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Initiativkolleg  
„The Sciences in historical Context“

## Positivismus.Macht.Aufklärung

Politicization of the scientific worldview

### Concept and Organisation

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### In cooperation with:

- Initiativkolleg: "The Sciences in Historical Context", University of Vienna
- Institute for Culture Studies and History of Theatre, Austrian Academy of Sciences

### Contact

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17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Clubraum  
Dr. Ignaz Seipel-Platz 2  
1010 Vienna

## **Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> September**

9:30–10:00 **Opening**

**Mitchell G. Ash, Michael Rössner**

10:00–10:30 **Concept of the Workshop**

**Bernhard Bolech, Johannes Feichtinger, Franz L. Fillafer, Jan Surman**

10:30–11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00–12:30 **Session 1** (Chair: **Franz L. Fillafer**)

**Sara Muniain Ederra / Jorge Fernández-Santos Ortiz-Iribas:** *Mapping the Institutionalisation of 'Protopositivism' in Bourbon Spain*

**Denise Phillips** 'Positive Knowledge': *The History of a Category in Vormärz Intellectual Culture*

12:30–14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00–15:30 **Session 2** (Chair: **Thomas Brandstetter**)

**Daniel Becquemont** *Positivism(s): British Empiricism and French Principles*

**Kaat Wils** *Between Politics, Religion and Humanities. Positivism in Belgium and the Netherlands, 1845–1914*

15:30–16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00–17:30 **Session 3** (Chair: **Jan Surman**)

**Libuše Heczková** '2 x 2 = 4' Dispute between T.G. Masaryk and František Krejčí over the Approaches to Truth and Science

**Tomasz Sobieraj** From Realism to Neo-Kantianism – the Case of Aleksander Świętochowski, the Leader of Polish Positivism

17:30–18:00 **Commentary**

**Bernhard Plé**

## **Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> September**

9:00–11:15 **Session 4** (Chair: **Bernhard Bolech**)

**Maja Soboleva** *Positive Philosophy as a Means of Social Engineering in Russia*

**M. Sait Özvarlı** *The Transmission of Positivism to Eastern Cultures: Debates over the Introduction of Positivism to Ottoman Society by 'Young Turks'*

**Andreas Braune** *Positivism as a Liberal Ideology: Wilhelm Ostwald and the German Monist League*

11:15–11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30–13:00 **Session 5** (Chair: **Peter Stachel**)

**Eric Nelson** *Dilthey, Carnap, and Heidegger: The Feeling of Life and the Overcoming of Metaphysics*

**Janek Wasserman** 'Absolut unpolitisch': *the Verein Ernst Mach and the Radical Politicization of Logical Positivism in Vienna, 1918–1934*

13:00–14:30 **Lunch Break**

14:30–16:45 **Session 6** (Chair: **Friedrich Stadler**)

**Christina Schwartz** *Problem Positivism. The Search for Ways to Explain the 'Grand Catastrophe' in German University Principals' Speeches During the Postwar Years 1945–1950*

**Richard Beyler** *Post-war Post-positivism: Pascual Jordan's Radical Empiricism and the Cultural Meaning of Science in Cold War Germany.*

**Thomas König** *The forgotten Positivismusstreit in late 1950s Vienna – Topics, Participants, Backgrounds*

17:00–17:30 **Conclusions**

17:30 **End of the Conference**