

International Society for Intellectual History Conference 2023  
**Crisis and Change in Intellectual History since c. 1450**  
4–6 September 2023, University of Edinburgh

Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> September

Playfair Library

**Registration and Coffee (08:45–09:30)**

Playfair Library

Quad Teaching Room G158

Newhaven Lecture Theatre

**Session 1 (09:30–11:00)**

*Political Education as Response to Political Crisis in the Eighteenth Century*

**Rachel Hammersley**  
(University of Newcastle)

‘Eighteenth-century Political Education and the Society for Constitutional Information’

**Katie East**  
(University of Newcastle)

‘Rehearsing Debate: Political Education via Literary Dialogues’

**Gaby Mahlberg**  
(University of Newcastle)

‘Translation and Political Education: Learning about British Politics and the Constitution in Eighteenth-century Germany’

*Ottoman and Turkish Intellectual History*

**Erginbas Vefa**  
(Providence College)

‘The Crisis of Ottoman Intellectual History in the Early Modern Period: Revisiting Ottoman Enlightenment’

**Ebrar Küçükbaşcı  
& Adile Setef Ateş**  
(Koç University)

‘Exploring the Transitional Intellectual Landscape of Izmir: From the Ottoman Era to the Republic’

*Literature and Crisis*

**Dominic Walker**  
(University of Cambridge)

‘First as Tragedy: A Possible Literary Influence on Two Theorists of Economic Crisis’

**Neriojamil Palumbo**  
(University of East Anglia)

‘Nietzsche’s Aphoristic Style as Solution to an Intellectual Crisis’

**Coffee (11:00–11:30)**

**Session 2 (11:30–13:00)**

*Crisis and the British Constitution in the Eighteenth Century*

**Boaz Berger**  
(Hebrew University)

*Conquest and Crisis in Seventeenth-century China*

**Gianamar Giovanetti-Singh**  
(University of Cambridge)

*Heterodoxy in the Early Enlightenment*

**Alasdair Raffie**  
(University of Edinburgh)

‘An Unacknowledged Revolution: British Public Participation and Gradual Political Change in the Wake of the Crisis of the American Revolution’

**Adéla Rádková**

(Charles University, Prague)

‘Crisis of Authority in Catherine Macaulay’s and David Hume’s Historical Writings’

**Feng Dan**

(University of Edinburgh)

‘The Crisis of the British Constitution in the Eighteenth Century: Viscount Bolingbroke and Edmund Burke’

‘Globalising China: Jesuits, Eurasian Exchanges, and the Sciences in the Tartar Moment’

**Jacob Fordham**

(University of Oxford)

‘The Qing and Republican Afterlives of Late-Ming Military Theory’

**Ross Moncrieff**

(University of Oxford)

‘The Qing Conquest in Eighteenth-century European Thought’

‘A Crisis of the Scottish Presbyterian Mind? William Wishart Returns to Edinburgh’

**Elad Carmel**

(Hebrew University/ University of Jyväskylä)

‘The Deistic Crisis’

**Naomi Choi**

(University of Edinburgh)

‘Personal Crisis as a Source of Knowledge: The Writings of Johanna Eleonora Petersen (1644 - 1724)’

### Lunch (13:00–14:00)

### Session 3 (14:00–15:30)

*Bodies, Bodies Politic, and Crises of Corruption: Citizenship, Medicine, Antislavery, and Satire (1650 - 1832)*

**John Marshall**

(Johns Hopkins University)

‘Antiracism, Antislavery and Anti-imperialism: Quobna Ottobah Cugoano’s Thoughts and Sentiments on the Evil of Slavery in Context’

**Amanda Herbert**

(Durham University)

‘British Atlantic Balneography: Health, Sociability and Empire in the Eighteenth Century’

**Jamie Gianoutsos**

(Mount St. Mary’s University)

‘Republican Bodies: Marchamont Nedham’s Commentaries on Medicine Corruption and Politics’

**Anna Roberts**

(Johns Hopkins University)

‘Subverting the “Social Pinch”: Sex, Sociability, Snuff-taking and Satire, 1780–1830’

*Political Thought in China and Japan from the Seventeenth to the Twentieth Century*

**Gabriel Groz**

(University of Chicago)

‘“The Unwavering Pivot”: The Crisis of Monarchy in Seventeenth-century China’

**Thomas Gimbel**

(University of Chicago)

‘From Predicaments Grew Plums’

**Hanzhi Dai**

(University of Edinburgh)

‘How to Correctly Organise the Mass? Jinshan Conference, Chinese Warlordism, and the Threat and Allurement of Party-State Dictatorship, 1921–1923’

*No panel from 14:00 – 15:30*

**Coffee (15:30–16:00)**

**Session 4 (16:00–17:30)**

*Philosophy and Science in the  
Scottish Enlightenment*

**Tamás Demeter**

(Corvinus University of Budapest &  
Research Centre for the Humanities,  
Budapest)

‘Hume and the Crisis of Mathematical  
Learning’

**Lewis Ashman**

(University of Edinburgh)

‘Scepticism, Atheism, and the  
Completion of the Newtonian System:  
The Defence of Natural Philosophy in  
Late Enlightenment Edinburgh’

*European Political and Social  
Thought in the Eighteenth and  
Nineteenth Centuries*

**Shiru Lim**

(Leiden University)

‘Conceiving Conquest Correctly:  
Catherine II, Voltaire, and the Russian  
Empire’

**Paul Kerry**

(Brigham Young University &  
University of Oxford)

‘Mozart’s Magic Flute and the  
Development of Civic Charity’

*Carlyle*

**Adam Sutcliffe**

(King’s College, London)

‘Carlyle and Michelet’

**Frances Nethercott**

(St Andrews University)

‘Dante and Shakespeare; Pushkin Versus  
Gogol. Thomas Carlyle’s ‘Heroes’ and  
the Intellectual Crisis in 1850s Russia’

**Quinlan Mann**

(St Andrews University)

‘Thomas Carlyle, from Prophet to  
Pariah: A Crisis of Historical Canon in a  
Post-Totalitarian World’

**Break (17:30–18:00)**

**Playfair Library**

**Welcome by Sarah Hutton, President of the ISIH**

**Keynote Lecture (18:00–19:30)**

**Colin Kidd**

(University of St Andrews)

‘Oxbridge Dons and the Student Troubles, 1968-75’

**Reception and Buffet Dinner**

(from 19:30)

# Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September

Lecture Theatre A

Room G.05

Room G.06

## Session 5 (09:00–10:30)

*Cosmopolitan Academics and Intellectual Crises: Pluralist Knowledge and the Emergence of Specialisms*

**David McOmish**

(University of Venice,  
Ca' Foscari)

‘Ill-fitting Theses and New Bodies of Knowledge: Cosmopolitan Academics as the Cause of and Cure for Disciplinary Disintegration’

**Antonio Clericuzio**

(Università degli Studi  
Roma Tre)

‘New Light on James and John Macollo, Two Scottish Chymists in Seventeenth-century Tuscany’

**Marie-Louise Leonard**

(University of Venice,  
Ca' Foscari)

‘“What Wee Should Observe, before We Goe to Drink of Such Waters”: Healing Waters and New Medical Knowledge in Seventeenth-century Scotland’

*Religious and Political Crisis in Early Modern France*

**Bingshu Zhao**

(University of Exeter)

‘Bringing the Family Back in the Formation of the Modern Idea of the State: Aristotle, Bodin, Hobbes, and Filmer’

**Sophie Nicholls**

(University of Oxford)

‘Ideologies over Ideas: The Crisis of the French Wars of Religion in Intellectual History’

**Emily Kent**

(University of Edinburgh)

‘Mersenne's *Universal Harmony* and the Monastic *Vita Contemplativa* after the French Wars of Religion’

*Crisis and the End of Enlightenment*

**Richard Whatmore**

(University of St Andrews)

‘Cosmopolitanism and Terrorism. Crisis Tactics at the End of Enlightenment’

**Lasse Andersen**

(University of St Andrews)

‘Polycrisis or Permanent Crisis? István Hont and the Inadequacy of our Political Language’

**Ariane Victoria Fichtl**

(University of St Andrews)

‘Southern Slavery in “Crisis”: The Development of Pro-slavery Ideology in Antebellum America’

**Coffee (10:30–11:00)**

Lecture Theatre A

**Keynote Lecture (11:00–12:30)**

**Anna Becker**

(Aarhus University)

‘Fathers in Crisis? Early Modern Natural Law and the Politics of Motherhood’

**Lunch (12:30–13:30)**

**Session 6 (13:30–15:00)**

*Science, Philosophy, and Politics c.  
1870–1970*

**Valentina Mann**

(Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

‘Philosophy and the Limits of Scientific  
Knowledge in European Journals, c.  
1868–1890’

**Sam Phoenix Clarke**

(University of Cambridge)

‘Scientists in the World Crisis:  
Experimentalism, Planning, and the  
Interwar Crisis of Democracy’

**Caroline Ashcroft**

(Queen Mary, University of London)

‘Technology, Environment, and Crisis:  
The Influence of a Concept of  
Catastrophic Technology on the  
Environmental Movement’

*Erudition and Reform in Early Modern  
Europe*

**Michelle Pfeffer**

University of Oxford

‘Theological Scholarship and the Reading  
Public: William Warburton’s Divine  
Legation of Moses (1738-1741)’

**Alexandra Bacalu**

(University of Bucharest)

‘From Imaginative Depravity to  
Imaginative Regeneration: Self-  
Transformation and the Crisis of  
Rationality in Devotional Writings on the  
Government of Thoughts’

**Ashley Brown**

(University of Glasgow)

‘A Crisis for Academic Masculinities?  
Melvillian Reform at the University of St  
Andrews and its Impact on Gender’

*Commercial Society in Republican  
and Monarchical Political Thought  
(1690–1760)*

**Giovanni Lista**

(IZEA, University of  
Halle-Wittenberg)

‘Crafting a New Republic: Andrew  
Fletcher’s Search for Political Economy’

**Brian Kjær Olesen**

(Pompeu Fabra University)

‘Melon in Denmark: Modern Monarchy  
and the Eighteenth-century Crisis of the  
European States System’

**Adriana Luna-Fabritius**

(University of Helsinki)

‘Republicanism and Passions as the  
Foundations of Neapolitan Political  
Economy’

**Coffee (15:00–15:15)**

Lecture Theatre A

**ISIH Annual General Meeting (15:15–16:30)**

**Session 7 (16:30–18:00)**

*An Emerging Discipline in a Warring World: The Impact of the First World War on the Intellectual Foundations of Sociology*

**Simon Lafontaine**

(TU Berlin/Universität Konstanz)

‘A Soldier on the Front; Alfred Schutz on Common Sense and Active Citizenship’

**Babak Amini**

(University of the West of Scotland)

‘Classical Sociology in the First World War Era’

**Jean Marcel**

(Université de Bourgogne)

‘Collective Psychology as an Attempt to Save Durkheimian Rationalism’

**Thomas Kemple**

(University of British Columbia)

‘Cosmopolitan Ethics and Civic Morals’

*Trinitarian Controversies in the Eighteenth Century*

**Derya Gürses Tarbuck**

(Bahçeşehir University)

‘Early Hutchinsonians as Defenders of Trinity’

**Jonathan Pike**

(Brigham Young University)

‘Samuel Clarke's Trinitarianism and the Anglo-American Discourse on Authority’

**David Ney**

(Trinity School for Ministry)

‘Samuel Clarke’s Lord God of Dominion: Political Theory and the Scripture-Doctrine of the Trinity’

*The French Revolutionary Crisis in Britain*

**Ian Stewart**

(UCL)

‘Adam Ferguson and the French Revolution’

**Tom Pye**

(UCL)

‘John Millar and the Spectre of Feudal Monarchy’

## Lecture Theatre A

**Keynote Lecture (18:00–19:30)**

**Dmitri Levitin**

(University of Utrecht and All Soul’s College, Oxford)

“‘The Crisis of Today is the Joke of Tomorrow’”:

Or, Why Intellectual Change is not Like Political Change – The Case of Early Modern Europe’

**Dinner for Keynote Lecturers and Society Committee Members (from 19:45)**

# Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September

Lecture Theatre A

Room G.05

Room G.06

## Session 8 (09:00–10:30)

*Crisis Science: Comtean Positivism and its Global Ramifications 1*

**Franz Fillafer**

(Austrian Academy of Sciences)

‘The Chrono- and Geopolitics of Comtean Crisis Science’

**Giovanni Minozzi**

(Università degli Studi di Padova)

‘The Spectacle of Destruction. Crisis and Social Regeneration in Auguste Comte’

**Guillaume Lancereau**

(European University Institute, Florence)

‘Positivism and the Pathologies of Modernity: A Transnational Overview’

*Political and Ideological Crisis in the Early Twentieth Century*

**Thijs Bogers**

(VU Amsterdam)

‘Friedrich Meinecke's Political Thought during the First World War’

**Samuel O'Connor Perks**

(University of Manchester)

‘Crisis, Conversion and Catastrophe: World War One as a Catalyst for Ammon Hennacy's Christian Anarchism’

**David Klemperer**

(Queen Mary, London)

‘The “Crisis of Socialism” and the “Socialism of Crisis” – French Socialist Intellectuals amidst the Crises of the 1930s’

*Philosophy and History in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*

**Stephen Cheung**

(Durham University)

‘Mouldy in 1872: Varieties of Straussian Optimism in the Face of a Nietzschean Crisis’

**Hampus Östh Gustafsson**

(Uppsala University)

‘The Crisis of Swedish Philosophy of History’

**Ksenia Shmydkaya**

(Tallinn University)

‘Lukács's Ghost: On Crises and the (Ahistorical) Reception of The Historical Novel’

## Coffee (10:30–11:00)

Lecture Theatre A

## Keynote Lecture (11:00–12:30)

**Silvia Sebastiani**

(EHESS, Paris)

‘Taxonomic Crisis in the Enlightenment, and How it Matters for the History of Humankind’

## Lunch (12:30–13:30)

Lecture Theatre A

Room G.05

Room G.06

## Session 9 (13:30–15:00)

*Crisis Science: Comtean Positivism and its Global Ramifications 2*

*Political Crisis and Early Modern Central Europe*

*Crisis and Political Thought since the 1980s*

<p><b>Takeharu Okubo</b> (Keio University) ‘A Pioneering Effort of the Acceptance of Comtean Positivism in 19th Century Japan’</p> <p><b>Charles Chih-Hao Lee</b> (Academia Sinica, Taipei) ‘Positivism, Historicism, and the Crisis of the Chinese Nation: The Historiographical Thought of Fu Sinian (1896–1950) in Global History’</p> <p><b>Banu Turnaoglu</b> (University of Cambridge) ‘Ahmed Rıza’s Positivist Philosophy and His Solution to the Crisis in the Orient’</p>	<p><b>Jakub Wolak</b> (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of the Sciences) ‘Jan Dymitr Solikowski’s <i>Facies Perturbatae et Afflictae Reipublicae</i> (1564): A Platonic Treatment of the Sick Body Politic in Early Modern Poland’</p> <p><b>Jan Květina</b> (Institute of History, Czech Academy of Sciences) ‘Mythology of Decay in the Sixteenth-century Polish Political Discourse: “Republicanist” Solution to the Socio-religious Crisis?’</p>	<p><b>Mikkel Thorup</b> (Aarhus University) ‘Accelerating Crisis – racist and ecofascist embrace of crisis as opportunity’</p> <p><b>Nathan Low</b> (Yale University) ‘What was the “Asylum Debate”? The “Crisis of the Nation-state” and the Question of Cosmopolitanism in Transatlantic Critical Theory’</p> <p><b>Roxana Dumitrache</b> (National School of Political and Administrative Studies, Bucharest) ‘Romanian Feminism after the 1989 Revolution’</p>
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**Coffee (15:00–15:30)**

**Session 10 (15:30–17:00)**

<p><i>Crisis as Analytical Category</i></p> <p><b>Amira Moeding</b> (University of Cambridge) ‘A Crisis of Explanation: On the Co-constitution of the “Blackbox” and “Big Data” in AI research from 1987 to 1998’</p> <p><b>Devin Vartija</b> (Utrecht University) ‘A Crisis of Inequality: Emotion, Revolution, and Conceptual Change’</p> <p><b>Rory Kent &amp; Gianamar Giovanetti-Singh</b> (University of Cambridge) ‘Crises and the History of Science: A Materialist Rehabilitation’</p>	<p><i>Reason and Politics in Early Modern Thought</i></p> <p><b>Szilard Tattay</b> (Pázmány Péter Catholic University) ‘Grotius’s “Impious Hypothesis”: An Overture to a Secularised Natural Law Theory?’</p> <p><b>Tiancheng Yu</b> (St Andrews University) ‘Rational Animal or Language Animal? The Crisis of Reason and Hobbes’s Early-modern Linguistic Turn’</p>	<p><i>Mid-nineteenth-century Crisis</i></p> <p><b>Linda Mathlouthi</b> (Université de Lorraine) ‘“The Victims of Our Social Chaos”: The Crisis Surrounding the Children of the Poor from the 1830s to the 1890s’</p>
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**End of Conference**