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Foundations of Europe

## Lecture

The lecture *Foundations of Europe* provides students with an opportunity to acquire some general knowledge of selected topics which are important elements of European social and cultural life, both past and present. The impact of the social and political contexts on daily life and on developments in cultural life will be considered.

This lecture is taking a *cultural historical* approach to these topics, which have affected, and still affect, the daily, social and cultural life of European citizens throughout the centuries.

One of the main aims of the lecture is to make students aware of the fact that internationally our present habits and customs, our present-day values, opinions and perspectives, are not 'natural' nor self-evident: they have been very different in past centuries and have gone a long way to come about. Of course, the focus is within Europe.