



“Traces of Multiculturalism in Central Europe” is a joint conference organized by University of Wrocław, Poland, the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada and the Wirth Alumni Network (WAN). We wish to encourage a dialogue between scholars, both Central European and international, to explore as broadly as possible the meaning of multiculturalism in Central Europe and to stimulate reflection on its cultural, social, and political dimensions. With Wrocław being a European Capital of Culture in 2016, we bring forth the idea to explore the theme of what ‘culture’ is or may be in the context of a multicultural present and history of Central Europe. We are proud to have received support from the City of Wrocław and pleased to have the City President, Rafał Dutkiewicz, assume the role of Honorary Patron of the conference.

The conference will take place at the University of Wrocław, between June 21st and 24th with nine unique moderated panels, each comprised of 3 unique presentations dedicated to the exploration of the above topic. The presenters join us from all over the globe including Austria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Israel, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, and the United States. It promises to be a most stimulating and interesting intellectual journey into a much debated topic in Central Europe today.

In addition to the conference panels, we will also host an evening with diplomats (both former and current) to discuss the meaning of Multiculturalism in Central Europe from a diplomatic perspective and to allow for a discussion to reflect on the complex current events in Central Europe in light of the migrant and refugee crisis.

Our programme also calls for a special concert of Central European Classical Music, performed by three renowned musicians: Kornel Wolak, Michael Bridge and Guillaume Tardif. This concert will include the world premiere of an originally composed piece by internationally acclaimed composer Airat Ichmouratov commissioned by the Wirth Institute especially on the occasion of the Traces of Multiculturalism in Central Europe Conference. A goal of this musical event is to recognize the rich cultural contributions of Central European states to the greater European cultural community.

Following the events associated with the conference the Wirth Alumni Network (WAN), comprised of researchers, scholars and friends of the Wirth Institute from all over Central Europe will hold their biennial general meeting from June 24th – June 26.

All of the events associated with the conference are open to the public and free of charge. We encourage everyone to participate in this unique cultural and academic programme!

A final version of the programme will be posted approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference. For more details and information on the above, please visit the Wirth Institute’s website.

City of Wrocław
<http://www.wroclaw.pl/en/>

University of Wrocław
<https://international.uni.wroc.pl/en/s3.php>

Wirth Institute
<https://wirth.ualberta.ca>

