Regions of Strategic Importance
Geographical Spaces, Cultural and Political Constructs, and Analytical Tools
7 – 9 December 2017

Thursday, 7 December
Faculty of Arts, Charles University
Nám. Jana Palacha 2, Praha 1
Room 301

17:00 Public lecture and discussion
Charles Clover
Putin and Xi: Is There a new Model of Authoritarian Emerging?

Friday, 8 December
Oettingen Palace
Josefská 6, Praha 1

10:00 Official Opening
Mirjam Friedová
(Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Charles University)

10:15 Keynote Lecture
Rachel Murphy
(University of Oxford)
Area Studies and the Analytical Advantages of Context: Insights from Case Study Approaches

11:15 Coffee break

Panel 1: New Approaches to the Study of Strategic Regions
Chair: Pavel Barša

William R. Thompson
(Indiana University)
Thomas J. Volgy
(University of Arizona)
Whither the Regional Subsystem Concept in International Relations: Gone but Not Forgotten or Still Limping Along?

Michal Semian
(Charles University)
et al.: Region and its many Identities: Dealing with the Variability in Regional Conceptualizations

Lunch

Panel 2: Central Europe and its Regions
Chair: Kateřina Králová

Frank Hadler
(Leibniz-Institut für Geschichte und Kultur des östlichen Europa)
Always in Between and Never in the Center: Reflections on East Central Europe’s Strategic Position

Christian Voss
(Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Spatial Turn and Slavic Studies – A Contradiction in itself?
15:15 Panel 3: Geographical Regions in the Study of Global Problems
Chair: Olga Lomová

Martin Slobodník
(Comenius University in Bratislava)
Tibet in Chinese Strategy: A Case Study of the Changing Notion of Strategic Relevance

Matthias Middel
(Universität Leipzig)
Africa as a Strategic Region for Central Europe?

16:15 Coffee break

16:30 Near East Roundtable
Closed session
Chair: Ondřej Beránek

16:15 Dinner

Saturday, 9 December
Oettingen Palace
Josefská 6, Praha 1

10:00 Panel 4: Regions and Belonging in (and out of) late Ottoman Spaces: Geographical and Intellectual Considerations
Chair: Petr Kučera

Benjamin Fortna
(University of Arizona)
Regions in Flux: Geography, Identity and Belonging in the Late Ottoman Empire and the “Modern Middle East”

Stefano Taglia
(Oriental Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences)
The Intellectual Environment as a Strategic Region for the Development of Modernity

15:15 Coffee break

15:30 Closing Remarks
Olga Lomová
(Charles University)