

Forthcoming

**Conference publication „Flight, expulsion and ,ethnic cleansing’. A Challenge for the work of museums and exhibitions worldwide”**

In 2010, the International Association of Museums of History organized – in cooperation with the German ‘Foundation Flight, Expulsion, Reconciliation’, Berlin, and the German Historical Museum an international conference on the topic of “Flight, expulsion and ,ethnic cleansing’. A Challenge for the work of museums and exhibitions worldwide”. This conference was held in the German Historical Museum, Berlin (16-18 Sept 2010).

The main focus of the conference was as follows: How do museums with a historical orientation present the underlying conflicts and their repercussions? Do they succeed in presenting the historical background from diverse perspectives?

Museums seek to educate people about the highly charged issues of the causes and effects of flight and expulsion, violence and suffering, the work of integration, political instrumentalization and identity formation. They offer their visitors opportunities to learn from the exhibition pieces and texts and to increase their knowledge and understanding. How do the museums go beyond this to describe the resettlement and integration of refugees into their new societies? How do the exhibitions handle the biographies and the memories of those affected?

The conference intended to present exhibitions from the most recent past and plans for the present. The aim was to adequately reflect history by making clear the global character of flight, expulsion and integration, yet without relativizing historical, regional oder national particularities.

With about 250 participants the conference can be called a success.

About 20 presentations were given on this conference, with contributors from many countries, among them former Yugoslavia, Finland, Poland and Germany, the Czech Republic, Cyprus or India. These presentations are going to be published in a monography, edited by the three organizers. The articles will be amended by many illustrating photos, visualizing the given examples of museums and exhibitions.

Designated date of publication: Winter 2012.

You then will be able to order this publication online ([www.dhm.de](http://www.dhm.de)) or to buy it directly in the bookshop of the German Historical Museum, Berlin, Unter den Linden 2.

For further information please contact:

Prof. Dr. Rosmarie Beier-de Haan, German Historical Museum, Berlin  
[beier@dhm.de](mailto:beier@dhm.de)