



CEMES REPORT 2017-2019



Centre for Modern European Studies

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Foreword

Centre for Modern European Studies (CEMES) is the research centre of the University of Copenhagen that combines the Faculties of the Humanities and Theology in a collaboration to promote interdisciplinary research in European studies within the humanities.

Over the years, CEMES has undergone several changes to both its structure and focus. Having previously been part of the EURECO cooperation with the faculties of Law and Social Sciences, CEMES has run as an independent research centre since 2014 and continues to do so in the new phase from 2017-2019. However, a substantial part of CEMES' members belong to these faculties, and provide significant interdisciplinary input and ensure a broad and nuanced academic debate.

In the new phase that runs from 2017-2019, CEMES takes a more targeted approach to its activities, focusing entirely on sponsoring and organizing research activities of the highest level. By bringing together scholars from both Danish and international research institutions, and strengthening cooperation across disciplines, CEMES aims to promote innovative research at the University of Copenhagen. To that end CEMES has established a variety of networks with other research centres working in the field of European studies.

Each semester, CEMES hosts a variety of activities to promote and strengthen interdisciplinary European studies at the University of Copenhagen. With the 'Author Meets Critics'-format in particular, CEMES provides the opportunity international researchers to present ground breaking new research to the researchers and students of Copenhagen

University as well as the public. Other activities and cooperation sponsored by CEMES include conferences, seminars, workshops, panel debates, research networks and the establishment of joint research projects across departments and faculties at the university and even across research institutions.

Through the distribution of CEMES grants the centre also strives to promote the work of young researchers and to ensure a broad dissemination of the centre's activities both within the research circles and in a broader societal context. Finally, the centre will work increasingly to provide a platform for researchers to come together and jointly apply for external funding.

A majority of the centre's activities are organized within its permanent research groups. We are proud to present the four research groups that will be a central part of the centre's activities in the coming three years:

- Rethinking European Integration
- European Culture and the Media
- Religion and Modern European Cultures
- Thinking the European Republic of Letters

In addition, CEMES grants are distributed every year to individual researchers who wish to organize events at the centre. With the grants as well as the organizational support of CEMES' secretariat, the centre aims to create a strong, dynamic and wide ranging palate of European studies. The groups and their activities as well as other activities hosted by CEMES can be found on the CEMES website www.cemes.ku.dk.

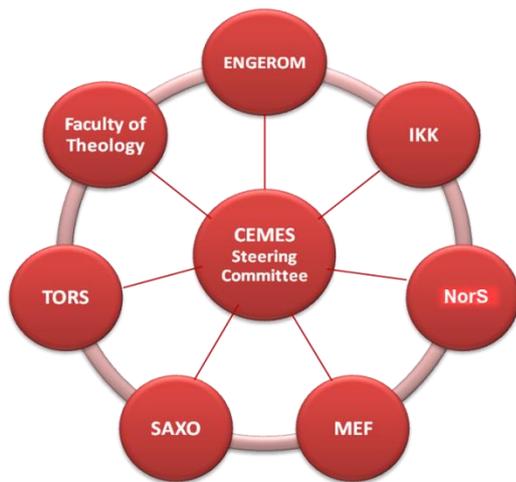
We look forward to welcoming you to an exciting new season at CEMES!



Sincerely,
Niklas Olsen
Chair of CEMES

Organisational Structure

CEMES consists of a collaboration between the departments of the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Theology. The centre is run by a Steering Committee with representatives from the six departments of the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Theology, and is supported by the CEMES secretariat situated at the Faculty of Humanities.



Organisational structure of **CEMES 2017-2019**.
www.cemes.ku.dk

Steering Committee

The CEMES Steering Committee is the governing board of the centre. The committee sets out the overall direction of the centre, and during the academic year it distributes CEMES grants for research activities. Through the distribution of CEMES grants, the Steering Committee sponsors research activities that bring together Danish and international researchers as well as other relevant societal actors, and facilitate the research into, and dissemination of, a broad selection of topics within European studies.

The members of the CEMES steering Committee are:

- Niklas Olsen, (Centre Chair), Associate Professor, The Saxo-Institute (Saxo).
- Hans-Jörg Trenz (Vice Chair), Professor, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication (MEF).
- Tina Jane Lupton, Associate professor, Department of English Germanic and Romance Studies (ENGEROM).
- Krzysztof Stala, Associate Professor, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies (TORS).
- Jan Rosiek, Professor, Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics (NorS).
- Bjarki Valtýsson, Associate Professor, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies (IKK).
- Tine Ravnsted-Larsen Reeh, Professor, Faculty of Theology.

The CEMES secretariat is managed by centre coordinator Lene Raben-Levetzau.

Research groups

In order to foster cooperation and research activities within selected areas under the umbrella of European studies, a significant part of the activities of CEMES are organized within the thematic research groups, run by members of CEMES. The groups include a broad selection of members, from both the University of Copenhagen and other Danish as well as international research institutions. On CEMES' website the current and previous research groups are listed, along with an overview of their past and upcoming activities.

CEMES activities

To promote as varied and innovative a program of activities as possible, grants are also awarded to researchers independent of the research groups. Individual researchers are encouraged to apply for CEMES grants.

CEMES research groups 2017-2019

The Research groups are open to new members, and CEMES encourages all who are interested to reach out to the group coordinators to join the group or get more information. The groups, as CEMES in general, promote inter-disciplinary and international initiatives. The research groups of 2017-2019 are:

1. Rethinking European Integration

Directed by Morten Rasmussen and Haakon Ikonomon.

The research group sets out to rethink research on European integration on the basis of an interdisciplinary approach, and an assumption that it is necessary to reconsider the processes of European integration in a broader social, cultural and historical context going beyond mainstream research. The EU is a central focus of the research group. However, to understand the nature of the EU it is necessary to analyze it within a broader societal framework, as part of a wider European history. On this basis, the group focuses on three main research clusters:

First, processes of European integration have shaped the development of European (nation) states during the twentieth century. At the same time, regional European integration is part of wider globalization processes as well as a particular response to them.

Second, processes of European integration go beyond EU integration. As an international

organization the EU follows from, overlaps and coexists with, or competes for influence with other international organizations including such as The League of Nations, the GATT/WTO, the OEEC/OECD and others.

Third, European integration has been a response to conflict in the European state system and within European societies. Conflicts over the role of identity, historical memory, borders and the interaction of these issues with the broader social and political developments of European societies are central. While some of the conflicts have created impetus for further integration, they have also hampered its progression.

2. European Culture and the Media

Directed by Hans-Jörg Trenz and Krzysztof Stala.

This research group explores the cultural and social contours of contemporary Europe, its origin and current transformation. Among the areas of focus is the categorization, from a historical and comparative perspective, of factors driving social and cultural transformation in terms of Europeanisation and/or globalisation and how these processes have shaped cultural representations and social identification of the Europeans.

From a comparative perspective of contemporary European societies, the group will also seek to describe accelerated social and cultural change with regard to increased ethnic, religious and cultural diversity, cross-border interactions, multi-lingualism, mobility and globalised media technology and consumption.

A third issue of focus is to identify opportunities for social re-organisation, new forms of media policies and regulation, including the question how these new cultural and media practices shape attitudes and identities of the Europeans.

The research group sets out several aims: Understanding the emergence of European cultures, the unity and diversity of European identities, civilisations and public spheres; understanding the conflict lines in contemporary Europe, social and cultural cleavages; developing methodological skills for the comparison of national cultures and societies, finding relevant data sources and interpreting quantitative and qualitative indicators; understanding recent developments of European society, culture and the media, with a particular emphasis on popular culture, the internet and the use of digital technologies; and exploring areas of actual and potential threats to media freedom and pluralism (and the potential responses) in Europe.

3. Religion and Modern European Cultures

Directed by Tine Ravnsted-Larsen Reeb and Catherina Raudvere.

While a large part of scholarly literature of the 20th century argued, in various ways, that modernity in Europe was a triumph of the secular, religion plays an increasing role in the 21st century studies on European culture, identity and politics. Academic work on the role of religion in modern European societies has often either had a political node itself or been used in political arguments and this is a theme of study in its own right. But it is also of vital importance to contextualize how religion (often along with ethnicity) has been tool for concord and cohesion as well as destruction, and how religion remains a vital element in collective memory and cultural production.

The aim of the group is to create a platform that stimulates and brings together the diverse research in religion and modern European cultures. The group investigates agents and arenas for the discussions and negotiations

about the role of religion in politics, intellectual heritage, identity formation and cultural life.

The objective of the group is to form a broad, yet focused, platform to connect students, scholars and international researchers in order to cultivate critical and creative research on religion and religious actors (local as well as global) and to create a visible and noticeable synergetic framework for researchers working with topics related to religion. .

4. Thinking the European Republic of Letters

Directed by Christian Benne and Sabrina Ebbersmayer.

The starting point of the research group is the need to understand Europe, not just in terms of politics, economics, and geography, but also as an intellectual endeavor. It is in Europe where philosophy emerged as a specific form of rationality and where it has arguably played a bigger role for the self-understanding and self-reflection of its populations than anywhere else. Without it, Europe would be literally unthinkable.

Closely related to the traditions of European thought are the languages and literatures of Europe. Together they form the European Republic of Letters: a complex network of intellectual and artistic expressions, influences, practices, genres and institutions across epochs, borders, languages and media. The group's historical focus is on the modern period from the Renaissance and Humanism until today.

The aim is to broaden the scope of European studies and European cultural history by concentrating on European thought in the context of (comparative) literary and philosophical discourses, and pioneering new approaches to intellectual history for scholars from various disciplines, in particular from

philosophy, modern language and literature studies, comparative literature and bibliography/genetic criticism.

Group activities will focus on, among other things: the historicity of concepts and ideas, including those of philosophy and literature themselves; manuscripts, book history and editorial practices of European thought: the role of critical philology and bibliography for the European Republic of Letters; the role of women in intellectual history; European thought and global history, colonialism and beyond.

Networks

Council for European Studies (CES) Colombia University

CEMES has recently become an active member of CES. Their mission is to produce, support, and recognize outstanding, multi-disciplinary research on Europe through a wide range of programs and initiatives. These include fellowships, grants, publications, awards, conferences and meetings, public lectures and symposia, as well as direct research and artistic collaboration. The membership includes all researchers at University of Copenhagen.

Contact CEMES for more information.

Danish European Studies Association
(Dansk Selskab for Europaforskning)
(DSE) was formed in 1976 with the ambition of supporting and inspiring discussions about Europe in Denmark.

Past CEMES activities – a selection

In the previous CEMES period, the centre has been proud to host a broad variety of research activities. These events have aimed at promoting interdisciplinary research and supporting the work of young scholars entering the field, while having a broad societal outreach as well as attracting external funding for European studies. The events have ranged from major interfaculty conferences to concentrated research seminars and the Author Meets Critics-sessions, bringing groundbreaking research to the University of Copenhagen. A selection of these events is featured below. All past events can also be found at CEMES website www.cemes.ku.dk.

Interdisciplinary research

Conference: *Dansk-tyske krige - Historiske konflikter og nationale identiteter*



Date: 7.-8. April 2016

Organizer: CEMES and NorS

Content: The conference offered an interdisciplinary and comparative investigation of the cultural effects of the "Danish-German wars", i.e. the pre-national wars of Slesvig as well as the German and Danish involvement in the First and Second World War. The conference shed light on the cultural effects and the representation of the historical, political, and military conflicts: how the experiences from the war were reflected in various cultural discourses, and how the Danish-German wars have contributed to impressions of German and Danish identity respectively in this period.

Conference: *New Diplomatic History: Borders, Networks, and Organisations through the 20th Century*



Date: 24.-26. November 2016

Organizer: CEMES and SAXO

Content: The New Diplomatic History network was founded to promote the study of diplomacy, diplomats, their institutions, and the cultural, political and social contexts which shape them and in which they function. This conference was the second installment of the New Diplomatic History (NDH) network, bringing together researchers from the fields of law, social sciences and history, the conference produced a highly interdisciplinary debate, centered on three broad themes: 1) Borders of Bureaucracy, Diplomacy and Politics; 2) The Rise of Global Civil Society and the Role of Transnational Networks; 3) Europe, International Organisations and Diplomacy.

Seminar: *The Presence of Religion in Modern European Culture*



Date: 2. December 2016

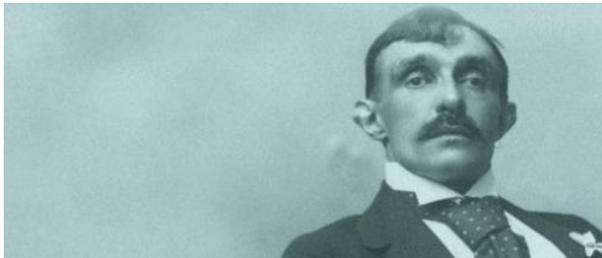
Organizer: CEMES and Faculty of Theology

Content: The seminar was a collaborative event organized by CEMES and the Faculty of Theology. It brought together four leading scholars from European universities to give presentations on various aspects of the cultural impact of European religious traditions. The seminar produced a discussion on the public

impact of religion in society, in addition to its existential-individual significations and its explicit socio-political impacts.

Broad public events

Conference: *Europaæren Herman Bang*



Date: 2.-3. June 2016

Organizer: CEMES and ENGEROM

Content: The conference brought three dimensions of the works of Herman Bang to light, that had been neglected by the literature: 1) his role and the reception of him as a writer, journalist and intellectual, 2) his perception and description of transnational geographies and cultures, 3) his influence of the artistic and cultural continentalization in the decades leading up to the First World War. The conference had a wide reach, with participants from both within and outside academia.

Conference: *Europamestrene - Fodbold, Nation, Identitet*



Date: 6. June 2016

Organizer: CEMES and Copenhagen University's Rectorate

Content: The conference was organized in connection with the launch of the book "Europamestrene - Fodbold, Nation, Identitet" which portrays the European teams who have won the European Championship since 1980.

The book featured an unconventional collaboration between leading sports journalists and researchers. The conference featured, among others, Minister for Culture, Bertel Haarder, Kim Vilfort who played for the Danish national team in the European Championship of 1992, Protector Lykke Friis, and former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, in a debate about the significance of the championship for the national identities of the competing countries.

Debating contemporary issues

Debate: *Moving Borders - European Border Transformations in Past and Present*



Date: 27. November 2015

Organizer: CEMES Student Forum and AMIS

Content: The event featured a presentation by Associate Professor Marie Sandberg, followed by a debate with the participants, centering on the current refugee crisis as a point of departure for discussing the role of borders in Europe, and using Polish working migration in past and present as a case in point. The event created a forum for researchers and students to discuss a highly relevant and controversial topic in the current societal debate. The cooperation between CEMES Student Forum and AMIS (Advanced Migration Studies) continued in 2016 with a new debate meeting: *Migration, refugees and solidarity beyond borders*, 18th November 2016.

Panel debate: *25 years of the Baltic States' upswing in partnership with Denmark*



Date: 9. September 2016

Organizer: CEMES

Content: This panel debate was designated to reassess advancement of the Baltic States, to comprehend Danish and Baltic relationship in the new context, and to discuss areas of additional traction in Danish and Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian interrelation. The event brought together a great number of key societal actors who offered perspectives from their unique positions. Among the participants were the Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kristian Jensen, Ambassador of Estonia, Märt Volmer, Michael Metz Mørch, Secretary General DKI and former Ambassador to Latvia, Egidijus Aleksandravičius, Director of the Lithuanian Emigration Institute, and Bjarke Møller, Tænk tanken Europa.

Lecture series: *Towards a new political right in Europe*



Date: 14. September 2016

Organizer: CEMES

Content: New right wing parties have emerged all over Europe in the last two decades. Among these parties are new large democratic parties with a significant impact on national policies and an agenda focused on the limitation of migration and the reform or even outright rejection of the European Union.

However, there has also in several countries been a renewed surge in various forms of parties that are opposed to the liberal Western order. The lecture series, featured in *Weekendavisen "Bruxelles eller Budapest?"* 7. Oct. 2016, approached the new political right from a comparative perspective, exploring the different expressions this important new political movement has found in different European countries.

Promoting young scholars and generating external funding

Conference: *European Co-Production Symposium*



Date: 23-24 November 2016

Organizer: CEMES and MEF

Content: At the Symposium academics, policy makers and industry professionals explored how co-production promotes and/or undermines European screen production, and discussed key policy challenges and future trends. The conference was a collaboration between the International Co-production Research Network (CoRN), CineCoSA (Cinéma, Economie & Sociétés Anglophones), and the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and MEF. Originally funded by CEMES, the event attracted financing from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and the Danish Film Institute. With these resources, it was possible to create a Symposium with several significant outcomes. As the Symposium included a variety of practitioners, it enabled the scholars to establish new contacts and discover new sources for future research. Furthermore, it provided valuable material for students of Copenhagen

University writing their final papers on the topic, and for film school students and junior film and TV producers, who normally do not have access to a systematized knowledge on co-productions. Finally, the Symposium triggered the establishment of the Co-production Research Network. Two co-production panels proposed by the Network have been accepted for the renowned Society for Cinema and Media Studies' (SCMS) conference in Chicago in March 2017 under the sponsorship of the Creative Industry Study Group.

Activities autumn 2017

The new season at CEMES features a broad variety of activities. Below is a selection of these events. More information about these events and other upcoming events at CEMES can be found on our website www.cemes.ku.dk.

'Author meets critics' debates

Author meets critics

Arranged by CEMES



Title: *Love as a Human Freedom*

Date: 15th of November 2017

Organized by: CEMES and the research group *Thinking the European Republic of Letters*

Content: Rather than see love as a natural form of affection, *Love as Human Freedom* sees love as a practice that changes over time through which new social realities are brought into being. Drawing on Hegel, Paul A. Kottman argues that love generates and explains expanded possibilities for freely lived lives. Through keen interpretations of the best known philosophical and literary depictions of its topic - including Shakespeare, Plato, Nietzsche, Ovid, Flaubert, and Tolstoy - his book treats love as a fundamental way that we humans make sense of temporal change, especially the inevitability of death and the propagation of life.

Presenter: Paul A. Kottman, New School for Social Research, New York.

Discussants: Christian Benne, University of Copenhagen and Benjamin Boysen, SDU.

GLOBAL TRILOGY

1) Title: *The Hegemony of Growth*

Date: 24th of November 2017

Organized by: CEMES and the research group *Rethinking European Integration*

Content: Matthias Schmelzer's monograph on the OECD raises questions about the role of international organisations in the ebbs and flows of international trends in political economy, as well as several methodological and historio-graphical questions about how to study IOs.

Presenter: Matthias Schmelzer (University of Jena/University of Zürich).

Discussants: Karen Gram-Skjoldager (Lektor, Aarhus University) and Carl-Johan Dalgaard (Professor, University of Copenhagen).

2) Title: *Competing Visions of World Order After 1945*

Date: 29th of November 2017

Organized by: CEMES

Content: 2016 will long be remembered as a time when the global political and economic order was confronted by unexpected new challenges. This double-session takes stock of Europe's contemporary global predicament by turning to the deeper history of British and American influence in framing the post-war agenda of globalism in the decades after 1945.

Presenters: Dr. Or Rosenboim (University of Cambridge) and Prof. A. G. Hopkins (University of Cambridge).

Discussants: Casper Sylvest (University of Southern Denmark), Christian Damm Pedersen (University of Southern Denmark).

3) Title: *Christian Human Rights*

Date: 8th of December 2017

Organized by: CEMES and the research group *Religion and Modern European Cultures*

Content: Professor Samuel Moyn will give a lecture on his book *Christian Human Rights*, in which he asserts that the rise of human rights after World War II was prefigured and inspired by a defense of the dignity of the human person that first arose in Christian churches and religious thought in the years just prior to the outbreak of the war.

Presenter: Professor Samuel Moyn (Yale University).

Discussants: Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen (Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law/adjunct Professor of Law at Aarhus University) and Professor Tine Ravnsted-Larsen Reeh (University of Copenhagen).

Internal seminar

Title: *The Genealogy of Theologico-Economic Practice and Thought in Europe*

Date: 23rd of October 2017

Organized by: CEMES and the research group *Rethinking European Integration*

Content: The seminar features the presentation and discussion of papers by: Stefan Schwarzkopf (CBS), *European Liberalism and the Theology of Choice*, Mitchell Dean (CBS), *Three Forms of Political Acclamation*, and Troels Krarup (CBS), *Discourses on Order and the Genealogy of Economic Governance in the European Union*.

Workshops

Title: *The Mass Media and the Economy: Europe and Beyond*

Date: 26th of September 2017

Organized by: CEMES and the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin

Content: The workshop aims at theorizing and analyzing the impact of the mass media on economic practices and perceptions in 20th and 21st century Europe and beyond.

Title: *Ph.D. Workshop on researching arts and culture in the global postwar era: Europe in a global perspective*

Date: November 1st 2017

Organized by: CEMES, IKK and Louisiana

Content: Recent years have heralded a paradigm shift in the way we think about modernity and aesthetic modernism as expressed in notions of multiple modernities,

often with a particular focus on the postwar era. The workshop, conducted by Romy Golan, 20th Century European Art Professor, New York University, and Nikolas Drosos, Ph.D., postdoc of Columbia University, provides a forum to discuss how to approach a more global history of art. The discussion of the reassessment of the global postwar era is also the theme of the Research Conference "Multiple Modernisms: a symposium on globalism in postwar art", at Louisiana on 2.-3. November

Title : *Migration discourse in Scandinavia and East-Central Europe: oppositions or continua?*

Immigration, media dynamics, and populism in Scandinavia and Poland.

Date: 15th of November 2017

Organized by: CEMES research group *European Culture and the Media*.

Content: This seminar examines the media coverage of immigration issues in order to discuss how various media dynamics may influence the ways that recent opinions and policies have developed.

CEMES looks forward to welcoming you for a new season of exciting events and stimulating debates on European research.

Contact CEMES

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