Conference 2014

"What Europe? Ideals to Fight for Today"

The conference is a cooperation between Bard College Berlin, A Liberal Arts University, the ICI Berlin, the Hannah Arendt Center at Bard College in New York, and the German Association for East European Research (DGO). Thanks to Poju Zabludowicz for his generous donation that helped make this conference possible.

Europe seems beset by the prospect of crisis. And yet its institutions continue to function. The continent remains a zone of economic privilege, a status that exacts other kinds of cost, humanitarian and social. Established political processes continue to operate as usual. At the same time, we witness the rise of protest reactionary and progressive. Our speakers ask what ideals ought to claim the commitment of Europeans today, in a situation combining cynicism and struggle, threat and stability.

Guest Speakers

- Eirini Avramopoulou, Fellow at the Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Berlin
- Peter Baehr, Professor of Social Theory at Lingnan University, Hong Kong
- Patrick Bahners, Cultural Correspondent in New York for FAZ
- Roger Berkowitz, Academic Director, Hannah Arendt Center for Politics and the Humanities, Bard College
- Gabriele Freitag, Managing Director of DGO, Berlin
- Ivan Krastev, Chair of the Center for Liberal Strategies, Sofia
- Agata Lisiak, Lecturer and Researcher at Humboldt University, Guest Professor at Bard College Berlin
- Rob Riemen, Founder, President and CEO of the Nexus Institute, Netherlands
- Walter Russell Mead, Professor of Foreign Affairs and Humanities, Bard College
- Timothy Snyder, Professor of History, Yale University
- Ulrike Winkelmann, Writer and Editor for TAZ, Berlin