

# Call for Abstracts

## Social Attaché in Washington

### The Diaries of E. F. Rimensberger, 1894–1962

Abstracts dedicated to the Swiss trade unionist Emil Friedrich Rimensberger are invited for the conference *Building Corporatist Europe* at the **University of Zurich** from 27 to 28 November 2025 (see next page).

Rimensberger was active in the international trade union movement and served as social attaché in Washington after 1945. He addressed issues of international labour relations, particularly various forms of corporatism, in his writings and diplomatic work. His diaries and articles contain reflections on social partnership models and Catholic and fascist variants of corporatism.

The aim of the contribution is to provide an analysis of Rimensberger's intellectual biography in the context of European debates on corporatism in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Rimensberger estate in the **Archives of Contemporary History at ETH Zurich** serves as the source base. Funding is available to cover travel and research costs. The organisers will also provide support with preliminary research, access to archives and editing assistance.

To apply for this conference paper, please send a 500-word abstract to [jonas.pluess@uzh.ch](mailto:jonas.pluess@uzh.ch) by **1 September 2025**.



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# Call for Abstracts

## Building Corporatist Europe

### Ideas, Institutions and Projects, 1929–75

#### Advisory Board

Prof. Dr. Laura Cerasi (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)  
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Prof. Dr. Martin Lutz (University of Bielefeld)

#### Organisers

M.A. Jonas Plüss (University of Zurich)  
Dr. Thomas Zaugg (University of Bielefeld)

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to invite you to the workshop *Building Corporatist Europe* at the **University of Zurich from 27 to 28 November 2025**.

This workshop reflects upon one of the key themes of 20<sup>th</sup> century European history: corporatism, meaning the integration of organised interests into the legislative and administrative branches of the modern state.

By hosting this workshop we also commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of Charles S. Maier's *Recasting Bourgeois Europe*, one of the works that has defined contemporary research on this theme.

The workshop explores European varieties of corporatism, which emerged in Western, Central and Eastern Europe over the 'trans-war' timespan stretching from the Great Depression of the 1930s until the Oil Crisis of the 1970s.

We sincerely look forward to reading your contributions!

Warm regards,

Thomas Zaugg, Jonas Plüss and the Advisory Board

This is an interdisciplinary exercise. We hence warmly welcome contributions from:

- historians of the economics of dictatorship, military mobilisation and reconstruction,
- historians of authoritarian and democratic regimes,
- historians of political and economic thought,
- historians of the labour movement and industrial relations,
- historians of business politics,
- historians of the state and civil administration.

The aim of the workshop is to produce an edited volume. To participate in the conference, please send a 500-word abstract to [jonas.pluess@uzh.ch](mailto:jonas.pluess@uzh.ch) by **1 September 2025**. The selected participants will have time until **1 November 2025** to produce a 1500-word summary of their paper.

Travel expenses and accommodation costs will be covered by the organisers.



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