CfP: Sciences, Ideologies and Religions in 20th Century Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe

6-7 June 2024 Athens/Greece

The Institute of Historical Research of the National Hellenic Research Foundation (Athens, Greece), the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Erfurt (Germany), the Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture in Eastern Europe (Leipzig, Germany), the Faculty Center for Transdisciplinary Historical and Cultural Studies at the University of Vienna (Austria) and the Masaryk Institute and Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences (Prague, Czech Republic) organize an international conference on the intersections of sciences, ideologies, and religions in the 20th century in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe. The aim of the conference is twofold. First, it aims to study historical cases, in which sciences, ideologies and religions seem to intersect, or in which boundaries were explicitly set. Secondly, from an epistemological perspective, we will investigate the practices and effects of delineation, the "boundary making" (Gieryn). How do making and doing "science", "ideology", and "religion" influence one another, how do they change during contact?

Thus, we invite papers that study boundaries and their making, shifting and acting in historical and epistemological dimensions. We take a strong interest in approaches to rewrite and redraw connections among different spaces, fields, and temporalities. We are also interested in research highlighting and problematizing the possible interaction and/or co-productions of knowledge among and across communities and epistemes and specific practices or agendas, on which they could emerge or that they brought forth. An explicit theme of the conference is that sciences, ideologies and religions are not only intellectual fields, but that they appear in action, and thus produce and interact with political and gender epistemologies. We especially welcome contributions focusing on how the framework and case studies developed for/by the geographical area of Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe can interact with scholarship in subaltern areas and the global South.

We invite paper proposals, including a title and an abstract of max. 300 words, name(s), and affiliation(s) of the author(s), as well as contact information. The presentation time will be 20 minutes, with an additional time of 10 minutes for discussion. The conference language will be English. Please submit your proposal via email (ktampakis[at]eie.gr; friedrich.cain[at]univie.ac.at) by Monday, 18 December 2023. We especially encourage young scholars to apply. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by Monday, 19 January 2024.

The venue of the conference will be the National Hellenic Research Foundation in Athens. Attendance is free of charge. Organizers can cover the costs of travel and accommodation for those without institutional support.