The Decline of the West? The Fate of the Atlantic Community after the Cold War

Conference of the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) and the German Historical Institute (Washington, D.C.)

October 15-17, 2009

Thursday, 15 October: Keynote Speech and Reception (Public Event):
Adam Michnik (Editor in Chief, Gazeta Wyborcza) (confirmed)

Friday, 16 October: Historical and Cultural Perspectives
Panel I: The West as Idea
Chair: Wilfried Mausbach (Heidelberg Center for American Studies)

Riccardo Bavaj (University of St. Andrews, Scotland)
A Cultural Crisis of the West? Liberal-conservative intellectuals and the challenges to “Western Civilization” in the 1970s and 1980s

Ariane Leendertz (University of Munich)
American Images of Europe since the 1970s

Commentator: Thomas W. Maulucci (American International College)

Panel II: Concepts of International Order
Chair: Ellen Kennedy (Penn)

Sandeep Gopalan (University of Reading School of Law) (confirmed)
The Two “Wests”: International Law in the U.S. and Europe

Mary Elise Sarotte (University of Southern California) (confirmed)
1989 & the Architecture of Order: The Competition to lead the Post-Cold War World

Commentator: William Glenn Gray (Purdue University)
Panel III: Human Rights in Theory and Practice Since the 1970s  
**Chair:** Ronald J. Granieri (Penn)

Elizabeth Borgwardt (Washington University)  
*Politics, Culture, and the Limits of Law in Generating Human Rights Norms*

Ben Nathans (Penn)  
*Soviet Rights Talk*

**Commentator:** TBA

Afternoon Roundtable: Studying the West—Paradigms and Approaches  
**Chair:** Eric Jarosinski (Penn)

Leslie Adelson (Cornell University) (confirmed)  
Jeffrey Anderson (Georgetown University) (confirmed)  
Philipp Gassert (University of Augsburg) (confirmed)

Saturday, 17 October: From the Present to the Future

Panel IV: The West as Experience—High Culture and Popular Culture  
**Chair:** Martin Klimke (German Historical Institute)

Stephen Brockmann (Carnegie Mellon University) (confirmed)  
Dorothea Fischer-Hornung (University of Heidelberg) (confirmed)  
*Out of Deutschland: Discovering the German and American Other in Contemporary Film*

**Commentator:** Frank Trommler (Penn)
Panel V: The Widening Atlantic?

Chair: Simon Richter (Penn) (confirmed)

John C. Torpey (CUNY Graduate Center) (confirmed)
*The Return of God and the Decline of “the West”*

Uta A. Balbier (German Historical Institute) (confirmed)
*Crusading against secularization - Billy Graham in Germany*

Commentator: Tba

Public Lecture: Volker Berghahn, Columbia University (confirmed)
*The Fallacies of Triumphalism: America in the Post-1989 World.*

Commentaries by Ronald J. Granieri (Penn) and Henry Teune (Penn)

Concluding Round Table Discussion: Where is the West?

Chair: Philipp Gassert (University of Augsburg)

Participants: Maximilian Müller-Härlin (Federal Chancellery, Berlin) (confirmed)
Bryan van Sweringen (US Army Europe, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.) (confirmed)
Martin Thunert (Heidelberg Center for American Studies) (confirmed)

Concluding Dinner

Sunday, 18 October: Departure of participants