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FWF Österreichischer
Wissenschaftsfonds



International Conference

The Archival Impulse:

Knowledge Production, Record Keeping,
and Imperial Governance (15th-20th
Centuries)



**18 March 2026 –
20 March 2026**

Austrian Academy of Sciences
Seminarraum 1, ÖAW Campus
Bäckerstraße 13
1010 Vienna

Program

Wednesday, 18 March

17:15-19:00

Welcome and Keynote I

Jan Hennings, Ulfat Abdurasulov, Paolo Sartori

Randolph C. Head: “Plenitude, Provenance, or Inclusion: Concepts of Archival Completeness and Incompleteness in Europe from the late Middle Ages to Modernity”

19:00 RECEPTION

Thursday, 19 March

9:30-10:50

Panel I: Appropriation and Mobility

Chair: Mariya Kiprovskaya

James E. Baldwin: “Plundered Archives: The Capture and Circulation of Ottoman Documents in Early Modern Europe”

Maartje van Gelder: “Archival Silence and Imperial Desire: French and Austrian Looting of the Venetian Archives”

Marianna Petiaskina: “Governance Through Fragmentation: Baltic German Archives and the Problem of Imperial Rule”

Ari Schriber: “Confused Coercion: The Failed Production of ‘Correct’ Islamic Law in the Archives of French Colonial Morocco”

10:50-11:10 COFFEE BREAK

11:10-12:10

Open Panel Discussion: Appropriation and Mobility

Chair: Mariya Kiprovskaya

Commentator: Paolo Sartori

12:10-13:00 LUNCH

13:00-14:20

Panel II: Building Archives and Fictions of Governance

Chair: Wolfgang Mueller

Sean Pollock: “Requesting Protection, Recording Submission: ‘Circassian’ Petitions and Russian Archival Power in the Age of Ivan the Terrible”

Nancy S. Kollmann: “Knowledge Production and Preservation as Political Control in Seventeenth-Century Russia”

Dylan Tzu-Yi Hsu: “When Knowledge Fails: Archives Without Understanding in Dutch-Siraya Encounters (1625-1635)”

Maarten Manse: “State of Paper: Colonial Writing Culture, Governance Pretense, and the Colonial Necessity for Producing Archives”

14:20-14:40 COFFEE BREAK

14:40-15:40

Open Panel Discussion: Building Archives and Fictions of Governance

Chair: Wolfgang Mueller

Commentator: Ulfat Abdurasulov

15:45-16:15

Excursus

Kerstin Klenke: "Sonic Sources: The *Phonogrammarchiv* of the Austrian Academy of Sciences"

18:00-19:30

Keynote II

Cristina Vatalescu: "Archival Turns, Now: Multidisciplinary Perspectives"

20:00 CONFERENCE DINNER

Friday, 20 March

9:30-10:50

Panel III: Documentation and Archival Legacies

Chair: Salvatore Liccardo

Sergei Bogatyrev: "The Archive of Ivan the Terrible as a Memory Site"

Anna-Marie Pípalová: "Archives, Knowledge, Power, and Publicity in Seventeenth-Century Bohemia"

Simon Cubelic: "Documenting the World from the Margins: Political Curiosity and Archival Knowledge in Nineteenth-Century Nepal"

Shiru Lim: "Narrativizing Nerchinsk: Commerce, Conquest, and Russian-Chinese Borderlands in Enlightenment History-Writing"

10:50-11:10 COFFEE BREAK

11:10-12:10

Open Panel Discussion: Documentation and Archival Legacies

Chair: Salvatore Liccardo

Commentator: István Rév

12.10-13.30 LUNCH

13:30-14:50

Panel IV: Documentary Regimes and the Diplomatic Impulse

Chair: Florian Schwarz

Shounak Ghosh: "Archives of Diplomatic Correspondence: Inquiring into the Mughal Chancery Records"

Birgit Tremml-Werner: "Reciprocal Relations: The Role of Indigenous Languages in Late Eighteenth-Century Diplomatic Archives"

Konstantinos Poullos: "The Documentary Afterlife of a Peace Congress: Archival Reconstructions of the Congress of Passarowitz (1718)"

14:50-15:10 COFFEE BREAK

15:10-16:10

Open Panel Discussion: Documentary Regimes and the Diplomatic Impulse

Chair: Florian Schwarz

Commentator: Jan Hennings