



Central Europe and the Nordics: bilateral relations and views on Europe from semi-peripheries

Charles University, Prague, 17-18 October 2024

Small nations and states during the 19th and 20th centuries often perceived themselves as peripheries which were struggling to secure or maintain their cultural and political autonomy in the concert of nations. These balancing acts contained various forms of national strategies, but also seeking contacts and reference points in a larger European context. The seminar will explore strategies to overcome cultural hierarchies and asymmetrical power relations as well as to investigate entanglements, transfers, and relations particularly between the Nordic and central European semi-peripheries.

The seminar is co-organized by the Centre for Nordic Studies (University of Helsinki), the Department of Germanic Studies, and the Institute of World History (Charles University). For more information contact Jana Lainto (jana.lainto@helsinki.fi) and Tomáš Masař (tomas.masar@ff.cuni.cz).

The event is funded by [ReNEW research hub](#).

Thursday 17th October

- Location** Karolinum, Celetná 20, room Zelená posluchárna (no. 141)
- 10:00–10:15 Welcome address
- 10:15–10:30 Introduction (prof. Peter Stadius, University of Helsinki)
- 10:30–11:15 Keynote **Stefan Nygård** (University of Helsinki): ***Dealing with Decline: Scandinavian World-Making*** (Chair: Helena Březinová, Charles University)
- 11:15–11:30 Break
- 11:30–13:00 **Panel 1: The Nordics – periphery, semi-periphery or centre?** (chair: Helena Březinová, Charles University)
- Peter Stadius** (University of Helsinki): *The Nordics: a semi-periphery with a centric identity*
- Silviu Miloiu** (Valahia University of Târgoviște): *Central Europe and the Nordics: bilateral relations and views on Europe from semi-peripheries*
- Torben Jelsbak** (University of Copenhagen): *The Cultural Poetics of the Small State – from Scandinavian Modernity to the Idea of Pan-Europe*
- 13:00–14:30 Lunch break

- Location** Šporkův palác, Hybernská 3, room H303
- 14:30–16:00 **Panel 2: Small European Nations and their Perception** (chair: Lenka Fárová, Charles University)
- Petra Broomans** (University of Groningen): *Politics and National Characters in Mary Wollstonecraft's Letters Written during a Short Residence in Sweden, Norway and Denmark (1796)*
- Halina Beresnevičiūte Nosálová** (Masaryk's University): *Vilnius Civic Life in an Imperial and European Context: the perspective of the Polish weekly Tygodnik Petersburski 1830-1858*
- Martina Vacková Reiterová** (Charles University), *Celtic Nations around 1900: relations and mutual inspirations*

Friday 18th October

- Location** FFUK, náměstí Jana Palacha 1/2, room 104
- 9:00–10:30 **Panel 3: Central Europeans and Nordics** (chair: Peter Stadius, University of Helsinki)
- Michal Kovář** (Charles University): *What Were Czech Travellers Able to See in Sameland?*
- Jana Lainto** (University of Helsinki): *Arnošt Vilém Kraus: Scandinavian Connections and the Czech National Project at the turn of the Twentieth Century*
- Vendula Hingarová** (Charles University): *War Migration from the Protektorat Böhmen and Mähren to Scandinavia*
- 10:30–10:45 Break
- 10:45–12:15 **Panel 4: Northern Europeans and Central Europe** (chair: Jaroslav Ira, Charles University)
- Jitka Jindřišková** (Masaryk Institute and Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences): *Masaryk and Garborg. Nordic Threads in T.G. Masaryk's Correspondence*
- Iryna Papa** (Ukrainian Catholic University): *Kgl. Dansk Konsulat i Lemberg (1908–1915): Alfred Zachariewicz and his activity*
- Tomáš Masař** (Charles University): *Anton Almberg, Czechophile among fennomans*
- 12:15–12:30 Concluding words **Jaroslav Ira** (Charles University)
- 12:30–14:00 Lunch break
- 14:00 Walk following the Nordic influence in the History of Prague **Tomáš Masař** (Charles University)