

**Workshop**

**Boundary Demarcation and Local Politics in the 19-20 Centuries in Alpine-Adriatic Borderland**

**The Memory of Resistance in Alpine-Borderland:  
The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Liberation in Bolzano**

**1. The Anniversary of the Liberation in South Tyrol**

- 'Platform of Contemporary Resistances'
  - The Project of the Province of Bolzano since 2011 (supported by the European Parliament)
  - 'Contemporary Resistances': a wide range of subjects (immigration, citizenship, Europe, ecology etc.)

**2. Dominant Discourse on Resistance in Italy**

- Resistance as a popular movement which enabled Liberation from Nazi-fascism
- Resistance as a central moment in the creation of the Italian Republic
  - \*Revisionism since the 1990's (Resistance as 'fratricide': De Felice, Resistance as a struggle which caused the 'death of homeland': Galli della Loggia)
- The Japanese context with regards to Italian Studies

**3. The Historical background of South Tyrol as a Borderland**

- Territorial disputes between Austria, Germany and Italy
  - The Three groups in South Tyrol: German, Italian and Ladin
- The Program of rapid Italianization during fascism
  - Systematic destruction of the ethnic identity of the German-speaking South Tyrolean population
  - 'Option' (1939): the choice between emigration to Germany or assimilation into Italy
- Inter-ethnic tensions after the Italian surrender to the Allies
  - The Struggle between German speaking South Tyrolean and Italian-speaking South Tyrolean
- Post-1945 ethnic relations
  - The Gruber - De Gasperi Agreement (1946)
  - Bombing campaigns by the South Tyrolean Liberation Committee (mid-1950s, 1961)
  - 'Package solution' (1969 / devolving more powers to the province)
  - The establishment of the Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino Euro region (1996)
  - Constitutional Law on Federalism (2001)
  - Growing social integration among the younger generation

**4. The Memory of Resistance in South Tyrol**

- The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Liberation in Bolzano
  - A Difference in perspective: South Tyrol and Italy
  - The Marginalization of the memory of the armed Resistance to the Nazi-fascism
  - Resistance as a base of the Italian Republic and Constitution which granted South Tyrol self-governance (Resistance as the Liberation from centralized government)
- For coexistence between ethnic groups
  - Efforts which encourage interethnic contact and communication
  - Amnesia for preventing ethnic tension?
  - South Tyrolean identity: independent from restriction of the national border.