



entangled history of Poland

Entangled Histories: The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and East-Central Europe since the Sixteenth Century



Centre for Polish-Lithuanian Studies,
University of Aberdeen

Jagiellonian University Kraków

Linklater Rooms
University of Aberdeen

27–29 April 2023

The Research Centre for Polish-Lithuanian Studies.

University of Aberdeen

The Research Centre for Polish-Lithuanian Studies provides a unique focus for the study of the history, culture, and legacy of the Polish-Lithuanian Union in a comparative context. It aims to develop new approaches to research into the history and culture of east-central Europe and seeks to break down the predominant nationalist narratives of east European history through a transnational approach to the historical and cultural legacy of one of the longest-lasting political unions in European history.

The Symposium

This symposium is the opening symposium in a collaborative project on “The Entangled History of Poland” supported by the “Excellence Initiative – Research University” programme of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, and the Centre for Polish-Lithuanian Studies, University of Aberdeen. The aim of the project is to apply the methodology of “Entangled History” to the history of Poland, defined as the histories of the people living within the borders of the modern Republic of Poland as well as the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, regardless of ethnicity.

Adopting the concept of 'entangled history' will facilitate extensive research in the field of Polish history, enabling a better understanding of phenomena such as mass population movements, long-distance trade, international political contacts, intellectual networks, changes in scientific and religious discourses, and epidemics. We will specifically focus on the context and circumstances of content reception, selection mechanisms, and strategies applied during the adaptation of new phenomena into the native culture. This approach can be summarized with three words: relationships, interactions, and circulation.

By considering not only equal and harmonious relations but also asymmetric histories, including failed transfers, we aim to draw a fuller picture of interactions between cultures, groups, or societies in the past and present. The history of Poland constructed in this way will encompass simultaneous and intersecting processes on a global scale, as well as diachronic regional phenomena. It will be based on the study of political, economic, intellectual, and artistic networks anchored in a specific time and space, which are also subject to dynamic and inevitable changes as a result of mutual multidirectional contacts.

Thursday 27 April

18:00–19:15

New King's 1

Public Lecture

Dr Laimonas Briedis (Vancouver).

Vilnius. An Entangled City.



A Lecture to mark the 700th Anniversary of the Foundation of the City of Vilnius

Laimonas Briedis is a native of Vilnius, Lithuania, but has made his home in Vancouver, Canada. He holds a doctoral degree in human geography from the University of British Columbia and did his postdoctoral research in the History Department of the University of Toronto. His Book, *Vilnius, City of Strangers* has received glowing reviews across the English speaking world and is a perennial non-fiction best seller in Lithuania, both in the original English and in the Lithuanian translation.

We are grateful to the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania for sponsoring this lecture.

VILNIUS: 700 YEARS YOUNG



Friday 28 April

Linklater Rooms

10:15–10:30

Welcome: Karin Friedrich & Stanisław Witecki

Session 1: 10:30–12:00

Entangled Societies and Labour History

Chair: Tomasz Pudłocki (Kraków)

Kamil Ruszała (Kraków)	What do the people of Tyrol, Styria and Galicia have in common? Society and the entangled history of the Habsburg Empire
Marcin Jarząbek (Kraków)	An Entangled History of Labour in Modern Poland: Networks, Technologies, Cultures.

12:00–13:30: Lunch

Session 2: 13:30–15:00

Entangled Knowledge: Circulation and Presentation (i)

Chair: Karin Friedrich (Aberdeen)

Tomáš W. Pavlíček (Prague)	Mathematical Olympiades as a Postwar Generational Expectation for the Circulation of Knowledge (online)
Lisa Collinson (Aberdeen)	Entanglements, Networks and Neurotypes in History and Heritage.

15:00–15:30: Break

Session 3: 15:30–17:00

Entangled Knowledge: Circulation and Presentation (ii)

Chair: Stanisław Witecki (Kraków)

Tomasz Pudłocki (Kraków)	Science against current political trends? Polish and Czech Anglicists and their British milieu, 1918–1939.
Jan Surman (Prague)	Inter-Slavic interconnections in scholarship in the 19th and 20th centuries

17:00–17:30: Break

17:30–18:45: Keynote Lecture

Chair: Robert Frost (Aberdeen)

Dr Stanisław Witecki, Jagiellonian University, Kraków:

Entangled History of Lived Religion, Post-Tridentine and Enlightened Catholicism in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth

18:45–20.00: Drinks and Buffet Reception

Saturday 29 April

Linklater Rooms

Session 4: 9:45–11.15

Entangled Art and Its European Networks

Chair: Katarzyna Kuras (Kraków)

Izabela Curyłło-Klag (Kraków)	Entanglements among Polish, British and French Artistic Bohemians in early 20th-century Brittany.
Agata Dworzak (Kraków)	When a follower becomes an influencer. Entangled art in the eighteenth-century Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (Case studies from the Ruthenian and Sandomierz Palatinates).

11:15–11:30: Break

Session 5: 11:30–13:00

Entangled Dynasties and Aristocracies

Chair: Agata Dworzak (Kraków)

Katarzyna Kuras (Kraków)	Between Warsaw, Dresden and Paris. The world of Maria Josepha of Saxony, Dauphine of France.
Gellért Marton (Budapest)	Archival sources in Krakow regarding Prince Gábor Bethlen.

13.00–14:00 Lunch

Session 6: 14:00–15:30

Religious and National Entanglement

Chair: Helen Lynch (Aberdeen)

Stanisław Witecki (Kraków)	Parish Book Culture in the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth. Internal and external entanglements
Kilian Harrer (Munich)	Entangled intimacies. Inter-marriage of Latin- and Greek-rite Catholics between Poland-Lithuania and Rome

15.30–16:00 Break

Session 7: 16:00–17:30

Round-Table: The Future of the Project

Chair: Robert Frost (Aberdeen),

Stanisław Witecki (Kraków), Karin Friedrich (Aberdeen), Marcin Jarząbek (Kraków), Helen Lynch (Aberdeen).

19:00 for 19:30: Dinner, Royal Northern and University Club