

As the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War approaches, interest in the war predictably has increased and research about the war has developed in new directions. This workshop aims to combine two of these directions: the increased interest in ego-documents from the Great War, and increased interest in the First World War beyond the western front. While British and French perceptions of the First World War understandably focus largely on the western front and German perceptions too draw largely on the war in the west, increasing attention is now being paid to the fact that the eastern front involved as many soldiers, left behind as many dead, and had at least significant consequences as to what occurred in the west; and the First World War also was a global conflict, with consequences far beyond the European continent.

The workshop will aim to discuss the value of ego-documents connected to the First World War, both as part of a broader belief in the 'authentic' access to historical events that they may bring as well as their use to professional historians, and to extend our understanding of the war geographically and culturally. The opportunity will be used both to bring the east as well as the west into the frame, and to compare the nature of ego-documents coming from different cultures.

'Inside World War One?'

23 – 25 October 2014

International Workshop on Ego
Documents and the First World War

Conveners:

Dorothee Wierling, German Historical
Institute London; Richard Bessel,
University of York; Heather Jones and
Sönke Neitzel, London School of
Economics.



GERDA HENKEL STIFTUNG

THURSDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2014

15.30 - 16.00 Registration

16.00 - 16.30 Welcome

16.30 - 17.30 Introduction:
Dorothee Wierling and
Richard Bessel

Perspectives

17.30 - 18.45 East / West
Chair: Dorothee Wierling

19:00 *Canapé Reception*

FRIDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2014

Perspectives (continued)

09.15 - 10.30 Military / Civilian
Chair: John Horne

10.30 - 11.45 Elites & Experts / Broad
Population
Chair: Heather Jones

11.45 - 12.00 *Coffee break*

12.00 - 13.15 Men / Women
Chair: Richard Bessel

13.15 - 14.30 *Lunch*

Theatres

14.30 - 15.45 The Battlefield
Chair: Hew Strachan

15.45 - 17.00 Behind the Lines – Occupation
Chair: Robert Gerwarth

18.00 *Conference Dinner*

SATURDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2014

Memories & Representations

09.00 - 10.30 Memories & Representations
Chair: Adrian Gregory

Roundtable

10.30 - 12.00 Collecting and Using Ego
Documents
Chair: Richard Bessel

Participants:
Gerhard Hirschfeld, William
Spencer, Marlene Kayen, N. N.

12.00 - 12.30 Closing Remarks
Dorothee Wierling

12.30 - 13.30 *Farewell Lunch*