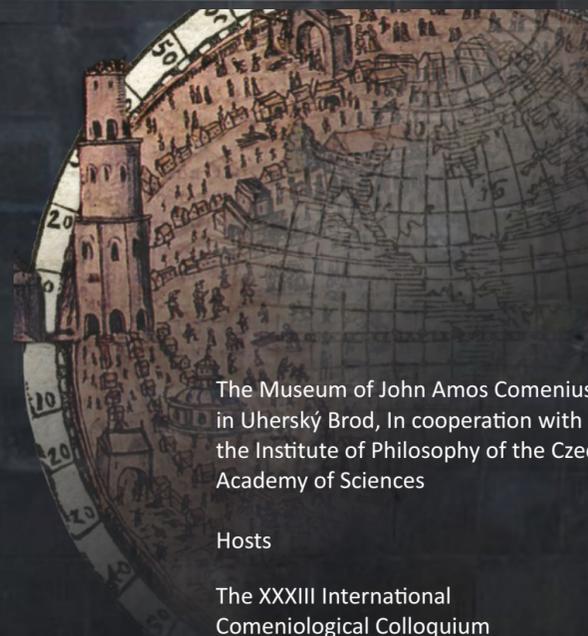


CALL FOR PAPERS

In 2022 we will celebrate the 430th anniversary of Comenius' birth. Shortly thereafter, it will be 400 years since he wrote his most famous work, *The Labyrinth of the World and the Paradise of the Heart* (1623). Both events provide an opportunity to reflect more profoundly and comprehensively upon Comenius and his work in the context of the 17th century and beyond. John Amos himself kept returning to the motif of the labyrinth, which he applied to all areas of human activity. Eventually, he summarised the labyrinths of his life in his philosophical testament, *Unum necessarium*.

A labyrinth symbolizes calamity, hopelessness, confusion, but also an effort to find the right path. Comenius spent his entire life trying to overcome calamities and find harmony. This is witnessed by his pedagogical, philosophical, and theological works, as well as by the breadth of his literary range and his contribution to the knowledge of the age. He also strove to find a way out of the labyrinths of public life. Comenius was not alone in his efforts: he shared his ideas with many like-minded intellectuals and religious thinkers. He even came up with his own proposed remedy, which was met with sympathy but also with criticism and resentment.

Comenius continued to be perceived in both a positive and a negative light by subsequent generations, which were both inspired by and took issue with his work. This colloquium should therefore recapitulate and reflect upon previous multidisciplinary research into the current state of knowledge in those various branches of learning that have dealt with Comenius, his era and his work, including general history, the history of literature, philology, the history of philosophy, pedagogy, historical theology, the history of science and knowledge, and intellectual history.



“Comenius' Labyrinths”

To be held in Uherský Brod
from 11th to 12th October 2022

Although this list is certainly neither prescriptive nor comprehensive, here are just some of the subtopics upon which we would like to focus:

- **Crisis phenomena in society, religion, and knowledge in Comenius' time.**
- **The labyrinth as a symbol of confusion and searching in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century literature and knowledge.**
- **Reform projects and the concept of improvement/amendment, or *reformatio*, *restitutio* and *emendatio* in the early modern period.**
- **Improvement through knowledge; Comenius' pedagogical proposals.**
- **Comenius' improvement/reform project, as interpreted in Enlightenment, post-Enlightenment, modern, and postmodern discourse.**

The colloquium is traditionally open to all fields that reflect the breadth of Comenius' interests. Both general treatises and case studies are welcome, especially with regard to the work of John Amos Comenius. The Organizing Committee will select from the submitted papers those that are most relevant to the suggested topics.

Languages: Czech, Slovak, English, German
Time allowed for papers: 30 minutes; contributions to debate: 15 minutes.



Please send your applications with the proposed topic and abstract to Lenka Pospíšilová, J. A. Comenius Museum, Přemysla Otakara II 37, CZ-688 12 Uherský Brod, Czech Republic (pospisilova@mjakub.cz) by 31 May 2022.

The Organizing Committee will decide on the acceptance of papers and contributions to debate by the end of June 2022. Subject to review, the papers will be published in the *Studia Comeniana et historica*. Deadline for submissions: February 2023.