

# ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

[www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)

Nº 132, April 2016



## Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology ICOHTEC

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### Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Our Program Committee of the **43<sup>rd</sup> ICOHTEC Symposium in Porto** (26 – 30 July 2016) decided on the conference papers. Please contact us, if you submitted a proposal and did not receive a confirmation or an information that a paper was rejected.

The Local Committee of the conference prepared **excursions** already; there is the opportunity to decide for post symposium tours and prior tours in the surrounding of Porto and Lisbon. Please visit:

- Porto: <http://icohtec2016.ciuhct.org/programme/social-programme>
- Lisbon, Sintra, Cascais: <http://www.tailormadetravel.pt/>

ICOHTEC will give **travel grants** to attend the symposium in Porto. The deadline for application is **4 May 2016**; please visit <http://icohtec2016.ciuhct.org/registration/travel-grants>.

We received about 100 proposals for our 44<sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC Symposium in Rio de Janeiro 2017, our joint conference with the ICHSTM.

Best wishes  
Stefan Poser

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## I. ICOHTEC

### ICOHTEC's Reviewed Journal ICON – Submissions

Send your paper to ICON! ICON welcomes submissions from everyone including especially those who presented at ICOHTEC's 2015 conference in Tel Aviv for its next issue.

ICON publishes papers covering all aspects and periods in the history of technology, but devotes special attention to the discussion of contemporary problems of technology in their socio-economic and cultural settings. The journal's goal is to foster co-operation amongst scholars from all parts of the world by providing timely review and circulation of ideas to an international audience of like-minded individuals.

ICON welcomes submissions from non-ICOHTEC members as well as members, and particularly encourages submissions from authors for whom English is not their first language. All papers are chosen by peer review, using a double blind process, and authors will be given editorial assistance to improve clarity and vigor of written expression.

ICON is now available via JSTOR as well as ICOHTEC's website. Please send your manuscripts (paper plus abstract) to the editor Hermione Giffard, at [hgiffard@gmail.com](mailto:hgiffard@gmail.com).

For information about format, please consult our guidelines for contributors at <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-icon-guidelines.html>. Further information about the journal is also available at <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-icon.html>

## II. Conference Announcements

**14 – 16 April 2016**

**Textilien und materielle Kultur im Wandel: Konsum, Distribution und globale Interaktion in der Frühen Neuzeit / Early Modern Textiles and Material Culture: Consumption, Distribution, and Global Interaction**

Bern University, Switzerland

Please find the program on <http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-30598>

Please contact Claudia Ravazzolo, Historisches Institut, Universität Bern,  
[claudia.ravazzolo@hist.unibe.ch](mailto:claudia.ravazzolo@hist.unibe.ch)

**29 April – 1 May 2016**

**Künstliche Materialien. Tagung der Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte, GTG, und der Gesellschaft für Designgeschichte, GfDg**

**Man Made Materials. Conference of the German Society for the History of Technology, GTG, and the German Society for Design History, GfDg**

NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, Germany

Please find the program on <http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-30544>

Please contact Karsten Uhl, [uhl@ifs.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:uhl@ifs.tu-darmstadt.de)

**12 – 13 September 2016**

**Resources and Economies of Knowledge in the Anthropocene**

Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin

Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin

CFP – Deadline **30 April 2016**

Organic and inorganic resources have provided and continue to provide the foundations for the development of human societies. Yet the processes and mechanisms through which knowledge about their use and exploitation co-evolved with societal praxis over centuries are highly context related. The production, dissemination and appropriation of knowledge about natural resources is interwoven both with the specific material cultures of a society or group and with its political, economic and cultural conditions.

The workshop will focus on the knowledge economies of natural resources during the past 200 years, a period defined as the Anthropocene by the chemist Paul J. Crutzen: an age in which human influence has become so dominant that it has surpassed the influence of

geophysical and other natural forces on the earth's geo-biological system. The Anthropocene has seen a significant increase in the exploitation of natural resources on a global scale, which has led to the present situation in which the loss and shortage of several natural resources has become evident. To fully understand how local practices and techniques make use of resources, or how economic and social institutions exploit them, the global conditions in which these resources are situated must first be investigated.

The workshop seeks to understand the mechanisms and asymmetrical forms in which knowledge economies of resources evolved during the Anthropocene, a period that, in terms of history of politics, economics and culture, is defined by colonialism, imperialism, decolonization, nationalism and neocolonial environments. The workshop moreover seeks to understand how access to and transfer of knowledge relates to transnational, international and global networks that are organized as economic enterprises and understood as so-called modernization processes. We assume that natural resources with agricultural, maritime or subterranean origins have their own particular histories: histories of the use and exploitation of particular resources; histories of the development of knowledge for defining, analyzing and describing a resource; and histories of the transformation of nature. Theoretically and methodologically, we are particularly interested in discussing how we can (re)write a global history of the Anthropocene when resources are the focus of our attention. We would like to discuss whether recent approaches in the fields of global history of knowledge and environmental history are especially promising in this regard, and how they are able to interact with approaches in the fields of economic or political history.

This call for papers invites proposals that trace the production, dissemination and appropriation of knowledge concerning resources throughout the Anthropocene. We are interested in discussing some of the following questions from either a micro- or macro-historical perspective:

- How did knowledge concerning resources co-evolve and interact with societal circumstances?
- How did practical knowledge circulate and how were technologies and infrastructures disseminated geographically through globalization processes that were related to public or private economies during periods of colonialism and imperialism?
- How was the asymmetrical division of resources reinforced, and how were exclusion processes cemented by new territorial divisions and the exploration of new terrestrial, subterranean and maritime regions in the age of imperialism or during the Cold War?
- How is the division of resources and knowledge about resources related to Anthropogenic processes?
- How can differences in the development of knowledge and its application be explained?
- How could knowledge about resources evolve into and adapt to new fields of application?

The conference will be conducted in English. The organizers will cover (economy) travel and accommodation expenses for invited participants.

Please send a short abstract of your proposed contribution (no more than 400 words) and a brief academic CV with institutional affiliation in one file to [nadinhee@fu-berlin.de](mailto:nadinhee@fu-berlin.de) and [hwendt@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de](mailto:hwendt@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de).

Please contact the organizers Nadin Heé, [nadinhee@fu-berlin.de](mailto:nadinhee@fu-berlin.de), and Helge Wendt, [hwendt@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de](mailto:hwendt@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de)

**12 – 16 July 2016**

**3rd Workshop on Computational History (HistoInformatics 2016)**

Krakow, Poland

CFP – Deadline for abstracts **9 May 2016**

Deadline for camera ready manuscripts **7 June 2016**

The HistoInformatics workshop series brings together researchers in the historical disciplines, computer science and associated disciplines as well as the cultural heritage sector. Historians, like other humanists show keen interests in computational approaches to the study and processing of digitized sources (usually text, images, audio). In computer science, experimental tools and methods stand the challenge to be validated regarding their relevance for real-world questions and applications. The HistoInformatics workshop series is designed to bring researchers in both fields together, to discuss best practices as well as possible future collaborations.

Traditionally, historical research is based on the hermeneutic investigation of preserved records and artifacts to provide a reliable account of the past and to discuss different hypotheses. Alongside this hermeneutic approach historians have always been interested to translate primary sources into data and used methods, often borrowed from the social sciences, to analyze them. A new wealth of digitized historical documents have however opened up completely new challenges for the computer-assisted analysis of e.g. large text or image corpora. Historians can greatly benefit from the advances of computer and information sciences which are dedicated to the processing, organization and analysis of such data. New computational techniques can be applied to help verify and validate historical assumptions. We call this approach HistoInformatics, analogous to Bioinformatics and ChemInformatics which have respectively proposed new research trends in biology and chemistry. The main topics of the workshop are: (1) support for historical research and analysis in general through the application of computer science theories or technologies, (2) analysis and re-use of historical texts, (3) visualisations of historical data, (4) provision of access to historical knowledge.

HistoInformatics workshops took place twice in the past. The first one (<http://www.dl.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/histoinformatics2013/>) was held in conjunction with the 5th International Conference on Social Informatics in Kyoto, Japan in 2013. The second workshop (<http://www.dl.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/histoinformatics2014/>) took place at the same conference in the following year in Barcelona.

For our workshop at DH2016 we invite papers from a wide range of topics which are of relevance for history, the cultural heritage sector and the humanities in general. The workshop targets researchers who work on the intersections of history and computer science. We invite papers on the following and related topics:

- Natural language processing and text analytics applied to historical documents
- Analysis of longitudinal document collections
- Search and retrieval in document archives and historical collections, associative search
- Causal relationship discovery based on historical resources
- Named entity recognition and disambiguation in historical texts
- Entity relationship extraction, detecting and resolving historical references in text
- Finding analogical entities over time
- Analysis of language change over time
- Modeling evolution of entities and relationships over time
- Network Analysis
- Automatic multimedia document dating
- Simulating and recreating the past course of actions, social relations, motivations, figurations
- Handling uncertain and fragmentary text and image data
- Mining Wikipedia for historical data
- OCR and transcription old texts
- Effective interfaces for searching, browsing or visualizing historical data collections
- Studies on collective memory
- Studying and modelling forgetting and remembering processes
- Estimating credibility of historical findings
- Epistemologies in the Humanities and computer science

Practical matters

Submission deadline: 9th May 2016

Notification deadline: 31st May 2016

Camera ready copy deadline: 7th June 2016

Submissions need to be:

- formatted according to Easychair paper formatting guidelines (<http://www.easychair.org/publications/?page=1594225690>).
- original and have not been submitted for publication elsewhere.
- submitted in English in PDF format
- at the workshop's Easychair

page: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=histoinformatics2016>.

Full paper submissions are limited to 10 pages, while short paper submissions should be less than 5 pages. Submissions will be evaluated by at least three different reviewers who come from Computer Science and History backgrounds. The accepted papers will be published on CEUR Workshop Proceedings (<http://ceur-ws.org/>).

Presenters and participants are expected to cover their travel and accommodation costs.

For any inquiries, please contact the organising committee at [histoinformatics2016@easychair.org](mailto:histoinformatics2016@easychair.org)

Organising committee

- Marten Düring (CVCE Luxembourg)
- Adam Jatowt (Kyoto University)
- Antal van den Bosch (Radboud University Nijmegen)
- Johannes Preiser-Kappeller (Austrian Academy of Sciences)

Please visit <http://histoinformatics.org/>

**27 – 29 October 2016**

**PLASTICS HERITAGE Forum Kunststoffgeschichte 2016, social session "Synthetic Lacquers and other Coatings"**

Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft HTW Berlin

CFP – Deadline **15 May 2016**

Please visit [http://krg.htw-berlin.de/aktuelles/artikel/?tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Bnews%5D=513&tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=d6b31965895f93bf2e2393136a7bc5b5](http://krg.htw-berlin.de/aktuelles/artikel/?tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=513&tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=d6b31965895f93bf2e2393136a7bc5b5)

Please contact Dietmar Linke, [3480-9@online.de](mailto:3480-9@online.de)

**7 – 9 September 2016**

**Origines 3 - Elite – its origins & formation processes around the Baltic Sea Region up to Industrial Age**

University of Gdańsk, Poland

CFP – Deadline **30 April 2016**

We hereby have the pleasure to invite you to the 3rd international conference “Origines et mutationes”. This edition is aimed at history of elites in the countries of the Baltic Sea Region. The conference has an interdisciplinary character. We invite historians, historians of arts, sociologists, philosophers, anthropologists and archeologists.

Conference presentations & proceedings should pertain to:

Phenomenons related to origins and formation of Elite from the Medieval Age up to Industrial Age. The scientific scope should be aimed at prosopography, education processes, exchange of elites, including careers of groups or individuals. Phenomenons related to influence of elite on other social groups and social life in all its forms. The scientific scope should be aimed at impact of elites on culture, law, but also society including the changes the latter undergone in above mentioned period.

Please visit <http://www.faktoria-pruszcz.pl>

Please contact Aleksandra Girsztowt, University of Gdańsk at [baltic.conf@gmail.com](mailto:baltic.conf@gmail.com)

**22 – 24 March 2017**

**Der Steinkohlenbergbau in Boom und Krise nach 1945. Das Ruhrgebiet als Vergleichsfolie für Transformationsprozesse in der Schwerindustrie / Transformation of Heavy Industries – the Example of the Ruhr Region**

Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum CFP – Deadline **30 June 2016**

Please visit <http://www.bergbaumuseum.de/index.php/de/forschung/tagungen>

Please contact Juliane Czierpka, [juliane.czierpka@bergbaumuseum.de](mailto:juliane.czierpka@bergbaumuseum.de)

**4 – 6 May 2017**

**„Mit den wohlfeilsten Mitteln dauerhaft, feuersicher und bequem“ – Sparsamkeit als Prinzip, Rationalität als Weltsicht? Dritte Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte Third Annual Meeting of the German Society for Construction History**

Potsdam

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2016**

Please visit [www.bautechnikgeschichte.org](http://www.bautechnikgeschichte.org)

Please contact [info@bautechnikgeschichte.org](mailto:info@bautechnikgeschichte.org)

**28 – 30 May 2017**

**Workshop 'Elites and Leisure: Arenas of Encounter in Europe (1815-1914)'**

KADOC-KU Leuven and MoSa-KU Leuven, The Netherlands

CFP – Deadline **1 June 2016**

Please visit <http://www.eece.eu>

Please contact Peter Heyrman, [peter.heyrman@kadoc.kuleuven.be](mailto:peter.heyrman@kadoc.kuleuven.be)

**26 June 2017**

**What is Enlightenment? New Answers to the Old Question**

Museum-Estate Kuskovo, Moscow

CFP – Deadline **1 November 2016**

Everyone knows Kant's answer to the question "What is Enlightenment?" in 1784: "Enlightenment is man's emergence from his self-incurred immaturity." Meanwhile, during the nineteenth and most of the twentieth century, the Enlightenment was considered a nearly homogeneous ideological bloc, a kind of doctrinal canon, whose content was at first closely linked to the works of the great philosophers – from Locke to Hume, from Montesquieu to Rousseau, from Leibniz to Kant – and then it spread to the so-called "periphery" of the Enlightenment – the ideas and activities of their followers in Italy, Spain, Portugal, Poland, Russia, the Balkans ... This perception was closely related to the traditional view of the Enlightenment through the prism of the French Revolution. It was born during the French Revolution which needed an ideological justification, and was strengthened in the nineteenth century for which this revolution became a fundamental point of reference. This approach received a new and powerful impetus in the twentieth century which struck the world with new revolutions, new dictatorships and world wars on an unprecedented scale. Whether the Enlightenment was put on a pedestal as a "philosophical revolution", as a cosmopolitan political and ideological movement led by intellectuals and reformers, or whether it was condemned for manipulation of the masses, the constant correlation (voluntary or involuntary) of the Enlightenment with the Revolution and its consequences inevitably led to a simplification: features that related the Enlightenment to that period of great social upheaval or features that were evidence of a fundamental difference between the two were sought and found.

In the last third of the twentieth century, with the development of social history and – later – of "new cultural history", the situation began to change. Today the Enlightenment is considered as a particular cultural era, an autonomous cultural object, a "historical world" that should be studied and reconstructed. We now have a real awareness of the complexity and contradictions of this world, of the need to study not only its ideas and values, but also its symbols, its visual images and representations, its practices (forms of sociability, religious life, education, travel, books and reading, passion for the arts, for collecting, etc.), its networks. We are also aware of the special role of trans-national cultural ties. The traditional image of the Enlightenment as a phenomenon limited to European countries and their sphere of influence has expanded and diversified, highlighting the importance of this period as a new stage in global cultural interaction.

Conference participants are invited to present their research results demonstrating the beneficial effect of new approaches.

Main topics:

1. New approaches to the study of Enlightenment.
2. The space of the Enlightenment (Enlightenment, Lumières, Aufklärung ...): network structure, centre(s) and periphery(s).
3. Ideas, images, symbols and practices.
4. Intercultural communication.
5. The global scale.
6. End of an era?

We hope that the conference will attract the attention of representatives of the various disciplines of the humanities (historians, including book historians and art historians, philosophers, philologists, museum workers, etc.), enabling them to exchange experiences and to use the results of new research in their professional work.

Conference languages: Russian, English, French.

The conference will be held at the Museum in Kuskovo, former summer residence of the Counts Sheremetev built mostly in the second half of the eighteenth century.

Organizers of the conference:

- Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences
- National Research University Higher School of Economics
- Deutsches Historisches Institut Moskau
- Centre d'études franco-russe de Moscou
- Kuskovo Estate

- Institut de Recherche sur la Renaissance, l'Âge Classique et les Lumières (IRCL – UMR 5186 du CNRS – Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier III)

Proposals (about 300 words) are accepted until November 1, 2016 at the following addresses: [s.karp@mail.ru](mailto:s.karp@mail.ru) and [vladislav.rjeoutski@dhi-moskau.org](mailto:vladislav.rjeoutski@dhi-moskau.org)

Please visit <http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-30547>

Please contact Vladislav Rjeoutski, Deutsches Historisches Institut Moskau, [rjeoutski@gmail.com](mailto:rjeoutski@gmail.com)

### **8 – 9 June 2017 and autumn 2018**

#### **Academies in War, 1914-1925. A cycle of international conferences proposed by the Academia Leopoldina, the Académie des sciences, and the Royal Society**

Metz and Saarbrücken, France and Germany

CFP – Deadline of submissions for the next conference **31 May 2016**

#### The project

Although the subject of science, especially chemistry, in the Great War has attracted a good deal of attention in recent years, the role of academies in the conflict has been little-studied. Following an inaugural conference, held under the auspices of the Academia Leopoldina in Halle in 2014, two further conferences are planned for the **spring of 2017** and the **autumn of 2018** to continue work in this neglected area. Like the initial gathering in Halle, the conferences in 2017 and 2018 will be broad in their international coverage, and they will seek to maintain a strongly comparative focus. They will take account of the full range of the sciences and technology, including the medical sciences, and set the work of academies in a broad context embracing the relations between the diverse military, industrial, and political elements that bore on the conduct of the war. While it will be important to give serious consideration to the scientific and technical contributions of the various academies, due attention will also be paid to the declarations and actions of academicians engaged in the propaganda war that did so much to fashion public opinion.

The second Conference will take place June 8-9, 2017 near the battlefields, in France and in Germany, at the Université de Lorraine in Metz and at the French-German University in Saarbrücken, followed by an excursion to Charleville-Mézières on June 10. The Conference will examine the role of academies during the war.

The last Conference will take place in 2018 in England, presumably in London. It will treat the years between the end of formal hostilities and the far from easy resumption of normal international relations in science in the 1920s.

## Call for papers

The members of the organization committee (Claude Debru, Paris, Wolfgang Eckart, Heidelberg, Robert Fox, Oxford, Rainer Godel, Halle) are calling for papers for the second Conference. We hope that colleagues, including younger scholars, from various European countries and the US, will be interested in proposing contributions for the next Conference. Indeed, the subject remains largely to be investigated, and for those who started investigating it, it turned out to be extremely rewarding, from both scientific and historical points of view. The papers of the two Conferences will be published in the series *Acta Historica Leopoldina*.

The proposals for the 2017 Conference should be sent to both [claude.debru@ens.fr](mailto:claude.debru@ens.fr) and [marie-laure.massot@ens.fr](mailto:marie-laure.massot@ens.fr).

They should be sent before May 31, 2016. The Committee will meet in July 2016.

Please visit <http://www.leopoldina.org/de/ueber-uns/akademien-und-forschungsvorhaben/internationale-beziehungen-europaeischer-akademien-1914-1924/>

Please contact [claude.debru@ens.fr](mailto:claude.debru@ens.fr) and [marie-laure.massot@ens.fr](mailto:marie-laure.massot@ens.fr)

## **31 August – 3 September 2017**

### **Fifth European Congress on World and Global History: Ruptures, Empires, Revolutions**

Budapest

Call for panel proposals – deadline **June 2016**

Call for individual papers – deadline **November 2016**

Following the successful and rewarding congresses of the European Network in Universal and Global History (ENIUGH) held in Leipzig, Dresden, London, and Paris, the next ENIUGH Congress will take place in Budapest, hosted by the Central European University (Department of History) and Corvinus University (Karl Polanyi Research Centre at the Institute of Sociology and Social Policy). Under the overall theme “Ruptures, Empires, Revolutions” and on the occasion of the centennial of the Russian Revolution, we seek to discuss the global context and repercussions of the revolution in particular while debating the role of revolutions in global history in general. In recent global history scholarship, the relationship between empire and revolution has been less explored than other topics. Furthermore, revolutionary upheavals have mostly been interpreted as caesuras in national histories and not as being situated in global dynamics. Considering still influential narratives, like the supposedly universal trend from “empire to nation”, we encourage such views to be challenged through a comparative and global perspective on empires and imperial societies. The chosen focus has also the potential to put centre stage, compare, and explore the interconnectedness of uneven social and political change around the world, in colonial as

well as post-colonial settings. Against the backdrop, panel proposals will explore large-scale socioeconomic crises, changing labour and social regimes, and movements mobilizing for social and political reforms, as well as the breakdown and the reconstruction of political orders, with the cultural, technological, and ideological underpinnings.

With Budapest as the venue of the next European Congress on World and Global History, we hope to attract especially colleagues from and/or working on Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe and the Middle East/Western Asia at large to an already well-established pan-European network that has, as the past congresses have demonstrated, also been of interest to scholars from other continents. With the 5th ENIUGH Congress, we will continue to explore the relations, transfers, and entanglements between states, peoples, communities, and individuals situated in, or spanning, different regions of the world in a comparative and a *longue durée* perspective. The common emphasis of the 2017 congress is a commitment to transcending national and Eurocentric historiographies. The panels will not only deal with specific historical subjects but also with questions of method and theory in global history as well as those of teaching and other scholarly practices. The conference will include keynote sessions, roundtables, and a publishers' exhibition.

We look forward to welcoming to Budapest scholars from all over Europe and beyond that are working on historical interactions and connectivity – whether conceived as micro- or macro-history – that consider and examine specific cross-border movements or intercontinental relations. Topics can include cultural and economic processes as well as the various aspects of material and social life, and can represent approaches from disciplines throughout the area studies, humanities, arts, and social sciences.

Timetable:

- March 2016: Call for panels announcement; opening of and review of panel proposals, which may be complete or leave space for further papers to be added.
- June 2016: Call for panels closes; authors of panel proposals will be notified of the outcome.
- September 2016: Call for papers announcement; opening of and review of individual paper proposals.
- November 2016: Call for papers closes; authors of individual paper proposals will be notified of the outcome.
- March 2017: Conference registration announcement; publishing of programme, and opening of conference registration and accommodation reservation (through the congress website).

Accommodation will be available to suit different needs and financial situations.

For information about the 5th ENIUGH Congress, please contact us at:

ENIUGH Headquarters

Steffi Marung, Centre for Area Studies / SFB 1199, University of Leipzig

Katja Naumann, Centre for the History and Culture of East Central Europe (GWZO) at the University of Leipzig

Matthias Middell, Global and European Studies Institute, University of Leipzig

email: [congress@eniugh.org](mailto:congress@eniugh.org)

Organizing team in Budapest:

Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Institute of Advanced Study / Department of History, Central European University Budapest

Judit Klement, Department Atelier, Eötvös Loránd University Budapest; Institute of History of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Attila Melegh, Institute of Sociology and Social Policy / Karl Polanyi Centre for Global Social Studies, Corvinus University

Please contact ENIUGH Headquarters, [congress@eniugh.org](mailto:congress@eniugh.org)

### **III. Summer Schools**

**14 – 18 August 2016**

**Space, Mobility and Transformation: Theories, Methods and Empirics**

Bishkek and Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan

Call for Applications – Deadline **30 April 2016**

The PhD Summer School is embedded in the research and network project Fluid mobilities for cities in transformation: spatial dynamics of marshrutkas in Central Asia and the Caucasus (Marshrutka Project). Within the scope of the project, we want to gain insights into transformation processes through the lens of changing mobility practices. We are inviting doctoral students from diverse disciplines, such as geography, urban studies, anthropology, social and political sciences, and others, interested in the questions of space, mobility and transformation. The summer school is designed to encourage transnational interdisciplinary discussions, and provide high-impact feedback and networking opportunities for its participants.

We offer [1] thematic key-note speeches, [2] training sessions on research methods, [3] an opportunity to share, discuss, and receive feedback for ongoing research projects, [4] mobility-themed field trips. Besides offering a unique and understudied thematic focus, we offer a cozy and thorough working environment and networking opportunities. The summer

school invites five projectfunded PhD students, ten external PhD students (please see information on funding opportunities below), ten project partners from Kyrgyz, Kazak, Tajik, Russian, Georgian and German academic institutions, international and local key-note speakers, trainers and stakeholders. Such a high student/professor ratio and a diverse regional and thematic expertise of the participants will ensure an opportunity for constructive in-depth discussions. About the Marshrutka Project Minibuses locally known as marshrutkas are a common sight in urban and rural landscapes of Central Asia and the Caucasus. The Marshrutka project deals with the role of the marshrutka mobility phenomenon in the production of post-Soviet urban spaces, in and beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus. It provides an empirically founded contribution to the larger discussion on post-Soviet transformation, and fosters a still under-represented view on post-Soviet transformation, highlighting – through the lens of the marshrutka phenomenon – the bottom-up and everyday emergence of new orders in the fields of economy, morale, urban development and migration. The project is carried out by means of five complementary PhD projects under supervision of academic project partners; in addition, a post-doc based at the IfL in Leipzig is charged with a cross-cutting research project and ensures the conceptual coherence of the project. The project sees its outcomes in terms of a solid and sustainable transfer of knowledge and methods, from German partners towards the academic institutions in the target regions, and vice versa, strengthened local research capacities and infrastructures, and long-lasting research cooperation.

#### Thematic Focus

We understand mobility as a mode of space production. Space has become a prevailing concept for speaking about ordering of social relations and urban life. Bourdieu, de Certeau, Lefebvre and many others used spatial approaches to analyse the relations between social and material, the structure of societies, the organisation of the urban every day. The end of last century witnessed a “mobility turn”, implying that mobility is crucial to a social production of space (cf. Urry 2002, 2004, 2007; Edensor 2004; Jensen O 2009; Jensen A 2011). At the same time, social sciences lack appropriate vocabulary for a description of mobile objects constituting space. While the project-related PhD research is focusing primarily on marshrutka mobility, external participants are welcome to present papers or the following (and related) themes:

- Shared taxis and paratransit in the global North and South;
- Mobility and informal practices;
- Bottom-up social orders, entrepreneurship and transition;
- Space and mobility in post-Soviet cities and beyond;

## Flexible Openings

The summer school is primarily designed for doctoral students. However, in exceptional cases, the applications from post-doctoral and early career researchers, as well as MA students will also be considered. The knowledge of the post-Soviet region is welcome but not necessary. The working language of the summer school will be English. For selected lectures, translation from Russian will be provided.

The application should include a motivation letter, a short CV and an abstract (not more than 500 words) of the paper you are planning to present at the summer school. Please submit the application to Lela Rekhviashvili ([I\\_rekhviashvili@ifl-leipzig.de](mailto:I_rekhviashvili@ifl-leipzig.de)) by April 30, 2016.

## Travel grants

The participation of the Summer School is for free. We offer travel grants up to 400 EUR to ten selected applicants. The sessions of the Summer School will be held daily from August 14 – August 18, 9am until 6pm, and full attendance is required. The participants of the Summer School will receive a certificate of attendance.

## Hosts and Organisers

Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (IfL), Leipzig, Germany (<http://www.ifl-leipzig.de/>)  
American University of Central Asian (AUCA), Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (<https://www.auca.kg/>)

Please contact Lela Rekhviashvili, [I\\_rekhviashvili@ifl-leipzig.de](mailto:I_rekhviashvili@ifl-leipzig.de)

## IV. Miscellaneous

### Centennial of Niagara's Spanish Aerocar

The year 2016 marks the hundredth anniversary of Niagara's Spanish Aerocar, built by the engineer Leonardo Torres Quevedo (1852–1936). He was an ingenious Spanish engineer. Among his creations were algebraic machines, remote control devices, dirigibles and a chess playing machine. His Aero Car represented a new type of aerial cable way that he called "transbordador". Officially opened on August 8, 1916, it is the only one of its kind in existence. Several activities are planned to celebrate the anniversary.

## V. Recently Published Books

Wayne D Cocroft and John Schofield: *Der Teufelsberg in Berlin. Westlicher Horchposten in Kalten Krieg*. Christoph Links Verlag, Berlin 2016.

During the Cold War, Field Station Berlin staffed by British and American personnel high on the Teufelsberg, an artificial hill raised from wartime bombing debris, was one of the West's most important electronic listening and intelligence gathering posts. This book presents an archaeological exploration of the site, and specifically of the British presence there. See [http://www.christoph-links-verlag.de/index.cfm?view=3&titel\\_nr=888](http://www.christoph-links-verlag.de/index.cfm?view=3&titel_nr=888).

## **VI. Join ICOHTEC**

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