



The Institute of History, Jagiellonian University  
and The Museum of Poland Under Communist Regime

are pleased to announce their international conference

## **“History – Mass – Pop Culture”**

Poland, Cracow, May 12-13, 2017

The title of the conference, “History – Mass – Pop Culture”, refers to the motto of the early 20th-century Cracow's Literary Avangarde: “City – Mass – Machine”. As organizers of the conference, we would like to focus our academic thought on the topics of modernity and mass culture and their relation to history, in particular in Central and Eastern Europe. We want to start an international and interdisciplinary debate, in which not only historians, but also representatives of social sciences and other humanistic fields could take part.

We are interested in various links between history (political, socio-economic, cultural), and dissent, defiance, revolution, anti-system movements, populism and a desire for a new world. The unique tangle of rival historical narratives, modern identities and trends – between the individual need of belonging to a community and the capitalist rules of demand and supply. We will ask about the way in which history and historicity accumulate and in which they influence popular culture as a sphere of entertainment, building of identity and political activism.

We are also interested in the process of massification of history that has made more accessible and popular among wider audience – and the consequences of this process, which include manipulation, identity games, as well as economic, political and moral frustrations of individuals and societies. While examining these phenomena we want to ask about a role of historian in a society and his responsibilities.

We invite researchers exploring phenomena and subjects of expanding contemporary “historical culture” such as for example:

- History as product - trade and consumption of historicity;
- History in mass culture and identities building;
- The methods and tools of politics of memory;
- History in popular literature (esp. in youth fiction literature), in computer and video games, movies and TV shows
- History in “new electronic media” – forms and contents, potentialities and constrains

We believe the conference papers proposals open up new fields of cultural analysis. Both experienced and young researchers (doctoral students), affiliated with academic institutions, museums, as well as independent researchers are invited to submit their proposals.

Conference languages are English and Polish.

Please email an abstract of approx. 300 words (in Polish or English) and a short biographical note (institutional affiliation, education, field of interest, publications - max. 5-6 sentences, as for doctoral students - the name of academic supervisor) by 21 April 2017 at: historia.masa.popkultura@gmail.com

The Conference Program Council composed of prof. Krzysztof Zamorski, dr Marta Kurkowska-Budzan and dr Jakub Muchowski and a representative of the Organizing Committee will select applications according to their relevance to the subject of conference and their academic value.

Selected articles based on the papers delivered at the conference will be published in a peer reviewed Polish journals "Historyka. Studia Metodologiczne" and "Rocznik Antropologii Historii".

**Important dates:**

21 April 2017 – deadline for abstracts submission  
26 April 2017 – notification of papers acceptance  
29 April 2017 – conference program publication  
12-13 May 2017 – conference (Friday-Saturday, begins early afternoon)

**The conference fee** is 100 Polish Zloty (approx. 25 Euros/25 US dollars) and covers organizational costs (including conference materials). It does not cover accommodation nor meals. The account number for payment will be given when contacting participants about the status of paper submission.