

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

THIRTY YEARS WITHOUT THE WALL: EDGES OF A BORDERLESS EUROPE

16.09.2019 - 21.09.2019
Narva and Tartu, EstoniaJointly conducted by
University of Helsinki, Aleksanteri Institute
University of Tartu, Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies
Freie Universität Berlin, Institute for East European Studies

Topic of the Autumn School

It is no exaggeration to state that impact of the Fall of the Berlin Wall – much like that of the Baltic Way – in 1989 was of historic significance for freedom in Europe and a decisive event that has fundamentally transformed the world we live in today. The Fall of the Berlin Wall (and the Baltic Way) stands politically, symbolically, and practically for the famously phrased “freedom denied, freedom regained” and the lesson that the power of freedom always prevails (German President Steinmeier, Tallinn speech 23.08.2017). This means continuous political and practical engagement to preserve and strengthen what we have achieved and build on it. Thirty years onwards, Estonia, Finland, and Germany are friends and allies in an enlarged European Union and NATO, enjoying peace and freedom, democracy and the rule of law.

At the same time, we see that these positive achievements and legacies of 1989 are increasingly coming under pressure. Liberal democracy, the multilateral world order and fundamental rights are being attacked not only from the outside but are also being challenged by populist and nationalist tendencies within our societies. Thirty years after the fall of the wall, we nowadays live in a culturally de-bordered Europe that however is replete with multiple boundaries, fringes and fences Resilience of our societies needs to be strengthened. Against this background, the Johan Skytte Institute of Tartu University would like to invite you to the annual trilateral autumn school, jointly organized by the University of Tartu, the University of Helsinki, and Freie Universität Berlin, that would follow the contemporary debate on the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and its long-term effects.

Structure

The program of the Autumn School will comprise approximately 30 academic hours of study, combining different study formats (e.g., group work, workshops, lectures, and presentations).

This program awards 5 ECTS for those who meet all requirements. Upon successful completion of the Autumn School, participants will receive a joint certificate from three renowned universities (FUB, UH, UT). In order to gain this certificate, participating students are required to:

- Attend the entire program of the Autumn School
- Prepare and present a group work project together with other participants
- Submit a paper on a self-chosen conference related topic (2,000 words) one week (9 September 2019) prior to the Autumn School
- Present the research findings to fellow students

Related Expenditures

There are no tuition fees in connection with the program. Accommodation will be booked and covered by the University of Tartu. With this in mind, participants are expected to take care of the other travel arrangements and further related costs themselves.

Application Process

The Trilateral Autumn School is open to all MA students, doctoral students, and advanced undergraduate students of the three aforementioned universities.

The deadline for applications is 26 June 2019.

A letter of motivation, together with your CV and an academic transcript, are required to be submitted in order to apply. Mention in the application if you have participated to previous Autumn schools. Please send your application via email – attached as PDFs – to your respective program coordinator. Write to the message title: "Application / Autumn School 2019".

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