



Universität Hamburg
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG



Universität
Bremen

Organizers:

Dr. Lukas Reddemann

Dr. Katharina-Maria Schön

Universität Hamburg
Philosophenturm, Room A9006
Von-Melle-Park 6
20146 Hamburg

Contact:
luk_red@uni-bremen.de
katharina-maria.schoen@uni-hamburg.de

Comparing Real and Imagined Communities in the Early Modern Period

International Conference
Hamburg,

23–25 July 2026

With the generous
support of:



Alexander von
HUMBOLDT
STIFTUNG



WARBURG - MELCHIOR - OLEARIUS - STIFTUNG



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Thursday, 23 July

13:45 Opening and Introduction

Section 1: "Envisioning and Satirizing the Ideal State in Early Modern Literature"

14:00 **William Hopkinson (London)**: Real Politics in Antonio Brucioli's Imagined Community.

14:45 **Valentina Orrù (Copenhagen)**: Falling into Utopia with Holberg: How Niels Klim's Journey Turns Eighteenth-Century European Society Upside Down.

Coffee break

16:00 **Paul Smith (Leiden)**: François Rabelais's Abbey of Thélème: An Ambiguous Utopian Community.

16:45 **Cornelia Soldat (Cologne)**: From Anti-Utopia to a Utopia for the Russian State. The Carnevalesque Structure of Ivan the Terrible's Oprichnina Court in Aleksandrov and its Impact.

Coffee break

Keynote Lecture

18:00 **Anita Traninger (Berlin)**: The Real and the Imaginary: How Literary Communities Operate.

19:00 Reception

Friday, 24 July

Section 2: "The Political Potential of Imagined Intellectual Communities"

9:45 **Katharina-Maria Schön (Hamburg)**: The Humanist Republic of Letters as an Imagined Hellenophile Community. A Case Study of Caspar Stiblin's *Commentariolus de Eudaemonensium Republica* (1555).

10:30 **Lukas Reddemann (Bremen)**: Noble Scientists. The University as a State in Bento Pereira S. J.'s *Academia seu res publica litteraria* (1662).

Section 3 "Real and Imagined Communities in Early Modern Colonial Discourses"

11:30 **Dinah Wouters (Utrecht / Groningen)**: Imagining Colonial Settler Communities in Latin Literature from the Seventeenth-Century Dutch Republic.

Lunch break

13:30 **Karl A.E. Enenkel (Münster)**: Imagined Peoples, Societies, Cultures, Places and Nature of the 'Indian Islands' in Columbus' *Epistola de insulis nuper inventis*.

14:15 **Nicoletta Bruno (Hamburg)**: Classical Models and New World Utopias: From Historical Narrative to Ideal Community in Peter Martyr and Vasco de Quiroga.

Coffee break

Section 4 "Transspatial Community Building in Early Modern Cartography"

15:30 **Dorothea Hutterer (Munich)**: Imagined Landscape? Comparing Large- and Small-Scale State Descriptions of Bavaria.

Break

Keynote Lecture

16:30 **Chloe Houston (Reading)**: In Conversation: The Dialogue Form in Early Modern Utopian Thought and Fiction.

19:30 Conference Dinner (Vo Uu Restaurant, Grindelfhof 17)

Saturday, 25 July

Section 5 "Utopianism and State Descriptions in Early Modern Travelogues"

9:00 **Bernhard Söllradl (Vienna)**: *Garriebat Philomena*: The 'New World' as a Metaphorical Space in Early Modern Travelogues (and Some Related Writings).

09:45 **Florian Feldhofer (Vienna)**: America as a Utopian and Dystopian Place in Neo-Latin and Neo-Ancient-Greek Literature.

Coffee break

Section 6 "Perfect Paradigms? The Land of Cockayne and Eschatological Visions of Religious Tolerance"

11:00 **Andrea Baldan (Frankfurt am Main)**: Desires, Parody and Moralistic Intentions in Cockaignesque Cartography and Figurative Representations.

11:45 **Laura-Sophie Stolzenberg (Kiel)**: Imagined Communities as Justification for Religious Tolerance. Eschatological Conceptions of Tolerance in Confessional Poetry by Anna Ovena Hoyers (1584-1655) and Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg (1633-1694)

12:30 **Volker Bauer (Wolfenbüttel)**: Gottschling's Three Critiques: The Staat Von Schlaraffen=Land within the Renger Series of State Descriptions (1704-1718).

13:15 Concluding remarks