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Editorial

Dieser Rundbrief beginnt mit einigen Veränderungen im Gefüge und in der personellen Zusammensetzung, die auf der diesjährigen Generalversammlung beschlossen wurden und für die Zukunft der ITH von großer Bedeutung sind.

Der Rundbrief enthält weiters den Bericht über die diesjährige Konferenz der ITH: *Towards a Global History of Domestic Workers and Caregivers/ Für eine globale Geschichte der Hausangestellten und des häuslichen Betreuungspersonals*. Diese Konferenz erweiterte den Rahmen der ITH-Konferenzen nicht nur durch eine sehr große Zahl von BeiträgerInnen, die die globale Reichweite des Thema widerspiegelte, sondern auch durch ein DoktorandInnen-Workshop, dessen Beiträge in den Bericht integriert sind.

Es folgt ein Aufruf zur Einreichung von Beiträgen für die nächste Konferenz: *Work and Compulsion: Coerced Labour in Domestic, Service, Agricultural, Factory and Sex Work, 1850-2000s* (Linz, 25.-28.9.2013) in englischer und französischer Sprache. Die Frist für die Einreichungen ist der 30.11.2013.

Die Auswahl der Beiträge erfolgt durch eine Vorbereitungsgruppe, die ähnlich jener zur Konferenz 2013 zusammengesetzt ist: Prof. em. Dirk Hoerder (Salzburg), Prof. Marcel van der Linden (International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam), Dr. Silke Neunsinger (Archives of the Labour Movement, Stockholm), Dr. Magaly Rodríguez García (Vrije Universiteit Brussel); für die ITH: Univ.-Doz. Dr. Berthold Unfried und Mag. Eva Himmelstoss.

Anschließend präsentieren wir den Auswahlband zur Tagung 2012: *Interventionen: Soziale und kulturelle Entwicklungen durch Arbeiterbewegungen* (hg. v. David Mayer und Jürgen Mittag). Mitgliedsinstitute können 2 Freixemplare bestellen.

Wir schließen wie immer mit Ankündigungen von Veranstaltungen, Aufrufen zur Einreichung von Beiträgen für andere Konferenzen sowie mit Neuerscheinungen.

Eva Himmelstoss, Geschäftsführerin
Berthold Unfried, Präsident

Editorial

This newsletter presents structural and personal changes in relation to the future direction of the ITH decided by this year's General Assembly.

The newsletter then presents the report on the past conference: *Towards a Global History of Domestic Workers and Caregivers* (Linz, 11-14 Sept. 2013). This conference widened the frame of ITH-conferences by a great number of speakers reflecting the global scope of the topic, as well as by an international workshop for PhD students (included in the report).

In addition, we feature a Call for Papers for next year's conference: *Work and Compulsion: Coerced Labour in Domestic, Service, Agricultural, Factory and Sex Work, 1850-2000s* (Linz, 25-28 Sept. 2013) in English and French. Deadline for proposals is 30 November 2013.

Contributions will be selected by a committee similar to that of last year's conference: Prof. em. Dirk Hoerder (Salzburg), Prof. Marcel van der Linden (International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam), Dr. Silke Neunsinger (Archives of the Labour Movement, Stockholm), and Dr. Magaly Rodríguez García (Vrije Universiteit Brussel); for the ITH: Univ.-Doz. Dr. Berthold Unfried, and Mag. Eva Himmelstoss.

We announce the publication of selected contributions to last year's conference: *Interventions: The Impact of Labour Movements on Social and Cultural Development* (edited by David Mayer and Jürgen Mittag). Member institutes may order 2 free copies.

Finally, we give notice of announcements, calls and further publications.

Eva Himmelstoss, General Secretary
Berthold Unfried, President

Ergebnisse der Vorstandssitzung, Beschlüsse der Generalversammlung, Personalia

Vorstand und Generalversammlung haben in ihrer Sitzung in Linz am 12.9.2013 wichtige Beschlüsse betreffend die zukünftige Orientierung der ITH getroffen. Im Sinne einer kollektiven Führung der ITH wurden 3 Vizepräsident/inn/en gewählt, die operativ tätig werden sollen. Sie werden weiter unten kurz vorgestellt.

Personalia

Berthold Unfried wurde als Präsident wiedergewählt. In seinem Bericht hob er die globalgeschichtliche Orientierung der ITH hervor, die nun auch in der Zusammensetzung der TagungsteilnehmerInnen Niederschlag findet. Die Originalität der ITH besteht darin, dass sie als weltweites Netzwerk auf diesem Gebiet eigene Akzente setzt.

Auch die Geschäftsführerin **Eva Himmelstoss** wurde in ihrer Funktion bestätigt.

Der langjährige Kassier, **Winfried Garscha**, kandidierte nicht mehr für dieses Amt. Er bleibt der ITH als Kuratoriumsmitglied erhalten. In seinem auf der Generalversammlung präsentierten Finanzbericht wurde deutlich, dass die derzeitigen Einnahmens-Standbeine der ITH, nämlich die Mitglieds- und Tagungsbeiträge sowie die Kooperation mit der oberösterreichischen Arbeiterkammer und der Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung, die finanzielle Situation der ITH nicht nachhaltig gestalten können. Diese insbesondere durch die Bemühungen der Geschäftsführung gestiegenen Einnahmen konnten den Ausfall der jährlichen Basis-Subvention für nicht-universitäre Forschung seitens des österreichischen Wissenschaftsministeriums seit 2012 nicht zur Gänze kompensieren.

Der bisherige stellvertretende Kassier, **Korbinian Schleicher**, folgt Winfried Garscha als Kassier nach. Kuratorium und Internationaler Wissenschaftlicher Beirat wurden personell erneuert. Der Tagungsbeitrag, neben den Mitgliedsbeiträgen die Haupteinnahmequelle der ITH, wurde neu festgesetzt. Die Themen der Tagungen 2014-2017 wurden beschlossen und Vorbereitungsgruppen eingesetzt.

Die neuen Vizepräsident/inn/en

Marcel van der Linden, geboren 1952, ist Forschungsdirektor am Internationalen Institut für Sozialgeschichte, Amsterdam, und Professor für die Geschichte der sozialen Bewegungen an der Universität von Amsterdam. Er ist seit Jahren im konzeptuellen Leitungsteam der ITH an der inhaltlichen Orientierung beteiligt. Als Vizepräsident wird er sich zusätzlich auch für die

Ressourcenacquirierung der ITH auf internationaler Ebene kümmern.

David Mayer, geboren 1976, war von 2007 bis 2011 Assistent am Institut für Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte der Universität Wien. 2011 schloss er seine Doktorarbeit über marxistisch inspirierte Geschichtsdebatten in Lateinamerika in den ‚langen 1960er‘ Jahren auf Basis von Forschungsaufenthalten in verschiedenen Ländern Lateinamerikas ab. Seine zentralen Arbeitsschwerpunkte sind die Geschichte sozialer Bewegungen, Historiographiegeschichte, die Geschichte des Marxismus und der Links-Intellektuellen, sowie Geschichtspolitik.

Susan Zimmermann, geboren 1960, ist Professorin an der Central European University in Budapest und Lehrbeauftragte an der Universität Wien. Gegenwärtig forscht sie zur Globalisierung (nicht-)geschlechtlicher Arbeitsnormen in der Zwischenkriegszeit und untersucht die Politik der Hauptakteure, insbesondere der Internationalen Arbeitsorganisation (ILO) und international organisierter Frauen, sowie deren Auswirkungen hinsichtlich Klasse, Rasse, Geschlecht und globaler Ungleichheit.

► Der neue Vorstand:

<http://www.ith.or.at/ith/vorstand.htm>

ITH-Konferenzen 2014-2017

2014: *Work and Compulsion*: Aufruf zur Einreichung von Beiträgen in diesem Rundbrief Vorbereitungsgruppe: Dirk Hoerder, Marcel van der Linden, Silke Neunsinger, Magaly Rodríguez García; für die ITH: Eva Himmelstoss, Berthold Unfried

2015: *Arbeit und Nicht-Arbeit* Vorbereitungsgruppe: Andreas Eckert, Josef Ehmer; für die ITH: Eva Himmelstoss, Berthold Unfried

2016: *Globale Güterketten* Vorbereitungsgruppe: Andrea Komlosy et al.

2017: *Revolutionen seit 1917 in globalgeschichtlicher Perspektive* Vorbereitungsgruppe: noch zu bestellen

Outcome of the Meeting of the Executive Committee and Decisions Reached by the General Assembly; Personalia

At their meetings in Linz on 12 September 2013, the Executive Committee and the General Assembly took a number of decisions in relation to the future direction of the ITH. To move to a more inclusive collective management of the ITH, three vice-presidents were elected to take operative action. Below please find a short presentation of the three.

Personalia

Berthold Unfried was re-elected as president. In his report, he stressed the global history orientation of the ITH which was now also reflected by the composition of participants to the conference. The unique nature of the ITH can be seen in the circumstance that the organization puts its own accents as a world-wide network in this particular field.

Eva Himmelstoss was re-elected as Managing Director.

Winfried Garscha, for many years treasurer to the organization, has decided to retire from this post. He has, however, agreed to remain on the Board of Trustees. In his financial report to the General Assembly he made it clear that the present main sources of revenue of the ITH, i.e. the subscription of members and conference fees as well as support by the Chamber of Labour in Upper Austria and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, do not suffice to provide a sustainable financial future. The increase in revenue, mainly a result of the efforts made by the Management, will not offset the stoppage of the annual basic subsidies for non-university research from the Austrian Ministry of Science as of 2012.

Korbinian Schleicher, hitherto Deputy Treasurer, will succeed Winfried Garscha as Treasurer.

New members were elected to the Board of Trustees and to the International Scientific Advisory Board.

Fees payable for participating in Conferences, together with members' subscriptions the principal source of revenue for the ITH, were fixed at a new level. Themes for the Conferences 2014-2017 were determined and preparatory groups were appointed.

The new Vice-Presidents

Marcel van der Linden, born 1952, is the Research Director of the International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, and holds a professorship for the history of social movements at the University of Amsterdam. His research focuses on global labour history and the history of

radical ideas. He has for many years been an essential member of ITH's conferences' planning team. As a vice-president, he will additionally look for funding on the international level.

David Mayer, born 1976, studied History and Development Studies at the University of Vienna. Between 2007 and 2011 he has worked as a research assistant at the Department of Social and Economic History (University of Vienna) and in 2011 completed his PhD-research on the history of Marxist historiographic debates in Latin America in the 'long 1960s' on the basis of several research stays in Latin America. His main research interests are the history of social movements, the history of historiography, the history of Marxism and left-wing intellectuals, and politics of history.

Susan Zimmermann, born 1960, is a University Professor at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, and regularly teaches at Vienna University. Her current research on the globalization of (non-)gendered labour standards in the interwar period explores the politics of major actors involved, namely the International Labour Organization and internationally organized women, and the implications of their politics in terms of class, race, gender, and global inequality.

➤ **The new Board and Executive Committee:** http://www.ith.or.at/ith_e/vorstand_e.htm

ITH Conferences 2014-2017

2014: *Work and Compulsion*: Call for Papers in this newsletter

Preparation group: Dirk Hoerder, Marcel van der Linden, Silke Neunsinger, Magaly Rodríguez García; for the ITH: Eva Himmelstoss, Berthold Unfried

2015: *Work and Non-Work*

Preparation group: Andreas Eckert, Josef Ehmer; for the ITH: Eva Himmelstoss, Berthold Unfried

2016: *Global Commodity Chains*

Preparation group: Andrea Komlosy et al.

2017: *Revolutions since 1917 in Global History*

Preparation group: yet to be determined

Report: International Conference and Workshop

“Towards a Global History of Domestic Workers and Caregivers”

Linz, 12 – 15 September 2013

The 49th annual meeting of the *International Conference of Labour and Social History* (ITH) assembled scholars from all over the world to discuss the global history of domestic and caregiving work within the households of others. Domestic workers have long been neglected by labour historians despite their significant contributions to national economies. By concentrating on them and the multiplicity of ways in which domestic and caregiving work was and still is performed throughout the world, the conference aimed to contribute to a more comprehensive history of labour. Its objective was to identify similarities and differences in domestic service between different world regions as well as to track the continuities and changes that have occurred in history.

Given the complexity of the research subject with differences in the socio-political frameworks across regions and differing cultural meanings and structures of households and families, the attempt to construct a global history of domestic workers and caregivers was an ambitious but necessary project. Contributions grappled with conditions in the Global South as well as the Global North between the 17th and 21st centuries, some scholars wrestling with the impact of imperialism as they studied countries with histories of colonisation and those that would be considered postcolonial instead. The intersections of gender, racism, class, and religion were also discussed. This year's annual conference began with a workshop for doctoral candidates on 12 September. A total of 31 papers were presented.

Both workshop and conference were opened with a comprehensive review of the historiography of domestic work in the homes of others starting with the end of the 19th century which was provided by **Raffaella Sarti**. She emphasised the gendering of remunerated domestic and caregiving work and the place of servants in changing kinship ties. The development of the welfare state and its impact on domestic work and workers was noted, as was the place of ethnicity in the colonial context. Sarti stressed newer trends including the recent surge of interest in domestic work, as new concepts such as global care chains are added to the academic lexicon. She suggested that transnational movements or the growing importance of remit-

tances might be behind the closer scrutiny of the phenomenon today.

Migration

Working in the homes of others has often been coupled with migration from rural to urban areas or between countries. Scholarly contributions at the conference considered these myriad migration flows, causalities and the socio-political effects of such mobility. They examined historical links between the regions involved and perceptions of cultural or religious difference.

Majda Hrženjak drew attention to the distinctions between local care deficit and life style servicing as drivers for the employment of migrant domestic workers in her analysis of global care chains and the role of Slovenian domestics in Italian households since the 19th century. **Anna Kordasiewicz** and **Marta Kindler** focused on the provision of childcare in Poland, tracing changes over two centuries. **Dana Cooper** looked at the unintended impact of empire as she offered a historical comparison of Irish and Filipina women's migration to the US looking at the differences in perceptions of religious identity in both cases. **Marina de Regt**, who investigated Ethiopian domestics in Yemen stressed the construction of identity in the patriarchal and highly stratified society and examined the place of race, domestic work and status.

Traude Bollauf focused on migration into domestic service as a possibility for escape. Obtaining a domestic work permit, many Austrian but also German Jewish women succeeded in moving to England in 1938/39 to escape persecution and murder by National Socialists.

State, legislation and domestic workers' struggles

There have been many efforts made to define, codify and regulate domestic work over the years. Domestic workers today still remain largely unregulated and unorganised, the primary difficulties believed to be their placement in the private sphere or pseudo kinship relationships between employers and domestic workers.

Elizabeth Quay Hutchinson's analysis on domestic work in Chile from the 1920s to the

1980s considered the intersection of reproductive work and politics. She highlighted the significance of union organising, unions presenting opportunities for local political alliances. The feminisation of the trade was not found to be a drawback, women workers having an equal voice in their unions. Legislative success and protections for domestic workers were established by the 1970s, these efforts supported by both Church and State.

Magaly Rodriguez Garcia discussed conflicts within the League of Nations in the 1920s and 1930s over how the 'Mui-Tsai' system (a Chinese custom of transferring girls from poor families into domestic service in affluent homes) should have been dealt with. Noteworthy in her analysis was the Orientalist slant within these international discourses as well as the fact that the 'Mui Tsai' problem was considered under the rubric of the League of Nation's Slavery Convention at the time. By placing domestic work within the family sphere the ILO kept it outside its jurisdiction until recently.

Andrew Urban analysed late 19th-century struggles in the 'White Pacific' where white women domestics sought to replace the Chinese men working as servants, his analysis focusing on the interventions by State and Church as well as the place of race and identity in these discourses.

Many contributions at the conference made clear that one should not overlook domestic workers' constant efforts for improvement of their situation. In 2011, domestic workers' unions and networks as well as affiliated NGOs achieved the ILO-convention 189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers. It came into force on September 5, 2013. Ten countries had ratified the convention at last count. **Eileen Boris** and **Jennifer N. Fish** provided the historical framework for this achievement and described the impact of historical legacies of inequalities of gender, race and class. Reorganisation of the global economy and expansion of the informal sector, they argued, are reflected in the transnational networks of influence and today play a part in the ratification process of the new convention.

Vicky Kanyoka, representative of the *International Domestic Workers Network* (IDWN) was a tireless contributor, sharing her experiences as an activist working on behalf of domestic workers worldwide.

Shifts in domestic work arrangements

The nature of domestic and caregiving work in the homes of others has undergone considerable

change since the 17th century, but continuities also abound.

R. David Goodman whose work is focused on Morocco suggests that within that postcolonial nation domestic slavery continues today as a social if not a legal condition. **Lisa Krissof Boehm** described the work performed by African-American women migrating from the south to the northern states of the US between 1940 and 1990. Their transition from domestic labour to corporate employee she found to have come with little improvement, the work performed remaining the same but now performed in fast food kitchens.

While domestic service was increasingly more feminised in European countries in the 19th century, domestic work was – particularly in colonial, but also postcolonial contexts – also assigned to non-white men. **Walter Gam Ngkwi**, for example, whose paper was presented by **Elise van Nederveen Merkeerk**, drew attention to the male indentured domestic workers in Cameroon in the 20th century. Other scholars were focussed on Europe, highlighting changing perceptions of childrearing and motherhood (e.g. **Christa Matthys** on aristocratic women, 1700-1900) or dealt with changing power relationships during the agrarian revolution (**Carolina Uppenberg** on Sweden). According to UP-PENBERG, service was declassified in that period; the social distance between servants and employers extended. **Mareike Witkowski** emphasised that the remunerated household worker never became insignificant during the 20th century. Rather work arrangements changed from live-in service to paid live-out work.

For **Sabrina Marchetti** researching migrant domestic workers and caregivers from Eritrea and Suriname in the Netherlands, power dynamics established during colonialism still had strong cultural implications for migrants and their former colonisers.

Relationships, intimacy, and the household

The conference addressed the emotional aspects as a distinctive feature of domestic or caregiving work. Relationships with employers or other household members were not always exploitative but remained complex, often marked by differentials in class and race.

Keynote speaker **Shireen Ally** described relationships between masters/mistresses and servants in South Africa (1652-1914) by presenting three case studies in three different periods analysing slave and indentured labour and domestic service contracts. She referenced the complexities inherent in these relationships as a 'funny kind of love.' Ally called for greater inte-

gration of scholarship between various academic disciplines. **Bela Kashyap** analysed how the complex bonds between mistresses and maids shifted in 19th and 20th century Southeast Asia. Colonial legacies and efforts of modernisation were investigated.

Henrique Espada Lima highlighted the contested definitions of work in the private sphere in his analysis of 19th-century court cases in Brazil. **Adéla Souralová** provided an analysis of the complicated relationships between Czech nannies, their Vietnamese employers and the children they cared for in Czech society, an interesting case of reversing the care chain.

Colleen O'Neill described 'colonial parenting', outlining the attempts of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to integrate American Native women into the American urban working class in the 1950s, by relocating them into cities to transform them into 'daughters for hire'. Some contributions concentrated on the histories of European domesticity and domestic and caregiving practices instead. **Christa Matthys**, for example, discussed negotiations of motherhood between mothers and wet-nurses, governesses and children's maids and their conflicting perceptions.

According to **Robyn Pariser** who investigated domestic service in colonial Tanzania (1919-1961), male domestic servants were important actors in shaping European domesticity, domestic routines, and employers' identities as housewives. Complicating previous understandings of colonisers and the colonised, Pariser argued that the colonised too enjoyed significant power due to the colonisers' dependence on their knowledge.

Meanings

Victoria Haskins discussed the contested meaning of wages in her analysis of the "outing system" implemented by the federal US Bureau of Indian Affairs in the late 19th to mid-20th centuries. Wages, she argued, had a specific cultural value, meaning different things to different historical actors, both symbolic as well as material.

Fae Dussart searched for meanings in the dialogue between domestic servants and their employers conducted indirectly through editorials and letters to *The Times* between 1850 and 1900, the expression of opinion by the working classes which she argued was a demonstration of reciprocity within domestic patriarchy.

Yukari Takai and **Mary Gene De Guzman** presented their on-going research on Filipina domestics in Toronto and shed light on the complex meanings of both home and wages within the migrant population.

Apart from the struggles between different agents visible in the public sphere, practices of everyday resistance were also examined. **Jaira Harrington** and **Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman** analysed non-unionised and informal domestic workers' resistance in Brazil in the framework of racialisation and domestics' ambiguous roles within private households. **Vilhelm Vilhelmsen** presented a court case of a refractory servant in the context of bonded service in 19th century Iceland.

Jessica Richter investigated the struggles by courts and public authorities as well as domestic servants and their organisations to define domestics. **Lokesh** located a spontaneous strike of women domestic workers from Pune, Maharashtra in the history of domestic slavery and domestic workers' organisation contextualised by issues of gender and caste.

Concluding Discussion

The conference closed with a lively discussion of the state of the field and potential directions to follow for further research. For example, by providing IDWN recommendations **Vicky Kan-yoka** aimed to expand collaboration between researchers and activists. She e.g. asked the participants to share research results with domestic workers' organisations in the regions studied.

Some participants asked how remunerated domestic work could be integrated into a critical theory of the political economy. It seems evident that the category labour has to be broadened in any such theory in order to include domestic and emotional work. The need for studying domestic workers' non-integration into well-established unions as well as their transnational networks and struggles was accentuated. Some discussants demanded to make the complexities of domestic labour relations as well as researchers' own role of employer or care-receivers of domestic and caregiving work a part of analysis. Since migration was highlighted as the key to understand domestic work in the households of others, questions of citizenship should be further investigated.

Report by Bela Kashayap (University of Cincinnati, USA) and Jessica Richter (University of Vienna, Austria)

Programme

- Workshop: http://www.ith.or.at/konf_e/zeitpl_2013ws_e.htm
- Main Conference: http://www.ith.or.at/konf_e/zeitpl_2013_e.htm

Call for Papers: 50th Linz Conference

“Work and Compulsion: Coerced Labour in Domestic, Service, Agricultural, Factory and Sex Work, ca. 1850-2000s”

Linz, 25-28 September 2014

The *International Conference of Labour and Social History (ITH)*, Austria, in co-operation with the *Chamber of Labour of Upper Austria*, announces the 50th Linz Conference, to be held in Linz from 25 to 28 September 2014.

Objectives

The conference focuses on the exploitation of human labour in the range of forced labour and debt bondage, which contrary to chattel slavery have received little scholarly attention. In spite of the gradual abolition of slavery (understood as the legal ownership of humans) in the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, other forms of coerced labour persisted in most regions of the world. Indeed, while most nations increasingly condemned the maintenance of slavery and slave trade, they tolerated labour relationships that involved violent control, economic exploitation through the appropriation of labour power, restriction of workers' freedom of movement and fraudulent debt obligations. Hence the conference deals with historical situations of coerced labour worldwide.

The aims of this conference are five-fold:

1. To write a global and comparative history of the political-institutional and gender structures, the economics of and working conditions within coerced labour, as well as the evolution of forced labour (internal or cross-border) migration of male and female workers and the role played by intermediaries. In short, the whole praxis of coerced labour in colonized segments of the world, core countries, post-imperial states, new industrial economies and other low-income countries.
2. To problematize (the increasing) forced labour and labour mobility in colonial territories, in Africa and Asia in particular, and to relate them to developments in intra-European labour regulation and regimentation and to the expansion of North Atlantic capital across the world.
3. To deal with the twentieth-century forms of coerced labour, whether through confinement to labour camps or debt bondage of individual production and service workers to creditors (for the costs of the voyage) or to individual employers (for the duration of their stay).
4. To question whether the application of the forced-labour model to systemic employer-

employee relations under constraining circumstances is justified, or whether the ILO's differentiation between forced labour and sub-standard or exploitative working conditions can/should be maintained. These issues are related to the naming and conceptualization of “force”, “coercion” and “consent”, as well as to the utility of the notions of “human trafficking” and “modern-day slavery”.

5. To explore the experiences and aspects of human agency or resistance by forced/bonded workers, organizing initiatives and the silence or activity of non-state actors such as trade unions and NGOs.

Programme Structure and Themes

Keynotes

1. Agency of men and women under coercion.
2. A historical overview of the definitions of “slavery”, “forced labour”, “trafficking” and “modern slavery”, and their evolution within the realm of international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

SECTION I – Coerced Labour in the Colonial and Non-Colonial World (ca. 1850-1940)

Working conditions, employee-employer relationships and migration patterns (who was transported in which direction) within systems of indentured labour, debt bondage, peonage, servitude, compulsory labour and so on. Examples are the twentieth-century credit-ticket migrations from Southern China; the British (and other) empire-imposed indentured labour involving long-distance migration in the macro-regions of the Indian Ocean and the Plantation Belt from the 1830s to the 1930s; European forced-labour regimes imposed on men, women and children within particular colonies; forced labour migration from the colonies to Europe during the First World War (the so-called “colonial auxiliaries”); and forms of involuntary (child) servitude in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the United States.

SECTION II – Politically Imposed Labour on Home Territories

The labour relations, working conditions and agency of workers sent to concentration camps, remote labour colonies or industrial camps under Fascism or Stalinism, in Japan during the Second World War, as prisoners or under peonage in the (southern) United States, in communist China, in Cuba, or as persecuted minorities like the Roma as well as, in the present, use of forced labour from political and other prisoners from dictatorial or authoritarian regimes by Western companies, require further study.

SECTION III – Coerced Labour Since the End of the Second World War

The phenomenon of coerced labour – often called “modern slavery” since the last decades – concerns questions of global divisions of labour, economic, gender and racial inequality. While numbers and definitions are contested by academic, UN and ILO experts, official and unofficial data range from 17 to 27 million women, men and children worldwide. This section aims to include papers with empirical information on the extent to which debt, power relationships and poverty lead to the virtual “enslavement” of people through systematic recruitment by means of intimidation or threat of violence, aggressive control by labour intermediaries such as “coyotes”, “snakes” or procurers, and/or brutal enforcement of debt collection after arrival. The experiences and resistance strategies of the workers concerned will be fundamental to better understand the degree of labour constraints and/or the consent to so-called “3D jobs” (dirty, dangerous and demeaning).

Concluding Discussion

General debate on the accuracy of the current definitions used by state and non-state actors, the impact that new research can have on policies and the development or adjustment of analytical methods that can further the knowledge of coerced labour from past and present.

Call for Papers

Proposed papers need to address the conference topics mentioned above in section I, II or III and should include:

- An abstract (max. 300 words)
- The targeted thematic section
- A biographical note (max. 200 words)
- Full address and email-address

Sessions will be reserved for ongoing research on the level of doctoral dissertations and of postdoctoral research (depending on high-quality abstracts being submitted).

A special effort will be made to include paper presenters from all regions of the world and both senior and beginning researchers. The conference language will be English.

The organizers will not be able to reimburse costs for travel or hotel accommodation. However, we will establish a limited fund to which scholars with insufficient means of their own may write a motivated application for (partial) reimbursement of travel costs. Grants will be contingent on sufficient funding.

The conference fee includes accommodation (in shared double rooms provided by the ITH) and meals. Participants taking responsibility for their own accommodation will pay a reduced fee.

► Proposals to be sent to Magaly Rodríguez García: mrodrigu@vub.ac.be

Time Schedule

- Deadline for submission of proposals: 30 November 2013
- Notification of acceptance: 20 December 2013
- Deadline for full papers: 1 August 2014

A publication of selected conference papers is planned; final manuscripts due 1 April 2015.

Preparatory Group

Prof. em. Dirk Hoerder (Salzburg, Austria)

Prof. Marcel van der Linden (International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam)

Dr. Magaly Rodríguez García (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Dr. Silke Neunsinger (Archives of the Labour Movement, ARAB, Stockholm)

For the ITH: *Mag. Eva Himmelstoss*, Univ.-Doz.

Dr. Berthold Unfried (Institute of Economic and Social History, University of Vienna)

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Proposals to be sent to: mrodrigu@vub.ac.be

Appel à communications

« Travail et contrainte : le travail forcé dans le domaine domestique, des services, de l'agriculture, à l'usine et du travail du sexe, dans les années 1850 à 2000 »

Linz, 25-28 Septembre 2014

La *Conférence internationale d'Histoire ouvrière et sociale* (ITH) annonce la 50e Conférence à Linz, Autriche, du 25 au 28 septembre 2014.

Objectifs

La conférence porte sur l'exploitation du travail humain dans le cadre du travail forcé et de la servitude pour dettes, qui, contrairement à l'esclavage, a peu intéressé les chercheurs. Malgré l'abolition progressive de l'esclavage (entendue comme la propriété légale de l'homme) au cours des XIXe et XXe siècles, d'autres formes de travail forcé ont persisté dans la plupart des régions du monde. En effet, alors que la plupart des pays condamnaient de plus en plus fortement l'esclavage et la traite des esclaves, ils toléraient les relations de travail impliquant un contrôle violent, l'exploitation économique par l'appropriation de la force de travail, la restriction de la liberté de mouvement des travailleurs et les titres de dette frauduleux. La conférence aborde donc les situations historiques de travail forcé dans le monde.

Les objectifs de cette conférence sont de cinq ordres :

1. Écrire une histoire mondiale et comparative des structures politiques et institutionnelles et de genre, les conditions économiques et de travail dans le travail forcé, ainsi que l'évolution du travail forcé (intérieur ou transfrontalier) : migration des travailleurs masculins et féminins et rôle joué par les intermédiaires. En bref, tout ce qui concerne le travail forcé dans les parties colonisées du monde, les pays clés, les états post-impériaux, les nouvelles économies industrielles et autres pays à faible revenu.
2. Problématiser le travail forcé (croissant) et la mobilité du travail dans les territoires coloniaux, en Afrique et en Asie en particulier, et les relier à l'évolution de la législation et de la réglementation du travail au sein de l'Europe ainsi qu'à l'expansion du capital de l'Atlantique Nord à travers le monde.
3. Aborder les formes de travail forcé au XXe siècle, que ce soit par la détention dans des camps de travail ou la servitude pour dettes de travailleurs individuels dans les domaines de la

production et des services à l'égard de créanciers (pour les frais de voyage) ou à l'égard d'employeurs particuliers (pour la durée de leur séjour).

4. Se demander si le modèle de travail forcé est justifié pour les relations systémiques employeur-employé en cas de contrainte ou si on peut / doit continuer à appliquer la différenciation de l'OIT entre travail forcé et conditions de travail inférieures aux normes ou soumises à l'exploitation. Ces questions sont liées aux termes et concepts de « force », « coercition » et « consentement », ainsi qu'à l'utilité des notions de « traite des êtres humains » et « d'esclavage moderne ».

5. Explorer les expériences et les aspects de l'action humaine ou de la résistance des travailleurs forcés / assujettis, prenant des initiatives ainsi que le silence ou l'action des acteurs non étatiques tels que les syndicats et les ONG.

Structure et thèmes

Dominantes :

1. Activité des hommes et des femmes sous la contrainte.
2. Survol historique des définitions de « esclavage », « travail forcé », « trafic » et « esclavage moderne », et leur évolution dans le domaine des organisations internationales gouvernementales et non gouvernementales.

Section I – travail forcé dans le monde colonial et non -colonial (1850-1940) :

Conditions de travail, relations employé-employeur et schémas migratoires (qui a été transporté et dans quelle direction) dans le cadre des systèmes de travail sous contrat, de la servitude pour dettes, du péonage, de la servitude, du travail forcé, etc. Les exemples sont les migrations de crédit -ticket du XXe siècle en provenance du Sud de la Chine, le travail contractuel imposé par l'empire britannique (et autres) entraînant des migrations sur de longues distances dans les macro-régions de

l'océan Indien et la ceinture de plantation, des années 1830 aux années 1930 ; les régimes européens de travail forcé imposés aux hommes, aux femmes et aux enfants en particulier dans les colonies ; les migrations forcées des colonies vers l'Europe au cours de la Première Guerre mondiale (ce qu'on a appelé les « auxiliaires coloniaux »), et les formes de servitude involontaire (enfants) en Afrique, en Asie, en Amérique latine et aux États-Unis.

Section II – Travail imposé politiquement sur les territoires nationaux :

Les rapports de travail, les conditions de travail et l'activité des travailleurs envoyés dans des camps de concentration, les colonies de travail à distance ou dans des camps industriels sous le fascisme ou le stalinisme, au Japon pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, en tant que prisonniers ou sous péonage dans le (sud) des États-Unis, en Chine communiste, à Cuba, ou en tant que minorités persécutées, comme les Roms, ainsi que, de nos jours, l'utilisation par des entreprises occidentales du travail forcé des prisonniers politiques et autres, dans les régimes dictatoriaux ou autoritaires, nécessitent une étude plus approfondie .

Section III – travail forcé depuis la fin de la Seconde Guerre mondiale :

Le phénomène du travail forcé – souvent appelé « esclavage moderne » depuis les dernières décennies - concerne les questions de la division mondiale du travail, de l'inégalité économique, de genre et raciale. Bien que les chiffres et les définitions soient contestées par les universitaires, les experts de l'ONU et de l'OIT, selon les données officielles et non officielles les estimations vont de 17 à 27 millions de femmes, d'hommes et d'enfants dans le monde. Cette section cherche à inclure des documents contenant des informations empiriques sur la mesure dans laquelle la dette, les rapports de force et la pauvreté conduisent à réduire virtuellement en esclavage des personnes au travers d'un recrutement systématique par l'intimidation ou la menace de violence, le contrôle agressif des intermédiaires du travail comme les « coyotes », les « serpents » ou les proxénètes et / ou la mise en œuvre brutale de la récupération de la dette après l'arrivée. Les expériences et les stratégies de résistance des travailleurs concernés seront essentielles pour mieux comprendre le niveau des contraintes de travail et / ou du consentement à l'emploi qu'on peut qualifier de « 3D » (dégoutant, dangereux et dégradant).

Discussion de conclusion :

Débat général sur la pertinence des définitions actuelles utilisées par les États et les acteurs

non étatiques, l'impact que de nouvelles recherches peuvent avoir sur les politiques et le développement ou l'adaptation des méthodes d'analyse qui peuvent faire progresser la connaissance du travail forcé, passé et présent.

Appel à communications

Les propositions de communication doivent tenir compte des thèmes de la conférence mentionnés ci-dessus dans la section I, II ou III et doivent comporter :

- Un résumé (300 mots maximum)
- La section thématique ciblée
- Une notice biographique (200 mots maximum)
- L'adresse complète et l'adresse e-mail

Les séances seront consacrées aux recherches actuelles au niveau des thèses de doctorat et de recherche postdoctorale (en fonction de la qualité des résumés proposés)

Un effort particulier sera fait pour inclure des présentateurs de toutes les régions du monde et des chercheurs confirmés et débutants. La langue de la conférence sera l'anglais.

Les organisateurs ne pourront pas rembourser les frais de déplacement ou d'hébergement à l'hôtel. Toutefois un fonds limité sera constitué pour que les universitaires ayant des moyens personnels insuffisants puissent faire une demande motivée de remboursement (partiel) des frais de déplacement. Les aides seront liées à un financement suffisant.

Les frais d'inscription comprennent l'hébergement (en chambre double partagée fournie par l'ITH) et les repas. Les participants se chargeant de leur propre logement paieront un tarif réduit.

► Les propositions doivent être envoyées à Magaly Rodríguez García: mrodrigu@vub.ac.be

Calendrier

- Date limite de soumission des propositions : 30 novembre 2013
- Notification d'acceptation : 20 décembre 2013
- Date limite pour les papiers complets : 1 août 2014

Il est prévu de publier une sélection de documents de la conférence ; la date d'échéance pour les manuscrits définitifs est le 1er avril 2015.

Groupe préparatoire

Prof. Dirk Hoerder (Salzbourg, Autriche)

Prof. Marcel van der Linden (Institut

International d'Histoire Sociale, Amsterdam)

Dr. Magaly Rodríguez García (Vrije Universiteit Bruxelles)
Dr. Silke Neunsinger (Arbetarrörelsens arkiv och bibliotek, Stockholm)
Pour l'ITH : Mag. Eva Himmelstoss, Univ.- Doz.
Dr. Berthold Unfried (Institut d'histoire économique et sociale de l'Université de Vienne).

Contact :
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Neue ITH-Publikation

Sammelband zur Linzer Konferenz 2012

„Interventionen: Soziale und kulturelle Entwicklungen durch Arbeiterbewegungen“

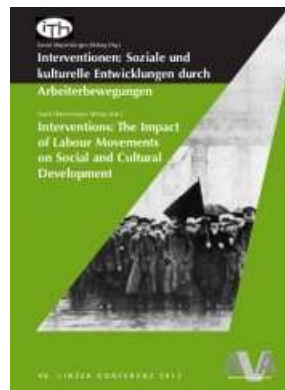
Hrsg. von Jürgen Mittag und David Mayer, Leipzig: Akademische Verlagsanstalt 2013 (= ITH-Tagungsberichte, Bd. 47), 249 S., ISBN 978-3-931982-81-2, € 25

New ITH Publication

Proceedings of the Linz Conference 2012

“Interventions: The Impact of Labour Movements on Social and Cultural Development”

Edited by Jürgen Mittag and David Mayer, Leipzig: Akademische Verlagsanstalt 2013 (= ITH Conference Proceedings, vol. 47), 249 pp., ISBN 978-3-931982-81-2, € 25



Der Band geht der Frage nach dem Beitrag von Arbeiterbewegungen zu gesellschaftlichen Entwicklungsprozessen des 20. Jahrhunderts nach. In exemplarischen Fallstudien und Analysen richtet sich der Blick einerseits auf den Einfluss der Arbeiterbewegung bei der Ausgestaltung des Sozialstaates, andererseits auf den Niederschlag und die Wirkungen im Bereich kultureller Produktion. Zum Ausdruck kommen neben Gemeinsamkeiten und Unterschieden verschiedene Spannungslinien: zwischen Errungenschaften und Fehlentwicklungen, zwischen beabsichtigten und unbeabsichtigten Wirkungen sowie zwischen der Entwicklung im „globalen Norden“ und im „globalen Süden“.

This collection of essays discusses the contribution of labour movements to social and cultural developments in the 20th century. Based on different case studies and analyses the authors direct their attention to the impact of labour movements on the construction of the welfare state on the one hand and to the traces in the field of cultural production on the other. Besides similarities and differences particular attention is paid to the cleavages between achievements and failures, between intended and unintended consequences and as well between the “global north” and the “global south”.

Kostenlos für ITH-Mitglieder sowie ITH-Vorstand und Beirat

Bitte fordern Sie Ihr Exemplar an (ith@doew.at), sollten Sie es auf der letzten Konferenz nicht schon erhalten haben!

Wir schicken Ihnen das Buch gern zu.

Free for ITH members and members of the Board

Please order a copy at the ITH Secretariat (ith@doew.at), if you have not yet taken it at the past conference in Linz!

We will send you the book.

Inhalt / Contents

1. Einleitung und Rahmen: Arbeiterbewegung und gesellschaftlicher Wandel Interventionen

- *David Mayer/Jürgen Mittag:* Errungenschaften und Wirkungen: Soziale und kulturelle Entwicklung durch Arbeiterbewegungen
- *Stefan Berger:* "What has the labour movement ever done for us?" The Impact of Labour Movements on Social and Cultural Development in Europe

2. Sozialpolitische Ideen und Konzepte: Entwicklungslinien und Wirkungen

- *Uwe Fuhrmann:* Sozial durch Arbeiterbewegung? Zur Entstehung des Modells „Soziale Marktwirtschaft“
- *Jörg Rösler:* Das Spannungsverhältnis zwischen den Geboten proletarischer Arbeitsmoral und den Ansprüchen sozialistischer Leistungsgesellschaft: Konflikte und Konfliktlösungen in viereinhalb Jahrzehnten DDR-Existenz
- *Patricia Toucas-Truyen:* The role of mutual aid societies and trade-unions in the building of the welfare system in France before 1940
- *Eszter Varsa:* Welfare dictatorships of Eastern Europe? Approaches to the character of state socialist welfare systems through the Hungarian case

3. Kulturpolitische Ideen und Konzepte

➤ **Verzeichnis bisheriger ITH-Sammelbände:**

<http://www.ith.or.at/konf/ith-tagungsberichte01-33.htm>

- *Stefan Moitra:* Entwicklungslinien und Wirkungen. Arbeiter-Bildung im Kinosaal? Ein vergleichender Blick auf die Filmkultur der britischen und westdeutschen Arbeiterbewegung in den 1950er und 1960er Jahren
- *Christian Chevandier:* An Emancipatory Tool: French Trade Union Libraries
- *Joachim Schätz:* Claims for Equality, Changes of Use: Workers' Movements, Film and the Curious Case of "Salt of the Earth"
- *Kevin Callahan:* Beyond the Cultural Turn? Revisiting "Old" Labour History through the Example of the Socialist International

4. Ideen und Konzepte von Arbeiterbewegungen in trans- und internationaler Perspektive

- *Touraj Atabaki:* Missing Labour in the Metanarratives of Practising Modernity in Iran: Labour Agency in Refashioning the Discourse of Social Development
- *Bruno Groppo:* Der Beitrag der Arbeiterbewegungen zur Herausbildung sozialstaatlicher Einrichtungen in Lateinamerika: Entwicklungslinien und Einordnungen
- *Shelton Stromquist:* Municipal Socialism and the Contested Politics of Everyday Life, 1890-1920

5. Zu den Autorinnen und Autoren / Notes on Contributors

➤ **Overview of previous ITH Conference Proceedings:**

http://www.ith.or.at/konf_e/ith_tagungsbericht_e01_33_e.htm

Veranstaltungen und Projekte / Events and Projects

Folgende Ankündigungen von Veranstaltungen und Projekten sind uns mit der Bitte zugegangen, sie im Rundbrief zu annonciieren / We have been requested to announce the following events and projects in our newsletter:

Tagung

„History is Unwritten. Linke Geschichtspolitik und kritische Wissenschaft: Gestern, Heute und Morgen“

Berlin, 6.-8. Dezember 2013

Organisiert vom AutorInnenkollektiv *Loukanikos*, unterstützt von *Humboldt-Universitäts-Gesellschaft (HUG)*, *Rosa Luxemburg-Stiftung*, *ver.di*, *International Conference of Labour and Social History (ITH)* und *Allgemeinem Studenten/innen-Ausschuss* der Freien Universität Berlin.

Der Blick der Geschichtswissenschaft ist ihrem Gegenstand gemäß zunächst in die Vergangenheit gerichtet. Kann der Blick zurück aber auch eine kritische politische Perspektive auf die Gegenwart ermöglichen? Die Tagung "History is Unwritten" widmet sich den Möglichkeiten und Fallstricken eines Bezugs auf die Vergangenheit, der sich auch einer besseren Gestaltung der gesellschaftlichen Verhältnisse in der Gegenwart verpflichtet sieht.

Vorläufiges Programm

Freitag, 6. Dezember: Kulturprogramm

Zeit: 19:30 Uhr

Ort: Laika – Kultur-Kiez-Kneipe
Emser Str. 131, 12051 Berlin

Samstag, 7. Dezember: Vortrag, Panels, Workshops, Abschlussdiskussion

Ort: verdi-Bundesverwaltung, Berlin

10.00 – Eröffnung und Begrüßung, Vortrag von

- *Wolfgang Uellenberg* (ver.di): "Gewerkschaften und Geschichtspolitik"

10.45 – Eröffnungsvortrag von

- *David Mayer* (ITH, Wien): „Zur Geschichte linker Geschichtsschreibung“

12.00 – **Panel 1:** *Linke Geschichtsschreibung in der 'Postmoderne': Das Ende der großen Erzählungen?*

Postmoderne Theoretiker_innen verkünden seit nunmehr Jahrzehnten das 'Ende der großen Erzählungen'. Welchen Einfluss haben diese Proklamationen auf linke Geschichtsschreibung und -politik? Was wird gewonnen, was geht verloren mit der zunehmenden Verabschiedung von Kon-

zepten wie Identität und Tradition? Wie lässt sich unter 'postmodernen' Bedingungen ein Bezug auf historische 'Traditionen' emanzipatorischer Kämpfe formulieren? Und ist das überhaupt wünschenswert?

- *Cornelia Siebeck* (Berlin): Kein ›Ende der großen Erzählungen‹ in Sicht. Nachdenken über Möglichkeiten emanzipatorischer Gedächtnispolitik
- *Florian Grams* (Hannover): Die Geschichte historischer Befreiungsbewegungen – Lehrstoff aber keine Legenden. Ein Beitrag zu einer Geschichtswissenschaft des Gesamtzusammenhangs

14.30 – **Panel 2:** *Zwischen Akademie und Bewegung: Kritische Wissenschaft und ihr Verhältnis zu sozialen Kämpfen und Herrschaftsprojekten*

Das Verhältnis zwischen Akademie und Aktivismus lässt sich als ebenso problematisch wie produktiv begreifen – auch auf dem Terrain der Auseinandersetzung mit der Vergangenheit in politisierten Feldern. Das Panel nähert sich diesem Spannungsverhältnis an: Wie verorten sich Wissenschaftler_innen, die ihre Arbeit innerhalb der akademischen Sphäre mit einem politischen Engagement verbinden? Wie ist das Verhältnis zwischen Geschichtswissenschaft und sozialen Bewegungen zu denken? Welche Probleme, welche Potenziale existieren hier? Welche Möglichkeiten einer produktiven Verbindung lassen sich ausmachen?

- *Dominik Nagl* (Mannheim): E. P. Thompson, die Neue Linke und die Krise im britischen Marxismus der 1970er Jahre

- *Susanne Götze* (Paris/Berlin): Der Metaphilosoph Henri Lefèbvre – linke Krise & Erneuerung in den 1960er Jahren
- *Anton Tantner* (Wien): Sollen kritische HistorikerInnen „Europa bauen“? Luciano Canfora und Josep Fontana als Vorbilder für eine kritische Geschichtswissenschaft?

16.30 – **Workshop-Phase:** *Linke Geschichtspolitik: Kritische Praxen, Interventionen und Irritationen*

In der Workshop-Phase stellen geschichtspolitische Initiativen ihre Projekte, Erfahrungen und inhaltlichen Konzepte vor. Die parallel stattfindenden Workshops sollen einen intensiven Austausch und Diskussionen zu den folgenden Fragen ermöglichen:

Welche verschiedenen praktischen Ansätze linker Geschichtspolitik gibt es gegenwärtig? Welche Formen kritischer Interventionen im urbanen Raum, in Museen und Gedenkstätten und hegemonialen Erinnerungsorten existieren? Inwiefern verschränken darin sich 'akademische' und 'praktische' Arbeitsweisen? Betreiben geschichtspolitische Initiativen Kritik an der herrschenden Geschichtsschreibung oder widmen sie sich eher der Bereitstellung widerständiger Traditionen?

18.30 – **Abschlussdiskussion:** *Eine andere Gegenerzählung? Konturen einer gemeinsamen kritischen Verortung in Vergangenheit, Gegenwart und Zukunft*

- Mit: *Bini Adamczak* (Berlin), *Ralf Hoffrogge* (Berlin) und *Renate Hürtgen* (Berlin)

Die Abschlussdiskussion wirft die Frage nach möglichen gemeinsamen Fluchtlinien kritischer Geschichtspolitik auf, welche die interne Heterogenität sozialer Bewegungen anerkennt und zugleich eine gemeinsame Orientierung auf die Zukunft denkbar werden lässt. Wie kann ein Bezug auf die Vergangenheit aussehen, der emanzipatorische Zukunftsvisionen befördert, ohne die Vergangenheit für die Gegenwart zu instrumentalisieren?

Sonntag, 8. Dezember: Kritischer Museumsbesuch

„Wo geht's denn hier zur Kolonialgeschichte? Auf der Suche im Deutschen Historischen Museum Berlin.“

- Mit der Initiative *"Kolonialismus im Kasten?"*

Ausführliche Informationen folgen auf <http://historyisunwritten.wordpress.com/>

Call for Papers

10th International Conference on Labour History "Labour History: A Return to Politics?"

New Delhi, 22-24 March 2014

Organized by the *Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH)*, and *V.V. Giri National Labour Institute*, at V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA/New Delhi, India

Invitation for Proposals on the theme Labour History: A Return to Politics?

Why is a consideration of a political turn important today? Since the end of the 1970s there have been massive changes in the structure and form of labour. These changes were marked by the marginalization of organized industry, a shift of manufacturing industries from the West to the East; expansions in the service sector, especially in the information industry. As informalisation spread across the globe precarious employment outstripped stable standard jobs. Trajectories of working lives and careers were drastically altered. Work shifted to the home, blurring the distinction between private and working space. New forms of feminization emerged across the globe affecting the developed and developing world alike.

zation emerged across the globe affecting the developed and developing world alike.

"Depoliticisation" and the withdrawal of labour from the political sphere

In the past, notwithstanding the significant presence of women in the workforce and the leadership of unions, the politics of labour manifested the dominance of male factory workers led by organized trade unions. This politics became less viable in the last decades of the twentieth century. The withdrawal of labour from the political sphere accelerated with the decline of unions, and this was often bemoaned as a de-politicisation of labour. It is useful to remember that this so-called depoliti-

cisation was effected through a massive political subordination of labour, manifested in the ruthless crushing of strikes and the blatant use of state power.

The transformations in the landscape of labour seeped into the scholarly world. The cultural turn was a sign of changed times. From a focus on strikes and unions, the historiography of labour shifted to a study of culture. The study of community, culture and everyday life enriched and deepened labour history. Did this shift imply a de-politicisation of labour history? Was it a corollary of the shrinking of organized labour's presence in the political sphere? These questions have engaged scholars for some time. Unlike the earlier Thompsonian moment, the more recent cultural turn seemed to distance labour history from a study of working class politics. However, we believe that a return to political themes does not imply a return to old-style historiography but rather, a breaking out of the narrow confines of the focus on trade unions and their leadership.

Notions of crisis and decline in the labour movement are questioned in recent writings. These writings point to new movements and new sites of struggle that have accompanied changes in the global industrial scenario. There have been signs of a return to labour questions in political discourse. The fall-out of the prolonged economic crisis of the past five years has reinvigorated anti-globalization and anti-capitalist movements in the west and brought new form of politics into focus. The Arab uprisings and their political reverberations across the world have given a new meaning to mass politics. Alongside these churning, strike waves have repeatedly engulfed the modern industrial conurbations in China and India.

These spatial shifts in the sites and forms of politics need to be explored. A return to politics does not mean a negligence of a study of culture. Rather, the idea is to transcend earlier boundaries in the study of labour history as well as the more recent past. We urge historians, social scientists and labour-activists to focus attention on new forms of labour politics and re-evaluate the 'labour question' in a new perspective.

The conference aims to discuss these themes under five broad rubrics:

1. *Political practices of labour in the past and the present:* What has changed and what has remained in the political practice of labour in our times? What definitions of the labour movement can encompass older as well as emergent forms of political practice? Would it

be true to say that processes of informalisation that may have led to decline, also generated new kinds of politics? What relation does the labour movement bear to other social movements? How do we evaluate the significance of transnational politics of labour and the rise of "new Internationalism" in comparison to the earlier forms of International labour movements?

2. *Informalisation and Politics of Precarity:* It has become increasingly clear that the massive expansion of the informal and precarious employment is neither a natural outcome of economic crisis nor merely a change in legal status of workers but rather a result of an intense and continuing political process. How was the division between formal and informal, regular and temporary created and sustained in different historical contexts and locations? What forms of Politics is generated by these divisions and how have they been overcome?

3. *The state and the regulation of labour:* How has the regulation of labour changed over time? State legislation and recognition of trade unions made labour visible and gave it a powerful presence in the public sphere. What were the politics through which unions were legalized and regulated in the early decades of the twentieth century? It is important to engage with the histories of these enactments and examine the terms and implications of these laws.

4. *Everyday politics:* The practices that shape everyday lives at home, workplaces and outside are charged with political meaning. The history of the interactions of gender, childhood and labour has always shown complex processes at work. How do state and other agencies impinge on everyday processes? Conversely, how do the micro-politics of everyday life relate to political processes at work?

5. *Race, gender and caste:* A key issue in labour studies has been the ambivalent relation of identity politics with the politics of class. Did identity politics always detract from the trajectory of class-based mobilization or were there complementarities that were overlooked in the past and need to be recovered in the present? Why have the subjective experiences of women, Dalits and racial minorities been resistant to or not been accommodated within labour movements? We look forward to papers that focus on these rubrics. However we also seek papers that focus on international comparisons and the broad themes of labour history.

Call for Papers

We invite papers from scholars, activists, and individuals who have engaged intimately with the world of labour and work to participate in this conference. International and comparative experiences will be especially welcome. While the conference organizers will be able to host all the selected participants for the duration of the conference we are unable to finance international travel costs.

Submission of papers: A short abstract of no more than 500 words of the proposed paper indicating the main arguments and theoretical and empirical basis of the proposed paper.

Time schedule

- We expect abstracts to be sent to us by 15 November 2013.
- Selected participants will be informed by 15 December 2013.
- Full Papers are expected without fail by 20 February 2014.

Contacts

All communications must be addressed to Chitra Joshi, Rana Behal, Prabhu Mohapatra and Sasikumar at the address:

ailhconference2014@gmail.com

Call for Papers

150 Years ago, the First International (International Workingmen's Association)

Conference in Paris, 19-20 June 2014

Conference organised by *Société d'Histoire de la Révolution de 1848* and *Centre d'Histoire du XIXe Siècle* (Paris 1/Paris 4), in partnership with *International Institute of Social History* (Amsterdam), *International Association Strikes and Social Conflicts* (Dijon), ANR *Utopies19* (Dijon), and *Society for the Study of Labour History* (Great Britain).

Research on International Workingmen's Association (IWMA) was stimulated by the important 1964 conference organized for the centenary of the association and by the wave of "radical" political history; it then became properly scientific. From 1864 to at least 1876 – but the end of the Association is much debated – the IWMA was made of various workers' organizations and members joining on an individual basis. It was at the same time a forum for thinking and exchange, a trade-union and an international political society. The history of the IWMA made huge progress in the 1960s and 1970s. Many documents were published, such as those of the General Council and of the conferences, as well as sources on specific countries. The way the institution worked, its presence in various areas, its influence and its theoretical debates were scrutinized. Local, national and theme studies – on unions, strikes, anarchism, the land question – have greatly improved our knowledge of the association and its action. However, over the past 20 years or so, studies have become rarer, although various syntheses and a few monographs have still been published.

On the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the IWMA, this conference aims at contributing

to open a new phase in the study of this organization, taking into account recent research, new approaches, new issues as well as newly-accessible sources.

- One first thinks of the emergence of the transnational and global history of labour, around the works of the International Institute of Social History (IISH) in Amsterdam, and elsewhere. This approach, based on the study of international circulation, structures and relevant spaces, is particularly adapted to the study of an association created following contacts between working-class activists from various countries and whose perspective was internationalist right from the start. For instance, recent works have shown the importance of migration and exile of French activists in the development of the IWMA in the USA. But other migration flows should also be questioned: economic migration within one state; transnational migration of artisans; militant migration; migration of political refugees. How did they juxtapose or combine? How did they participate in the expansion of the IWMA and its sections? To what extent did an association conceived by skilled workers in dominant countries manage to involve industrial or farm workers from less industrial or from colonised areas? Last, how

was the emergence of large-scale, transcontinental discourse and forms of mobilisation possible? The question is then raised of the part played by the IWMA in the genesis of international labour politics. So doing, it would be particularly interesting to come back to periodisations and their possible discrepancies in various areas (e.g. Europe, North America, Central America). National studies are still relevant; but we would like to think above all on the part played by exchanges, transfers and appropriations across areas and their meanings.

- Another facet concerns documents, material traces and their meanings. Minutes and other documents of the general council and the conferences have been published and largely used. The newspapers have been less so, including the labour press, although it then made up an essential item of political cultures. The digitisation of many periodicals may facilitate reviving this research. It would be good to assess the value as well as the biases (e.g. the selection of archives) of these sources. What do they let us know about the communication, the circulation of news and ideas, but also the part played by the IWMA in the public space of the various areas? Indeed, it seems that the awareness of the activities and the language of the IWMA were, in some remote areas, diffused better and faster by the press, including the press of the enemy, than by the delegates of the Association. We would also like to know the iconography of the IWMA better, engravings and drawings in particular. Beyond that, it would be worth assessing its material culture: banners, flags, member cards, potteries, embroidery, etc. Was there an internationalist "culture"? Wasn't the IWMA also made of the circulation of more empirical practises and know-how in terms of social struggles, organisation practices or work processes?

- The sociology of activists, the various milieus involved and the debates that ran through the IWMA on unions, machinery, strikes, national struggles (Ireland, Poland), the land issue, also deserve to be questioned and deepened. And other questions may also be raised. For instance, what was the part played by non manual workers: physicians, intellectuals, lawyers? What was exactly the part played by women, among the activists or in their discourse? What were the debates within the branches of the IWMA? We then have to wonder how the tendencies and the splinters on top were perceived

and modified by grassroots activists before going up again. Exchanges and competition also characterised the relations between branches and other forms of working-class organisation, and these could be better documented. Were there discussions, at the various levels and in the various regions, on the making of colonial empires and on the imperial forms of economic and social domination? To what extent did the involvement of Internationalists in trans-Empire migration flows stimulate these debates? More broadly, how did these activists stand in relation to issues such as political participation, the right to vote or the employment of women? And why were these issues often left aside, in comparison with pre-1848 early socialist trends? And how was "labour" redefined in these exchanges? Above all, so as to understand the part rapidly played by the IWMA in the public debate, it would be interesting to study its shadow – real or imagined – in the structuring of local, national but also transnational spaces.

This conference will not try to juxtapose local studies and individual itineraries. It will instead be interested in changes on scales between the local and international, as well as in the links between micro-history and the history of the IWMA.

Dates and place

Thursday 19 and Friday 20 June 2014 in the Sorbonne (Paris)

Scientific committee

Sylvie Aprile (Lille 3-Charles de Gaulle), Gregory Claeys (Royal Holloway, University of London), Michel Cordillot (Paris 8-Vincennes-Saint-Denis), Ludovic Frobert (ENS Lyon), José Alvarez Junco (Madrid), Marcel van der Linden (IISH, Amsterdam), Detlev Mares (Darmstadt), Jacques Rougerie (Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne), and Marc Vuilleumier (Genève).

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Neuerscheinungen / New Publications

Folgende Bücher bzw. Ankündigungen von Veröffentlichungen sind uns mit der Bitte zugegangen, sie im Rundbrief zu annoncieren / We have been requested to announce the following publications in our newsletter:

Wissenschaft über Gewerkschaft. Analysen und Perspektiven, Verlag des ÖGB 2013, 412 S., ISBN 978-3-7035-1599-6, € 29,90

Als Initialzündung zum Geschichtsprojekt „Gewerkschaft in Österreich“ setzen sich WissenschaftlerInnen verschiedener Fachrichtungen mit Positionen über und von Gewerkschaften im Laufe ihrer Entwicklung auseinander. Und sie stellen die Frage: Welche Rolle können und sollen Gewerkschaften in der Welt des 21. Jahrhunderts spielen?

„Wissenschaft über Gewerkschaft“ ist Initialzündung für die Neuherausgabe einer österreichischen Gewerkschaftsgeschichte auf aktuellem Forschungsstand. Erstmals wird damit für die Edition von Gewerkschaftsgeschichte ein interdisziplinärer Ansatz bestimmend.

Konzept und Redaktion: Brigitte Pellar

HerausgeberInnen: Gerhard Botz, Ernst Bruckmüller, Josef Ehmer, Winfried R. Garscha, Fer-

dinand Karlhofer, Helmut Konrad, Maria Mesner, Anton Pelinka, Emmerich Tálos, Marcel van der Linden u.a.

Mit Beiträgen von: Stefan Anwander (Politikwissenschaftler), Bernd Brandl (Wirtschaftssoziologe), Thomas Leoni (Wirtschaftswissenschaftler), Paul Dvorák (Historiker), Elias Felten (Jurist), Margarete Grandner (Historikerin), Julia Hofmann (Soziologin), Helmut Konrad (Historiker), Jan Kreisky (Politikwissenschaftler), David Mayer (Historiker), Brigitte Pellar (Historikerin), Florian Reiter (Politikwissenschaftler), Peter Schlögl (Bildungsforscher), Georg-Hans Schmit (Politikwissenschaftler), Sabine Schweitzer (Historikerin), David M. Wineroither (Politikwissenschaftler, Historiker)

➤ Bestellung: <http://www.besserewelt.at/wissenschaft-ueber-gewerkschaft>

Uli Schöler: Wolfgang Abendroth und der „reale Sozialismus“. Ein Balanceakt, Verlag für Berlin-Brandenburg 2012, 216 S., ISBN 978-3-942476-38-6, € 19,95

Im Herbst 1920 schloss sich der 14-jährige Schüler Wolfgang Abendroth der kommunistischen Jugendorganisation an. Sein politisches Denken war stark von der Oktoberrevolution in Russland und der fehlgeschlagenen deutschen Novemberrevolution 1918 geprägt und kehrte immer wieder an diesen Ausgangspunkt zurück. Bislang liegt keine systematische Untersuchung zu Wolfgang Abendroths Haltung mit Blick auf das gesamte System des „realen Sozialismus“ vor.

Der Autor, einer profunder Abendroth-Kenner, nimmt eine breitere Sichtung der Publikationen Abendroths vor und fördert dabei Erkenntnisse zu Tage, die eine längere Phase des abendrothschen Denkens als ausgesprochen problematisch erscheinen lassen. Dessen frühe Aufsätze der 1920er Jahre waren zunächst stark „linkskommunistisch“ geprägt. Die Moskauer Prozesse und der Hitler-Stalin-Pakt führten zu seiner Abwendung vom organisierten

Kommunismus; nach seiner Flucht aus der SBZ wurde Abendroth zum scharfen antitotalitären Kritiker des Stalinismus in der UdSSR wie der DDR. Diese Haltung veränderte sich jedoch nach 1968 hin zu phasenweise apologetischen Einschätzungen. Erst in seinen späten Jahren kehrte Abendroth zu einer kritischeren und auch realistischeren Sicht des „realen Sozialismus“ zurück.

Prof. Dr. Uli Schöler ist Jurist und Politikwissenschaftler und lehrt nebenberuflich Politikwissenschaften am *Otto-Suhr-Institut* der FU Berlin. Er arbeitet als stv. Direktor und Abteilungsleiter für Wissenschaft und Außenbeziehungen im Deutschen Bundestag. Zahlreiche Veröffentlichungen, u. a. als Mitherausgeber der *Gesammelten Schriften Wolfgang Abendroths*; letzte eigenständige Veröffentlichung: *Die DDR und Wolfgang Abendroth – Wolfgang Abendroth und die DDR. Kritik einer Kampagne*, Hannover 2008.

➤ Information und Bestellung:
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