

## Participants

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Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Vanessa Borsky  
Technische Universität Dortmund

Robert Clark-Majerius  
University of East Anglia

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Goethe-Universität Frankfurt a. M.

Mathias Häußler  
Universität Regensburg

Colin Hay  
Sciences Po, Paris/University of Sheffield

Dennis Henneböhl  
Universität Paderborn

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Universität Koblenz-Landau

Christy Kulz  
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Siobhan O'Connor  
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Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn

Christina Strunck  
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

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Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne

Merle Tönnies  
Universität Paderborn

Richard Toye  
University of Exeter

Katharine Tyler  
University of Exeter

Julia Wiedemann  
Katholische Universität Eichstätt

## Organizers

Christina Strunck  
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## Host

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MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR GESELLSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG  
MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIETIES



## Imagining Britain – Past, Present, and Future



Interdisciplinary Conference

October 13–15, 2021

Program

## Wednesday, October 13

16:30\*

Introduction

Christina Strunck, Lisa Suckert

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### 16:45 British Empire and Colonialism

"This Sceptred Isle": Ethnic Cleansing in Ireland, Empire, and Atrocity  
Robert Clark-Majerius

More British than the Brits: Imagining Britishness in White Life Writing from Southern African Ex-Colonies  
Vanessa Borsky

17:45 Reception & snacks

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18:30

**Keynote:** Misremembering Empire: A Tragic History  
Astrid Erll

End 19:30 – informal get-together (Zum alten Brauhaus, Severinstr. 51)

## Thursday, October 14

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### 9:15 British Political Culture

"Return to What We Were": The Role of Economic Identity and Economic Traditions for the Brexit Campaign  
Lisa Suckert

Composure, Indifference, Apathy: Emotional Styles and "Britishness"  
Kerstin Pahl

A New Dawn for Britain? How Novels Imagine the UK–EU Relationship  
Lisa Bischoff

10:45 Coffee

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### 11:15 Britain and Europe

Britain as "Arbiter Europae"? Boris Johnson's Speech in the Painted Hall of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich  
Christina Strunck

Bras, Beers, and Empire: Images of Europe and British Identity Constructions during Britain's First Application to Join the EEC in the Early 1960s  
Mathias Häußler

How British Art Became Modern, but So Did Nationalism  
Grischka Petri

12:45 Lunch

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13:45

**Keynote:** Imagining the British Political System, 1900–2021  
Richard Toye

14:45 Coffee

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### 15:15 British Nostalgia

Fictional Spaces of the Tudor Past and the Contemporary English Imaginary  
Siobhan O'Connor

Instrumentalising National Identity and Nostalgia in Current Political Messages: The Rhetoric of Brexit and the COVID-19 Pandemic  
Dennis Henneböhl, Merle Tönnies

Imagined Pasts and Future Belongings: Tracing the Contours of Memory and History with British Migrants in Post-Brexit Britain  
Christy Kulz

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16:45

Open discussion

End 17:30

19:00 Dinner (Restaurant Wagenhalle, Vondelstr. 4–8)

## Friday, October 15

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9:15

**Keynote:** tbd  
Colin Hay

10:15 Coffee

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### 10:45 British Class Society

Socialist Images of Britain: Retrotopian Visions in the 19th Century  
Julia Wiedemann

*Of Dilettanti and Gentlemen:* Artistic Representations of Institutional Maleness in British Gentlemen Clubs  
Ekaterini Kepetzis

Leavers and Remainers as Kinds of People: Accusations of Racism amidst the Affects of Brexit  
Katharine Tyler

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12:15

Final discussion

End of conference 12:45

\* all times are CEST