

The Käte Hamburger Centers – Cutting-edge social sciences and humanities research

In 2007, the Year of the Humanities, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) launched the funding measures for the “International Research Centers in the Humanities”. With this new funding programme, the BMBF aims to enhance Germany’s excellence in social sciences and the humanities, to advance the internationalisation of humanities in Germany and to grant outstanding researchers the opportunity to pursue their research on projects they have chosen themselves. Since then, a total of ten centers, which are named after the literary theorist, Käte Hamburger (1896–1992), have been established at German universities.

Following a positive evaluation, the majority of the Käte Hamburger Centers are already in their second funding phase. Therefore, the BMBF would like to take this opportunity to highlight the success and the impact of the Käte Hamburger Centers and/or the funding programme. The conference on “Cutting-edge social sciences and humanities research” serves as a platform for the Käte Hamburger Centers to present their experience and successes on three levels: at the university/ regional/national level, at the international level and in the individual disciplines. Finally, a panel discussion will close the conference with a new perspective on the funding programme and its impact on excellence in the humanities.

Registration

To register for the conference, please send an email to khk@dlr.de. By registering, you agree to be photographed or recorded while attending the conference and to these images being used by the BMBF or DLR as part of its public relations work.

The following hotels have allocated a limited number of rooms until 20.05.2015 (please quote “DLR” when making your reservation):

- Motel One, Prinzenstraße 40, 10969 Berlin
berlin-mitte@motel-one.com
- Winters Hotel, Hedemannstraße 11, 10969 Berlin
checkpoint@winters.de
- Courtyard Berlin, Axel-Springer-Straße 55, 10117 Berlin
can.piecharczek@marriotthotel.com
- Motel One Spittelmarkt, Leipziger Str. 50, 10117 Berlin
berlin-spittelmarkt@motel-one.com

Conference languages

German and English (simultaneous translation from German into English and vice versa).

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Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

Cutting-edge research in social sciences and humanities

**Aims, approach and impact of the Käte Hamburger
Centers – Conference on 26 June 2015 in Berlin**



Conference programme

Venue: Jewish Museum Berlin
Lindenstrasse 9-14, 10969 Berlin

Moderation: Conny Czymoch, journalist

10.00 a.m. Arrival and coffee

10.20 a.m. **Welcoming address**

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Erika Fischer-Lichte, Freie Universität Berlin

Prof. Dr. Claus Leggewie, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Essen

10.30 a.m. **Introduction**

Thomas Rachel, Parliamentary Secretary to the Federal Minister of Education and Research

10.45 a.m. **Keynote speech**

Prof. Dr. Dipesh Chakrabarty, University of Chicago (USA)

11.15 a.m. **Topic 1: The impact of the Käte Hamburger Centers at university, regional and national level**

- Prof. Dr. Oliver Freiburger, University of Texas, Austin (USA), on behalf of the Center “Dynamics in the History of Religion”, Ruhr University Bochum
- Prof. Dr. Michael Bollig, University of Cologne, on behalf of the “Morphomata International Center for Advanced Studies. Genesis, Dynamics and Mediality of Cultural Figurations”, University of Cologne

- Prof. Dr. Hans van Ess, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, on behalf of the “Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society”, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich

12.45 p.m. Lunch*

1.45 p.m. **Topic 2: The international impact of the Käte Hamburger Centers**

- Prof. Dr. Khalid Amine, Abdelmalek Essaadi University, Tetouan (Morocco), on behalf of the International Research Center “Interweaving Performance Cultures”, Freie Universität Berlin

- Prof. Dr. Shalini Randeria, University of Zurich, on behalf of the Research Center “re:work – Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History”, Humboldt-Universität in Berlin

- Prof. Dr. James Mark, University of Exeter (UK), on behalf of the Imre Kertész Kolleg “Eastern Europe in the Twentieth Century: Comparative Historical Experience”, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena

3.15 p.m. Coffee break*

3.30 p.m. **Topic 3: The impact of the Käte Hamburger Centers on the individual disciplines**

- Prof. Dr. Siddharth Mallavarapu, South Asian University, New Delhi (India), on behalf of the Centre for Global Cooperation Research, “Political Cultures of the World Society”, University of Duisburg-Essen
- Prof. Dr. Sybille Krämer, Freie Universität Berlin, on behalf of the “International Centre for Cultural Skills

Research and Media Philosophy”, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

- Prof. Dr. Joachim Gentz, University of Edinburgh (UK), on behalf of the International Consortium “Fate, Freedom and Prognostication. Strategies for Coping with the Future in East Asia and Europe”, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Matthias Herdegen, on behalf of the Center for Advanced Study “Law as Culture”, University of Bonn

5.30 p.m. Coffee break*

5.45 to
7.00 p.m.

Panel discussion: Käte Hamburger Centers – excellence in the humanities with an international reputation

- Prof. Dr. Verena Winiwarter, Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt
- Prof. Dr. Włodzimierz Borodziej, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena
- Prof. Dr. Jörg Rüpke, University of Erfurt
- Dr. Dietrich Nelle, Federal Ministry of Education and Research
- Prof. Dr. Angela Liberatore PhD, European Research Council Executive Agency
- Conny Czymoch, moderation

From
7.00 p.m.

Get-together with refreshments and canapés*

* Information on the EU funding will be available at the National Contact Point (NKS SWG) stand in every break and during the get-together.