

M19	PREMODERN CITY AS COMMUNITY: COHESIVE FORCES AND INTEGRATIVE FACTORS IN EUROPEAN CITIES TO 1800
Organisers:	Jaroslav Miller (Palacky University, Olomouc, Czech Republic) Stephanie Tarbin (University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia)
Period:	Early modern
Date:	Friday, 31 August 2012
Time:	14:00-17:30
Room:	429

Description

Since the 19th century the concept of “community” has wielded enormous influence upon sociological thinking and historical urban studies. It has occupied a central place in theoretical debates on mentality and society from Ferdinand Tönnies, Émile Durkheim and Max Weber to the Chicago School of Sociology and, most recently, Anthony P. Cohen and Gerard Delanty. By adopting the community/society thesis the urban historical research has mostly treated the pre-1800 European cities as communities of burghers: that is, primarily collectivist social organisms that rested upon principles of solidarity, harmony and order. The issue has been, however, explored rather one-sidedly. Whilst much has been written on centrifugal factors (the rising power of centralized territorial states, deepening economic and social inequalities) and competing religious and cultural identities (reformation, steadily increasing population mobility) that heavily undermined the pillars of medieval and early modern urban community, less systematic attention has been paid to a wide spectrum of power mechanisms, cultural rituals and social measures that aimed at fostering and reinforcing the idea of a pre-1800 city as an idealized community. In a search of the ideological, cultural and social foundations of medieval and early modern burgher communities the proposed interdisciplinary session will explore the cohesive forces and strategies that were either inherent in the life of a pre-modern city or could be mobilized when the ingrained idea of a socially hierarchical but well-ordered and well-governed community was challenged.

Encouraged are paper proposals that are concerned with following integrative factors and instruments.

- The language of community as expressed in urban historiography, political writing, panegyrics and city constitutions
- Social solidarity and urban charity
- Integrative power of urban rituals
- Assimilation strategies and politics of exclusion

Scientific Programme

- 416 IN FIRST PERSON PLURAL: FORGING COMMUNAL IDENTITY IN THE EARLY CHARTERS AND STATUTES OF MEDIEVAL HUNGARIAN TOWNS**
Katalin Szende (Central European University, Department of Medieval Studies Budapest, Hungary)
- 449 CONSTRUCTING SOLIDARITIES: VARIATIONS IN SOCIAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE CITIES AND TOWNS OF ENGLAND, ITALY AND THE LOW COUNTRIES, C. 1350-1550**
Arie van Steensel (EUI, History and Civilization, Firenze, Italy)
- 451 COMMUNITY OF COMMUNITIES AND/OR COMMUNITY OF INDIVIDUALS? (ON THE EXAMPLE OF LATE MEDIEVAL PRESSBURG)**
Judit Majorossy (Central European University, Medieval Studies, Budapest, Hungary)
- 440 EARLY MODERN TOWNSMAN IN A NEW MILITARY COAT: MUNICIPAL ARMED FORCES IN THE CZECH LANDS (1750 – 1848)**
Jakub Huška (Palacký University Olomouc, Department of History, Olomouc, Czech Republic)
- 454 BECOMING A TOWNSMAN. THE INTEGRATION OF BURGHER IMMIGRANTS INTO SOCIETY AND TOWN COUNCIL DIRECTIVE IN EARLY MODERN PRAGUE**
Vilem Zabransky (University of J. E. Purkyne in Usti nad Labem, Faculty of Arts, History Department, Usti nad Labem, Czech Republic)
- 644 BYNDYTH HYM WELL TREUELIE AND FAYTHFULLYE: URBAN APPRENTICESHIP IN SIXTEENTH-CENTURY NORTHERN ENGLAND**
Loretta Dolan (University of Western Australia, Department of History, Mosman Park, Perth, Australia)
- 272 CIVIC COMMUNITY VERSUS URBAN SOCIETY: THE CULT OF CORPUS CHRISTI IN LATE MEDIEVAL VIENNA AND BUDA**
Károly Goda (Westphalian Wilhelms-University, Münster, Germany)
- 409 BETWEEN MILLSTONES – CITY COUNCIL AS COMMUNICATION POINT BETWEEN OLOMOUC COMMUNITY AND SWEDISH OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES (1642-1650)**
Jiri Hofman (Univerzita Palackeho Olomouc, Katedra historie FF UP, Olomouc, Czech Republic)