



Introduction

Greetings and welcome to the fourth quarterly newsletter of the Center for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences / Kolleg-Forschungsgruppe (KFG) "Universalism and Particularism in European Contemporary History" at the School of History at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. As we embark on the start of the winter term, this newsletter provides a recap of recent highlights and offers a preview of the months ahead.

In the opening segment of this newsletter, we're pleased to introduce the fellows who will be joining the KFG for the upcoming winter term. As organizers of and contributors to this semester's workshops and colloquia, they will play a central role in advancing the KFG's research.

The second section spotlights recent contributions to the KFG's research from the past term and links to past colloquia and conference presentations, hosted by the KFG partner, the L.I.S.A. Science Portal.

In the third segment, we'll present a Call for Applications (CfA) for the winter term 2025/2026. Then, in the fourth segment, we'll provide a teaser of events for the upcoming winter term. Keep an eye on our event calendar, as additional workshops, conferences, and more will be added throughout the term. To ensure you stay informed, consider subscribing to this newsletter if you haven't already:

kfg20@lrz.uni-muenchen.de.

The current fellows of the KFG

At the center of the KFG's work are its fellows, who work on their own research projects and contribute to the KFG's research on the concepts of universalism and particularism.

Distinguished Fellows in Munich this Winter term are:

- [Prof. Dr. Alexander Libman](#)
Social Sciences in Russia before the War: Integration, Isolation, Political Impact
- [Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Dr. h.c. Angelika Nußberger](#)
War and Law. Responses to military conflicts in Eastern Europe

The KFG Senior Fellows of the Winter term are:

- [Prof. Dr. Paul Betts](#)
The Underside of the European Revolutions of 1989
- [Prof. Dr. Caroline von Gall](#)
Human Rights and Authoritarianism
- [Prof. Dr. Stefan Ludwig Hoffmann](#)
Human Rights: A modern History

The KFG Junior Fellows of the Winter term are:

- [Dr. Julia Kornichuk](#)
Freedom of Religion and Its Limits in EU Relations with Orthodox Churches
- [Dr. Samuel Sadian](#)
Good to Think With: Half a Century of Reinventing Liberalism in the European Union
- [Dr. Krzysztof Świrek](#)
Hidden Class Particularism in Human Rights Discourse? Polish Case and Global Right-wing Populist Strategies

Access the KFG's work online

As part of the aforementioned cooperation with the Gerda Henkel Stiftung's L.I.S.A. Science Portal we continuously upload contributions from the KFG's conferences and semesterly colloquia. Lectures of previous terms include:

- Yoshiko Herrera's lecture ["Privatization and Land Reform: What is Universal and what is Particular"](#)
- Ivan Kislenko's lecture titled ["Between North and South: Decolonial Isolationism of Russian Social Science in the State of War and Beyond"](#)
- Marta Bucholc and Lourdes Peroni's lecture on the ["The Interplay of Religion and Human Rights in the Amicus Curiae Briefs to the European and the Inter-American Courts of Human Rights"](#)

Call for Applications

The Kolleg-Forschungsgruppe (KFG) 'Universalism and Particularism in European Contemporary History' at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU) is seeking to appoint **three Junior Fellowships (Postdocs)** for the **winter term of 2025 / 2026 (October-March)**. The KFG fellowships are awarded for 3-6 months. The **deadline for applications is 1 December, 2024**. The preferred starting date is 1 October, 2025. The KFG 'Universalism and Particularism' investigates universalist and particularist models of order in European contemporary history from the 1970s to the present. The KFG research program focuses on economic, religious/secular, and human rights regimes. More information on the KFG can be found [here](#). The call for applications is available [here](#).

Events

a. Research Insights: Fellows' Colloquium and Lecture Series

This term, the KFG is planning for its fellows to present their research in a **colloquium** and, for the first time, in a **lecture series**. You can find all the events in both series in the [news section of our website](#).

To receive the reading material for each session or to get regular updates about the colloquium and other KFG events, please contact us or subscribe to the newsletter by emailing: kfg20@lrz.uni-muenchen.de.

b. Lecture Series with Paul Betts

This semester, the KFG is hosting a **lecture series** for the first time. The first event – supported by the Carl Friedrich von Siemens Foundation – is a lecture by **Paul Betts**, Professor of Modern European History at St. Antony's College, University of Oxford. The lecture, entitled **"Walls, Doors and Bridges: A Changing Legacy of 1989 for Our Time"**, will look at the liberal era that the events of 1989 seemed to herald and the (apparent) reversal of these values in recent years.

To register, please contact us at kfg20@lrz.uni-muenchen.de by **4 November**.

For more information on this event, please visit the KFG [website](#).

Announcement: On **January 8, 2025**, **Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Dr. h.c. Angelika Nußberger** will make the second contribution to the KFG lecture series. We will publish news about this event on our homepage in the course of the coming month.

c. Workshops

As in previous terms, the KFG will organize **Interdisciplinary** and **Junior Fellow Workshops**.

The next **Junior Fellow Workshop** will be organized by [Ivan Kislenko](#). The subject of the workshop is **“Anti-Westernism of Knowledge Production in Russian Social Sciences during Russia’s War against Ukraine”**. The workshop will include Alexander Libman, Caroline von Gall and Theodore Gerber among others.

The workshop will take place on **13-14 November** at the **Seidlvilla (Nikolaipplatz 1B, 80802 Munich)**. Only **Alexander Libman’s Keynote Lecture** on 13 November will take place at the **Historicum, in room K201 (Schellingstraße 12, 80799 Munich), 6:00 pm**.

We will upload the final workshop program to our [website](#) in the course of the coming week.

To register, please contact us at kfg20@lrz.uni-muenchen.de.

Announcement: [Krzysztof Świrek](#) along with **Magda Szczesniak** from the University of Warsaw will host the next **Interdisciplinary Workshop** which will deal with the topic of **Social Class**. The workshop will take place on 16 January, 2025. Further information will be announced in the coming weeks.

This concludes our updates for the year. We look forward to reconnecting with you in the next edition of our newsletter, which will be sent out in the coming year. Until then, we wish you a peaceful and fulfilling season ahead.