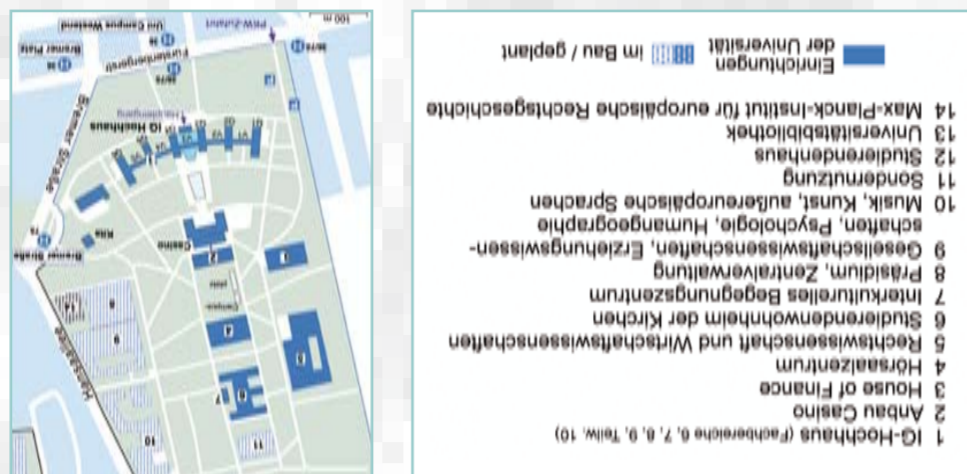




The «IG- Farben Building» – A building with an interesting and eventful history placed at the heart of Campus Westend.



Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Campus Westend, IG Farben Haus



How to find us – Direction to the Campus Westend

Aims of the Conference

Law is a central element of social and political order – with it, power is institutionalized, actions are structured and sanctioned. Fundamental concepts of order are expressed and legitimized by law. This is especially true of gender difference. Until equal rights won out as the norm, differentiating legal capacities of persons by their gender meant assigning distinct forms of legally defined agency to men and women and fixing gender hierarchy. Nevertheless, even while formal equality is established throughout Europe since the 20th century, gender difference in law remains a precarious question.

The international research network «Gender Differences in European Legal Cultures» aims at bringing together scholars who analyse in historical perspective the significance and function of gender differences in European legal cultures. This will help widen the possibilities of interdisciplinary and comparative work. The network is concerned with all fields of law – such as criminal, public, civil and procedural law – although focusing especially on civil law. Our intention is a gendered history of law which not only increases our knowledge of legal norms explicitly concerning women or men, but also questions the construction of law itself. In addition, the network directs its special attention to legal practice inside as well as outside the court and to relations of legal and social norms. Legal pluralism, the subsidiary of legal norms and competitive jurisdiction of different institutions concerned with the administration of justice are analysed as to the agency they grant women and men and to their influence on shaping gender difference.

After the network's meetings in Frankfurt am Main (2000), Trent (2002), Copenhagen (2004) and Crete (2006) the fifth conference will again take place in Germany, this time hosted by the Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main. The aim of this conference is twofold: to work out common traditions and different traits of European legal cultures by comparative research and to enrich our perspective by the flowering research on gender and global history. This research has shown the necessity to extend our focus of attention and marks a challenge to concepts, methods and narratives of gender and legal history.

The conference will be composed of three parts, each starting with a lecture given on general considerations:

- Gender constructions in medical and religious discourses and their impact on jurisprudence and jurisdiction;
- Comparing legal cultures: differences and similarities, concepts and methods;
- Gendered legal cultures in global perspective: encounters and conflicts, transfers and interactions.

In addition to these main parts there will also be short presentations of current research projects on gender difference in legal cultures in general.

Fifth conference of the international research network «Gender Difference in the History of European Legal Cultures»

April, 2nd–4th 2009

International Conference

New Perspectives on Gender and Legal History

European Traditions and the Challenge of Global History

Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main
Campus Westend, IG Farben Haus, Room 411

Organizers: Dr. Karin Gottschalk, Historisches Seminar, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, k.gottschalk@em.uni-frankfurt.de

Dr. Grethe Jacobsen, Danish Department, Royal Library Copenhagen, gja@kb.dk
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Heide Wunder, Fachbereich Gesellschaftswissenschaften, Universität Kassel, dhwunder@t-online.de

Thursday, April 2, 2009

- 9.00 Introduction by the Organizers
Part I: Gender constructions in non-judicial discourses and their impact on jurisprudence and jurisdiction
Chair: Grethe Jacobsen (Copenhagen)
- 9.30 **Evdoxios Doxiadis (Athens)**
The effects of non-judicial gender constructions on legal developments – some general considerations
- 11.00 Coffee Break
Section 1: Philosophy and Theology, Religions and Confessions
- 11.30 **Linda Guzzetti (Berlin)**
Women in court in 14th-century Venice: The meaning of «equality» and «rationality» in written law and in court
Cecilia Cristellon (Rome)
«Unstable and weak-minded» or a missionary? Catholic women in mixed marriages (1563–1798)
- 13.00 Lunch Break
Chair: Heide Wunder (Kassel / Bad Nauheim)
- 14.30 **Ellinor Forster (Innsbruck)**
Between law, gender and confession: Catholic, protestant and jewish matrimonial law in Austria, 18th and 19th centuries
Inken Schmidt-Voges (Osnabrück)
Paternal authority or maternal charity – male violence or female disobedience? Gender construction in the religious concept of «Hausfrieden» and its impact on domestic litigation in 18th century Germany
- 16.00 Coffee Break
Chair: Nina Koefoed (Aarhus)
- Section 2: Society and Politics, Medicine and Science**
- 16.15 **Ulrike Haerendel (Munich)**
Gender disparities in social law: The treatment of male and female pensioners by the pension insurance institutions of the German «Kaiserreich»
Katja Geiger (Vienna)
Gender in forensic case histories: Infanticide in the first part of the 20th century
Ulrike Klöppel (Berlin)
Who has the right to change gender status? Drawing boundaries between inter- and transsexuality, 1950–1980

Friday, April 3, 2009

- Part II: Comparing Legal Cultures: Differences and Similarities, Concepts and Methods**
Chair: Isabelle Chabot (Florence)
- 9.00 **Maria Ågren (Uppsala)**
For better for worse. Swedish early modern marriage law in an international perspective
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 11.00 **Zlatomira Gerdzhikova (Sofia)**
Gendered social positions based on civil and canon law differences in the early middle ages: Western Europe and the Balkans in comparison
Jurgita Kunsmanaite (Budapest)
Property status of widows and widowers in 16th-century Lithuania compared to Central and Western Europe
Karen M. Kern (New York)
Gender, islamic law, and milk marriage in late Ottoman Birecik
- 13.15 Lunch Break
Presenation of current research projects on gender differences in legal cultures
Chair: Anna Bellavitis (Paris)
- 15.00 **Romy Kunert (Trier)**
Gender Differences and Family Strategies in the Legal Culture of Medieval Genoa
Hiram Kümper (Vechta)
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- 16.00 **Wiebke Jensen (Göttingen)**
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Sonja Niederacher (Vienna)
Wealth formation via dowry in 20th century Austria

- In association with the Cornelia Goethe Center for Women's and Gender Studies: Evening Lecture
- 18.15 **Silvana Seidel Menchi (Pisa)**
The power to say «No». Polygamy, Monogamy – and Human Rights

Fifth conference of the international research network «Gender Difference in the History of European Legal Cultures»

Contact:
Karin Gottschalk
Historisches Seminar
k.gottschalk@em.uni-frankfurt.de

Saturday, April 4, 2009

- Part III: Gendered Legal Cultures in Global Perspective: Encounters and Conflicts, Transfers and Interactions**
Chair: Aglaia Kasdagli (Crete)
- 9.00 **Jutta Spirling (Amherst)**
Across the religious divide. Women's property rights in the wider Mediterranean (ca. 1300–1800)
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 11.00 **Mareike Menne (Stuttgart)**
Of men without pigtails and women with big feet. Hybrid law, gender, and culture in 17th century Batavia
Michaela Bank (Frankfurt a.M.)
Representing «universal sisterhood» – countering nativism. Migrant women, citizenship and suffrage in the 19th-century US women's rights movement
- 12.30 Lunch Break
Chair: Gerhard Jaritz (Budapest)
- 14.00 **Reut Yael Paz (Rishon LeZion)**
The contribution of 20th-century jewish German speaking female scholars to international law and global consciousness
- 15.00 **Grethe Jacobsen (Copenhagen)**
Travelling with gender to different legal cultures – experiences and perspectives
Final discussion, planning of the next conference in Budapest

- Wiebke Jensen Department of Medieval and Modern History, University of Göttingen, Germany
- Aglaia Kasdagli Department of History, University of Crete, Rethymon, Greece
- Karen M. Kern Department of History, Hunter College, New York / NY, USA
- Ulrike Klöppel Institute for the History of Medicine, Charité University Hospital, Berlin, Germany
- Nina Koefoed Department of History and Area Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Hiram Kümper Institute of History, University of Vechta, Germany
- Romy Kunert Collaborative Research Centre «Foreignness and poverty – changing forms of inclusion and exclusion from ancient to present times», University of Trier, Germany
- Jurgita Kunsmanaite Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
- Mareike Menne Department of History, University of Stuttgart, Germany
- Sonja Niederacher Leopold Museum Privatstiftung – Provenienzforschung, Vienna, Austria
- Reut Yael Paz School of Law, College of Management, Rishon LeZion, Israel
- Inken Schmidt-Voges Department of History, University of Osnabrück, Germany
- Silvana Seidel Menchi Department of History, University of Pisa, Italy
- Jutta Spirling Department of Social Science, Hampshire College, Amherst / MA, USA
- Heide Wunder Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kassel, Germany

- Maria Ågren Department of History, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Michaela Bank Research Training Group «Public spheres and gender relations – dimensions of experience», Cornelia Goethe Centre, Goethe-University of Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- Anna Bellavitis Department of History, University of Paris X-Nanterre, France
- Isabelle Chabot European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- Cecilia Cristellon German Historical Institute, Rome, Italy
- Evdoxios Doxiadis International Center for Hellenic and Mediterranean Studies (DIKEMES), Athens, Greece
- Ellinor Forster Department of History, University of Innsbruck, Austria
- Katja Geiger Initiativkolleg «The Sciences in Historical Context», University of Vienna, Austria
- Zlatomira Gerdzhikova Institute for Balkan Studies, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Karin Gottschalk Department of History, Goethe-University of Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- Linda Guzzetti Center of Modern Languages, Technical University of Berlin, Germany
- Ulrike Haerendel Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Social Law, Munich, Germany
- Gerhard Jaritz Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
- Grete Jacobsen Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark

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Program

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