

Call for Papers

Conference: Inclusion and Exclusion. Facets of a phenomenon in history and literature.

Venue: Mainz

Host: Research Unit Historical Cultural Sciences, Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany

Date: **21.-23. June 2018**

Application deadline: 15. April 2018

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Inclusion and Exclusion: Facets of a phenomenon in history and literature.

In the last years, hardly any other term has been frequented as much as topic of public and political debates than that of 'Inclusion'. While inclusion is primarily a viral topic in educational politics and institutions, the term 'Integration' is central for the discussion of practices of enclosure and expulsion foremost in domestic and security-political contexts.

Excitement of the discussion and pressure of topicality impend an obstruction of the perspective omitting the fact that inclusion and exclusion are phenomena of human societies, which overlap time, space and different media. The study group „Inclusion and Exclusion in History and Literature” at Johannes Gutenberg-University at Mainz has set its aim at providing a historically informative contribution to these quasi ubiquitous keywords.

Therefore, we do not understand inclusion and exclusion as a binary concept, but as interacting techniques of approach, which are reciprocally contingent and also gradual. Possibly these techniques of approach could develop an unintended surplus with unintended consequences, ergo a momentum, which in turn influences the constellations of InExclusion, their semantics, actors and narratives.

Objective of the conference is to put a spotlight on the question regarding the forms and narratives of the phenomena of InExclusion in specific historical constellations and/or contemporary literature. Thereby unintended effects, time-overlapping structures and culture-specific characteristics or similarities could be carved out better and critically scrutinised.

To achieve this objective, the hosts propose the following possible topics as orientation for your contributions.

1.) Inside and Outside – Space and Spatiality of InExclusion

Spatial separation is one of the most visible phenomena of constellations of InExclusion. Spatial enclosure and expulsion can be justified by the function of a space (e.g. sacral – profane), arbitrarily stipulated for certain groups of people (e.g. prison), or voluntarily desired (e.g. monastery), as well as an effect of socio-economic hierarchies (e.g. better vs. worse residential areas).

2.) We and the Others – Affiliation, Membership, Discrimination

The normative stipulation in the area of InExclusion already applies to everybody when one acquires a nationality by birth. Also the voluntary joining of a defined group of people with certain criteria (e.g. guild, association, Facebook group) is a common phenomenon. Simultaneously, this

inclusion means dissociation from other groups and agents – as well as a (self-)exclusion. Membership and association can also be denied to others by members of a group, e.g. on grounds of gender, ethnic origin or socio-economic status.

3.) “... and you are out!” – Semantics and Narratives of InExclusion

A society's practices and language reciprocally influence each other, which also applies to phenomena of InExclusion. The analysis of semantics and narratives in the respectively contemporary literature could provide information about the historical comprehension of InExclusion and practical as well as theoretical knowledge of the respective societies.

4.) Enclosure, Expulsion, Sorting – Practises and Processes of InExclusion

Practises of InExclusion are often processes of arranging and sorting. By enclosure and expulsion of certain (groups of) people, wares or ideas, an order, which is imagined as an ideal, ought to be (re)established. Thereby, these processes are subject to historical change, e.g. from discrimination to formal expulsion or vice versa.

5.) Knowing, not knowing, knowing better – Knowledge Bases and History of Knowledge of InExclusion

Constellations of InExclusion are justified and provided with meaning in reference to knowledge bases. In the process, knowledge about InExclusion is preserved, traded, but also transformed under respectively historical constellations. Hereby, the characteristics of the relationship between scientific discourse, common knowledge or know-how, as well as the practices of InExclusion are of special interest.

We welcome contributions from all disciplines of the humanities and relating to all historical and literary epochs. Suggestions regarding further aspects of inclusion and exclusion are welcome as well.

Please send us your propositions, in extent of max. 300 words, as well as a short CV until 15th April 2018 via e-mail to InExklusion@uni-mainz.de.

The venue is Mainz (Germany). Expenses of your journey as well as lodging will be covered.