During the 19th century, and up to the first decades of the 20th, Scandinavian physicians and natural scientists were heavily influenced by German academia. German was the prime scientific language in Scandinavia, students and researchers went on study trips to Germany and published their research in German journals. Although the exchange was encouraged from both sides of the Baltic Sea, it is fair to say that Swedish researchers had a stronger interest in German science than vice versa, what has come to be known as “Swedish provincialism”. However, this relationship was to change rather abruptly with the Second World War.

A number of studies on Scandinavian-German scientific relations between 1933 and 1945 have been published in recent years, but the relationships after the war have not yet been systematically examined, particularly as regards the fields of medicine and the natural sciences. Case studies suggest that "neutral" Scandinavian countries could act as a gateway to the West for researchers from the GDR as well as a German-German contact zone. The conference will focus on the transfer of knowledge across the Baltic Sea and old and new personal relationships between researchers in Northern Europe, and not least on the political and technological aspects of the contacts. How did science exchange work during the Cold War? To what extent did the Scandinavian countries serve as a hub for German-German exchanges?

Founded in 1652, the Leopoldina brings together some 1,500 outstanding scientists from about 30 countries. It is dedicated to the advancement of science for the benefit of humankind and to shaping a better future. In its role as the German National Academy of Sciences, the Leopoldina represents the German scientific community in international committees. It offers unbiased scientific opinions on political and societal questions, publishing independent studies of national and international significance. The Leopoldina promotes scientific and public debate, supports young scientists, confers awards for scientific achievements, conducts research projects, and campaigns for the human rights of persecuted scientists.

Contact & registration
PD Dr Nils Hansson
Department for the History, Philosophy, and Ethics of Medicine
Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf
Universitätsstrasse 1, 40225 Düsseldorf, Germany
E-mail: nils.hansson@hhu.de | Tel. +49 (0)211-81-14101

Organisation
Department for the History, Philosophy, and Ethics of Medicine,
Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf
Nils Hansson, Thorsten Halling, Heiner Fangerau
Department for History of Medicine, Lund University, Sweden
Peter M Nilsson
German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

www.leopoldina.org
Thursday March 28, 2019

4:00 – 5:30 pm | Registration

I. Introduction

Chair: Heiner Fangerau ML

5:45 | Welcome addresses

Nikolaj Klöcker, Dean Faculty of Medicine, Düsseldorf
Peter M Nilsson, Lund
Alfons Labisch ML, Düsseldorf

6:00 – 7:00 | Keynote lecture

Presenter: Nils Hansson

„Deutschland ist bekanntlich nicht nur die Bundesrepublik“. Akademische Beziehungen zwischen Schweden und der DDR im Kalten Krieg
Charlotta Seiler Brylla, Stockholm

7:15 | Dinner (Mickeln House)

Friday March 29, 2019

9:00 | II. Cooperation and conflict

Chair: Nils Hansson

Vorüberlegungen zu einer Geschichte der westlichen Medizin im Kalten Krieg
Wolfgang Eckart ML, Heidelberg

Wissenschaft zwischen Diktatur und Demokratie. Wissenschaftsaustausch unter geheimer Agenda
Birgitta Aimgren, Stockholm

10:00 – 10:20 | Break

Der Ostseeraum als Konfliktzone eines wissenschaftlichen Geltungsstrebens. Die Deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Institute in Skandinavien (1941-1945)
Martin Göllnitz, Mainz

Nordeuropawissenschaften im Fadenkreuz der Nachrichtendienste des Kalten Krieges
Thomas Wegener Friis, Odense

11:00 – 2:00 | Lunch

IV. Scientific communities and networks

Chair: Yvonne Gavallér

Akademien der Wissenschaften in Nord- und Mitteleuropa: Kontakte und Mitgliedschaften im „Kalten Krieg“
Thorsten Halling, Düsseldorf

Walter Christaller and his central place theory – a road via Sweden to world-wide fame
Erki Tammikaar / Taavi Pae, Tartu

5:30 | Transport “Old city”

6:00 | Dinner, Altstadt

Saturday March 30, 2019

9:00 | V. Transfer of knowledge

Chair: Peter M Nilsson

Knowledge exchanges between Swedish and German architects during the after-war period
Andreea Blaga, Karlskrona

11:20 – 12:00 | Final discussion and fare-well

12:30 – 3:30 | Sightseeing Düsseldorf (voluntary)