

Conference AIT 2014 / IWA 2014

History and Contemporary Significance of the First International

Date: Friday, June 13 2014.

Place: Université de Lorraine, Campus lettres et sciences humaines,
Bd Albert 1er, Nancy (rooms A.033 et A.042)

Presentation

Founded in London on 28th September 1864, the International Workingmen's Association (IWA) brought together English trade unionists, French mutualists, and German Communists, as well as all the currents, some of which were only nascent, that were active in the working class movement, such as Anarchists, Marxists and Blanquists. The IWA, the first workers' international, did not survive the sharp decline in the working class movement following the crushing of the Paris Commune and split in 1872, although it continued in other countries where it took on different forms. During its short existence, this heterogeneous grouping was, however, a fruitful space for discussion and the creation of collective policies, punctuated by working class struggles. Nevertheless, divergences appeared within the IWA which have characterized the working class movement for over a century. On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the First International, this conference aims to bring together historians, sociologists and philosophers and provide a forum for research into the history of the IWA as well as the contemporary significance of the divergences within it and its objectives. It will compare the experience of the IWA with more recent attempts to coordinate struggles internationally, including the social movements which have appeared in the past 15 years (the European marches against unemployment between 1997 and 2002, alter-globalization and Social Forums since 1999/2000, the Indignant Movement and Occupy Wall Street in 2011, and the Arab revolutions since 2011).

Invited Speakers

- Emmanuel Barot (Toulouse II - Le Mirail)
- Joseph Daher (Université de Lausanne)
- Isabelle Garo (Grande Édition de Marx et d'Engels)
- Adam Hanieh (SOAS, University of London)
- Claude Pennetier (CNRS/CHS Paris 1, directeur du "*Maitron*", le *Dictionnaire Biographique du Mouvement Ouvrier Français*.)

Call for papers

We invite researchers, PhD students, and post-doctoral students from disciplines such as history, sociology, philosophy, area studies, arts and literature to submit proposals for oral presentations (of 40 minutes including questions) and for posters (A0 and A1) on the theme of the IWA and internationalism in working class struggles more generally. Proposals should be in the form of a one-page summary (including a bibliography) with your surname, first name and university affiliation and should be sent in an attached file using .doc or .odt. Please state whether your proposal is for an oral presentation or a poster or whether you have no preference.

Important dates

- Deadline for submissions: 22 April 2014
- Notification of acceptance: 13 May 2014
- Date of conference: 13 June 2014

Online submissions on the conference website: <http://ait2014.sciencesconf.org>

Scientific Committee

Emmanuel Barot (Toulouse II - Le Mirail), Fabrice Bensimon (Paris 4-Sorbonne), Isabelle Garo (Grande Édition de Marx et d'Engels), Anne Mathieu (Lorraine, Directrice de la revue *ADEN. Paul Nizan et les années 30*), Claude Pennetier (CNRS/CHS Paris 1), Oliver Schlaudt (Heidelberg), Jeremy Tranmer (Lorraine).

Organization Committee

Frédérique Bey, Ali Boulayoune, Philippe Nabonnand, Manuel Rebuschi, Françoise Willmann.