



AUSTRIAN
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

THURSDAY, JUNE 14TH 2018
START: 9:30 A.M.
AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
JOHANNESHAAL
DR. IGNAZ SEIPEL-PLATZ 2
1010 VIENNA

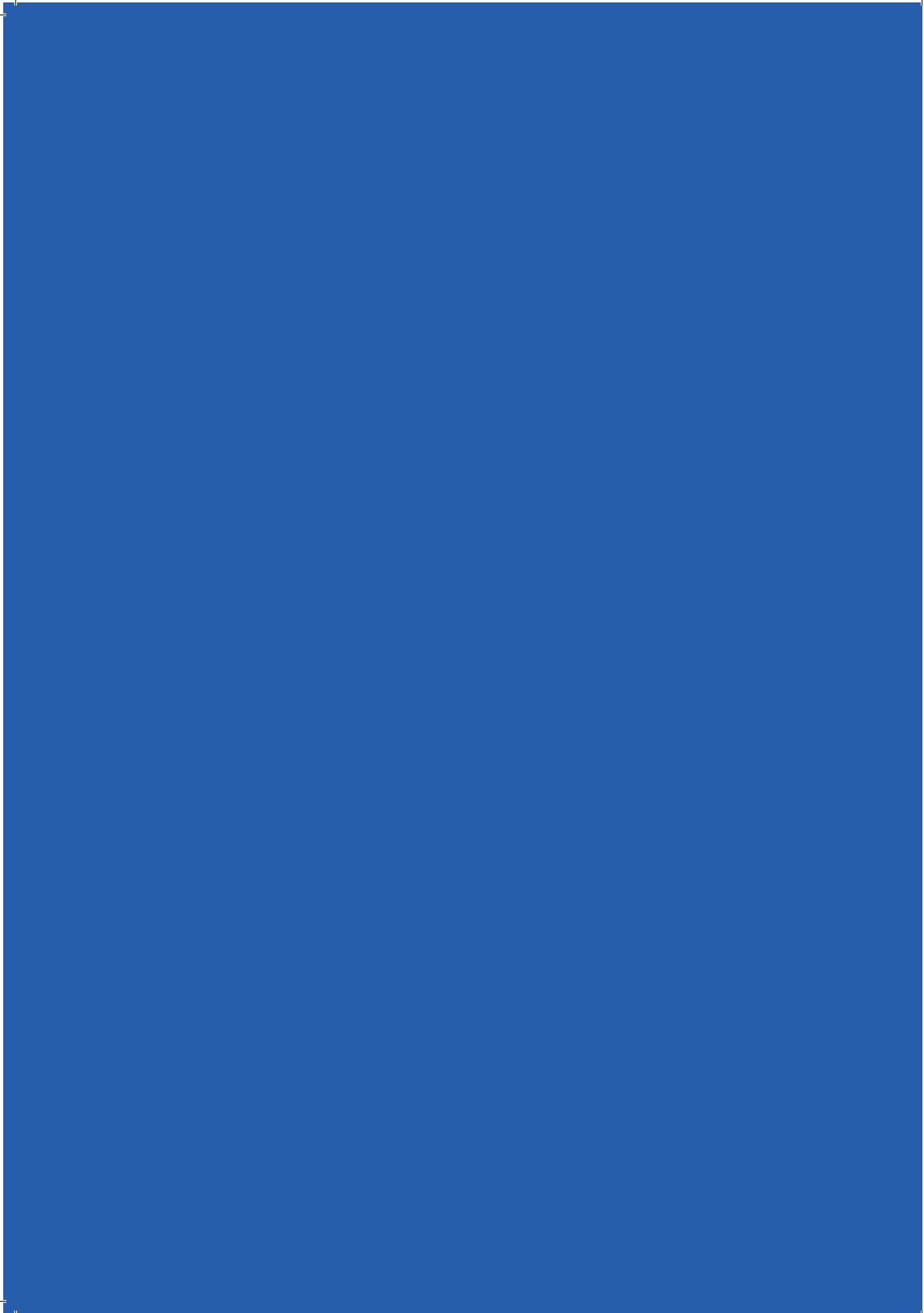


INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

TRAVELING IDEAS AND THEIR MEDIATORS: TRANSATLANTIC ELECTIVE AFFINITIES



THE NORTH
ATLANTIC TRIANGLE
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE
BETWEEN EUROPE, THE USA AND CANADA



PROGRAM

09:30 **Welcome Address & Introduction**
Oliver Schmitt | President of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences

09:45–11:15 **19th Century Exchanges of Ideas and Affinities**
Chair: Tibor Frank | ELTE Budapest, HUN

Carmen Birkle | University of Marburg, GER
Revising the Discipline: American Physicians In and Out of Europe

Christoph Irmscher | Indiana University, USA
"In Gedanken in Amerika": The Evolution of Franz Steindachner

Waldemar Zacharasiewicz | University of Vienna, AUT
The Debate on Reforms in Education and Academic Institutions in 19th Century America

COFFEE BREAK

11:45–13:00 **Chad Gaffield** | President of the Royal Society of Canada
Embracing Transatlantic Research Collaboration in a New Era: Reflections from Canada

LUNCH BREAK

15:00–16:15 **20th Century Exchanges of Ideas**
Chair: Wynfrid Kriegleder | University of Vienna, AUT

Manfred Prisching | University of Graz, AUT
Austrian Economics: From Viennese Origins to the American Periphery

Ludwig Nagl | University of Vienna, AUT
Philosophie, Psychoanalyse und Melodrama: Stanley Cavell über Max Ophüls's Verfilmung der Novelle Brief einer Unbekannten von Stefan Zweig

COFFEE BREAK

16:45–18:00 *Chair: Herta Nagl-Docekal | University of Vienna, AUT*

Cornelia Klinger | University of Tübingen, GER
A long and winding road – The Concept of Care between Continents and Discourses

Philipp Gassert | University of Mannheim, GER
"If Deterrence Fails..." Peace Movements, Peace Research, Popular Culture, and the Transatlantic Struggles over Nuclear Weapons during the Cold War

SPEAKERS' ABSTRACTS AND CVS

(in order of the program)

CARMEN BIRKLE

Revising the Discipline: American Physicians In and Out of Europe

19th-century North American medical students looked to European metropolises – such as Vienna, Berlin, Paris, Zürich, and London – as ideal locations for the perfection and completion of their medical studies. Men and – from the mid-1800s – women spent a few months or even a year or two at European universities to learn from the best in their fields of expertise. Except for Zürich, none of the institutions of higher learning officially admitted women, but arranged, for example, special courses, often taught in English, for their visitors. In both Berlin and Vienna, the local American Medical Associations would take over the organization of this opportunity of instruction from the early 20th century onward. Apart from, for example, Susan Dimock (U.S.) and Elizabeth Maude Abbott (Canada), Eliza Roots, Elizabeth Mott as well as the surgeon Mary Dixon Jones (1828–1908) spent some time in Vienna in order to study and, in Dixon Jones's case, "toured European operating theaters" to "cement [...] relationships [...] with [...] leaders in the profession [...]" in 1886 (Morantz-Sanchez, *Conduct* 76). However, this medical Grand Tour was not a one-way street from the U.S. to Europe. No matter how dominant this direction was, the few medical women in the U.S. and Europe in many cases established an intimate network of acquaintances and mutual support. While the doctor Elizabeth Blackwell, born in England, but living most of her life in the U.S. and the first woman to receive a medical degree in 1849 in the U.S. at Geneva Medical College, N.Y., spent her final years touring and lecturing in England, ultimately also dying there, Marie Zakrzewska (1829–1902) was born in Berlin, Germany, trained as a midwife before she finally moved to the U.S. to study medicine at Cleveland Medical College in 1856 in order to then work at the New York Infirmary for Women and Children and finally working at the New England Female Medical College from 1859 onward. In 1862, she founded the New England Hospital for Women and Children.

In my paper, I will depict the multi-faceted network among U.S.-American, Canadian, and European medical women who, in the 19th century in spite of all obstacles, prejudices, and outright sexism against women in the medical profession, crisscrossed the Atlantic in search of better and higher professional medical education.

Carmen Birkle has taught at the universities of Mainz, Vienna, Bergen, Dijon, and at Columbia University in New York City. She has been full professor of North American Literary and Cultural Studies at Philipps-Universität Marburg. She was president, vice president, and executive director of the German Association for American Studies and currently is the association's international delegate. She is Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Philipps-Universität (2017–20) and co-editor of the *American Studies Journal* (2017-). She is the

author of two monographs, *Women's Stories of the Looking Glass* (1996) and *Migration — Miscegenation — Transculturation* (2004), and of numerous articles and (co-)editor of 14 volumes of essays and special issues of journals, among them *Literature and Medicine* (2009), *Communicating Disease* (2013), and *Waging Health* (2015). Her research focuses on gender, ethnicity, and popular culture. She is currently working on a monograph at the intersection of American literature, culture, and medicine, above all in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

CHRISTOPH IRMSCHER

"In Gedanken in Amerika": The Evolution of Franz Steindachner

Franz Steindachner (1834–1919) was the curator of the fish, amphibian, and reptile collections at the Natural History Museum in Vienna when his work on South American fish came to the attention of the famous Agassiz at Harvard University, who invited Steindachner to come work for him. During the so-called Hassler expedition (1871–73), which traveled along the eastern coast of South America through the Straits of Magellan to the Galapagos Islands before ending up in San Francisco, Steindachner quickly established himself as the prototype of the nerdy scientist who cares about nothing but his work. He was “like a woman,” wrote Elizabeth Agassiz, “kind and unobtrusive,—as obliging as he is modest” and immune to heat, rain, or sun: “he works through everything—up early & to bed late and always busy.” His persistence exponentially increased the specimens they bagged, though it did not pay off with the ship’s parrot, who refused to learn to say “Guten Morgen” (“I fear me he is a stupid bird”). Steindachner’s reputation for dogged simple-mindedness seems to have served him well: at the end of the trip he pilfered a large number of Agassiz’s specimens for his museum. It also appears that, for all the gratitude he professed, he maintained a healthy skepticism towards his mentor’s skewed ideological principles. In his *Schlangen und Eidechsen der Galapagos-Inseln* (1876), instead of engaging in the demonization his mentor would have required, Steindachner quietly agreed with most of Darwin’s natural history observations. In 1876, he became director of the “Zoological Court Cabinet”; 22 years later, he ascended to the museum’s directorship. One of the most illustrious ichthyologists of his time, Steindachner was as self-effacing as Louis Agassiz was blustery and pompous. And unlike his brilliant mentor, he did not remain stuck in the mold of a science based on theological preconceptions. Drawing on unpublished sources, including Elizabeth Agassiz’s letters and Steindachner’s letters to Alexander Agassiz, my talk traces the evolution of Steindachner’s science as he works to reconcile his American passion for fieldwork with the realities of institutionalized science in Austria. Steindachner became the cosmopolitan scientist his friend Agassiz, for all his worldliness, never was. As Dr. Steindachner noted proudly in a letter to Elizabeth Agassiz, “In Wien faengt Europa an.”

Christoph Irmscher is Provost Professor of English at Indiana University Bloomington and the George F. Getz Jr. Professor in the Wells Scholars Program, which he also directs. Among his many books are *The Poetics of Natural History* (1999), *Longfellow Redux* (2006), and *Louis Agassiz: Creator of American Science* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013). His new biography of the writer and activist Max Eastman was published by Yale University Press in 2017. His edition of Stephen Spender's juvenilia is forthcoming from Indiana University Press. He frequently writes book reviews for national publications, among them the Wall Street Journal. His homepage can be found at www.christophirmscher.com.

WALDEMAR ZACHARASIEWICZ

The Debate on Reforms in Education and Academic Institutions in 19th Century America

The lecture will sketch several phases in the debate in the USA (and in North America in general) on the necessary reform of the unsatisfactory educational system including the academic institutions until the 1920s. It will consider the catalytic function of the experiences of many American graduates from New England but also – a little known aspect – from the South at Continental European schools, primarily in Germany, who were impressed by the quality of professional education there in the humanities, social and natural sciences and acted as mediators of new ideas and practices. The networks between members of several cohorts of American graduates with transatlantic experience shaped a lively debate on reforms, which eventually led to the general adoption of the seminar system and the establishment of graduate schools. After taking note of the latent or overt opposition to emulating German practices, the talk will also identify, against the background of the developing image of imperial Germany and changes in its educational system, tipping points in the acceptance of the transatlantic model and its foreign spokespersons, until their summary rejection during and after World War One.

Waldemar Zacharasiewicz is Emeritus Professor of American Studies at the University of Vienna. He chairs the commission "The North Atlantic Triangle" of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. He is also a member of Academia Europaea and a Foreign Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. His main research interests have been travel literature and imagology, the study of transatlantic migration, and the literatures of the American South and of Canada. He served as director of the Canadian Studies Center of the University of Vienna from 1998 to 2014. Among his publications are a monograph on the theory of climate in English literature and literary criticism (1977), two book-long studies on *Images of Germany in American Literature* (1998 and 2007), a collection of his essays entitled *Imagology Revisited* (2010), and a forthcoming volume on *Transatlantic Networks and the Perception and Representation of Vienna and Austria between the 1920s and 1950s*.


CHAD GAFFIELD

Embracing Transatlantic Research Collaboration in a New Era: Reflections from Canada

Three trends distinguish recent scholarship: 1) increasing attention to the flows of ideas and people within and across geo-political boundaries; 2) greater recognition of the complex interplay of specific contexts and widespread changes; and 3) the re-thinking of late-20th century distinctions between the Humanities and Social Sciences. These trends have been increasingly enabled, accelerated and, in turn, influenced by the belated blossoming of digitally-enabled scholarship. Along the way, scholars have embraced transatlantic research collaboration within revised metaphysical and epistemological approaches. The result has been exhilarating and un-nerving, inspiring and challenging, energizing and exhausting, if judged by scholarly debate in diverse disciplines. This presentation will examine recent changes by briefly focusing on the emergence of fields such as Digital History, the role of teaching and research units such as The Institute of Canadian Studies (University of Ottawa), and research policy developments such as the Trans-Atlantic Platform. Taken together, these examples suggest possible next steps that deserve discussion as we all seek to enhance knowledge and understanding of human thought and behavior in the past and present.

Chad Gaffield is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Ottawa (Canada) where he holds the University Research Chair in Digital Scholarship. His publications include studies of socio-demographic change during the 19th and 20th centuries, childhood and family history during the initial decades of mass schooling, and the emergence and development of Canada's official language communities. Dr. Gaffield's awards include the Royal Society of Canada's (RSC) J.B. Tyrrell Historical Medal and the Antonio Zampolli Prize given by the international Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations. He was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada in 2017. Dr. Gaffield served as President and CEO of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada from 2006 to 2014, and was elected President of the Royal Society of Canada for 2017–2019.

MANFRED PRISCHING

Austrian Economics: From Viennese Origins to the American Periphery

A strange fate has befallen the Austrian contribution to economics originating in the second half of the 19th century. First, at that time (and furthermore in the early years of the 20th century), the Vienna School of Economics was one of the great theoretical players in the field. There was the starting point with Carl Menger and the subsequent continuation of his approach with Eugen Böhm-Bawerk and Friedrich v. Wieser. Second, in the period between the wars, we have an intensive interdisciplinary discussion, with Ludwig von Mises as the theoretical key player, a discussion that reached out to philosophy (Viennese Circle) and sociology (Alfred


Schütz). Third, the success story goes wrong with the termination of the lively scientific scene in Vienna, resulting in the forced emigration of almost the whole intellectual potential assembled in Austria. Fourth, we enter the period when the researchers were gaining a foothold in the United States, and, in subsequent years, centers committed to Austrian economics were established at several American universities. Fifth, an internal differentiation started, with Mises' apriorism, Hayek's evolutionism and trends towards the integration of institutional perspectives. Sixth, the whole approach shifted towards the periphery of the economic discipline, because the mainstream developed towards defining itself as a sub-branch of mathematics committed to epistemological axioms of the 19th century. Seventh, Austrian economics never returned to Austria. As a special approach, it remains established in the USA, while in the country of its origin it is confronted with ideological resentments and remains largely unknown, in spite of the fact that Friedrich von Hayek eventually obtained the Nobel Prize (as the only Austrian scholar in this field).

Manfred Prisching is professor at the Institute of Sociology at the University of Graz and a corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. He is also a member of the Austrian Science Board. His main fields of research are the history of ideas, economic sociology, cultural sociology, and diagnoses of our time. His latest books are *Zeitdiagnose* (Weinheim Basel: Beltz Juventa, 2018) and *Bildungsideologien* (Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwiss., 2008).

LUDWIG NAGL

Philosophie, Psychoanalyse und Melodrama: Stanley Cavell über Max Ophüls's Verfilmung der Novelle Brief einer Unbekannten von Stefan Zweig

The multi-faceted, Wittgenstein-inspired philosophy of Stanley Cavell, Professor Emeritus at Harvard University, transgresses the received school boundaries of contemporary philosophical discourse in stimulating ways. This is shown in four steps. First, biographically, in a brief report on Cavell's numerous journeys to Austria and on his professional contacts with Austrian psychoanalysts, philosophers, and opera experts. The following three segments of the paper deal with core ideas of Cavell's complex film philosophy. Part two focuses on Cavell's philosophical reading of the cinematic genre which he named) „the Melodrama of the Unknown Woman“ (in reference to Stefan Zweig's novel *Brief einer Unbekannten*, as well as to Max Ophüls's cinematic rendering of Zweig's text in his film *Letter from an Unknown Woman*). Part three explains that this “melodramatic” genre is read by Cavell as the negative inversion of another film genre that he extensively analyzes, the “Hollywood remarriage comedies”. Part four, “The limits of the ‘robust secularism’ of Cavell's film analyses”, explores the recent debate on the concept of religion implied in Cavell's (film-) philosophy.



Ludwig Nagl is Ao. University Professor i. R. at the Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna. From 1970-71, in 1978 and 1980 he was Assistant Professor at Millersville University, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA. In 1987 and 1996 he was Visiting Scholar at Harvard University, USA. He was also Visiting Professor at the University of Jena, Germany, and at the University of St. Petersburg, Russian Federation. His research interests are focused on American Pragmatism, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy and Psychoanalysis and Film Philosophy. His homepage can be found at <http://homepage.univie.ac.at/ludwig.nagl/>.

CORNELIA KLINGER

A long and winding road – The Concept of Care between Continents and Discourses

This contribution will pursue an international discussion that took its departure from Carol Gilligan's widely received book *In a Different Voice* (1982). Over the 1980s and through the early 1990s the concept of care was at the centre of a search for a feminist or feminine ethics in the United States, Canada and Britain. This quest was taken up immediately in the German speaking countries whereas it reached France and other European countries only with some delay. This philosophical debate subsided soon during the 1990s when feminist theory was on the retreat. The concept of care moved from ethics to politics and economy; it 'traveled' into the social sciences and into economics on a global scale, as issues of care are being turned into professional and migrant work under the auspices of neoliberalism and a new wave of technological innovation.

Cornelia Klinger hat in Köln Philosophie, Literaturwissenschaft und Kunstgeschichte studiert. Sie ist außerplanmäßige Professorin für Philosophie an der Eberhard Karls-Universität Tübingen. Sie lebt und denkt in Hamburg. Arbeitsschwerpunkte: Politische Philosophie, Ästhetik, Theoriegeschichte der Moderne, Gender Studies im Bereich Philosophie. Unter ihren vielen Publikationen sind von ihr edierte Sammelbände, wie z.B. *Perspektiven des Todes in der modernen Gesellschaft* (2009) und *Blindheit und Hellsichtigkeit: Künstlerkritik an Politik und Gesellschaft der Gegenwart* (2013). Das Buch *Die andere Seite der Liebe. Das Prinzip Lebenssorge in der Moderne* (Frankfurt: Campus) wird in Kürze erscheinen. E-Mail: cornelia.klinger@uni-tuebingen.de

PHILIPP GASSERT

"If Deterrence Fails..." Peach Movements, Peace Research, Popular Culture, and the Transatlantic Struggles over Nuclear Weapons during the Cold War

This paper looks at various groups and actors that opposed the status quo of the Cold War, including established parties, social movements, artists, filmmakers, intellectuals, scientists, and politicians. While that opposition took up a range of

issues, including a general critique of the militarization of societies, my paper will primarily focus on the debate about “nuclear death”. The vision of total nuclear annihilation became the most powerful symbol of those critical of an international order that seemed to have become utterly unpredictable, dangerous, and inhumane. I will start with an examination of the 1950s campaigns against nuclear armament. I will secondly look at the rise of “peace research” as a way to undercut the logic of mutual assured destruction by means of “activist” scholarly work. Third, the transatlantic peace movements of the 1980s will be discussed. Throughout the paper, I will use popular culture as a way to bring the history of emotions into the picture and to connect activism, scholarship, and larger societal concerns and developments. My general argument is that the Cold War should be conceived of as much as the history of those opposed to the prolonged nuclear stalemate as it has been conceived of as the history of those who tried to preserve the Cold War division of the world. Many times, a critique of the Cold War status included a critique of the social status quo. During the first two decades (1940s and 1950s) as well as during the last decade (the 1980s) the main bearer of the critique of the Cold War were activist political networks (including social movements). During the middle decades (1960s and 1970s) the main opposition became academic peace research.

Philipp Gassert has been teaching Contemporary and Transatlantic History at the University of Mannheim (Germany) since 2014. Previously he taught at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., the University of Heidelberg, the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and the University of Augsburg. He has been Visiting Professor of History at the University of Haifa and Sir Peter Ustinov Visiting Professor at the University of Vienna. From 2011 onwards he served as Executive Director of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS) and is currently its President. He specializes in twentieth century transatlantic and international history, with Anti-Americanism, issues of Americanization and mutual perceptions of Europe, Germany, and the United States as one of the major themes of his research. Currently he is working on a global history of protest marches and street demonstrations. Most recent book publication: *Amerikas Kriege* [America's Wars] (Darmstadt: Theiss, 2014).

**THE NORTH ATLANTIC TRIANGLE: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN
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