

On the Eastern Edge of the Baltic Sea III: Exercise of Power in the History of Finland and the Baltic Countries (CFP)

A research symposium on the history of Finland and the Baltic countries will be arranged at the University of Oulu on 1.12.-2.12.2011. The event is being organised by the University of Oulu's Department of History and the Historical Association of Northern Finland. The event continues the symposium tradition started in 2005 (On the Eastern Edge of the Baltic Sea [1]: Perspectives on the History of Identity and Cooperation http://www.pro.tsv.fi/pshy/julkaisut/St_hist_sep_48.htm and On the Eastern Edge of the Baltic Sea [2]: Borders and Integration in the History of the Fenno-Baltic Region http://www.pro.tsv.fi/pshy/julkaisut/St_hist_sep_58.htm).

The objective is not only to survey historical research related to Finland and the Baltic countries conducted in said countries, but also to create a network among historians studying topics related to the Baltic countries. The network may likewise function as a channel for new research projects. The topics of the presentations may deal with the history of Finland and the Baltic countries together or separately. They are not limited to any specific period.

The theme of the symposium – exercise of power – may be understood broadly. From the viewpoint of the history of the exercise of power, the Fenno-Baltic region, i.e. Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, has been the stage for diverse developments. In various phases of history the region's own residents as well as foreign powers and ruling groups from elsewhere have exercised their power there. The topic areas presented at the symposium may be any of the following, but also other topics related to the theme are welcome:

- social, cultural and religious hierarchies of power within different population groups
- hierarchies of power between different population groups
- political power structures of independent states
- exercise of power by occupying powers
- theories and ideologies related to the exercise of power
- propaganda and public discourse on the exercise of power
- peaceful and violent transitions of power
- external viewpoints on the exercise of power in the Fenno-Baltic region

We invite all researchers interested in the topic area to come and discuss about these themes in the form of presentations and later articles. Each presentation at the symposium will be allotted 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion. The symposium languages are Finnish and English. Relevant articles written on the basis of the presentations held at the symposium will be published as a compilation in 2012 in the publication series of the Historical Association of Northern Finland.

Inquiries and registration, including the topic of the presentation, should be sent by 31.5.2011 to Kari Alenius at the address below. An abstract containing a maximum of 300 words should be submitted with the registration. Senders will be notified of presentations accepted for the symposium by the end of June 2011.

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