Cities of Copper, Silver and Gold. Doing Research on Lower Hungarian Mining Towns.

November 9, 2022
5:40 p.m. CET

Room A-211, Quellenstrasse 51, Vienna
Zoom Link: bit.ly/3VEzNrQ

Milan Georgievski

Slovak National Museum
& Bak Fellow*

Lower Hungarian mining towns – or as they were once known Niederungarische Bergstädte – were located in the northern part of the Kingdom of Hungary, nowadays Central Slovakia. For five centuries, these towns maintained an alliance, a league of seven member cities protecting their multifaceted mutual interests from interfering central authorities. Remarkably, the heyday of this confederation of towns began during the 16th century, in a period of constant pressure from various levels and types of power. The focus of the lecture is on the three most important mining towns in this area, Kremnitz (Kremnica) of gold, Schemnitz (Banská Štiavnica) of silver and Neusohl (Banská Bystrica) of copper, considering their place in the urban network, their inner urban structure and the possibilities and limits of doing scientific, predominantly historical, research about them and in them.

Milan Georgievski is Slovak historian and author. He studied history with focus on medieval history at the Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic, and Slovak history with focus on the early modern period at the University of Matthias Bel in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Professionally, he worked as a researcher at the Institute of History of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and is currently a curator at the Slovak National Museum. His main scientific interest lies in the socio-historical research of mining towns, especially those located in then-Lower Hungary, now Central Slovakia.