The pursuit of political and social unity and solidarity in Europe can no longer be taken for granted. Between individual nations and within national societies, the equitable distribution of material resources, and of burdens, has become a topic of controversy. This is also true for the imbalanced participation in political, social, and cultural processes.

The Fifth Congress of Polish Studies concentrates on the theme of justice, which in a broader sense includes such aspects as equality, norms, values and morals, and their negation or exclusion. From both present-day and historical perspectives, Poland will be used as a case study to identify and discuss various concepts of justice and their realizations. Poland will be considered here in a comparative European context as well as in global entanglements.

It is clear that the idea of justice is subjective. It is thus essential to investigate how justice is defined and applied in specific areas: How is justice or a just system linguistically and normatively brought into being? What actors are qualified to participate in a discourse on justice? On which social realms would they focus? How can justice be manifested? What utopias of justice exist, and how are they portrayed in the various media?

The various scholarly perspectives highlight specific themes, including the dispensing of justice; normativity and judicial proceedings; the striving for equality in political movements; emotional aspects in defining the norms of justice; the varied social statuses of languages and dialects; conceptions of justice and ethics in fictional literature; and the historicity of the proposals of justice.

The Fifth Congress of Polish Studies provides an opportunity to establish and cultivate professional contacts beyond the borders of the subject areas and German-speaking countries, to develop and pursue projects, and to be informed about the state of Polish research. This is a continuation of the first four congresses (Darmstadt 2009, Mainz 2011, Giessen 2014, Frankfurt/Oder 2017), which were each attended by roughly 300 participants. In addition, there will be exhibitions by publishers and
institutions as well as a supplementary program. The conference language will generally be German, with some sections in English or Polish.

Along with the traditionally strongly represented humanities and cultural studies, the Fifth Congress of Polish Studies will also address jurisprudence and sociological issues. Papers on these subject areas and interdisciplinary research are especially welcome. In addition, just as in past congresses, it is possible to propose presentations or areas that are not necessarily closely related to the topics in focus.

Preparation committee of the Congress
Prof. Dr. Dieter Bingen (Darmstadt), Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Bömelburg (Gießen), Dr. Paulina Gulińska-Jurgiel (Halle), PD Dr. Dietlind Hüchtker (Leipzig), Prof. Dr. Dagmara Jajeśniak-Quast (Frankfurt/O.), Prof. Dr. Yvonne Kleinmann (Halle), PD Dr. Peter Oliver Loew (Darmstadt), Prof. Dr. Mirja Lecke (Bochum), Prof. Dr. Ruprecht von Waldenfels (Jena), Dr. hab. Pierre-Frédéric Weber (Stettin), Prof. Dr. Fryderyk Zoll (Krakau/Osnabrück).

Application for individual presentations and sections
We invite all interested parties to submit proposals for individual presentations or entire sections that should be oriented towards the general topic of “justice”. Proposals with a different thematic focus but with special relevance to research may also be submitted. Proposals for entire sections generally have a better chance of being included in the congress program.

Individual lectures: Lectures are limited to 25 minutes. The organisers will arrange the selected individual lectures into thematic, discipline-oriented, or open sections.

Section proposals: The duration of a section is 2 1/4 hours. The number of speakers should be three or four, a maximum of five; each should include a commentary. Sections with representatives of only a single research field are not allowed. The organisers have the right to supplement or modify the selected sections in consultation with the proposers.

The application deadline for papers and panels is 26 May 2019 (foreign language proposals can be sent until 10 June 2019). The selections will be finalised by mid-July 2019.

Project presentations
In addition to the longer presentations, we offer – primarily for younger researchers – the possibility of short project presentations (2 to 3 minutes) in a plenary session. Please register by 15 December 2019. The selection of these short presentations will be decided by the end of January 2020.

Poster presentations
Those planning a poster presentation must apply by 31 January 2020.
Exhibitors, stands

Exhibitors (institutions, publishers, companies) can present stands in various ways. The cost of renting furniture (tables, chairs, partitions) is minimal. Interested parties should coordinate with the organisers by 15 January 2020.

Invitation to attend without giving a presentation

Those interested in attending without giving a presentation are invited to register on our homepage [www.polenforschung.de](http://www.polenforschung.de). Registration begins in summer 2019.

Overnight accommodations

Starting autumn 2019, the organisers will help with finding hotel or hostel accommodations in Halle. All persons requesting this will receive the necessary information sufficiently in advance.

Applications, registrations

Submission of proposals for lectures and project presentations as well as questions regarding content: PD Dr. Peter Oliver Loew, Deutsches Polen-Institut, Email: loew@dpi-da.de, Telephone: +49/6151/4202-17, Fax: +49/6151/4202-10.

Registration of poster presentations, stands, and exhibits, and for all organisational and general questions: N.N., Aleksander-Brückner-Zentrum, aleksander-brueckner-zentrum@uni-halle.de