

VERSAILLES

1919 | 2019

Modern Foundations:

The Treaty of Versailles and American Philanthropy

A WWI Centennial Symposium at the Palace of Versailles

Château de Versailles | Place d'Armes | 7800 Versailles | France

June 28, 2019

One century ago, world leaders met to navigate peace in wake of World War One's global devastation. We look forward to joining in commemorating this momentous centennial in both conversation and ceremony.

Arrival: On Friday, June 28th check-in begins at 8:15 a.m. at the Dufour Pavilion and will close at 8:55 a.m. Programs begin promptly at 9 a.m. Dress code is business casual, please no jeans. The Main Entrance (Honor Gate, La Grille d'Honneur) opens at 8 a.m.

Lunch: Lunches will be provided at 12:10 p.m. If you require a vegetarian or gluten-free lunch, please email education@theworldwar.org with your name and (v) or (gf) by June 24. While you are on the grounds, enjoy centuries of history with lunch access to one of the world's most breath-taking Gardens of Versailles. Collect your ticket at check-in and enjoy the Château's verdant landscape.

Commemoration and Reception: After the symposium concludes, chartered buses will pick up/drop off at the Main Gate for a commemoration ceremony at 6 p.m. at the Pershing Lafayette Monument at the Avenue des États-Unis followed by a reception in the Bibliothèque Municipale de Versailles with the Mayor of Versailles. Shuttle will depart by 8 p.m.

This WWI Centennial Commemorative event is made possible through the presenting sponsorship of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library. The symposium is provided by the United States World War One Centennial Commission, the Palace of Versailles and the National WWI Museum and Memorial.

ARRIVAL

The Main Gate, "Honor Gate," opens at 8 a.m. Please be prepared to provide photo id – passport accepted. Be aware, large bags (55x35x20 cm) are currently not allowed. The symposium will be held in the auditorium on the top floor of the [Dufour Pavilion](#). When you enter the building on the garden level, take the stairs at the end of the lobby or the elevator.

An interactive map of the grounds, entrances, train stations can be found [here](#).

MAPS

Dufour Pavilion



Arrow: Main Gate. A: Dufour Pavilion

If you are driving, please see the [interactive parking map](#) for directions.

For more information about getting to and from the Palace, please visit the [Palace of Versailles website](#).

SCHEDULE

8:15 – 8:50 a.m. | Check in

9 – 9:10 a.m. | Welcome: **Dr. Monique Seefried**, United States World War One Centennial Commissioner

9:10 – 10 a.m. | Session 1: Lessons from the Paris Peace Conference, **Michael S. Neiberg**

10 – 10:20 a.m. | Break – Coffee and pastries

10:20 – 11:10 a.m. | Session 2: The Peace of Versailles: A Global View, **Erez Manela**

11:10 – 12:10 p.m. | **John Maxwell Hamilton** in discussion with **Michael S. Neiberg** and **Erez Manela**

12:10 – 1:50 p.m. | Lunch and Conversation

1:50 – 2 p.m. | Remarks: Colonel (IL) Jennifer N. Pritzker, IL ARNG (Retired), President and Founder of the TAWANI Foundation

2 – 2:50 p.m. | Session 3: American Philanthropy at War and Reconstruction-1914-1930s, **Olivier Zunz**

2:50 – 3:10 p.m. | Break – Coffee and tea

3:10 – 4 p.m. | Session 4: American Humanitarianism in France During the Great War Era, **Julia Irwin**

4 – 5 p.m. | **John Maxwell Hamilton** in discussion with **Olivier Zunz** and **Julia Irwin**

5 – 5:30 p.m. | Conclusion: **Dr. Matthew Naylor**, President of the National WWI Museum and Memorial

6 – 8 p.m. | Commemoration ceremony at Pershing Lafayette Monument on the Avenue des Etats Unis with reception in the Bibliothèque Municipale de Versailles (Rue de l'Indépendance Américaine).

SOCIAL MEDIA HASHTAG

Share excerpts, insights and photos from your Symposium experience with us.

#PARISPEACE100

@thewwimuseum

@PritzkerLibrary

@WW1CC

@CVersailles

SPEAKERS AND SUMMARIES

Dr. John Maxwell Hamilton is a long-time journalist, author and public servant and the Hopkins P. Breazeale Professor in Louisiana State University's Manship School of Mass Communication, a global scholar at the Wilson Center and a senior associate at the Center of Strategic and International Studies. His most recent book, *Journalism's Roving Eye: A History of American Foreign Reporting*, won the Goldsmith Prize. He is currently finishing a history of American propaganda in the Great War. He will be moderating discussions between Michael S. Neiberg and Erez Manela & Olivier Zunz and Julia Irwin.

Dr. Julia Irwin is an Associate Professor and the Associate Chair of History at the University of South Florida, where she focuses on the place of humanitarian aid in U.S. foreign relations and international history. Her most recent works include *Making the World Safe: The American Red Cross and A Nation's Humanitarian Awakening* and the forthcoming *Catastrophic Diplomacy: A History of U.S. Responses to Global Natural Disaster*.

Presentation: American Humanitarianism in France During the Great War Era

During the Great War era, France became an epicenter of American humanitarian concern and activity. Between 1914 and 1918, millions of American men and women participated in a collective effort to aid France's wounded soldiers and to assist French civilians behind the front lines. For several years after the hostilities ended, Americans continued to provide humanitarian assistance to French children, refugees, and returning soldiers. In Versailles and Paris during 1919, French and U.S. citizens also collaborated to establish new international humanitarian organizations, designed to prevent future suffering. The legacies of their actions remain with us today, one hundred years later.

Dr. Erez Manela is a Professor of History at Harvard University, where he teaches international history and the history of the United States in the world. He is co-editor of the *Global and International History* series for Cambridge University Press. His books include *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the International Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism* and *Empires at War, 1911-23*.

Presentation: The Peace of Versailles: A Global View

World War I was not simply a conflict among European states but a global war among empires. The fighting took place not only in Europe, east and west, but also in Africa, Asia, and across the Middle East, and it involved, as soldiers or laborers, millions of Africans and Asians. The postwar settlement, in turn, had vast implications for the world outside Europe. It created expectations, drew borders, and ignited movements that have helped define the history of those regions, and of the world, ever since.

Dr. Matthew Naylor is the President and CEO of the National WWI Museum and Memorial, where under his guidance the Museum and Memorial has achieved unprecedented growth, setting records for revenue, website traffic, media impression and international recognition. Naylor supported a bi-partisan effort from members of Congress in passing legislation to formally recognize the institution as America's National WWI Museum and Memorial and in 2015 was appointed as a Commissioner of the United States World War One Centennial Commission. In 2018, he was named Executive of the Year by NonProfit Pro, a leading resource in the nonprofit sector.

Dr. Michael S. Neiberg is a Professor of History and the Chair of War Studies at the United States Army War College. His publications specialize on the First and Second World Wars in global context. His works include *Dance of the Furies: Europe and the Outbreak of World War I*, named by the *Wall Street Journal* as one of the five-best books ever written about that war, and *The Treaty of Versailles: A Concise History*. In 2018, he was awarded the Médaille d'Or du Rayonnement Culturel.

Presentation: Lessons from the Paris Peace Conference

“To bed, sick of life.” With these words, British diplomat Harold Nicolson ended the diary he kept at the Paris Peace Conference. This lecture will provide an introduction to the problems that Nicolson and many others saw in the Treaty of Versailles. Most people came away disillusioned, convinced that the treaty did not do enough to justify the sacrifices of the war or set a foundation for a future of peace. What lessons can we learn from the conference and the peace treaties it produced?

Colonel (IL) Jennifer N. Pritzker, IL ARNG (Retired) is President and Founder of the TAWANI Foundation and Founder and Chair of the Pritzker Military Museum and Library. From 1974-77 Pritzker served in the U.S. Army with the 82nd Airborne Division and from 1985 to 2001, served in the U.S. Army Reserves and Illinois Army National Guard. She retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and received an honorary promotion to full Colonel. In 2016, she received a number of prestigious awards and honors, including the U.S. Department of Defense Spirit of Hope Award, the Landmarks Illinois Legendary Landmark Award, and the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago’s “Trailblazer” award.

Dr. Monique Seefried is a Commissioner on the U.S. World War One Centennial Commission, responsible for international partnerships and a contributor to education and states initiatives. Seefried has worked in education for 40 years, including in the museum world. She served as Chair of the International Baccalaureate’s Board of Governors and most recently as President of the Croix Rouge Farm Memorial Foundation. A "chevalier" in the French Order of Academic Palms, Order of Merit and Order of the Legion of Honor, she was awarded in 2019 the U.S. Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service.

Dr. Olivier Zunz is the James Madison Professor of History at the University of Virginia and an internationally recognized expert on the life and work of Alexis de Tocqueville. Named an Officier of the French Ordre National du Mérite, he is the author of *Philanthropy in America: A History*, the first book to explore in depth the 20th century growth of this unique phenomenon.

Presentation: American Philanthropy at War and Reconstruction, 1914-1930s

It is during World War One that Americans acquired the habit of giving, irrespective of income or external circumstances. In this paper, I will show first how Americans created new institutions for the cooperation of state and civil society in a vast humanitarian movement. I will then turn to the postwar rebuilding, under American guidance, of the Louvain library and the Cathedral of Rheims—treasures of medieval civilization destroyed during the initial German invasion of Belgium and France in 1914.

REGISTRATION BENEFITS

MEMBERSHIPS

We are pleased to offer both individual memberships to Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the National WWI Museum and Memorial to all symposium attendees. Please watch your email after the symposium for follow up details and instructions for redeeming this special offer.

BOOKS

Lest We Forget: The Great War by Dr. Michael W. Robbins, Sir Hew Strachan, Col. Robert Dalessandro and Col. Jennifer Pritzker

As the word commemorates the centennial of WWI, one of the United States' premier military history institutions pays tribute to the Americans who served and the allies they fought beside to defeat a resourceful enemy with a lavishly illustrated book published in partnership with the United States World War One Centennial Commission. *This beautiful hard cover book is being provided for those who reside in Europe at check-in; for those traveling it will be shipped to all mailing addresses provided via form or emailed to education@theworldwar.org by Aug. 1.*

The Treaty of Versailles: A Very Short Introduction by Michael S. Neiberg

This cogent introduction to one of the most important international accords at the centennial of its signing contextualizes the treaty within the last century of world history. The treaty affected not only Europe but also the rest of the world. Neiberg's work highlights its impact on places such as China and Japan and its significant influence on the development of American international policy. It is part of the "Very Short Introduction Series" published by Oxford University Press. *Copies provided at check-in for the symposium.*

DISCOUNTS

From June 28 through July 31 enjoy 10% off items at the National WWI Museum and Memorial store or at the online store, shop.theworldwar.org using the promo code "Versailles" at checkout. Enjoy further reflection on the topics by reading the speakers' written works, available now:

Julia Irwin, *Making the World Safe: The American Red Cross and a Nation's Humanitarian Awakening*

Erez Manela, *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the International Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism*

Michael S. Neiberg, *Dance of the Furies: Europe and the Outbreak of World War I*

Olivier Zunz, *Philanthropy in America: A History*

THE GARDEN OF VERSAILLES

Take in centuries of history with all-day access to one of the world's most breath-taking gardens. Collect your ticket at check-in and enjoy the Château's verdant landscape.

A BRIEF HISTORY: PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE

Formally opened on January 18, 1919, the Paris Peace Conference was the international meeting that established the terms of peace after World War I. Peacemaking occurred in several stages, with the Council of Four, also known as the “Big Four”—Prime Ministers Lloyd George of Great Britain, Georges Clemenceau of France, Vittorio Orlando of Italy and U.S. President Woodrow Wilson—acting as the primary decisionmakers for the first six months, and their foreign ministers and ambassadors overseeing the remainder of the conference. By the time the Allies formalized peace with the former Central Powers through a series of treaties, including an additional negotiation with the new nation of Turkey in 1923, the fragmented process of “making peace” had lasted longer than the war.

Allied leaders faced a difficult task, far greater than the only comparative peace conference in 1815 that officially ended the Napoleonic Wars. Four empires—Russia, Germany, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire—lay shattered, their people facing an uncertain future amid social and political unrest. There were also calls for new states based on Woodrow Wilson’s principle of self-determination. Those in Paris not only had to determine the articles of peace for the former Central Powers but also faced countless demands from people throughout the Middle East, Africa and Asia. They also needed to consider the demands of their own countries, who, in the case of Great Britain and France specifically, sought physical and material compensation for the losses they suffered during four years of war. Though not perfect, the settlements they reached were nonetheless an earnest attempt at bringing lasting peace to a world devastated by war and, in the context of the period, offered hope for a better world than that which existed prior to 1914.

USEFUL INFORMATION

- Dress code is business casual. Please, no jeans or shorts.
- Request for *reserved* vegetarian or gluten-free meals, must be received by education@theworldwar.org BEFORE June 25. Vegetarian and gluten-free meals will be available to all during lunch.
- We invite questions from the audience, for both lectures and discussion, during the longer morning and afternoon session. Please be advised, all will be recorded.

If you have questions, please contact Curator of Education Lora Vogt at (+1) 816-888-8114 or email education@theworldwar.org.

For day-of assistance, please call/text Geoff Jolley at (US) +001.816.645.4912 or email gjolley@theworldwar.org.

On behalf of the National WWI Museum and Memorial, the Pritzker Military Museum & Library, the United States World War One Centennial Commission and the Palace of Versailles, thank you for participating in this momentous centennial experience. We look forward to seeing you.