

COST Action 23137

Print Culture and Public Spheres in Central Europe (1500–1800) | PCPS^{CE}

Call for Contributions:

Vienna Hackathon

University of Vienna, Austria | 10–12 December 2025

Important Dates

Deadline for applications: **July 31, 2025**

Successful applicants will be contacted by **early September, 2025**

Dates of Hackathon: **10–12 December 2025**

About this Action

PCPS^{CE} investigates interactions between the early modern media revolution, sparked by the rise of printing, and the emergence of public spheres in Central Europe. The Action aims to build a European and global network of stakeholders from education, research and cultural institutions with a special focus on Young Researchers and Innovators. It works towards an integrative methodology that brings together experts from different national and disciplinary backgrounds. The Action includes work on joint publications such as a compendium on the book history of Central Europe and the development of an annotated catalogue of digital data and tools. The initiative aims to promote a new scholarly and public historical awareness of the diverse, non-national pasts of Central Europe. More information can be found in the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) available in the following web page: www.pcps-ce.eu.

Topical Clusters (Hackathon Groups)

We are looking for colleagues who can bring concrete datasets which in one way or the other allow work in the context of one of the following topical clusters (that are likely to represent small hackathon groups):

- Data extraction and "datafication" of sources
- Aggregation of multiple datasets
- Ontologies or linked open data and their implementation of standardized entities through which (multilingual, pictorial) datasets could be interlinked (names, dates, motives ...)
- Representativeness of data, bias and possible remedies
- Processable information on book materiality to be deduced from bibliographical metadata
- Comparison between languages and translations (language states and registers)
- Application of GIS for spatial and geographical reach of ordonnances, news hubs and review journals

Datasets

Datasets could include library or auction catalogues, correspondences and accounting books, publishers' archives, legal sources that document book possession (testaments...), pictorial content in books ... and can be simple CSV or Excel files, but also TEI files.

If your dataset does not fit into the outlined scheme, please do get in touch so that we can discuss the matter.

You do not have to have any kind of programming knowledge.

Submission

Please submit a proposal of roughly one page in which you describe:

- the content, format, scope, modelling and licence of your dataset, if possible;
- the way in which it relates to the broader topic of the COST Action as well as to that of your specific working group;
- the way it relates to at least one of the abovementioned topical clusters.

Finally, please state if / to which degree you are familiar with data handling tools or programming languages, from OpenRefine to oXygen, from Python to R.

Please send your one-page proposal no later than 31 July to

- Joëlle Weis (weis@uni-trier.de)
- Kerstin Manninger (kerstin.manninger@gmail.com)
- Thomas Wallnig (thomas.wallnig@univie.ac.at)

Decision Making

We will inform you about the decision in (early/mid) September and probably share with you details of the setup in October. (We are considering a general DH intro session and a checkout session in a hybrid format.)

General Information on Participation

We will aim at c. 15 participants from the COST Action, supported by c. 5 trainers from within WG2, and with c. 5 DH student assistants from Vienna.

Participation costs will be covered.

Acknowledgement

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COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

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