

## ABSTRACTS

### “IS THIS NOT JUST NATIONALISM?”

Reconsidering rural material culture in the history of East Central Europe

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In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, images of rural material culture were marketed in large numbers. Textiles in particular represented popular motifs for drawings, portfolios, illustrated books, posters, and photographs. The political use of these textiles in the context of intensifying nationalist movements makes it difficult for us to perceive them without their connection to nationalism today. In my article, which was awarded the Collegium Carolinum Essay Prize in 2023, I propose a reconsideration of these images. In doing so, I focus on a network of women who collected rural textiles in the environment of the Bohemian Industrial Museum (*Böhmisches Gewerbemuseum*) in Prague. Unlearning familiar or habitual ways of looking at these sources opens up new perspectives with regard to the history of nationalism as well as modern social and economic history.