

The aim of the workshop is to draw up a balance sheet on the basis of the results of the two conferences,¹ to develop ideas for the next themes for research and then to draw up the parameters for future international research collaboration. A report will be available to participants to serve as a discussion piece, written by the project group as a conclusion to the three-year period of the NWO subsidy. In the first instance this report will evaluate the method of international comparative historical research that has been followed. An adequate procedure will be decided on here, with the possibility of provisionally limiting case studies of museums to a few states and exploring the same aspects in each instance. The report will also test the chosen time frame and the three benchmarks for their relevance. This self-evaluation by the project group will be discussed during the workshop and will serve as a basis for charting routes for the next stage of the research project.

To initiate the discussion of the project so far during the workshop, two of the participants will be asked to present a spoken review of the two volumes that have been published. Thursday afternoon and Friday will be devoted to the case studies – a number of typical or else seemingly exceptional national museums in Europe and the colonies, as examples by which the method and procedure of the international-comparative study can be looked at in detail. A number of the participants will be asked to prepare a case study, exploring the same aspects in each instance – for instance, the origin of the collections; their management and, where it exists, their dynastic embedding; the connections with the national and/or municipal administration; the location in the city; the architectural form, decoration and iconography; accessibility and relation to the public; the relation to academic scholarship; the principles underlying the layout, and the degree of specialization into separate disciplines. Finally on the last morning the project group's report will also be discussed and a balance sheet will be drawn up of the subjects discussed in the workshop.

¹ *Napoleon's Legacy. The Rise of National Museums in Europe, c. 1794-1830* (conference, Amsterdam, 31/1 - 2/2/2008), published in 2009 as vol. 27 of the *Berliner Schriften zur Museumsforschung; Specialization and Consolidation of the National Museum after 1830. The Neue Museum in Berlin in an International Context / Museale Spezialisierung und Nationalisierung ab 1830. Das Neue Museum in Berlin im internationalen Kontext* (conference, Berlin, 22/10 – 24/10/2009), published in 2011 as vol. 29 of the *Berliner Schriften zur Museumsforschung*.