FernUniversität in Hagen

24–25 October 2024

Kharkiv under Fire. Local History in Times of War

Berlin Campus der FernUniversität, Kurfürstendamm 21, 10719 Berlin

Kharkiv is the second largest city in Ukraine, with more than 1.8 million inhabitants on the eve of the Russo-Ukrainian war. Founded in the 17th century, the city became the industrial, scientific, and cultural center of eastern Ukraine in the early twentieth century and remained so until Russia's full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022. Since the war began, the city has suffered enormous losses: both military and civilian facilities, including scientific, educational and cultural institutions, were destroyed. This conference will bring together various research perspectives on the history of Kharkiv. Participants will discuss the impact of the ongoing war on the perception of Kharkiv's past.

Organizer: Chair for Public History, Historical Institute, FernUniversität in Hagen, Support: Heinrich Böll Stiftung tbc, Partner: Institute of Social Strategies and Initiatives, Kyiv. Team: Viktoria Naumenko, Felix Ackermann & Hannah Schönwald, Contact: viktoria.naumenko@fernuni-hagen.de

24 October

15.30 Registration & Coffee

16.00 Panel I, Translation: EN / UA

Documenting the Now

A metropolis under attack

Anna Ivanova (Gießen): Destruction and Production of (Urban) Space in Wartime Kharkiv: Discourses, Practices, Objects

Olesya Chagovets (Kharkiv): The War Ruins of Kharkiv's Architectural Monuments: Memorialization, Restoration, or Demolition?

Vasylysa Shchogoleva (Kharkiv / Berlin) / Hjørdis Clemmensen (Vienna): Debates on Kharkiv's public space: 2013 & Today

Comment: Jens Adam (Cottbus)

17.30 Coffee

18.00 Public Debate, Translation: DE / UA

Charkiw unter Beschuss. Stadtgeschichte in Zeiten des Krieges fortschreiben

Gelinada Grinchenko, Tanja Penter & Yevhen Zakharchenko, Moderation: Felix Ackermann

Mit einem Grußwort von Karl Schlögel

25 October

9.30 Panel II, Translation: EN / UA

New perspectives on the 20th century

Towards a Cultural History of Kharkiv

Daria Synhaievska (Kyiv): Three Troubles and the Fifth Kharkiv: Phenomenology of Modern Kharkiv in the Legacy of Yuriy Shevelev

Olha Haidamachuk (Kharkiv / Berlin): Hnat Hotkevych's existential response to the ontological "Ukrainian question" in Russia

Oleksandra Osadcha (Kharkiv / Rome): The Kharkiv School of Photography and its Modes of Representing the Space of the City

Comment: Annette Werberger (Frankfurt/Oder)

11.00 Coffee

11.30 Panel III, Translation: EN / UA

New Testimonies of War

Rethinking Oral History in the earlier 21st century

Svitlana Telukha (Kharkiv / Leipzig): Kharkiv – wounded city. Communal research practice between emergency and cooperation modes

Oksana Tytarenko (Donetsk / Heidelberg): IDPs from Donbas in Kharkiv region (2014–February 2022): exclusion, adaptation, integration

Viktoriia Nesterenko (Kharkiv): City as a Resource of Resilience: Rethinking the Testimonies of Kharkiv Region Residents, who remained in their Homes

Comment: Gelinada Grinchenko (München / Dnipro)

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Panel IV, Translation: EN / UA

Hybrid Frontlines

Historical Narratives and Propaganda

Oleksandr Maievskyi (Kyiv): Kharkiv at the epicenter of propaganda campaigns from the First World War to the present day

Yevhen Zakharchenko (Kharkiv): "Kharkiv is the first capital" vs. "Kharkiv is reinforced concrete": Memory and identities in Kharkiv before and after the Russian invasion

Ihor Dvorkin (Kharkiv): Changes in the Image of Russia/USSR in the Public Space of Kharkiv during the Russian-Ukrainian War

Comment: Kateryna Stetsevych (Berlin)

15.30 Coffee

16.00 Round Table, Translation: EN / UA

Future Research Methodologies

Communal Research Practices between Citizen Science and Participation

Viktoriia Grivina (Kharkiv / St. Andrews): Developing Communities via Street Art In a War-Time Kharkiv

Dmytro Serbulov (Lviv / Kharkiv): Telegram Archive of the War: Kharkiv Context

Sasha Dovzhyk (Lviv): The City on the Edge: a reading

Comment: Johanna Hiebl
Moderation: Felix Ackermann

17.30 Concluding Discussion