

Graduieretenkolleg / PhD-workshop

Friday, June 3, 2022, 9.30-16.30u

Representing the people in postwar democracies

Citizens, politicians, experts and the mass media
in the Federal Republic of Germany and Western Europe

UvA UB, Singel 425, Amsterdam, *Doelenzaal*

How did citizens, politicians, experts and the mass media try to make sense of postwar democracy and political representation? Which communicative practices and modes of interaction did they use to express their (self-)perceptions and expectations?

These questions and more are at the heart of our workshop.

Researchers will discuss their work on the political history of the Federal Republic of Germany and Western Europe, which invites comparative reflection. On top of that, the workshop aims to contribute to both the integration of vernacular understandings of democracy in postwar political history, and to recent research on the scientization and mediatization of the political.

The four panels discuss a range of topics, including the articulation and imagination of popular expectations of democracy on the platform of the mass media (radio, television and the tabloid press), (normative) conceptions of professional politics and dialogue, urban perspectives on the construction of political identity and political legitimacy and expert notions of democracy and political representation.

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A graphic element consisting of several overlapping, curved lines that form a stylized shape, possibly representing a book or a hand holding a book.

Programme | Graduiertenkolleg / PhD-workshop June 3, 2022

9.30u
Dr. Krijn Thijs (DIA) Welcome
Dr. Harm Kaal (Nijmegen) Introduction

10 – 11.15u

Panel 1: Democratic media and ‘ordinary’ citizens

Malte Fischer, MA (Nijmegen/Berlin): Broadcasting the voice of the people: imagination and participation of “ordinary” citizens in West German public radio and television, 1950s-1970s

Jamie Lee Jenkins, MA (Nijmegen/Sheffield): “*Carrying the banner for the ordinary people*”: Articulations of popular expectations of democracy in the *Sun*, 1980-1986

Dr. Vincent Kuitenbrouwer (UvA) comments

Coffee break

11.30-12.45u

Panel 2: Pro politics and the art of the dialogue

Dr. Anne Heyer (Leiden University): Who is debating? Conceptualisations of professional politicians and ordinary citizens

Lukas Rathjen, MA (Zürich): Conversation and Compensation. Why West German intellectuals sought dialogue in the post-war period

Dr. Peter van Dam (UvA) comments

Lunch

13.45-15u

Panel 3: Modern polis – the case of Hamburg

Dr. Claudia Gatzka (Freiburg): Representing "Modern" Germany in an Urban Setting. *Volksparteien* and their Voters in Postwar Hamburg

Dr. Moritz Föllmer (UvA): Governing Hamburg? Mayors and Media in the City-State from the 1970s to the 1990s

Mario Daniels (DIA) comments

Coffee break

15.15-16.30u

Panel 4: Experts and democratic self-reflecting

Tabea Nasaroff, MA (Freiburg): Dolf Sternberger and “The Peoples’ Voice” – Contested Notions of Democracy in the West German Public Sphere During the 1950s and 1960s

Solange Ploeg, MA (Nijmegen): The journalist as public expert and expert for the public? The case of Ferry Hoogendijk: Dutch journalist, political scientist, television personality (1959-1972)

Krijn Thijs (DIA) comments

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