International Conference
“European Rust Belts. West-East Comparisons – and Beyond”

Regensburg, 2–3 September 2021
Landshuter Str. 4 (IOS Regensburg)

Organizers
Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History (IfZ), Munich-Berlin
Leibniz Institute for East and South East European Studies (IOS), Regensburg
Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO), Leipzig

Cooperation Partner
Institute for Social Movements, University of Bochum (Bochum)

Conveners
Ulf Brunnbauer, Max Trecker, Sebastian Voigt

Supported by the German Research Foundation (DFG)

PROGRAM

Thursday, September 2
9.00–10.30 Welcoming Remarks

**Keynote Lecture** by Philipp THER (University of Vienna)
**Commentator:** Sebastian VOIGT (Munich)

10.30–10.45 Coffee Break

10.45–12.45 Panel 1: The Many Fates of Heavy Industry
Stefan HOERDLER (Göttingen): “A History of Decline? The Steel Industries in West Germany and the United States since the 1970s”
Christoffer HOLM (Hanko): “You Are Tearing Down Our Grand Factory”. The experience of structural change, transformed space and lost progress after the shutdown of the steelworks in Hanko (Finland)
Laurent WARLOUZET (Munich/Paris): “Rust Belts on the Coast: the EEC Competition Policy’s growing constraints on shipyards in the 1980s”
Łukasz TREMBACZOWSKI (Katowice): Half Way Rusted: Tentative Future for Upper Silesian Area as an Old Industrial Region
**Commentator:** Uwe MÜLLER (Leipzig)

12.45–13.45 Lunch Break
13.45–15.45 Panel 2: Working Class Experiences and Fragmentations

Chiara BONFIGLIOLI (Cork / Jena):
Victims or Survivors? Textile Workers' Agency and Industrial Heritage in Croatia

Tibor VALUCH (Budapest):
The Altering World of Work in Hungary and East Central Europe Before and After the 1989/90 Transition

Jeremy MORRIS (Aarhus):
Working-Class Life Strategies in the Russian Margins

Mikhail CHERNYSH (Moscow):
Working Class as a Loser of the Neoliberal Reforms: the Russian Experience

Commentator: Sabine RUTAR (Regensburg)

15.45–16.15 Coffee Break

16.15–18.15 Panel 3 Post-industrial urban revivals?

Patrick R. IRELAND (Chicago):
Diamonds in the Rust? Evaluating Seemingly Successful Economic/Industrial Transformation in Four Medium-Sized Midwestern US Cities

Erika NAGY / Melinda MIHÁLY (Budapest):
Form lock-in to dependent reindustrialization – The limits of municipal agency in two ‘model towns’ of (semi)peripheral industrialization in NW Hungary

Johannes KRICKL (Duisburg-Essen):
Duisburg and the New Silk Road: Scripting Post-Industrial Success in a Post-Cold War World

Commentator: Anna Steigemann (Regensburg, tbc.)

Friday, September 3

9.00–10.30 Panel 4: The Struggle for Survival or the Calm before the Storm? Reactions to the Crisis of the 1970s in East and West

Aleksandar SHIVAROV (Varna):
Sprat Yet Fish: Bulgarian Adjustment Efforts amidst Economic Turbulences in the 1970s

Jörg ARNOLD (Nottingham):
Deindustrialization, Not Decline? New approaches to the study of the crisis decades in the United Kingdom

Adelina STEFAN (Florence):
The Snowballing of Globalization: International Tourism and Economic Crisis in Socialist Romania in the Long 1970s

Commentator: Maurice COTTIER (Bern)

11.00–12.30 Panel 5: Post-Industrial Memoryscapes

Eleni KYRAMARGIOU (Athens):
From Factory to Park: A Story of Grassroots Re-Appropriation of an Industrial Space

Bruno de CORTE (Antwerp):
The End of Coal Mining and the Start of Heritage Strategies: A Comparison of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Poland

Tanja PETROVIĆ (Ljubljana):
Industrial Heritages and Workers' Memories in the former Yugoslavia

Commentator: Ulf BRUNNBAUER (Regensburg)

12.30–13.30 Lunch Break

13.30–15.00 Panel 6: Transformations of Industrial regions
Karl LAUSCHKE (Bochum):
Regulating the Crisis of the German Steel Industry: The Different Trajectories of the Ruhr Area, Saarland, and Bremen

Lachlan MACKINNON (Sydney):
Ending the Industrial State: The Rise and Fall of the Cape Breton Development Corporation, 1966–2001

Richard BACHMANN / Friedrich OPITZ (Ann Arbor, MA / Dresden):
Clearing the Path for Populism? Comparing the History and the Outcomes of the Political Economy Transformation in Ohio and Saxony

Commentator: Max TRECKER (Berlin)

15.00–15.30 Coffee Break

15.30–16.30 Concluding Discussion
Inputs / summaries by Ulf BRUNNBAUER, Sebastian VOIGT, Max TRECKER

Note:
Talks marked blue will be given remotely.