

Appendix : abstracts of themes for 2024

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Misunderstanding and conflict as an intercultural phenomenon

(for the thematic block in issue 1/2024)

Misunderstanding and conflicts are an inseparable part of social, and thus intercultural, relations and communication. They have impacts on the relationships not only between individual people and groups in every society but also between different cultures, nations, and their members.

In this thematic block, we would like to present studies that focus from different angles on the general and more specific causes and mechanisms of intercultural misunderstandings and conflicts in the Slavic countries of Eastern, Central, and Southeastern Europe from both historical and present-day perspectives and also contribute to a deeper understanding of this phenomenon.

Papers may focus on analyzing linguistic, cultural, and historical aspects contributing to misunderstanding in the Slavic space and on identifying the critical factors leading to these phenomena. We welcome papers of a multidisciplinary nature that might include different combinations of approaches used in linguistics, literary studies, cultural studies, political science, and history.

Papers should reflect current knowledge in the field as well as present new findings that will help better understand Slavic cultures, intercultural differences, and communication challenges, or point out ways and opportunities for preventing and overcoming intercultural conflicts in today's increasingly globalized world.

Franz Kafka: Slavic echoes. On the 100th anniversary of the author's death

(for the thematic block in issue 2/2024)

The year 2024 will mark 100 years since the death of Franz Kafka (1883–1924), who is considered one of the most influential writers of the twentieth century. In this proposed thematic block, we want to commemorate this anniversary and at the same time examine Kafka's work through the lens of the present. The main goal is to understand how, over the last 100 years, the reception of Kafka's work has changed and how his writings and ideas are viewed today. Kafka is often considered a twentieth-century prophet. What significance does he have for readers in the twenty-first century?

We would like to explore Kafka's impact not only on literature and culture in the Czech lands but also on the literatures and cultures of different countries in Eastern,

Central, and Southeastern Europe, including both official and unofficial (underground) currents. In connection with the Czech context, we would also like to critically reflect on the fact that sixty years ago, in late May of 1963, an international conference titled “Franz Kafka” was held at a chateau in Liblice u Mělníka. It became a political event and is considered to be an intellectual source of the Prague Spring.

We welcome papers not only from the field of literary studies but also from translation studies, linguistics, and the history of philosophy, art, music, theater, or film that contribute to a better understanding of Franz Kafka’s legacy in the Slavic context.



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