

# Making Peace

Transitions after the War from the Antiquity up to the Present

Padua, Palazzo del Bo' 5-9 November 2018

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Transitions from war to peace have been one of the most fertile grounds for contemporary historical analysis in the last twenty years. In this last year of the Great War centenary, the “end of the conflict” topic (as well as the possible or impossible “return” to peace) will be the discussion focus among specialists in the 1914-1918 period. However, the numerous forms of war-exit are difficult to understand through a short-term perspective. Many of the issues arising from the end of a conflict, along with peace-building, were shaped by older traditions, and are more easily interpreted through a comparative, transnational and diachronic analysis. Juridically defining when does a state-of-war end; symbolically outlining the return of an entire community to a *status quo ante*; culturally, economically, and politically demobilising a such community that had been organised for war; re-accommodating combatants to resume their previous life: main aspects of the problematic war to peace transition have repeated themselves with remarkable similarity throughout centuries, and even millennia – as have potential responses to such issues.

In order to answer these questions, the University of Padua – *Comitato per il Centenario della Grande Guerra* in collaboration with the Melammu Project - The Heritage of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East, have organised the *Making Peace* international congress, in Padua, on 5-9 November 2018. Keynote speakers will be:

- Professor Gastone Breccia (University of Pavia)
- Professor Christoph Cornelissen (University of Frankfurt a. M. and ISIG-FBK)
- Professor Adrian Gregory (University of Oxford)
- Professor Paolo Matthiae (Emeritus, University of Rome La Sapienza)
- Professor Kurt Raaflaub (Emeritus, Brown University)
- Prof. Leonard Smith (Oberlin College)

With the aim of promoting a wide historical debate, from a cross-disciplinary approach and within a global context, we invite scholars interested in the war-and-peace topic from the Middle Ages to the 21<sup>st</sup> century to send a 250 words abstract (final talks will be 20 minutes) related to the following sub-themes:

- *End*. Definition(s) of “war end”: juridical, military, historical, political, and ideological aspects. “Armistice” vs. “peace”: terminology, key concepts and meanings.
- *Borders*. Impact of war end on new political and geographical entities and on border and regional rearrangements.
- *Demobilization*. Dismantlement of the many apparatuses created in order to support political and economic efforts in conflict: civil and military infrastructures, private associations, cultural approaches (intellectuals for and against war; hate, religion and philosophy mobilization).
- *Heritage*. What remains of war after its end; how is future conditioned by the innovations brought forward by war (technological, spiritual, social, economic, and political).
- *The return*. The “return home” (and the will to return to the past) after the war end: individual prospects, literary and iconographic traditions, hopes and predictions.

Abstract submission guidelines:

- Approx. 250 words
- Submission deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> April
- Please include name, affiliation and a brief resume (approx. 100 words)
- E-mail: [makingpeace2018@gmail.com](mailto:makingpeace2018@gmail.com)

*We welcome scholars (including ECR and PGR) and independent researchers.*

*Selected speakers will be notified on 30<sup>th</sup> May.*

For further information, please contact the Organising Office:

Dott.ssa Silvia Ferretto: +39 3401737144

Dott.ssa Adriana Martín García: +39 3245315098

Email: [makingpeace2018@gmail.com](mailto:makingpeace2018@gmail.com)