### **Forthcoming Workshops and Conferences**

*Afterlives of Empire: How Imperial Legacies Shaped European Integration.* Conference organized by the German Historical Institute London in conjunction with the London School of Economics and Political Science and the Gerda Henkel Foundation, to be held at the GHIL, 12–14 June 2024. Conveners: Alexander Nützenadel and Heike Wieters (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin).

Recent historical research has turned our attention to the importance of imperial and colonial legacies for the process of European Integration. Most studies, however, have focused on the founding phase of the EEC, while the long-term legacies of empires have rarely been considered. Moreover, historians have overlooked the fact that the EU's expansion over the years brought new member states with different imperial traditions into the EU, including the United Kingdom (1973), Spain and Portugal (1986), and the Eastern European countries after the fall of the Soviet Empire. Hence, the history of the EEC/EU is closely intertwined with the dissolution of empires, not only in the beginning, but also in later phases and more recent times.

This conference aims to explore the afterlives of empires from an interdisciplinary and comparative perspective. It will bring together scholars from history, the social sciences, economics, and regional studies to start a dialogue about the historical impact of past empires on the process of European Integration.

The concept of 'legacies' is used in a broad sense. First, we will look at the persistence of economic structures, social elites, migration networks, forms of knowledge, and bureaucratic practices which often

survived the formal termination of empires and continued to exert a strong influence on post-imperial orders. Second, we will explore conflicts that resulted from EU membership, which was often seen as an alternative to past imperial orders and belongings. Third, we will analyse how the EEC/EU developed strategies to compensate new member states for the loss of their imperial structures, for example by granting former colonies favourable trade conditions or establishing credit schemes benefiting underdeveloped regions at the European periphery. Fourth, we are interested in how collective memories of empire were reactivated and used in political debates, often decades after their formal dissolution; not least, narratives of empire have underpinned rising Euroscepticism during the past decades. Fifth, we will reconstruct debates about how the EEC/EU itself developed structures that resemble those of older empires.

*Cultures of Compromise and Liberal Democracy after World War II.* Conference organized by the German Historical Institute London in conjunction with the London School of Economics and Political Science and the Gerda Henkel Foundation, to be held at the GHIL, 4–6 July 2024. Convener: Constantin Goschler (Ruhr University Bochum).

In the aftermath of the Second World War, the idea that democracy and Europe belonged together took hold. Yet for some time now, this liberal utopia has been challenged – if not replaced – by a dystopian vision of the future of liberal democracy. Increasing political polarization in many Western societies, particularly in Europe, has fuelled fears that liberal democracy is dysfunctional and that authoritarian alternatives are becoming more attractive. A recurring argument in this debate is that growing social and political polarization is undermining the capacity for compromise, thereby threatening a key condition for the functioning of liberal democracies in Europe and elsewhere.

Proceeding from these observations, the conference will discuss cultures of compromise and their significance for liberal democracies after 1945. The normative premise that liberal democracy is tied to functioning compromises will be examined through a historicizing

perspective. Using an international comparative framework, the conference will discuss the causes and reasons for the varying functions and the relevance of compromise as a model of political and social conflict resolution. The aim is to analyse compromise in the tension between the political and the private. To this end, we will ask how compromise has been institutionalized, how it has been reflected in discourses, and what practices it has been associated with. At the same time, we will demonstrate how liberal democratic institutions are embedded in social and private norms and practices.

*Ageing, Experience and Difference: The Social History of Old Age in Europe since 1900.* Conference to be held at the German Historical Institute London, 12–14 September 2024. Conveners: Christina von Hodenberg (GHIL) and Helen McCarthy (University of Cambridge).

To date, the social history of ageing and old people has received comparatively little attention from historians. Recent works have begun to explore the topic from multiple perspectives, building on oral history, archival materials, media sources, and quantitative and qualitative data produced by twentieth-century social science. From this scholarship it emerges that ageing was a dynamic process across the period and the aged themselves were a highly differentiated group. Gender, class, racial background, and marital status, among other intersectional categories, produced marked differences in the social experience of old people. This conference aims to bring together scholars working on ageing and old age in twentieth-century Europe, including Europe's colonial and global entanglements. While engaging closely with the more established historiography on pension reform, welfare, and ideas of ageing, we seek to centre the changing experience of ageing and the life worlds of old people in different European contexts.

Papers will cover Germany, the UK, Ireland, Soviet and post-Soviet countries, France, and colonial India. Five panels will address topics such as age and work/retirement; the agency of older people in the mass media; health and the older body; old women and feminism; and the 'family life' of older people.

## **Public Lectures**

*Local Modernity: Agency, Entanglement, and the Making of the Modern Middle East.* The fifth Thyssen Lecture, to be given by Professor Gudrun Krämer (Freie Universität Berlin) on 21 October 2024 at the GHIL and on 22 October 2024 at the University of Nottingham.

Please consult our website [<https://www.ghil.ac.uk/events/lectures>] for the regular GHIL Lecture Series, which takes place in three series of five lectures per year.

To consult the GHIL Library catalogue, visit:

<https://library.ghil.ac.uk>

Links to recent acquisitions of print and e-books can be found on the top left of the page, under the heading 'The GHIL and its library'

For an up-to-date list of the GHIL's publications, see our website:

<https://www.ghil.ac.uk/publications>