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Transformations of Intercultural Diplomacies

Comparative Views on Asia and Europe (1700 to 1850)

Workshop organised by Henrietta Harrison (University of Oxford) and Christian Windler (Universität Bern), in cooperation with Nadine Amsler (Universität Bern)

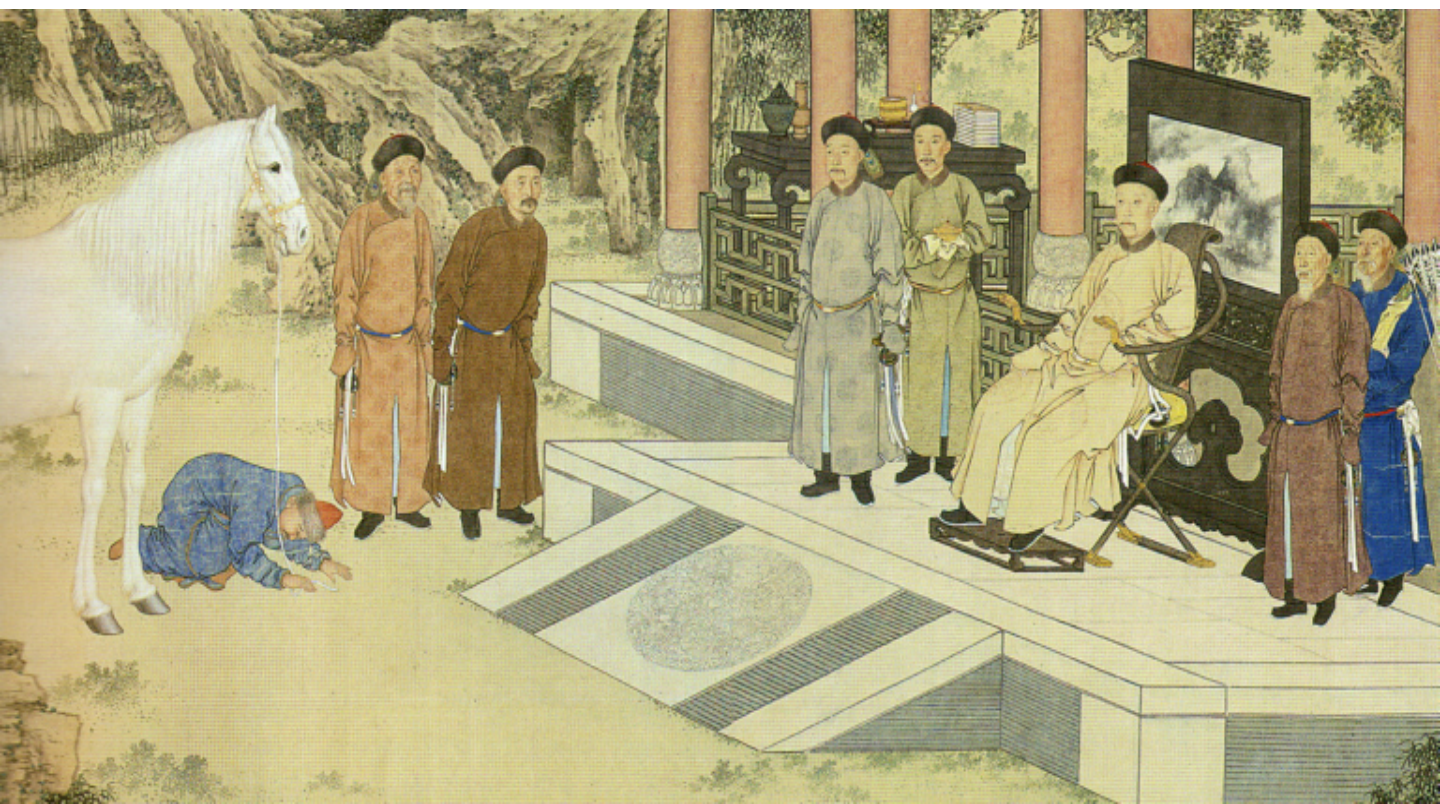
Bern (Switzerland), 2–4 June 2016

Speakers:

Tanja Bühler (Bern)
Adam Yuet Chau (Cambridge UK)
May Bo Ching (Hongkong)
Jeroen Duindam (Leiden)
Pascal Firges (Paris)
Irena Fliter (Tel Aviv)
Henrietta Harrison (Oxford)

Jan Hennings (Budapest)
Michael Khodarkovsky (Chicago)
André Krischer (Münster)
Matthew Mosca (Seattle)
David Do Paço (Paris)
Maurus Reinkowski (Basel)

Henning Sievert (Zürich)
Will Smiley (New York)
Hillard von Thiessen (Rostock)
Christian Windler (Bern)
Keynote lecture:
Sanjay Subrahmanyam (Los Angeles)



Programme

The history of diplomacy and foreign relations is undergoing radical conceptual and methodological change. Instead of the traditional state-centred view, new approaches have highlighted the interpersonal nature of early modern foreign relations. These were managed by agents who, by serving their rulers, also pursued other interests concerning their person, family, or locality. The fruitfulness of an approach focusing on these intermediaries has also been highlighted by historians focusing on intercultural diplomacies. Indeed, growing interest in entangled histories that examine the global interconnections between societies has given new importance to the study of the lives and ideas of those who moved between cultures. In this context, the history of diplomacy is particularly interesting because it gives us the opportunity to look at how people at the time understood and dealt with different normative orders. Instead of emphasising essentialised cultural difference, this approach encourages us to examine how mutual perceptions and normative orders are actually produced through the practice of diplomacy.

The workshop centers on a period which has been singled out as a moment of profound transformations in intra-European diplomatic practice as well as in diplomatic and cultural relations between Asian and European societies. It aims to bring together historians working on different Asian and European diplomacies in order to study early modern Eurasian diplomatic encounters as well as their transformations between 1700 and 1850 in a comparative as well as in an entangled perspective.

The organizers would like to thank the following institutions for their financial support:

- Swiss National Science Foundation
- UBS Kulturstiftung
- Burgergemeinde Bern
- Philosophisch-historische Fakultät der Universität Bern
- Center for Global Studies der Philosophisch-historischen Fakultät der Universität Bern
- Abteilung für Neuere Geschichte des Historischen Instituts der Universität Bern





Thursday, 2 June

14.30–15.00: *Coming together, welcome coffee*

15.00–15.30: Introduction by the organisers

Panel I: Transformations around 1800

Chair: Nadir Weber

15.30–16.10: Matthew Mosca
Comprehending the Qing Empire:
Building Multilingual Competence in
an Age of Imperial Rivalry, 1790-1820

16.10–16.40: *Coffee Break*

16.40–17.20: Will Smiley
Ottoman Diplomacy and the Law of
Nations, 1699-1856

17.20–18.00: Pascal Firges
The French Revolutionary Trans-
formation of Diplomatic Practise:
Franco-Ottoman Negotiations in
Istanbul, 1792-1797

18.00–18.15: *Break*

18.15–19.15: Henrietta Harrison /
Hillard von Thiesen
Comments, Panel Discussion



Friday, 3 June

Panel II: Practices of Diplomatic Interaction

Chair: Henrietta Harrison

09.00–09.40: Adam Yuet Chau
Hosting the Periphery:
The Alternating Audience System
(年班) during the Qing Dynasty

9.40–10.20: Tanja Bühler
Intercultural Diplomacy at the Court
of the Nizam of Hyderabad, c. 1770-
1815

10.20–10.50: *Coffee Break*

10.50–11.30: Michael Khodarkovsky
The White Tsar and his 'Unfaithful'
Subjects: Intercultural Diplomacies
on Russia's Asian Frontier

11.30–12.10: Jan Hennings
Exchanges between Centres beyond
the Periphery: The First Russian
Permanent Embassy in Istanbul

12.10–14.10: *Lunch*

14.10–14.50: Christian Windler
Performing Inequality in
Mediterranean Diplomacy

14.50–15.50: Henning Sievert /
André Krischer
Comments, Panel Discussion

15.50–16.20: *Coffee Break*

17.00-18.00: Keynote Lecture at the Institute of History (Unitobler, Room: F013)

Sanjay Subrahmanyam
The Usual Compliments?
Translations and Silences in Early
Modern Intercultural Diplomacy

Reception at the Institute of History

Saturday, 4 June

Panel III: The Social Identities of Diplomatic Agents

Chair: Nadine Amsler

9.30–10.10: Irena Fliter
The Prussian Connection:
Careers of Ottoman Diplomats in
Times of Revolutions

10.10–10.50: David Do Paço
Family, Clientelism and Regional
Integration from Below: The Oriental
Branch of the Cobenzl Clientele
between Vienna and Istanbul

10.50–11.20: *Coffee Break*

11.20–12.00: Henrietta Harrison
Becoming a Faithful Interpreter:
The Story of Jacobus Ly and the
1793 Macartney Embassy to China

12.00–13.30: *Lunch*

13.30–14.10: May Bo Ching
Little People, Big World:
Intercultural Encounters Around the
Pearl River Delta in South China
from the Sixteenth to the
Nineteenth Century

14.10–15.10: Jeroen Duindam /
Maurus Reinkowski
Comments, Panel Discussion

15.10–15.50: Round Table
Final Discussion

16.00-18.15: *Guided city tour with
Christian Windler*

18.30: *Conference dinner*

*Restaurant Kirchenfeld
Thunstrasse 5, 3005 Bern*

Guests are welcome. Please contact Hedy Werthmüller:
hedy.werthmueller@hist.unibe.ch

The programme is online on
www.hist.unibe.ch/ueber_uns/abteilungen/neuere_geschichte/



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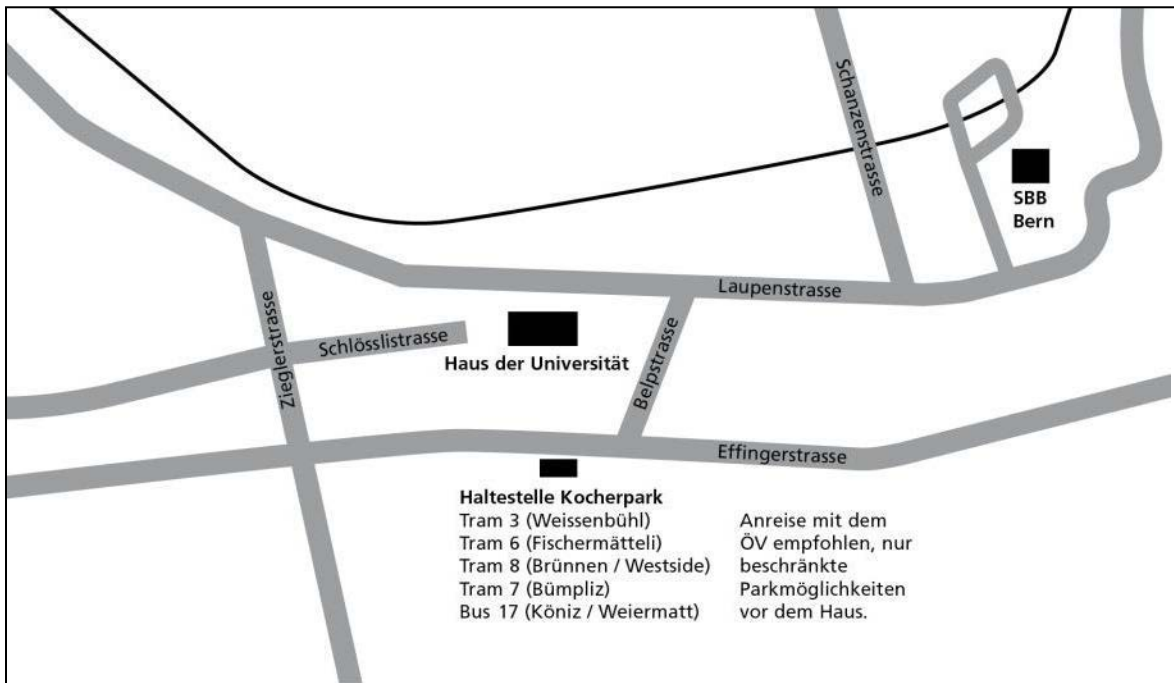
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Venue:

Haus der Universität, Schösslistrasse 5, 3012 Bern (Switzerland)

The Haus der Universität is 750m away from the Bern SBB railway station. It can be reached on foot or by tramway (Numbers 3, 6, 7, 8).



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