

ACTORS AND STRUCTURES OF EUROPEAN CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

A comparison of French, Austrian and Spanish Cultural Institutes since 1945

Analytical Approach

I regard national cultural institutes as spaces of political action in which individual actors take agency to further political agendas as a part of their states' cultural diplomacy.

My project offers

- > an actor-centred perspective on cultural institutions
- > a diachronic comparison of entangled case studies from institutional, political and microhistorical perspectives

General Research Question

Should national cultural institutes be viewed as vehicles of „western European“ democratization? How did they interact with the developments of the French, Austrian and Spanish democracies?

Case Studies

Institut Français: Barcelona - Vienna - Bucharest
Österreichische Kulturinstitute: Rome - New York - Warsaw
Instituto Cervantes: Paris - London - Rabat

Sources

- > governmental resolutions and protocols
- > programmatic resolutions and mission statements
- > biographical data, personnel-files and personal correspondences