

# EAST *meets* WEST

Cross-Cultural Perspectives  
on America's Changing Image  
12-13 September 2025, Kosice, Slovakia

## Call for Papers

A biennial conference organized by  
the Czech and Slovak Association for American Studies  
&  
the Department of British and American Studies, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice,  
Slovakia

**Conference Date:** 12-13 September 2025

**Call open until:** 31 April 2025

We invite submissions for the conference, “**East Meets West: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on America's Changing Image**,” which will examine how America's global image has transformed in recent years. In the 21st century, representations of America are undergoing significant shifts. Once central to narratives of liberty and opportunity, its image is now examined through a diverse range of literary, cultural, philosophical lenses, including perspectives from both within America and regions such as Central and Eastern Europe and Asia and beyond.

This interdisciplinary conference will explore these evolving perspectives and how they are reflected in literature, media, cultural narratives and food studies. What does it mean for the American identity and its global reputation when the long-held narrative of being the "promised land" is questioned? How are cross-cultural exchanges between America and the East, particularly Central and Eastern Europe, represented?

We welcome papers that address these and related questions, offering fresh perspectives on how America's image is being reshaped in today's globalized and interconnected world:

### **Shifting Perspectives in American Literature, Culture, and Media**

How do contemporary American novels, films, and cultural texts reflect these shifting narratives? How are these shifting perspectives represented across various cultural forms, and what impact do they have on America's global image?

### **Philosophical Reflections on American Identity**

How do contemporary philosophical perspectives reflect the evolving nature of American values and identity? How do critical theories, including post-postmodernism, critical race theory, gender related theories and eco-philosophy, analyze current social, political, and ethical challenges?

### **Central and Eastern European Perspectives on America**

What roles do literature and media from Central and Eastern Europe play in reimagining America's global image? How do these regions, historically shaped by American influence during the Cold War, now perceive America in the context of modern geopolitical changes?

### **Freedom, Democracy, and the American Dream in Crisis**

How has the concept of the American Dream evolved in contemporary cultural narratives? What role does this iconic idea play in shaping America's image both domestically and internationally, and how is it critiqued and replaced in today's global culture?

### **Literary and Cultural Representations of America**

How do novels, films, and visual media depict the decline or persistence of America in the 21st century? Are there new symbols or metaphors that represent America's changing role on the world stage?

### **Transnational Perspectives on American Identity**

How do immigrant and diaspora writers in America contribute to or challenge the shifting global perspectives on American identity? How do cross-cultural narratives portray the complex relationship between Eastern and Western values, and what does this reveal about American identity in a global context?

### **International relations and collaboration**

How are recent developments reflected in international relations and the American involvement in the Eastern European region and beyond?

### **Interdisciplinary Contributions**

This conference invites interdisciplinary insights from the fields of literary studies, cultural studies, media studies, linguistics, philosophy, political theory, international relations, and related disciplines. We encourage papers that explore the cultural, historical, and linguistic dimensions of these shifts, with a particular focus on literature, media representations, and cross-cultural dialogues.

## Publication

Extended versions of selected papers will be published in a monograph by **Masaryk University Press**, which is indexed in the **Scopus database**. Another possibility of publication will be in Scopus-indexed **Ostrava Journal of English Philology**.

## Confirmed Keynote Speakers

[Sebastian Hua-Yu Cherng, New York University, USA](#)

[Stephen Wooten, University of Oregon, USA](#)

[Michaela Weiss, Silesian University, Czech Republic](#)

[Matej Cibik, University of Pardubice, Czech Republic](#)

## Submission Guidelines

We invite submissions from a broad range of disciplines, including but not limited to international relations, literature, cultural studies, history, and media studies. Papers that engage critically with cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspectives will be given priority.

Proposals should include:

- A title and abstract (300-500 words) outlining the focus and argument of the proposed paper.
- A brief bio (150 words) of the author, including institutional affiliation.
- Please submit your abstract and bio via e-mail to:  
[eastmeetswest.kosice2025@gmail.com](mailto:eastmeetswest.kosice2025@gmail.com)

## Important Dates

- Abstract submission deadline: 30 April 2025
- Notification of acceptance: 30 May 2025
- Conference date: 12-13 September 2025

## Venue

The conference will be held at Moyzesova 9, 040 01, Platón building, Faculty of Arts, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia.

## Registration fees

Standard registration fee: 100 EUR

Members of CSAAS: 90 EUR

PhD students: 80 EUR