

Borders as Result of War

**NETWORLD WWI Heritage Conference
May 3-4 2018, Nove Hradý, Czech Republic**

Aims and Objectives

The conference is part of the Danube Transnational Program project Network. The aims of the Network project are to increase the awareness of the First World War (WWI) heritage in a transnational context and to use this heritage for the development of a sustainable transnational cultural tourism.

The objectives of the conference is to help place the tangible and intangible heritage of WWI in a transnational context by linking stories and experiences of soldiers and civilians to battles, foreign locations, and events during the war and changes after the war.

As such, the focus of the conference and related cultural events is on the impacts on the local populations and individual soldiers. How soldiers were mobilized, transport to far-away front lines, feeding the soldiers, refugees, prisoners of war camps, rationing back home, getting confirmation if you are a widow of missing or killed soldiers, new borders after armistice, and care of war graves and other heritage after the war. Details about the different battles and units mentioned can be easily found online.

Participants we want to attract

The Conference is specifically targeted at historians, archive and museum staff, educators, universities, interest groups, and public authorities involved in heritage protection. Other interested participants are welcome as well.

Presentations, posters, and papers.

Each speaker will have 20 minutes, including time for discussion. At the end of each session there will be time for further discussion. The main language will be English and (for native speakers) Czech, with simultaneous translation.

Speakers and other participants are invited to provide posters on the topics as well. There is a limited poster space; therefore we kindly ask presenters and other participants to contact the organizers for availability of space and further instructions.

All presenters are invited to submit their lecture/poster in paper form as well when registering at the conference. We plan to publish proceedings (**not** peer-reviewed) in August 2018.

Further details and updates on the program and requirements for articles or posters will be added soon.

Provisional Programme

Below is a provisional program outline with topics. Actual lectures and time slots will be specified soon.

Registration will be open continuously from Thursday morning 9 AM. Each session will have a 20 minutes coffee break. Lunch on both days will be from 12:10 to 13:50.

Day 1

- 1) Mobilization – training.
 - a) How Czech soldiers were called to war.
 - b) Did they get additional training or were sent unprepared to war?
 - c) The Imperial and Royal Army (k.u.k.) presence in the Czech lands in 1914
- 2) Transport and logistics.
 - a) How the soldiers got to the front and moved between front locations.
 - b) Feeding opposing armies on top of a mountain range during winter.
 - c) Did supply trains come back empty or did they bring refugees, wounded, and POWs?
 - d) Effects on “back-home” villages: food rationing and local “war effort” in support.
- 3) POW, wounded, dead, refugees
 - a) Temporary military hospitals for seriously wounded and disabled coming back from the front.
 - b) Refugees: fleeing the war or staying in the middle.
 - c) Databases of fallen soldiers and other collections of intangible heritage of war: diaries, miniature drawings made by soldiers at the fronts, local histories.

Day 2)

- 4) End of war in 1918 and new independent states.
 - 5) The Czech Legion during and after the war.
 - 6) The Home Front: those who stayed behind
 - a) Widows and orphans; how family got confirmation (or not) of husbands missing or killed at the front.
 - b) Care of War Cemeteries abroad
 - i) Czech Cemeteries abroad
 - ii) Foreign war cemeteries in the Czech Republic.
 - 7) Borders: old and new borders in South Bohemia (and in new states in Central Europe).
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Already confirmed presentations.

Day 1

Vladimir Hokr: mobilization of rural soldiers and effects on local situation in Nove Hradý

Tomas Kykal (VHU, CZ): Databases on personal histories of soldiers.

Sebo Santas (HU): 1914 – 1918 Hungarian Everyday in Wartime: Life in the Hinterland.

Julia Walleczek-Fritz (DUK, AT): WW I, POWs, refugees, and internees in Austria-Hungary.

Olga Cerna and ??: Refugees from the Halic region escaping to rural South Bohemian villages.

Session II

Ladena Plucarova (Trebon State Archive): Registration of Documents and events from 1918

Unconfirmed: morality and choosing sides; switching from k.u.k. regiments to Czech Legion (preliminary title).

Unconfirmed: Czechoslovak Legion during and after the war

Unconfirmed: Integrating former k.u.k. Regiments and the Czech Legion into the new Czechoslovak Army.

Two speakers from Slovenia/CR: Czech soldiers on the Mrzli Vrh¹; taking care of war cemeteries abroad.

Cultural Program

Excursions:

Thursday afternoon: visit to open air Border Museum (Nove Hradý).

Friday afternoon: visit to the exhibition "World War I - years of destruction and pain" in the Museum of South Bohemia (Ceske Budejovice)

Additional information on the cultural activities will be given in a separate invitation and on the website.

Venue:

The Conference will take place in the restored Buquoy Chateau and the Nove Hradý Cultural Community Center. The 19th century Napoleonic chateau is the property of the Czech Academy of Sciences and houses the innovative and leading institution "[Academy and University Center of Nove Hradý](#)". The Chateau has excellent facilities including all modern techniques, free internet room, bar, in-house accommodation with internet connections and more.

¹ The original cemetery with Czech fallen soldiers was restored and a new monument erected in a cooperation between Czech and Slovenian parties

Part of the conference will be in the recently restored Cultural Community Center, a nearby recently restored large town house with conference facilities. The Center also houses the Nove Hradý Museum.

Accommodation:

Buquoy Chateau Nove Hradý and other local providers. Please contact the organizers for further details including availability and rates.

Registration

Participation in the conference is free, including lunches and coffee breaks. For further information and registration, please check the [conference website](#) or contact the organizers.

Conference Website

The Conference Website provides more details and updates on the Conference itself and also on conference tours, accommodation options. The site is being completed throughout March; program and speaker details will be updated when changes occur.

<http://czechemigrationmuseum.com/Networld-WW-I-conference-borders-as-results-of-war>

Further online project information

Czech: <http://ruze.ekomuzeum.cz/?act=101>

English: <http://czechemigrationmuseum.com/Networld-WW-I-heritage-memories>

Organizers

The Rozmberk Society is the main organizer of the conference, in close cooperation with the Town of Nove Hradý.

Contact:

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