Colours of History Flags and Banners in the World

Proceedings of the XXII. International Vexillological Congress FlagBerlin 2007

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Volume I

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XXII. International Congress of Vexillology FlagBerlin 2007

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Preface



The ancient Roman soldiers who roamed the German forests at the time of Christ's birth carried insignia showing the symbols of their state and their emperor. Their signum was the Eagle of the Legion, which later became the emblem of the medieval Holy Roman Empire of the German nation and survived as a symbol from antiquity until modern times.

The history of such symbols on land is also associated with fundamental changes at sea. In the 13th century flags flew aboard ships for the first time, and rules for their use were developed which remain valid today. Flags became part of diplomacy. In the late Middle Ages, flags began to represent nationality. The most significant development came when national flags began to represent citizenship in a state, starting with the first modern civic nation-states - the United States of America and France. Today, flags bear the symbols of the nations and their citizens across history and around the world.

Germany has seen challenges in its relationship with flags - consider, for example, the flag debates during the Weimar Republic or the tensions over the use of the national symbols in both German states after the Second World War. However, since Germany hosted soccer's World Cup in 2006, the country seems to have entered an era of more normal use of national flags and symbols.

Flags and banners have always been closely connected with history, and today still testify to its course. So it is quite appropriate that the history of flags - from the Roman eagle to Black-Red-Gold of the German Reunification - should appear in the permanent exhibition "German History in Images and Artefacts from Two Millennia" that opened in the Berlin Zeughaus in 2006. And it is both natural and pleasing that the German Historical Museum now be the venue for FlagBerlin 2007.

Prof. Dr. Hans Ottomeyer President German Historical Museum Foundation

Introduction

We are pleased to present the proceedings of FlagBerlin 2007, the 22nd International Congress of Vexillology, in two volumes. For six days in August 2007 the topic was "Colours of history – flags and banners, their use and presentation". Under the auspices of FIAV, the International Federation of Vexillological Associations, 122 participants and 39 accompanying persons came from 29 countries for the traditional meeting. Vexillologists, historians, ethnographers, and geographers reported on their research and findings, and discussed vexillological topics of scientific and practical nature.

These proceedings contain all 47 papers submitted. Of them, 41 were presented as lectures and three were presented in poster sessions.

The papers are grouped into five chapters and published in the language in which they were presented, English or German. All begin with an abstract in English.

Vexillology, as a science, deals not just with collecting real flags, their images, or information about them. Above all it explores and attempts to understand the history and symbolism of flags, and their social, political, and cultural influence on humankind.

Flags are perishable, subject to many atmospheric, mechanical, and environmental impacts. Not only are all possible efforts absolutely necessary to preserve flags, but to preserve knowledge about them as well, for future research.

The editor hopes that the proceedings will meet this goal, constitute a reliable source of knowledge, and provide all participants an interesting, rich, illustrated memory of FlagBerlin 2007.

In preparing this edition, the editorial staff worked in their various areas with unselfish dedication. They deserve the editor's heartfelt gratitude. Thanks also go to the authors of the papers for their excellent cooperation.

Program of the XXII. International Congress of Vexillology FlagBerlin2007

Saturday, August 4,2007

From 7.00 p.m. Informal meeting for participants already in

Berlin at the restaurant "Zum Alten Fritz"

Sunday, August 5, 2007

3.30 p.m. Main Lounge of the German Historical

Museum (Zeughaus), Registration of

delegates

5.00 p.m. Welcoming reception on the occasion of the

XXII. ICV - FlagBerlin2007 in the Schlüter-

Lounge of the German Historical Museum

8.00 p.m. Informal meeting of interested participants

of

FlagBerlin2007 at Hotel SAS Radisson in the

Dom Aquaree - Lounge,

Monday, August 6, 2007

09.00 - 09.30 a.m. Lounge of Zeughauskino – German

Historical Museum,

continuing of registration of delegates

09.30 – 09.50 a.m. Opening Ceremony in the Zeughauskino,

marching in of the flags, national anthem,

march of the FIAV

09.50 - 10.00 a.m. Welcoming by the 1st Chairman of the

German Vexillological Society

10.00 – 10.10 a.m. Welcoming by the Deputy Director General

of the German Historical Museum

10.10 – 10.20 a.m. Opening of the XXII. International

Congress of Vexillology FlagBerlin 2007 by

FIAV-President Mr. Michel Lupant

Morning	Session

10.50 - 11.20 a.m.	Daniel Hohrath, M.A.	"The flag Collection of
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and

Afternoon Session

meeting (optional) of flag-manufacturers at

$$7.30 - 9.00$$
 p.m.

meeting (optional) of the FOTW-group at

Hotel Alexander Plaza

Tuesday, August 7, 2007

Morning Session

papers and bazaar

Afternoon Session

postersession

3.45 - 5.45 p.m.

20. FIAV General Assembly at the

6.30 p.m.

Zeughauskino
walk (optional) through the historical centre

of Berlin, along the Boulevard Unter den

Linden up to Brandenburg Gate

$$8.00 - 11.00$$
 p.m.

informal meeting (optional) at the Restaurant and Biergarten "Alt-Berliner Wirtshaus"

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

Excursion

"Prussian Impressions"

9.00 a.m.

departure of the busses for the City-tour

Berlin,

photo-stop at the "Olympic Bridge", drive through Potsdam and visit to the Parc of "Sanssouci", residence of Prussian King

Friedrich II.

1.00 p.m. visit to the Historical Estate Bornstedt,

presentation of the traditional Prussian "Lange

Kerls", lunch at the Malting Floor

from 2.20 p. m. departure of the busses for the visit to the

castle "Cecilienhof", Museum of the Potsdam Meeting of the Big Three in

August 1945

5.00 p.m. return to Berlin with photo-stop at

"Glienicker Brücke"

Thursday, August 9, 2007

Morning Session

9.00 – 12.15 a.m.

papers and bazaar

Afternoon-Session

1.45 - 5.45 p.m.

papers

Friday, August 10, 2007

Morning Session

09.00 - 10.30 a.m.

papers

11.00 a.m.

end of bazaar

11.00 - 12.30 a.m.

papers

0.30 - 1.30 p.m.

Final Session of the XXII. ICV at the

Zeughauskino, German national anthem, march of FIAV, marching out the flags

7.00 - 11.00 p.m.

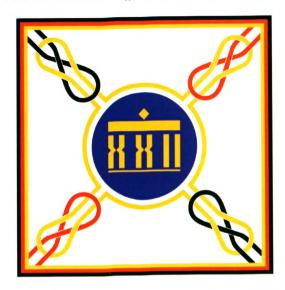
Official Dinner at the Banquet-hall of Hotel

SAS Radisson

Handing over of the Congress-Banner to the

host of 23. ICV 2009

ICV 22 FLAG — "FLAGBERLIN 2007"



The flag of "FlagBerlin 2007" is a square white field with a narrow border in the German national colours (black-red-gold). The border colours start with black at the outermost.

At the centre is the yellow Congress logo, the Roman numerals "XXII" in shape of the "Brandenburg Gate", on a blue disk.

From the yellow edge surrounding the blue disk, four diagonal stripes resembling halyards run diagonally to the four corners of the flag, forming in their mid-sections the "vexillological knot" of FIAV. The halyards at the lower right and upper left are black, those on the lower left and upper right are red; each meets a yellow halyard emanating from the yellow rim of the blue circle.

The flag's square shape, the form of a historic standard, recalls the Congress venue, the German Historical Museum, which houses a great collection of over 2,000 flags. It comprises above all the flags of the former Prussian arsenal and many flags of German parties and organizations. The white field of the flag represents the peaceful coexistence of the nations of the world.

The logo expresses the international character of the Congress. It shows the FIAV colours, royal blue and yellow. On the blue disk. the

yellow Roman "XXII" stands for ICV 22, on an image of the Brandenburg Gate, the well-known symbol of Berlin, the site of "FlagBerlin 2007".

Here, within the visual range of the Brandenburg Gate, vexillologists from all corners of the World are meeting, represented by the diagonals and their "vexillological knots" running from the four corners to the centre of the flag and reminding of the close ties between the two hemispheres.

The knot is the emblem of the FIAV, which was introduced by Klaes Sierksma in 1967, during the Second International Congress of Vexillology in Zurich (Switzerland). German national colours form the border, representing Germany as host of ICV 22.

The black-red-gold colors have been a symbol of the German national movement since the first half of the 19th century. They appeared in the modern form of a horizontal tricolour for the first time in 1832, expressing the all-German thinking and liberal views. Revolutionary events in March 1848 brought about their general acceptance. In 1866, Chancellor Otto von Bismarck introduced, in deliberate contrast to them, a black-white-red flag for the North-German Union and eventually for the German Empire, which flew until the German Revolution in November 1918. In 1918, black-red-gold became the symbols of the German Republic. But the National Assembly of the Weimar Republic made a grave political compromise: while the colours of the republic were black-red-gold, the merchant flag was black-white-red with the national colours in the upper corner near the hoist. This compromise was abolished by Hitler's government in 1933, when black-red-gold colours were banished from public life.

After the fall of the Hitler regime in 1945, black-red-gold had their renaissance. In 1949, two German states came into being, both making black-red-gold their colours, with the German Democratic Republic placing its arms in the center of its flag in 1959. Since 1990, the black-red-gold colours have formed the flag of reunited Germany.

The Congress flag was designed by Jens Pattke, member of the German Vexillological Society, and in April 2006 it was selected out of more than 125 proposals by the Organizational Committee of "FlagBerlin 2007" after a two-phase competition with international participation.

Grußwort



Den Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmern der FlagBerlin2007 übermittle ich meine besten Grüße.

Der Internationale Kongress für Flaggenkunde findet nun schon zum 22. Mal auf Initiative der Fédération Internationale des Associations Vexillologiques statt. Ziel ihrer Mitgliedsorganisationen in aller Welt ist es, Fahnen und

Flaggen aller Art, ihre Geschichte und Symbolik zu erforschen und so die Wissenschaft der Flaggenkunde zu fördern. Der Austausch auf den internationalen Kongressen bietet dafür eine gute Grundlage.

Der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde und dem Deutschen Historischen Museum gilt daher besonderer Dank für die Ausrichtung des diesjährigen Kongresses - ebenso wie für die Vorbereitung der zeitgleichen Ausstellung, die die umfangreiche und bedeutende Sammlung historischer Fahnen, Standarten, Flaggen und Wimpel des Deutschen Historischen Museums zeigt.

Fahnen, Standarten, Flaggen und Wimpel sind Zeugen der Geschichte. Und so ist die Arbeit der Vexillologen sehr verdienstvoll. Ihr Engagement fördert nicht nur das öffentliche Interesse an Staats- und Landessymbolen, sondern macht die Bürgerinnen und Bürger auch mit der Geschichte und Kultur ihrer Heimatländer ebenso wie der anderer Nationen bekannt.

Ich wünsche der FlagBerlin 2007 einen guten Verlauf und allen Teilnehmern neue, farbenfrohe Eindrücke.

Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, MdB Bundesminister des Innern

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Unofficial translation

Greetings



Welcome to all the participants of FlagBerlin 2007.

The 22nd International Congress of Vexillology is convening under the supervision of the Fédération Internationale des Associations Vexillologiques. FIAV's member organisations all over the world are researching flags and

banners of all kinds, their history, and their symbolism, thus promoting the science of vexillology. The exchange of views during the international congresses supports this aim.

The German Vexillological Society and the German Historical Museum should be especially acknowledged for organising this year's congress and for arranging the simultaneous exhibition showcasing the important and substantial collection of flags, banners, colours, and pennants in the German Historical Museum. Such flags are relics of history, and thus the work of vexillologists is of great importance. Their engagement not only encourages the public interest in symbols of state and region, but also familiarises citizens with the history and culture of other countries and their own.

I wish FlagBerlin2007 the very best for a successful congress and new, colourful impressions for all participants.

Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, Member of the German Bundestag Federal Minister of Interior

Dr. Andreas Herzfeld, Chairman of the German Vexillological Society

Dear Mr. President of FIAV, Dear Mr. Deputy Director General, Dear Mme. Delegate of the Federal Ministry of Interior, Dear Participants of FlagBerlin 2007 Ladies and Gentlemen,



In the name of the German Vexillological Society (DGF) and the Organizing Committee I have the great honour to welcome you all to Berlin. 122 participants and 39 family members and other accompanying persons from 29 countries found their way here. We are completely overwhelmed by this interest.

Our society was founded in 1995. During that year's vexillological congress in Warsaw, I attended as the official delegate of DGF for the first time. At that time

the congresses were four days long, and of these at least one entire evening was filled by the dialog between William Crampton and Whitney Smith. At the next congress, in Capetown in 1997, our society was admitted to FIAV. Two years later we were asked if we Germans might be ready to organize a vexillological congress. After an intensive discussion within the German Vexillological Society, in 2001 we applied to host the XXII. International Vexillological Congress. And two years after that we were entrusted with the organisation of this congress.

Vexillological congresses are not solely the papers that are read, above all create an opportunity for direct communication between us vexillologists. We get acquainted with and make friends with each other, and we exchange vexillological information. I remember with pleasure those past congresses, a special memory is recalling the emotional words of farewell by Theodore Amerlinck.

Now the time has come. You all have come to Berlin full of expectation. And we have done a lot of hard work to prepare everything. I would now like to thank all the busy members of the Organizing Committee, of the German Vexillological Society, and of the German Historical Museum for all their hard work.

Here, in this wonderful setting of the German Historical Museum, we will exchange the results of our latest research. Unfortunately we had to turn down some requests to read papers because of lack of time, but we will include them in the proceedings. The speakers will take us to many regions of the world. We shall visit the exhibition "Flags and Colours", organized by the museum especially to coincide with our congress. On Wednesday our excursion will lead us through Berlin to Potsdam. And of course there will be enough time to see Berlin on one's own, to exchange vexillological books and flags, and to make new friends.

Ladies and gentlemen, what are we in reality - we vexillologists?

Many people cannot imagine what that is – vexillology. My explanation is the following: On one hand we vexillologists are archaeologists; we dig in archives, libraries, castles, and churches for long-forgotten flags and colours. On the other hand we are journalists; we always have a camera with us to take pictures of every unknown flag, and then we publish the results as quickly as possible in the next journal.

That is why we need these international congresses, such as this one here in Berlin.

To all of us – best wishes for a pleasant, interesting, and successful XXII. International Congress of Vexillology.

Thank you very much.



Registration at sunday afternoon

Photo: Grahl

Dr. Dieter Vorsteher, Deputy Director General of the German Historical Museum, Berlin

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,



A heartfelt welcome to you on this lovely morning. I am deeply moved, having heard our national anthem here at the beginning of this event. It is perhaps something we could do more frequently.

I am especially glad to have representatives here from the Federal Ministry of Interior, as the German Historical Museum was founded almost 20 years ago under the oversight of the Federal Ministry of Interior,

especially of Herr Dr. Schäuble, who strongly supported us and helped us get into this building.

The original plan for our museum was a new building in West Berlin, a very big structure, today the site of the Office of the Federal Chancellor. However, you can see how building projects change with history: now the Office of the Federal Chancellor stands there (and we are glad about that), and we are here at Unter den Linden 2 on this splendid Berlin boulevard (we are even more glad about that!).

In receiving the Zeughaus (the former Royal Prussian Arsenal), we inherited a large amount of Prussian military history. This building, where last evening we celebrated in the marvellous atrium, was first built in about 1700. Museum artefacts had been collected here for 250 to 300 years, but by 1945 the entire collection was gone. Imagine, the items were scattered, taken to different shelters, unfortunately many in Silesia, Pomerania, and Eastern Prussia, and the building was destroyed. Today much of the collection is in Moscow or in Warsaw. But thanks to the friendship between the German Democratic Republic and the USSR, many items came back in 1959 and we hold them now.

Today we care for about 2,000 flags, which we have moved twice in the past 15 years. Much had to be done to organize them in collection storage and to attend to many conservation challenges.

When the museum first moved here, our main tasks were to redevelop the buildings, to organize a permanent exhibition, and to set up several alternating exhibitions.

However, over the past three years, thanks to your initiative, Mr. Vehres, we decided to take out the flags and exhibit them. (You will see the exhibition a bit later. We prepared a small catalogue, you have it in your congress materials.) That meant that we had to start to work on these flags.

As I said, we have about 2,000 flags, and approximately 150 have not yet been unrolled. We are afraid to open the cords, as restorers have to be present and it will cost a lot to preserve these flags for the future. We will be pursuing that program over the next 10 or 20 years.

Where did the flags come from? Of course many are Prussian, but many others are war trophies, some very important ones, thanks to General Blücher. I have to apologize to the French here, as we also have very nice French flags from the time of the Revolution. We have the flag of Varennes, which the city received as a present for having revealed the escape of King Louis XVI. This flag has been in the Zeughaus since 1816 and is exhibited in the upper floor in the permanent exhibition.

Many flags came to the Zeughaus at the end of the 19th century. In the atrium, where you were yesterday, consecrations of colours took place and flags were nailed to their staffs. That is how our collection of 2,000 flags came into being.

I hope you have a nice stay in Berlin and that you will enjoy the city, and that during the congress you will enjoy many interesting discussions and new friendships.

Michel Lupant, President of the FIAV

As FIAV President, I am very honoured to give to you these opening words.



Berlin, a vast metropolis, has become the junction between the Germanic and the Slavic worlds and an opened door turned towards the modernity and the future of a Europe in peace.

I was lucky to visit the two parts of Berlin in 1973 and 1983. It was a shock to discover and to cross the wall. At that time I could not imagine such a quick evolution, I never thought to see the city united again. I came back in 1993 and 2004, what

a change in the city Berlin has reconciled with its past. What a joy to cross the Brandenburg Gate for the first time: the gate which has become the symbol and the emblem of our Congress! This emblem associates harmoniously with that symbol of Berlin, par excellence, with the FIAV colours in inviting the vexillologists from all over the world to focus on the Gate of the XXIInd Congress of Berlin. I congratulate Jens Pattke, the designer of the logo.

Vexillology, the scientific study of flags, is universal and the FIAV Congress is the symbol of the union of vexillologists in their diversity.

After Victoria (Canada), York (United Kingdom), Stockholm (Sweden) and Buenos Aires (Argentina), to remember only the last congresses, we are now in Berlin, Germany – the vexillologists travel a lot!

Every two years there is a migration, symbolic and peaceful, of vexillologists from around the world looking for discoveries of the local vexillological heritage. We have accepted with great pleasure the invitation from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde and of the Deutsches Historisches Museum to gather in their capital. Germany possesses an extraordinary vexillological collection and the museum has organized, for our intents, a special exhibition showing us part of its

vexillological collection.

Every day we see flags on buildings, ships and in the media. Flags are present in everyday life. We see them on television: during the official visit of a Head of State, on the car flag of authorities, during international congresses such as the G8 or European Union meetings, at sports events such as the Soccer World Cup held in Germany. During that competition we saw so many flags flying in the wind. It was a kind of rediscovery of the colours that appeared in 1848 and which have had a complicated history until 1945. The people were so proud to display it in the stadiums and in the streets. In October we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of a flag which is displayed all around the world and specially to maintain peace in some parts of this world: the flag of the United Nations.

I am a seasoned traveller and I can tell you that thanks to vexillology I have had the chance to receive such a friendly welcome in all parts of the world. There is an increasing interest for vexillology, the adoption of which we celebrate the 50th anniversary. "Vexillology", the science which studies flags, is now a word that appears in many languages and dictionaries.

We are delighted to participate in the XXIInd International Congress of Vexillology in Berlin, Germany, and I hope we will work together these next days in a good spirit, to develop vexillology and friendly relations.

Welcome to Berlin

Bienvenue à tous nos amis francophones.

Dao la bienvenida a todos nuestros amigos de España y de America Latina.

I thank you!