

Since decades, scholars are arguing whether Enlightenment provided for the cultural and intellectual origins of modern colonialism. On one hand, postcolonial authors believe that enlightened rationalism helped delegitimize non-European cultures. On the other hand, numerous historians of ideas and literature 'defend' at least some 18th-century *philosophes* whom they consider to have been 'anti-colonialists'.

The aim of the workshop is to concretise the terms of the debate. It will contextualise ideas and make the link between intellectual, social and political history. For this reason, the focus of the workshop lies on 'imperial actors', that is people appropriating 'enlightened' constructions of reality in order to position themselves in an imperial field. 'Enlightenment' will not be understood here as a fix set of ideas, but as the claim of eighteenth-century elites to hold the torch of reason in the darkness, that is to create a 'reasonable' and 'natural' social order and to educate people. The aim of the workshop is to explore the different appropriations of that claim by competing groups of actors. The interactions between 'foreign', 'native', and 'hybrid' elites are of special interest in this framework.

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## Enlightened World Appropriations

Imperial Actors  
and Scenarios of  
Change  
(1750-1820)



Martin-Luther-Universität  
Halle-Wittenberg

## International Workshop

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> and  
Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup>  
June 2015

Interdisciplinary Centre  
for European  
Enlightenment Studies



Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015

19.30

*Informal get-together in a restaurant*

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015

08.30

Damien Tricoire (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany): **Introduction/ Concept of the workshop**

**THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIMILARITY: POLICIES TOWARDS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND INDIGENOUS AGENCY IN IMPERIAL BORDER REGIONS AFTER 1750**

08.45

Maria Regina Celestino de Almeida (Universidade Federal Fluminense, Niterói, Rio de Janeiro state, Brazil): **Portuguese Indigenous Policy and Indigenous Policies in Age of Enlightenment: Assimilationist Proposals and the Maintenance of Indigenous Identities**

09.45

Ricarda Vulpius (Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, Germany): **Colonial Concepts and Practices of ‚Enlightened‘ Russian Governors in Imperial Borderlands**

10.45

*Coffee break*

11.15

Yvonne Kleinmann (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany): **Administration as a Forum of Enlightened Communication? Scholars in the Service of the Russian Empire in the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century**

12.15

Damien Tricoire (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany): **New Old Assimilationism: Enlightened Scriptural Strategies, Silencing, and the Writing of a French Colonial Novel in Madagascar (1760s – 1810s)**

13.15

*Lunch break*

14.45

Lía Quarleri (Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Buenos Aires, Argentina): **New Forms of Colonialism in Imperial Border Regions: Political Agency, Ideology of Change and Internal Contradictions (Río de la Plata, late 18<sup>th</sup> century)**

15.45

Klemens Kaps (University Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla, Spain): **Creating differences for integration: Enlightened reforms and civilizing mission in the Eastern European possessions of the Habsburg Monarchy**

16.45

*Coffee break*

**TRANSOCEANIC POINTS OF VIEW: WRITING ABOUT CHANGE AND REVOLUTION AROUND 1800**

17.15

Anja Bandau (Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz University, Hannover, Germany): **Jean-Francois de Saint-Lambert and his moral conte "Ziméo" (1769) in the context of abolitionist and imperial/ colonial activities**

18.15

Jeremy D. Popkin (University of Kentucky, Lexington, USA): **Colonial Enlightenment and the French Revolution: Julien Raimond and Milscent Créole**

20.00

*Dinner*

Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2015

09.00

Sven Trakulhun (Constance University, Germany): **From an Asian Point of View: Colonialism and Enlightenment in the Age of Revolution (c. 1780 – 1820)**

10.00

Matthias Middell (Leipzig University, Germany): **Lessons Learned From the Crisis of Empire? The French Revolution and the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Imperial History**

11.00

*Coffee break*

11.30

Doris L. Garraway (Northwestern University, USA): **Black Athena in Haiti: Universal History, Civilization, and the Pre-History of Negritude in the Kingdom of Henry Christophe**

**FACULTATIVE AFTERNOON PROGRAM**

14.00

*Guided tour through Francke's foundations* (Damien Tricoire)