

## **The Global Public: Its Powers and its Limits**

German Historical Institute London, 22-24 October 2015

Conveners: Valeska Huber (GHIL)/Jürgen Osterhammel (Konstanz)

### **Thursday, 22 October**

13.30-14.00 pm      Registration

14.00-14.30 pm      **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Valeska Huber (GHIL)/Jürgen Osterhammel (Konstanz)**

14.30-16.00 pm      **Panel I: Public or Publics?**

Introduction and Chair: **Andreas Gestrich (GHIL)**

**Tobias Werron (Bonn)**

*Global Publics as Catalysts of Global Competition: A Sociological View*

**Ralph Schroeder (Oxford)**

*Global Publics in the Digital Age*

16.00-16.30          Coffee Break

16.30-18.30          **Panel II: Idioms of the Global Public**

Chair: **Ute Daniel (Braunschweig)**

**Martin Bemann (Freiburg)**

*Shaping a Global Language for a Global Public: The League of Nations and the Establishment of "World Economic Statistics"*

**Valeska Huber (GHIL)**

*Global Communication – but in which Language? English versus the Vernaculars*

**Annette Vowinckel (Potsdam)**

*Images and the Global Circulation of Information*

**Dinner at a nearby restaurant**

**Friday, 23 October**

9.30-11.00

**Panel III: Infrastructures of the Global Public: News**

Chair: **Jürgen Osterhammel** (Konstanz)

**Simone Müller** (Freiburg)

*Mockingbirds, Livingstone, and the North Pole: How Gordon Bennett made News via Global Communications Technology*

**Heidi Tworek** (Vancouver)

*The Bottleneck of Global Media: German News Agencies and the World of Reporting*

11.00-11.30

Coffee Break

11.30-13.00

**Panel IV: Infrastructures of the Global Public: Empire**

Chair: **Valeska Huber** (GHIL)

**Simon Potter** (Bristol)

*Radio and the Globalization of News: The BBC and International Broadcasting*

**Bastian Herbst** (Freiburg)

*Keeping the Anti-Colonialist Message at Bay: Britain, France and Egyptian Telecommunications 1918-1956*

13.00-14.00

Lunch

14.00-15.30

**Panel V: Staging the Global Public: Religion**

Chair: **Valeska Huber** (GHIL)

**Sophie-Jung Kim** (Cambridge)

*Politicisation of Religion in the Global Public: A Case Study of Swami Vivekananda in the Parliament of World's Religions*

**Vanessa Ogle** (Penn)

*One Calendar for the World? Religion and the Global Public, 1905-1939*

15.30-16.00

Coffee Break

16.00-18.00

**Panel VI: Markets of the Global Public: Theatre and Film**

Chair: **Felix Brahm** (GHIL)

**Christopher Balme** (Munich)

*'The Local Life of the World': Moving Theatre and Asymmetrical Publics in the Age of Empire*

**Antje Dietze** (Montréal)  
*Popular Entertainment and the Men behind the Curtains: Cultural Entrepreneurs in the City of Leipzig, 1880-World War I*

**Gordon Winder** (Munich)  
*Reaching the Global Public: "The 39 Steps" goes International in a Difficult Market, 1935-1936*

18.30-21.00            **Conference Dinner**

### **Saturday, 24 October**

9.00-11.00            **Panel VII: Politics of the Global Public**

Chair: **Tobias Becker** (GHIL)

**Katharina Rietzler** (Sussex)  
*A "League of Public Opinion"? Reassessing the International Studies Conference (1928-1954)*

**Andrea Rehling** (Mainz)  
*Preserving the "Common Heritage of Mankind": The Conservation Movement and the Creation of a Global Public*

**Robert Brier** (London)  
*Contested Icons: Chile and Poland at the U.N. Commission for Human Rights*

11.00-11.30            Coffee Break

11.30-13.00            **Panel VIII: The Global Public in a Region: Asia**

Chair: **Willibald Steinmetz** (Bielefeld/Oxford)

**Steffen Rimner** (New York)  
*Open Secrets: Asian Economic Information, the Global Public and Japanese Drug Trafficking, c. 1890-1948*

**Su Lin Lewis** (Bristol)  
*Using the Global: Modern Girls and Women's Movements in Twentieth-Century Asia*

13.00-13.30            **Concluding Discussion**

Introduction and Chair: **Willibald Steinmetz** (Bielefeld/Oxford)