



FACULTY  
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Charles University

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

## Dissent In Transatlantic Perspective: Then, Now and in the Future?

Academic Symposium Cum Public Outreach

Department of North American Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University  
International American Studies Association

**Time:** Friday, May 15th - Sunday, May 17th, 2020

**Location:** Prague Creative Center, Staroměstské náměstí 4, Prague 1

**Keynote speaker:** Ralph Young, Temple University, author of “Dissent. History of an American Idea”

The main goal of the symposium is to explore the concept of dissent from different disciplinary perspectives in order to assess its various meanings, uses and continued relevance. Transatlantic and transnational aspects of dissent are of special significance, as they provide valuable comparative perspectives for the ongoing debates related to the subject. The recent wave of populist and/or authoritarian regimes hostile to the very concept of dissent should serve as the frame of reference.

The symposium shall address questions such as: What are the various facets of the term “dissent”? Is dissent the quintessential American idea? What role did dissent play in transatlantic relations? When is dissent valuable, and when does it become a threat? Who are the 21st century dissenters? Who is entitled to carry the “dissent” label? What are the common traits between progressive and regressive dissent? What is the difference between American dissenters and European ones? When do dissenters become the moral heroes, and when do they become the villains? What is the nature of the “status quo” that various dissenters oppose? Is it possible to analyze dissent from a neutral point of view?

The symposium seeks to bring together scholars and thinkers from both sides of the Atlantic to explore these questions as they are rooted in different area contexts, yet share the same underlying premises. Special emphasis will be placed on transatlantic as well as transnational linkages, as these provide a unique perspective on the phenomenon and serve as examples of alternative international ties.

Selected papers will be published in an indexed special issue journal.

**Please send your abstracts by May 30th, 2019, to [american.studies@fsv.cuni.cz](mailto:american.studies@fsv.cuni.cz).**