

Conference

**ORIGINS OF  
MILITANT  
DEMOCRACY IN  
THE INTERWAR  
PERIOD:**

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
AND THE  
TRANSATLANTIC  
DEBATE ON  
THE FUTURE OF  
DEMOCRACY**

**October 24–25,  
2024**

VENUE

Vila Lanna, V Sadech 1 Prague

ORGANIZATION

Jan Vondráček

(Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS, Prague)

**múa**

 **GAČR**  
CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION

# THURSDAY

## October 24

12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	Welcome (Jan Vondráček)
14:00 – 15:30	<b>PANEL 1: WEIMAR, EUROPE AND MILITANT DEMOCRACY</b>  Wolfram Pyta (Stuttgart) <i>The Weimar Republic as a militant democracy avant la lettre: Historical - systematic reflections on an underestimated militant democracy.</i>  Uwe Backes (Dresden) <i>Wilhelm Hoegner and the social democratic contribution to „militant democracy“</i>
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Break</i>
16:00 – 17:30	<b>PANEL 2: CONCEPTS AND DEBATES ON (MILITANT) DEMOCRACY</b>  Georg Eckert (Wuppertal) <i>The rise and fall of continental democracies: Some British perceptions</i>  Heidi Hein-Kircher (Herne/Bochum) <i>Lack of acceptance due to disappointment and feelings of insecurity: Changing concepts of democracy in Polish public discourses of the interwar period</i>  Jens Hacke (Halle) <i>“Militant democracy“. Jewish emigres and a concept of liberal renewal.</i>
17:30 – 18:00	<i>Break</i>
18:00	<b>KEYNOTE</b> Giovanni Capoccia (Oxford) <i>Militant Democracy in Context: Anti- Democratic Challenges and Democratic Agency</i>
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>

# FRIDAY

## October 25

11:30 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	<b>PANEL 3: CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND MILITANT DEMOCRACY FLORIAN RUTTNER (PRAGUE)</b>  Florian Ruttner (Prague) <i>An “Irrefutable Example of the Nature, Power and Success of All-Jewish Intrigue“. The First Czechoslovak Republic in the Eyes of the Movement Völkisch.</i>  Kristýna Kaucká and Tomáš Gecko (Prague) <i>Webs of Democracy: Czechoslovak Propaganda Networks and the Castle Elites</i>  Milan Hanyš (Prague) <i>Militant Democracy and the Art of Moderation: Felix Weltsch’s Ethical Approach to Defending Democracy</i>
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Break</i>
15:00 – 16:30	<b>PANEL 4: DEBATES ON (MILITANT) DEMOCRACY AND LEGACY</b>  Jana Osterkamp (Augsburg) <i>Bringing democracy to legal terms. A Czechoslovak scholarly debate</i>  Marián Sekerák (Prague) <i>Did Somebody Say Crisis of Democracy? Intellectual Reflections on the Twilight of Democracy in 1930s Czechoslovakia</i>  Miroslav Mareš (Brno) <i>Legacy of Militant Democracy after 1993 in the Czech Republic</i>
16:30 – 17:00	<i>Break</i>
17:00	<b>FINAL DISCUSSION</b>
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>