

INTERNATIONALES KOLLEG für Geisteswissenschaftliche Forschung

Schicksal, Freiheit und Prognose. Bewältigungsstrategien in Ostasien und Europa

Convenor: Felicitas Schmieder

Forming the Future When Time Is Running Short

April 16, 2013 Senatssaal Schloss Schlossplatz 4, Erlangen

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There is a widespread conviction that the Middle Ages were bound to the Other World, that people were only living with respect to a life beyond death – that there was no future and no planning for it within the world because the upcoming time was too much determined. My thesis would be that "future" certainly had a different meaning: it was not completely open for being formed by any individual human being. But at the same time, and especially because the time was measured, people had to consider the remaining time and their actions within it – and thus were planning for a future BEFORE the end. For the workshop I would like to ask your opinion on this on the basis of your sources and with respect to the aptitude of a concept of "future".



