



Leibniz Institute for
**EAST AND SOUTHEAST
EUROPEAN STUDIES**



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INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Pula, 27 September 2017

**Firms in Late and Post-Socialism:
State control, Management and the Shop-floor in Transformation**

VENUE

Juraj Dobrila University of Pula
Filozofski fakultet/Faculty of Humanities, Matetića Ronjgova 1
Ground floor, Room 11 (Reading room)

Organized by

Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS), Regensburg
Institute for East European History, University of Vienna

In cooperation with

Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies, Munich-Regensburg
Center for Cultural and Historical Research of Socialism at Juraj Dobrila University of
Pula



This workshop will explore, from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective, how managerial cultures and shop floor relations changed from late socialism to post-socialism. Particular attention is devoted to the experiences of big enterprises. The main aim is to observe how the connections between firms and politics have changed during the last decades, and how these changes impacted on power relations within the firm, especially between managers and workers. How did social configurations within the firm transform, and how did the boundaries of the firm change? We also want to elucidate the discourses and representations that accompanied these developments. Thanks to the combination of approaches from labour history and business history, sociology and social anthropology, the workshop will offer a multi-perspective view on one of the most salient aspect of the “big” transformation that eastern European societies have experienced since the decline of communism.

Panel 1, *Governing Production*, examines the relationships between party apparatus, state institutions, and big businesses, in order to reveal continuities and changes with regard to economic policies and the governance of production.

Panel 2, *Shady Boundaries*, focuses on firms as a social and political space, looking at their internal social dynamics, as well as their interrelations with external socio-political developments, questioning ideas of clear cut borders between in and out.

Panel 3, *Fallen Heroes*, aims to reflect about the worldviews both of managers and workers, and which changes they underwent during the transformation from socialism to capitalism, elucidating also social memories.

Panel 4, *Moral Economies*, will show how self-perceptions of workers are deeply intermingled with ideological and moral values ascribed by society and dominant ideologies to work and workers. What are the workers’ considerations, where the change from a socialist to a neo-liberal work ethic is concerned?

Participants: Ulf BRUNNBAUER (IOS, Regensburg), Igor DUDA (University of Pula), Valentina FAVA (TU Berlin), Piotr FILIPKOWSKI (University of Vienna), Dimitra KOFTI (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale), Hugh MURPHY (University of Glasgow), Stefano PETRUNGARO (University Ca’ Foscari, Venice), Sanja PULJAR D’ALESSIO (University of Rijeka), Ivan RAJKOVIĆ (UCL SSEES, London), Igor STANIĆ (University of Pula), Philipp THER (University of Vienna), Jochen THOLEN (University of Bremen), Pieter TROCH (IOS, Regensburg), Maciej TYMIŃSKI (University of Warsaw), Saša VEJZAGIĆ (European University Institute, Florence), Peter WEGENSCHIMMEL (IOS, Regensburg).

The workshop is organized in the framework of the Collaborative Research Project “Transformations from Below. Shipyards and Labor Relations in the Uljanik (Croatia) and Gdynia (Poland) Shipyards since the 1980s”, which is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). See: <http://www.transformations-from-below.eu/>

PROGRAMM

09:00-09:15

Ulf **Brunnbauer** (IOS, Regensburg), Philipp **Ther** (University of Vienna): *Introduction*

09:15-10:15

Hugh **Murphy** (University of Glasgow): *Key note lecture*

Igor **Stanić** (University of Pula): *Workers, Self-Management and the Shipyard Uljanik in the 1970s*

Comments by Hugh **Murphy** (University of Glasgow)

10:15-10:30 coffee break

10:30-12:30 *Panel 1: Governing Production*

Jochen **Tholen** (University of Bremen): *Traditional and New Fields for Shipyards' Activities – Some Selected Ideas*

Peter **Wegenschimmel** (IOS, Regensburg): *Self-Contained Enterprises? A Transformation-Modell and its Environment*

Saša **Vežagić** (European University Institute, Florence): *Formation of Big Businesses in Self-management – The Case of INA Oil and Gas Company in Socialist Yugoslavia 1964-1972*

Maciej **Tymiński** (University of Warsaw): *The Communist Party Apparatus and Enterprises: the Case of Regional Party Organizations in Warsaw Voivodeship (1950-1980)*

Comments by Igor **Duda** (University of Pula)

15:00-15:15 coffee break

15:15-16:30 *Panel 3: Fallen Heroes*

Valentina **Fava** (TU Berlin): *Aspirations, Expectations, Disenchantment: Managers and Workers Face the "Return to Europe" of Central Eastern European Enterprises*

Piotr **Filipkowski** (University of Vienna): *Navigating Leaky Boat. Shipyard Gdynia in the Party Files*

Comments by Ivan **Rajković** (UCL SSEES, London)

16:30-16:45 coffee break

16:45-18:00 *Panel 4: Moral Economies*

Dimitra **Kofti** (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale): *'Ungrateful' Work: Outsourcing and Regular/Casual Work Divisions in a Bulgarian Steel Town*

Stefano **Petrungaro** (University Ca' Foscari, Venice): *Ethics of Work and Discipline in Transition*

Comments by Pieter **Troch** (IOS, Regensburg)

12:30-13:30: lunch

13:45-15:00 *Panel 2: Shady Boundaries*

Sanja **Puljar d'Alessio** (University of Rijeka): *A Meshwork of Internal and External Relations: Shipyard "3. Maj" in Rijeka*

18:15-19:00 **final discussion**

20:00: **dinner**

28 September 2017

9.00-11.00: **Guided tour through the Uljanik shipyard (t.b.c.)**