

THEME

In 1994 Eric Hobsbawm defined the short 20th century (from the start of the First World War until the fall of the Soviet Union) as the 'age of extremes'. It was a century that saw the rise and decline of competing ideologies such as fascism and communism, of swift economic growth and decline, of the transformation of colonial imperialism into more subtle attempts at world dominance, and of the shift from romantic 19th-century nationalism to 'nationalism in a world of nation states' (Breuilly). These evolutions did not go unnoticed by the Dominican Order, famous for incorporating Karl Barth's principle of holding the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other. With regard to the long 19th century, Benedict Viviano once stated that 'no group in the church was more helpful in enabling the episcopal and papal magisterial to face up to the new cultural and political challenges' than the Dominicans. But how did they do this in the 20th century?

The research focus of this conference is the sometimes ambivalent attitude of Dominicans – individually or in a group – towards the ideologies that have dominated Europe in the past century, such as nationalism, fascism, nazism and communism. Did they propose strategies of resistance, accommodation or collaboration, and what was their underlying motivation to do so? How did their stance impact the position of the Order and the Church, both on the local and the general level? How did this influence their self-understanding (*ad intra*) and their public image (*ad extra*)? Did this generate conflicts within the Order? Were there long-term consequences, perhaps even until today? In short, how did they live up to the motto of the Order, *Veritas*, in a context of diverse ideological claims to truth?

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue

Dominikanerkloster St. Albert
Georg-Schumann-Straße 336
04159 Leipzig

Organizational committee

- Prof. Dr. Claus Arnold
(Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz)
- Elias H. Füllenbach OP
(Institut zur Erforschung der Geschichte des
Dominikanerordens im deutschen Sprachraum, Cologne)
- Dr. Anton Milh OP (KU Leuven)

Contact

anton.milh@kuleuven.be

With the generous support of:



Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft



Institut zur Erforschung
der Geschichte des
Dominikanerordens im
deutschen Sprachraum



Institutum Historicum
Ordinis Praedicatorum

VERITAS IN A TIME OF GREAT TRUTHS?

Dominicans and the 20th-Century Ideologies in Europe



19-21 November 2021
Leipzig

FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER

2-2.30 p.m. Welcome and introduction
By *Elias H. Füllenbach OP*
(*Institut zur Erforschung der Geschichte des
Dominikanerordens im deutschen Sprachraum,
Cologne*)

Session 1, presided by Elias H. Füllenbach OP

2.30-3.15 p.m. Albert Maria Weiß OP:
Ideologiekritiker und Ideologe
By *Prof. Dr. Claus Arnold*
(*Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz*)

3.15-4 p.m. Bible Scholar Vincent Zapletal
and His Reflections on the
Social, Political and Ecclesiastical
Challenges of the First Half
of the 20th Century
By *Prof. Dr. Tomáš Petrůček (Karlsuniversität, Prague)*

4-4.30 p.m. Coffee break

Session 2, presided by Prof. Dr. Claus Arnold

4.30-5.15 p.m. An American Prelude:
The Holy Office
and the Worker Question
in the 19th Century

By *Dr. Sabine Schratz OP*
(*Lumen Dominican Centre, Dublin—
Institutum Historicum OP, Rome*)

5.15-6 p.m. Eine falsche Philosophie
führt zu einem falschen Denken:
Der strikte Thomismus als
philosophische Grundlage
dominikanischer Ideologiekritik
By *Dr. Carsten Barwasser OP*
(*Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Vallendar*)

6-7 p.m. Dinner

7 p.m. Public evening lecture:
Aurelius Arkenau OP und
die Dominikanerprovinz Teutonia
im Nationalsozialismus
By *Elias H. Füllenbach OP*

SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER

Session 3, presided by Dr. Anton-M. Milh OP

9.00-9.45 a.m. Franziskus Maria Stratmann and
Antonin-Gilbert Sertillanges:
Two Different Responses to Patriotic
Nationalism and Pope Benedict's
Internationalism, 1914-1930

By *Dr. Chiara Tessaris (Domuni Universitas)*

9.45-10.15 a.m. Coffee break

10.15-11.00 a.m. Différentes attitudes des dominicains
italiens des provinces Utriusque
Lombardie et Saint Pierre Martyr
vis-à-vis du fascisme (via Zoom)

By *Alberto Casella OP (Milan)*

11.00-11.45 a.m. Les liaisons dangereuses
du Maître de l'Ordre Stanislas Gillet

By *Dr. Augustin Laffay OP*
(*Archivum Generale OP, Rome*)

12.00 Lunch

3-3.15 p.m. Coffee break

Session 4, presided by Dr. Sabine Schratz OP

3.15-4.00 p.m. The Dominicans and Irish Nationalism,
1915-1923

By *Dr. Brian Heffernan (KU Leuven)*

4.00-4.45 p.m. The Dominicans and
Flemish Nationalism, 1914-1945

By *Dr. Anton-M. Milh OP (KU Leuven)*

6 p.m. Visit of the University Church
(former Dominican church) and
evening prayer

7.30 p.m. Dinner at Auerbachs Keller

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER

Session 5, presided by Dr. Viliam Dóci OP

10-10.45 a.m. Czech Dominicans Struggling with
Marxism, 1945-1948

By *Dr. Petr Macek (University of Hradec Králové)*

10.45-11.00 a.m. Coffee break

11.00 a.m.-12.00 Discussion with impulses by

Dr. Damian Bieger OFM
(*Provinzbeauftragter der Franziskaner für Geschichte und
kulturelles Erbe, Dortmund*)

Dr. Klaus-Bernward Springer
(*Institut zur Erforschung der Geschichte des
Dominikanerordens im deutschen Sprachraum, Cologne*)

Dr. Viliam Stefan Dóci OP
(*Institutum Historicum OP—Pontificia Università
San Tommaso, Rome*)

12.00 Lunch