

Call for Papers and Posters

“Workers of the World – Exploring Global Perspectives on Labour from the 1950s to the Present”

June 28-30, 2017

HERRENHAUSEN PALACE, HANOVER, GERMANY

THE CONFERENCE

How can we arrive at global perspectives on labour, which reach beyond teleologies of an all-encompassing “race to the top” (or “to the bottom”), but also beyond the notion of ever-increasing differentiation? This conference explores overarching trends in the political as well as corporate regulation and in the forms of collective organisation of labour. Such an exploration is understood as a precondition for an adequate analysis of the dynamics of current capitalism. It needs to be based on an examination of linkages and similarities, differences and unevenness, as well as of the wide variety of work constellations resulting from such trends in different parts of the world. Towards this aim, we hope to bring together scholars from the social and historical sciences who are prepared to leave the comfort zone of highly specialized area studies, in a common quest for transnational perspectives. The global economic crisis of the mid-1970s should function as a common point of reference, connecting post-war developments to the immediate pre-history of present constellations.

The two-day conference program includes key-note speeches by Jan Breman, Paul Thompson and Beverly Silver as well as contributions by Rina Agarwala, Ravi Ahuja, Peter Alexander, Ching Kwan Lee, Jennifer Chan, Klaus Dörre, Andreas Eckert, Jörg Flecker, Gaochao He, Bob Hancké, Rohini Hensman, Martin Krzywdzinski, Sandrine Kott, Marcel van der Linden, Birgit Mahnkopf, Nicole Mayer-Ahuja, Prabhu Mohapatra, Ludger Pries, and Christoph Scherrer.

CALL FOR PAPERS

This conference comprises three sessions

- Political Regulation of Labour: Trends and Contradictions
- Labour at the Site of Production: Labour Process, Control, Quality of Work
- Politics of Labour: Collective Action

We invite papers focussing on either of these fields, from the 1950s to the present. While labour may be addressed at different levels (from the local to the transnational), all papers should discuss their findings in a global perspective. Since this conference aims at identifying new empirical approaches to the study of labour in different world regions, references to methods and hints at data are appreciated.

Please send a short biographical note (including information about your institutional affiliation), information about the session you would like to contribute to and an abstract of your paper (max. 400 words) to kristin.carls@sowi.uni-goettingen.de before **October 31, 2016**.

Contributions will be selected by the steering committee by December 15, 2016. In case of acceptance, the costs of travel and accommodation will be covered. A full paper (of approx. 4000 words) should be handed in by May 31, 2017.

TRAVEL GRANTS FOR YOUNG RESEARCHERS

The Volkswagen Foundation has generously provided special resources for 20 travel grants (including accommodation) for young researchers (PhD students or early Postdocs) who wish to attend the conference, take part in the discussions and present a poster.

If you wish to apply for one of these grants, please send your application to kristin.carls@sowi.uni-goettingen.de before **October 31, 2016**. Applications should include:

- a description of the applicant's research in relation to the conference topic
- a short CV
- a list of publications (max. 5)

Participants will be selected by the steering committee based on qualifications. Information about the selection will be provided by December 15, 2016.

QUERIES

For queries, please contact Dr. Kristin Carls (kristin.carls@sowi.uni-goettingen.de)

More information about the conference is provided by Prof. Dr. Nicole Mayer-Ahuja, University of Goettingen & Sociological Research Institute, SOFI (nicole.mayer-ahuja@sofi.uni-goettingen.de), head of the steering committee.