



Call for Papers, 14.03.2016

Academies in War, 1914-1925

A cycle of international conferences proposed by the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the Académie des sciences, and the Royal Society

The project

Although the subject of science, especially chemistry, in the Great War has attracted a good deal of attention in recent years, the role of academies in the conflict has been little-studied. Following an inaugural conference, held under the auspices of the Academia Leopoldina in Halle in 2014, two further conferences are planned for the **spring of 2017** and the **autumn of 2018** to continue work in this neglected area. Like the initial gathering in Halle, the conferences in 2017 and 2018 will be broad in their international coverage, and they will seek to maintain a strongly comparative focus. They will take account of the full range of the sciences and technology, including the medical sciences, and set the work of academies in a broad context embracing the relations between the diverse military, industrial, and political elements that bore on the conduct of the war. While it will be important to give serious consideration to the scientific and technical contributions of the various academies, due attention will also be paid to the declarations and actions of academicians engaged in the propaganda war that did so much to fashion public opinion. Further information: <http://www.leopoldina.org/de/ueber-uns/akademien-und-forschungsvorhaben/internationale-beziehungen-europaeischer-akademien-1914-1924/>

The second Conference will take place June 8-9, 2017 near the battlefields, in France and in Germany, at the Université de Lorraine in Metz and at the French-German University in Saarbrücken, followed by an excursion to Charleville-Mézières on June 10. The Conference will examine the role of academies during the war.

The last Conference will take place in 2018 in England, presumably in London. It will treat the years between the end of formal hostilities and the far from easy resumption of normal international relations in science in the 1920s.

Call for papers

The members of the organization committee (Claude Debru, Paris, Wolfgang Eckart, Heidelberg, Robert Fox, Oxford, Rainer Godel, Halle) are calling for papers for the second Conference. We hope that colleagues, including younger scholars, from various European countries and the US, will be interested in proposing contributions for the next Conference. Indeed, the subject remains largely to be investigated, and for those who started investigating it, it turned out to be extremely rewarding, from both scientific and historical points of view. The papers of the two Conferences will be published in the series *Acta Historica Leopoldina*.

The proposals for the 2017 Conference should be sent to both claude.debru@ens.fr and marie-laure.massot@ens.fr. They should be sent before May 31, 2016. The Committee will meet in July 2016.