



Call for Papers
International Conference

"Cultural Contexts of War"

**Institute of European Culture
of the Adam Mickiewicz University**

Gniezno, 19-20 October 2023

Although armed conflicts have accompanied Europe and the world for a very long time and with a relatively high frequency, it might be observed that nowadays in the social consciousness (especially Polish, but also – more generally – European) the predominant way of thinking about war is perceiving it as something very abstract, taking place far away from us, as well as the conviction that the experience of the 20th century will protect the 21st century from open wars involving entire nations. The opinion of a stable state of European military security has been falsified by Russia's armed attack on Ukraine. The ongoing war in our immediate vicinity means that the current crises of the present (including the crisis of culture, democracy, mankind, climate) lose their clarity and significance in the context of the reality of war and the drama of "boundary situations" related to it. This forces us - the generation that has so far enjoyed life in a relative peace - to ask fundamental questions and make certain re-evaluations.

Should not the current reflection on, for example, the existential situation of man, posthumanism, multiculturalism, etc., be undertaken anew, taking into account the additional important dimension of interpersonal relations, which is the armed conflict? To what extent does the situation related to the war drama modify the up-to-now anthropological, cultural and humanistic reflections in general?



Will the war caused by Russia be a short episode in the stable (in the long term) development of contemporary Europe, or on the contrary, we are dealing with a fundamental breakthrough, the consequence of which will be far-reaching changes, leading to the emergence of a new "post-war" reality? How can the concept of "post-war reality" be understood?

As part of the planned conference, we intend to reflect on the broadly understood cultural dimension of the phenomenon of war from the perspective of various humanities and social sciences: cultural studies, philosophy, literary studies, sociology, political science, history, jurisprudence, etc.

Potential topics include (but are not limited to):

- culture and its values in the context of armed conflict: e.g. cultural exchange, images of war in art and literature
- ethical aspects of war, e.g. just and unjust war, the barbarity of war and the limits of cruelty
- legal aspects of war, e.g. legal culture in a war situation,
- testimonies of war: war reportage, war correspondent in a cultural and legal context
- war in the perspective of posthumanism: the limits of humanity, animals during war, martial "wounds" of nature.

These are just a few of the problems that we wish to explore together in Gniezno in October.

Please submit individual **abstracts (up to 200 words) by the 30th of April 2023** to the conference e-mail address: **gnieznokonferencja@wp.pl**.

Information about the acceptance of the paper will be sent by May 15.

Please note that **the deadline for submitting the article ready for publication is the 15th October 15, 2023**).

Depending on the number of participants, the organizers reserve the right to choose the form of the meeting: stationary only or hybrid.



The conference will take place on **October 19-20, 2023** in Gniezno, at the Institute of European Culture of the Adam Mickiewicz University, ul. Kostrzewskiego 5-7.

The **conference fee** is PLN 350 (PLN 250 - PhD students), which includes meals, conference materials and publication of articles in an edited collection.

The conference fee does not include accommodation. Still, we offer our help in finding an accommodation on the AMU campus in Gniezno, in single and double rooms, for PLN 65 per night.

Payment specification (the account number for the conference fee) and more details about a possible accommodation will be provided after acceptance of the paper.

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please feel free to contact the organizers at: gnieznokonferencja@wp.pl.

Organizing committee:

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