The history of Europe is as much about violence and divisions – including religious wars, national clashes and ideological conflicts – as it is about shared cultural, social and economic accomplishments. If war has been such a constant presence in the history unfolding on the continent, the incessant efforts to limit its destructiveness are also an undeniable fact. It was such efforts that eventually led to the birth of Jus ad bellum and, ultimately, laid down the foundations of modern international law. From such a viewpoint, one might even find another definition of what European history might be. Some scholars have suggested that if war has structured a common European space, the containment of violence and the art of peacemaking have constituted ‘Europe’ in thought and practice. In the second half of the eighteenth century, however, Voltaire asserted that the propensity to war and destruction had taken much less possession of the minds of the people of India and China, than of the minds of Europeans, arguing that war has also constituted ‘Europe’ in thought and practice.

All this raises the question what, if anything, may be regarded as ‘typically European’ in ideas of war and peace that referred to, or originated within, Europe and its space. In our conference discussion, we will try to find out whether there are long-term patterns of ‘Europe’-related discourses concerning peace and war, and if so, what they consist of.
Programme

24 June – 3 July 2020
Online http://www.ideasofeurope.org/

Panel 1
Philosophy, Law, and the Idea of Europe
Anna DI BELLO ("L'Orientale" University of Naples)
State and Sovereignty: Bodin, Hobbes and the Philosophical Bases of the Westphalian System
Arthur GUEZENGAR (Grenoble Alpes University)
The Construction of the Modern European State: Between the Right to War and Imperialism
Max Philipp WEHN (Philipps-University of Marburg)
Media Constructions of ‘Europe’ during the War of the Spanish Succession and the Peace Negotiations of Utrecht
Gilles FERRAGU (University Paris Nanterre)
The Practice of Hostageship in European History: The Ambiguity of Peace

Panel 2
The Long Nineteenth Century
Marek STANISZ (University of Rzeszów)
A Just War, a ‘Rebellion’ or a ‘Dreadful Revolution’? The November Uprising (1830-1831) in the Eyes of Polish and European Public Opinion
Sam KUIJKEN (Catholic University of Leuven)
A War for the Future of Europe: The Belgian Image of the Russian Other during the Crimean War
Rolf PETRI (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
War and Peace in the Name of History, 1797-1920

Panel 3
Imagining War
Giulia IANNUZZI (University of Florence)
Waging Future Wars: Imagined Techno-Apocalypses and the Birth of a Global Consciousness in the European Mind
Patricia CHIANTERA-STUTTE (University of Bari)
Geopolitics and Fear: Imagined Conflicts in the Twentieth Century

Panel 4
The Early Twentieth Century
J. Francisco LOBO (Adolfo Ibáñez and Diego Portales Universities, Chile) ‘Our American Cousin’: Tracing the Roots of American Imperialism back to the Jus Publicum Europaeum
Ulrich TIEDAU (University College London)
The First Congress for European Federation, Rome 1909

Panel 5
Women in War and Peace
Marijana KARDUM (University of Zagreb)
‘The Guardians of Civilization’: The Women’s Entente for Peace
Marleen RENSEN (University of Amsterdam)

Panel 6
The Age of World Wars
Gavin MURRAY-MILLER (Cardiff University)
Waging War and Making Peace as a ‘Muslim Power’: European Empire and the First World War
Florian GREINER (University of Augsburg)
Ideas of Europe in the Age of the World Wars: European Semantics in Discourses of War and Peace, 1914-45
Silvia MADOTTO (Free University of Berlin)
‘If fascism is anti-Europe, then Europe must be antifascist’: Ideas of Europe in the Plans and Propaganda of Academics in Resistance against Fascism, 1939-1945
Michele MIONI (University of Bremen)
Vichy France in the European Crusade against Liberalism and Bolshevism, 1940–1944

Panel 7
1945 and Beyond: Future Perspectives
Valentina PRICOPIE (Romanian Academy Bucharest) Rebuilding the Paradigm of Peace: From the Cult of War to a European Mission
Peter PICHLER (University of Graz) The European Union in 2020: Is it still the Preserver of European Peace?

Panel 8
Keynote Lectures
Beatrice A. DE GRAAF (University of Utrecht)
Sortie de Guerre: Towards a New European Security Culture after 1815
Larry WOLFF (New York University)
Woodrow Wilson and the Reimagining of Eastern Europe during and after World War One

General Comments
Cathie CARMICHAEL (University of East Anglia)
Waging War and Making Peace: Some General Remarks

General Debate
Moderation: Fernanda GALLO (University of Cambridge)

Presentation of the 12th Annual Symposium 2021 in Greece
Efi GAZI (University of the Peloponnese)
Modern Revolutions and the Idea of Europe

Conclusion
Matthew D’AURIA (University of East Anglia)
Rolf PETRI (Ca’ Foscari University of Venice)
Maria Laura PICCHIO FORLATI (Fondazione Venezia di Ricerca sulla Pace)
Jan VERMEIREN (University of East Anglia)