

Programme

15.00 Reception/coffee

15.15 - 15.30 Opening speeches

Chairman of the symposium: **Alessandro Vanoli** (University of Bologna)

First Session

15.30 **Emilio Gentile** (La Sapienza University of Rome), The Great War as Apocalypse of Modernity

15.50 **Gabriela Dudeková** (Institute of History of the Slovak Academy of Sciences), Survival strategies in the homeland: Austria-Hungary's war regime from the perspective of Slovak historiography

16.10 **Tomáš Kykal** (Military History Institute in Prague), Conflict of Conscience and Duty - Czechs in the First World War

16.30 **Zafer Toprak** (Boğaziçi University), Home Front in Turkey: War Economics & Society as part of Deglobalization

16.50 **Tibor Balla** (Military Archives and Museum in Budapest), The Austro-Hungarian Soldiers on the Turkish Front of the First World War

17.10-17.40 Discussion / Q&A

17.40-18.00 Coffee Break

Second Session

18.00 **Silvana Rachieru** ("Dimitrie Cantemir" Romanian Cultural Institute in Istanbul), Years of Neutrality, Years of War: The Case of the Royal Legation of Romania in Constantinople

18.20 **Gudrun Harrer** (Austrian Diplomatic Academy), Dividing the Spoils of the Ottoman Empire: European Powers in the Middle East

18.40 **Pablo Martín Asuero** (Cervantes Institute in Istanbul), The Count of Ballobar and the Consulate of Spain in Jerusalem during World War I

19.00 **Anne Bostancı** (British Council), Remember the World as well as the War - why the global reach and enduring legacy of the First World War still matter today

19.20-20.00 Discussion / Q&A

20.00 Buffet Dinner

Emilio Gentile, internationally renowned historian, is professor emeritus at La Sapienza University of Rome. Visiting professor in Australia, United States and France, in 2003 he was awarded the Hans Sigrist prize by the University of Berna, for his studies on political religions. Among his books translated into English: *The Sacralization of Politics in Fascist Italy* (1996); *The Struggle for Modernity: Nationalism, Futurism and Fascism* (2003); *The Origins of Fascist Ideology* (2005); *Politics as Religion* (2006); *God's Democracy. American Religion after September 11* (2008), *La Grande Italia: The Myth of the Nation in the 20th Century* (2009). He is a distinguished historian of Fascism and totalitarianism. Over the years, he decoded Italy culturally, going beyond political and social dimensions, reconstructing the cultural configurations of a sacred politics.

Gabriela Dudeková is senior research scientist at the Institute of History of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. Her research interests involve social history of Slovakia in the context of Habsburg monarchy and Czechoslovak Republic in the age of modernisation (ca. 1790 to the half of 20th century) and particularly gender history, social care and social policy, everyday life during the World War I. She has participated to several national and international research projects and she has been co-organizer and active participant on many national and international conferences (recently she has been leader of the Project *The Great war in memory and others*). She is author, coauthor and editor of several monographs and articles. She is also member of the Slovak-Hungarian History Committee, member of Slovak national committee of International Federation for Women's History (IFRWH), sub-editor of the internet magazine "Forum Historiae", published by the Institute of Historical Studies of Slovak Academy of Sciences.

Tomáš Kykal graduated in History at the Faculty of Arts of the Charles University in Prague. Since 2007 he has been employed at the Military History Institute Prague. He obtained the position of librarian and participated e.g. at the systematic digitisation of its periodicals collection. Since 2012 he has been working as a researcher at the History and Documentation Department. He focuses on the history of the Austro-Hungarian Army (1914–1918) as well as of the Czechoslovak Army in the first decade of its existence.

Zafer Toprak founded and chaired the History Department at Boğaziçi University, directed the Atatürk Graduate Institute for Modern Turkish History and the Semester Abroad Program in the Middle East [now Mediterranean] for St. Olaf College [Minnesota-USA]. He taught as guest professor at London University, Minnesota University, EHESS (Paris). He is currently teaching at Boğaziçi University & Koç University. Co-founder of several scholarly editions and journals he co-directed projects for European Science Foundation. He is also founder and curator of both the Financial Museum of İşBank and Borusan Economic History Museum. Curator of several expositions related to economic and social history of Turkey he specializes on modern European and Ottoman-Turkish history. He is member of the Turkish Academy of Science.

Tibor Balla studied in the University Szeged, Hungary and was research-fellow (military history) of the Institute and Museum of Military History in Budapest. In 1993 he was appointed officer of the Hungarian Honvéd Army (actual rank: Lieutenant-Colonel). In 2000 he obtained a PhD and became secretary of the Hungarian Committee of Military History. Between 2008 and 2012 he was chief of the Hungarian Archive Delegation by the Austrian Military Archive in Vienna. He published several works on the history of the Imperial and Royal (Common) Army of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and on its activity in the Great War as well as on the history of the Royal Hungarian Honvéd Army between 1868 and 1918. His last volume, *The Austro-Hungarian generals of the Great War* came out in 2010.