

International Conference

Greeks in Görlitz
exile - memory - cultural representations

PRESS RELEASE

The international conference “**Greeks in Görlitz: Exile – Memory – Cultural Representations**” aims to examine, from an interdisciplinary perspective, the history, experience, and memory of the Greek presence in the German city of Görlitz, from the transfer of approximately 7,000 Greek soldiers, officers, and gendarmes during the First World War to the settlement of political refugees from the Greek Civil War in postwar Zgorzelec, Poland.

Military and political events, experiences of the peculiar captivity, but also of exile and migration, practices of propaganda and political disputes, various forms of cultural encounters and perceptions of the “other,” diplomatic aspirations, and national stereotypes will be explored by researchers from Greece, Germany, and Poland. The conference presentations will also focus on the 1917 recordings collected at the “Greek camp” by the Prussian Phonographic Commission, as well as on written primary sources, such as diaries, memoirs and local publications. Furthermore, the conference will examine the ways in which Görlitz re-emerges today as a “memory site” and is reframed within the field of public history, in contemporary literature, artistic interventions, and documentaries.

As part of the conference, an exhibition of archival material will be held, featuring photographs, notebooks and other documents left behind by the “Greeks of Görlitz,” as well as of contemporary studies and publications.

Organised by National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
Department of History and Archaeology

With the kind support of the Goethe-Institut Athen

The conference is financed by the German Federal Foreign Office through funds of the German-Greek Future Fund.

Date: Friday, 20 November 2026

Venue: Auditorium Goethe-Institut Athen, Omirou Str. 14-16, Athens

Free admission

For further information: <https://conferences.uoa.gr/e/GreeksinGoerlitz>

Contact: ealexaki@arch.uoa.gr, e.lemonidou@upatras.gr, kmitral@gs.uoa.gr