

CONFERENCE INVITATION



UNIwersytet
JAGIELLOŃSKI
W KRAKOWIE

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have great pleasure to call for your participation in the international conference **Body as a Political Stake** and to think together what the essence of contemporary politics is today.

The conference will take place on 10th May 2013 at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow and will be inaugurated by the lecture given by professor **Roberto Esposito** from L'Instituto Italiano di Scienze Umane di Napoli.

Please find below some of the questions that we would like to ask you during the conference:

How to understand the essence of the political after the collapse of what was common? Is politics meaningful after the common reason has been decomposed into a number of incommensurable discourses, after St. Augustine's idea of *De Civitate Dei* has been forgotten and the ideal of *Caritas* abandoned for the extreme exploitation of the other, after the movement from spirit to body, from free will to imposed forms of pleasure has materialized the language?

Has the *vita activa* run by a free and reasoning citizen become just a simulation deduced directly from technical standards and norms? Does the classical division into the public and the private have any sense if it is the power that seems to produce and discipline individuals? Has the body become the final leitmotif of politics, the only one that could be contemporarily universal?

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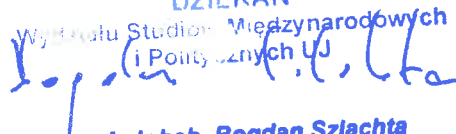
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These questions evoke others: whether the tasks of the state will be reduced to three fundamental functions: to secure (police state), to provide health (medical state) and to multiply pleasure (hedonist state)? Will the public debate – that is already dominated by the themes of artificial insemination, genetic therapy, GMO, organ transplantation, use of placebo, abortion and euthanasia as well as illegal immigration and terrorism risk – be defined by the paradigms of securitization, medicalization and permissiveness? (from the extreme massacre to the extreme consumption)?

We would be honoured if you accepted our invitation and delivered a speech during this intellectual event. Please let us know as soon as possible whether you are interested in participation in the conference. That should help us prepare the event in the most suitable way.

We look forward to seeing you in Krakow.

Yours faithfully,

DZIEKAN
Wydział Studiów Międzynarodowych
i Politycznych UJ

prof. dr hab. Bogdan Szlachta



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