

The London Moment. Transnational Collaboration of Governments-in-exile during the Second World War and its Impact on European History

Initiative: Freigeist-Fellowships

Bewilligung: 30.03.2014

Laufzeit: 5 Jahre

Projekt-Website: <https://www.iflg-thurnau.de/personen/julia-eichenberg/>

The radical expansion of the Nazi Empire made London the capital of free, Allied Europe. France, Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia and others were represented by exile governments, led by key figures of the 20th Century such as Charles de Gaulle, Edvard Benes, Queen Wilhelmina and Wladyslaw Sikorski. Their goal was to maintain national interests and to participate in the planning of post-war Europe. The following years saw close cooperation between the different governments-in-exile and between them and British authorities - the 'London Moment'. They claimed statehood and sovereignty in exile and found new political and legal ways to achieve both. They worked together on a new post-war order, reflected on legal options against war criminals and eventually helped prepare the Nuremberg Trials. Political collaboration in London merged traditional diplomacy with informal transnational networking and thus changed constitutional and international law as well as the understanding of statehood and governance in Europe. The study of the London Moment shows the origin of a constructive legacy of European cooperation under the most difficult circumstances.

Projektbeteiligte

Dr. Julia Eichenberg

Humboldt-Universität Berlin

Philosophische Fakultät I

Institut für Geschichtswissenschaft, Lehrstuhl

Geschichte Westeuropas u. d. transatl. Beziehungen

Berlin

Open Access-Publikationen

Crossroads in London on the Road to Nuremberg. The London International Assembly and its Sub-Commission on the Trial of War Criminals as a UNWCC predecessor

The United Nations War Crimes Commission (UNWCC) between Europe and Asia, 1943-1948, and the Codification of International Criminal Law

Taming the Polyp. Address books and their impact on Wartime Exile in London.

