

Workshop : '68 – East winds, West winds

From the Berlin February demonstration against US involvement in the Vietnam War, through the March student protests in Poland and the student unrest in Italy, to Prague Spring or French May '68, a insurgent spirit swept across the European continent in 1968. The chronicle of the events that shook in different ways European societies, suggests the existence of a rebellious impetus that ignored the Iron Curtain and defied the various political regimes in place. The 1968 new generation held a common ground as they dared asserting their aspirations, upsetting the established order. Still, the diversity of protest configurations, whether speaking of the actors engaged in them or of the political answers prompted by the events, calls for a confrontation of these historical moments which, caught between celebration and tragedy, have become engraved in collective memory.

On the 15th of May, witnesses of 1968 from various parts of Europe will speak about the expectations they had then.

The next day, on the 16th of May, the conference will propose a reflection between East and West through the gathering of specialists on three major topics: violences in 1968, the emergence of women's movements and the birth of alternative cultures.

What disparities, what common trends can be perceived in the rebellious spirit of 1968?

In English, French, German, with simultaneous interpreting into English

A cooperation with :



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15th and 16th of May 2018

Institut Français / Centre Marc Bloch

1968, WHICH EXPECTATIONS? 15th of May 2018 at 19:00

With participation of significant witnesses from 1968:

**Libuše Černá (CZ), Jan Gross (POL),
Jean-Yves Potel (FRA) and Peter Schneider (GER)**

Moderator: Thomas Wieder

Correspondent for *Le Monde* in Berlin

Institut français Berlin
Kurfürstendamm 211
10719 Berlin

Conference 16th of May 2018 from 9:30 to 17:30

**Centre Marc Bloch
Friedrichstrasse 191 - 10117 Berlin**

9.30-10am : Welcome and introductory remarks

10.00-10.45am

Keynote speech by Claus Leggewie

(Professor of political science, Giessen University)

Grasping the Desire for Revolution

11 - 12:30 am

68 Between Revolt and Repression: From Radical Uprisings to State Violence

Speakers

Oliver Davis (Warwick University), reader in French studies, focusing on coercive governance in french culture and history.

Piotr Oseka (Institute of Political Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences), specialist of political history of Poland and of security apparatus in the Polish People's Republic.

Matěj Spurný (Charles University, Prague), specialist of Social history of state socialism in Czechoslovakia

Moderator: Fabien Jobard (CNRS – Centre Marc Bloch), focusing the sociology of the police in France and Germany

12:30 - 2 pm: Lunch Time

2 - 3:30 pm

68 Through Women: Voicing Women's Liberation

Speakers:

Natalia Jarska (Institut of History, Polish Academy of Sciences), History of Women and Gender in Post War Poland.

Renata Ada Ruata (French language writer, co-author of *Filles de Mai, mémoires de femmes*, Paris, 2018)

Alena Wagnerová (Czech sociologist and writer), focusing on woman's place in the XXth century societies.

Emeline Fourment (sociologist, Centre Marc Bloch), specialist of the feminist movement in Germany.

Moderator: Ioana Cirstocea (sociologist, CNRS-EHESS), working on the construction of gender in socialist and post socialist Europe.

4 - 5:30 pm

1968 and the Underground

Speakers:

Michael Esch (Historian, Leipzig University), focusing on music and revolts in the '50s and the '60s.

Petra James (Université Libre de Bruxelles), comparative literature on avant-garde and neo avant-garde in the '60s.

Jan Mervart (Institute of philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences), historian of political thought and culture under the socialist regime.

Ádám Takács (Loránd Eötvös University, Budapest), specialist of the marxist thought and mentalities in Eastern european socialist countries.

Moderator: Jean-Yves Potel, historian of cultural and social history of Eastern Europe, XXth-XXIst. centuries.