

The second meeting of the Working Group 1, Theory & Methods took place in Vienna at the institute for medieval studies, Austrian Academy of sciences, on 20-22 November 2014 under the title '#Community 6 Interpretation'.

The conference targeted two main terms of the Action, 'community' and 'interpretation' with the aim to discuss different scholarly traditions and approaches concerning the use of the respective terms and concepts. Over thirty participants from among the COST-action participants as well as invited guests discussed different methodological and theoretical scholarly traditions as well as several case studies and project presentations. G. Müller Oberhäuser focused in her introductory analysis on the term 'community' as a basic concept in sociology as it was first introduced by Ferdinand Tönnies (1855-1936) in his influential book *Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft*, and on the reception of Tönnies in modern sociology, anthropology, cultural studies and on the development of his concept through time. S. Corbellini presented methodological reflection on the sources, possibilities and limitations of reconstructing late medieval and early modern communities of interpretation; the paper focused on the function of material culture, in particular manuscripts and early printed books as instruments in the process of the construction and consolidation of lay groups in which religious knowledge was interpreted, discussed, disseminated and (re-)produced. Case studies of S. McKeon and P. Rychterova concerned the development of the interpretation of particular texts on the threshold between Latin and vernacular languages (English, Czech) in late medieval Europe. A. Kijewska, J.M. Silva Rosa and A. Bento discussed the both terms of interest from the point of view of the medieval and contemporary philosophy. M. Saczynska focused on concept of community in late medieval Poland as it is mirrored in papal privileges to communities which were used for the creation of a community as well as for deepening if its internal cohesion and stability. G.F. Kiss discussed the specific type of community at the medieval universities as it is to find in the late medieval and early 16th century classroom commentaries; a material which holds great potential for understanding the communal experience of reading at the threshold of the early Modern times. Comparative approaches to 'community' were discussed R. Kramer and C. Lutter who introduced comparative project, "Visions of Community. Comparative Approaches to Ethnicity, Region and Empire in Christianity, Islam and Buddhism (400-1600 CE)", a *Sonderforschungsbereich* hosted by the University of Vienna and Austrian Academy of Sciences The round table, organized by E. Salter offered the opportunity of deeper debate on the problems and advantages of interdisciplinary studies.