

Call for papers ,Koselleck and world politics. The making of the modern world – and beyond

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As part of the German hermeneutic tradition, Reinhart Koselleck transformed the German historical tradition of *Begriffsgeschichte* from a primary methodological orientation into an alone-standing approach in social theory. He thereby became – without a doubt – one of the most influential and well-known historians of the 20th century. His explorations into the politics of basic concepts, Saddle Time, asymmetric counter concepts, multi- temporality, and temporalities of concept formations are still widely discussed and his approach is often compared to similar albeit differently framed endeavors that we may find in the Cambridge School or French post-structuralist approaches.

As an approach in its own right, *Begriffsgeschichte* claims to offer very specific answers to key problems in social theory. At the same time, those questions that are highly important also for International Relations Theory (IR). Yet in its pursuit to find an answer to those questions, IR has looked elsewhere. Yet when it comes to topics of the spatio-temporal organization of world politics, the relationship between the past and the present, or the politics of translation, explorations and avenues we may find in Koselleck could contribute productively.

This workshop invites contributions that seek to engage with, situate, but also criticize the limits of *Begriffsgeschichte* as an approach to IR. While there have already been sporadic references to Koselleck for at least the last 20 years in various camps of IR theorising, an in-depth engagement with *Begriffsgeschichte* is still missing. The time is therefore ripe to shift the status of *Begriffsgeschichte* from an occasional reference point to an alone-standing approach in International Relations. This proposed workshop offers an *exploration of key themes* of Koselleck's approach, *seeks to facilitate* future debates and brings together IR scholars to discuss potential and limits of this approach. Thus, this workshop speaks to communities that engage with historical approaches to world politics, historiography and particularly invites scholars interested in key issues like Saddle Time, concepts, and spatio-temporality.

This workshop is of interest for current theoretical and practical debates. As the liberal world order is coming to an end, the ongoing struggles around the reconfiguration of spatio-temporal fixes can be seen in the political left and the political right and we witness how concepts, images and memories are contested and/or are in the process of being rewritten. At the same time, this workshop pursues also a theoretical interest as question of how changes are made visible through conceptual innovations and conceptual struggles.

We invite papers that deal with various aspects of Koselleck's work and seek to seriously engage with this approach. Papers could approach questions such as the situatedness of *Begriffsgeschichte* as an approach; the politics of Saddle Time; multiple temporalities, conceptual and social change and the politics and history of basic concepts -among others.