President’s introduction

This late fall/early winter edition highlights the upcoming World Congress. We have assembled an excellent program in partnership with several other research committees. RC02 is hosting a diverse set of sessions addressing prominent political and economic issues at this critical conjuncture. Our first session on Democracy, Capitalism and Feminism, features a dialogue between two major theorists: Sylvia Walby and Erik Olin Wright. Throughout the week, papers will explore a variety of topics, ranging from “universalism,” global perspectives on care and care work, the question of finance as a social relationship, theorizing changes in gender regimes and gendered institutions, transforming capitalism, carbon capitalism, Twenty-First century fascism, Karl Marx 200 years later, to Kondratieff waves and world systems development.

You will find more information on the program starting on page 2 of this newsletter.

Please note the all participants must register no later than March 20, 2018 24:00. Presenters who have failed to register will be automatically deleted from the program.

Please take the time to renew your membership, and consider offering students a gift membership.

Heidi Gottfried, RC02 President
Monday, 16 July

10:30-12:20

Democracy, Capitalism and Feminism

Keynote session on "Democracy, Capitalism and Feminism" will present different approaches to the potential for emancipatory power and the process of democracy within our existing capitalist system and current and future crises. The global system generates crises that worsen exploitation and ultimately a crisis for humanity in the 21st century. This session seeks to advance new perspectives on the political challenges to the crisis at this critical historical conjuncture. What alliances, coalitions and joint political projects would be necessary to deepen democracy and to build a counter-hegemonic vision and practice?

Session Organizers:

Georgina MURRAY, Griffith University, Australia
Heidi GOTTFRIED, Wayne State University, USA

15:30-17:20

Theorizing Informal and Precarious Worker Organizing Under Global Capitalism

(Joint session with RC44 Labour movements)

Informal work is one of the most elementary forms of labour commodification and exploitation, yet its persistence in the context of technological advancements and global economic transformations raises fundamental questions about how we theorize informal work as a conceptual category. What is the relationship between informal work, precarious work, and global capitalism? How do such understandings change when theorizing informal and precarious work from the lens of worker collective action?
This panel invites papers that advance theoretical understanding of informal and precarious worker organizing as a mode of political struggle against global capitalism. In particular, we seek papers that consider the intersectional basis of power and domination under capitalism, including the significance of gender and patriarchy, ethno-racial nationalism, and exclusionary citizenship regimes in the struggles of informal and precarious workers. We also seek papers that engage concretely with questions of worker power. What is the relationship between informal worker organizing and the structure of political power? How do political parties, collective bargaining institutions, social movement spheres and geopolitical dynamics influence the development of distinct types of worker power (e.g. structural, associational, symbolic), and vice-versa.

We particularly welcome comparisons across nations or regions and analytical pieces that focus on the significance of worker agency, the determinants of social action, and/or questions of causality.

Session Organizers:

Jennifer CHUN, University of Toronto, Canada, jj.chun@utoronto.ca
Chris TILLY, University of California Los Angeles, USA, tilly@ucla.edu

17:30-19:20

The Employment Standards Enforcement Gap in Ontario

(Joint session with RC44 Labour movements)

In Ontario the Employment Standards Act (ESA) establishes minimum terms and conditions in areas such as wages, working time, vacations and leaves, and termination and severance of employment. For the majority of Ontario workers who are not unionized, the ESA along with the Ontario Health and Safety Act, is a key source of formal workplace protection. Yet, as a report on labour law recently released by the Ontario Ministry of Labour notes, “...there is a serious problem with enforcement of ESA provisions... there are too many people in too many workplaces who do not receive their basic rights” (Ministry of Labour 2016: 260). This assessment echoes the findings of a growing body of cross-national scholarship that documents how traditional employment standards enforcement models are not keeping pace with changing workplace practices.

Drawing on findings of a long-term multi-disciplinary study of employment standards enforcement, the four papers that comprise this regular session probe different dimensions of the ESA enforcement gap in Ontario, addressing themes such as the paucity of strong deterrent measures in the Government of Ontario’s enforcement system; the effectiveness and limitations of proactive and targeted enforcement practices, and the difficulties that the Ministry of Labour faces in recovering employees’ back wages. Each paper also considers alternative approaches that stand to improve employees’ access to labour market protections.

Session Organizers:

Leah VOSKO and John GRUNDY, York University, Department of Political Science, Canada

19:30-20:50

RC02 Business Meeting
Tuesday, 17 July

08:30-10:20

Economy and Society Tables

Economy and Society Round-Table Session

Session Organizer:

Heidi GOTTFRIED, Wayne State University, USA

10:30-12:20

Price, Value & Worth: Conceptualizing Social Practices of E/Valuation Pt. 1

(Join session with RC35 Conceptual and Terminological Analysis)

Valuation and evaluation are widespread social practices. Investigating these practices is essential to understanding how social order comes about and changes over time. With the spread of capitalism, (e)valuations have come to be understood primarily in economic terms. And with the spread of neoliberalism and market fundamentalism, governments and organizations are increasingly turning to valuation mechanisms to quantify the worth of people, processes, and outcomes. For example, credit rating agencies evaluate individuals’ creditworthiness, bank stress tests evaluate banks’ stability, and stock markets evaluate corporations’ worth. One of the striking characteristics of such market valuations is that they create commensurations that are interpreted as objective, informed, depersonalized, apolitical and expert. Despite such apparently successful abstracting, a leitmotif in a number of research programs (e.g., the New Economic Sociology, and current reformulations of Critical Theory) is that the economy and social life are not separate spheres with distinctive values and practices. Exploring this productive tension, this joint session of RC02 and RC35 calls for conceptual as well as theoretically-informed empirical papers that investigate the beliefs, values and practices embedded in diverse social practices of (e)valuation and the role and functions of (e)valuations as well as devaluations for the reproduction and development of contemporary society. We particularly encourage papers that unpack social processes of price formation, valuation, and the assessment of worth.

Session Organizers:

Aaron PITLUCK, Illinois State University, USA

David STRECKER, University of Jena, Germany

15:30-17:20

Where Do Global Labour Markets Come from? Market Making and (Organized) Market Actors

In economic sociology markets are understood as constituted through four elements: 1) the objects to be exchanged, 2) buyers and sellers, 3) competition (and through it, the determination of the price) and 4) the voluntary character of transactions (see Aspers, 2011). None of these elements, however, is unproblematic. Instead, each of the elements of a market transaction must first be generated through processes of social construction. The proposed session, therefore, will be concerned with the social process of market making and with identifying those (organizational) actors who as market makers (Abolafia, 1998) contribute to the development of global labour markets. Papers may address but are not restricted to the following topics: (1) intermediary organizations on external labour markets, such as temporary agencies, trafficking agencies; (2) MNC-internal labour markets and Global Value Chains,
mainly investigating the role of MNCs for the development of global labour markets, e.g. by their global assignment programmes or off-shoring activities; and (3) the States and their role in creating global labour markets.

Session Organizer:

Ursula MENSE-PETERMANN, Bielefeld University, Germany

17:30-19:20

In Search of Global Labor Regulations: Institutions, Networks and Conventions

In this panel we address formal and informal practices and conventions, which are institutionalizing cross-border labour markets in sectors as varied as textiles, NGO workers, finance management, and others, on a world regional and global scale. We ask whether and how institutions, conventions and networks enable cross-border labour recruitment, placement, matching and the extraction of work effort, explore the conditions under which cross-border mobility results in careers, or alternatively in extreme forms of exploitation, and while seeking to identify the coordination and control mechanisms reducing the uncertainties of cross-border labour exchange from an employer perspective, focus specifically on the outcomes for mobile labourers in the global economy.

Session Organizer:

Karen SHIRE, University Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Wednesday, 18 July

08:30-10:20

Business Enterprises and Development: Qualitative Approaches and Case Studies I

(Joint session with RC09 Social Transformations and Sociology of Development)

Session in English and French.

The positives impacts of business enterprises on social and economic development are often alleged by economists, based on statistics, numbers and figures at the macro level. Conversely, the negative impacts such as the exploitation of workers, the destruction of the traditional way of life, the expropriation of the poor, the health and environmental damages have been often documented by sociologists and activists in all parts of the word. In responds to theses critics, large corporations have developed a window dressing strategy. Green washing, social responsibility allegations and others propaganda formula have made the understanding of what is actually going on even more confuse.

The aim of this session is to discuss positive as well as negative impacts of business enterprises activities on local development. We expect well documented qualitative observations and cases studies in order to develop a renewed theoretical approach of the contribution of business enterprises to development.

Session Organizers:

Michel VILLETTE, AgroParisTech, France

Ulrike M.M. SCHUERKENS, University Rennes 2 and EHESS, France

Habibul KHONDKER, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates
Globalization, Technology Transfer and Global Economic Integration

Transnational corporate and industrial ventures, so characteristic of globalization have brought into being several structural and operational changes in the productive systems of developing economies. Several measures pursuing liberalisation policy have been initiated to facilitate liberal transfer of technologies, information and capital across the borders in addition to forging collaborative joint ventures with existing multinational corporations and help establish entirely new ones as well as subscribing to diverse global agencies of trade, commerce and industry. Requisite legal provisions are made to deal with Intellectual Property Rights for technology transfer including immigration laws to facilitate movement of human resources. Similarly, in the so-called closed or guarded economies, the private players are being offered scope for greater role with opening of diverse fields of economy for Foreign Direct Investment completing what is being understood as global economic integration, a phenomenon that needs to be empirically and theoretically probed into for a scientific and objective understanding for the purposes of better understanding, regulation and prediction if need be.

Hence, papers focusing on the phenomenon of global economic integration, perceived as outcome of globalisation process facilitated by the global technology transfer, foreign direct investment, MNC operations from theoretical and empirical perspective are invited for presentation in the session that could also suggest strategies and measures for overcoming some of the perceived bottlenecks and constraints in harnessing the true potential of globalization for its positive impact.

Session Organizer:
Siddharamesh Hiremath, Gulbarga University, India

10:30-12:20

Elite Understanding of Economic Inequality
(Joint session with RC18 Political Sociology)

Recently a growing field of ‘elite’ studies has emerged in response to historical research by economists which has demonstrated that the richest ‘one percent’ have increased their share of income and/or wealth in many countries, often contributing to an overall increase in economic inequality. A subfield to these recent contributions specifically focuses on how ‘elites’ understand these changes in and economic inequality more generally.

The session is inspired by Reis and Moore’s (2005) influential comparative study of Elite Perceptions of Poverty and Inequality, which found important differences in both understanding of, and (political) responses to issues of poverty and inequality in their respective countries, pointing to the need for understanding elite perceptions for implementing successful poverty and inequality reduction policies. We invite contributions from social scientists around the globe who have conducted empirical research on elite perceptions towards inequality. Specifically, we invite studies of elite perceptions of the distribution of material resources; as well as their views on economic inequality and how it relates to gender, ‘racial’ and ethnic disparities.

Previous studies have pointed towards the importance of paying attention to differential views towards inequality and poverty. Studies in liberal market economies have highlighted the importance of a discourse of meritocracy and hard work, and a reluctance of ‘elites’ to engage with issues of distribution.

The aim of the session is to bring together empirical researchers who are working on these issues
and to facilitate a discussion in order to develop a global comparative perspective on ‘elite’ perceptions of inequality.

Session Organizers:

Katharina HECHT, LSE, United Kingdom

Alice KROZER, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

15:30-17:20

Karl Marx 200 Years Later

(Joint session with RC32 Women in Society)

May 2018 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Karl Marx. The past decade has witnessed a resurgent interest in Marxism within and outside the academy. This renaissance of sorts cannot be framed, however, as a simple return of Marxism. The multiple crises of Marxism since the 1980s - in both political and academic life - have had lasting and in some cases irreversible effects for the interpretation and implementation of Marxist theory. It is also true that theoretical approaches defined in contrast to Marxism - from postcolonial theory to deconstruction, from post-Marxism to varieties of feminism - have also encountered serious limits when it comes to thinking about the patterns of change and domination that define capitalism. A reappraisal of Marxism, reflecting back and looking forward, is called for. This panel will bring together noted scholars that investigate both the legacy of Marx for understanding the development of society and economy under capitalism, and how Marx's writings can be used to anticipate and inform our analysis of emerging trends in an increasingly globalized world faced with growing populist movements in opposition to neoliberalism and austerity. It will pay special attention to how Marx's ideas have been developed in Latin America, the Global South, post-Soviet societies and other emerging regions, in opposition to a Eurocentric understanding of social change and resistance to capitalism.

Session Organizer:

David FASENFEST, Wayne State University, USA

17:30-19:20

Global Perspectives on Care and Care Work I: Marketization, Migration and Gender

Research shows that care regimes are strongly interrelated with gender and migration regimes. This is most obvious in domestic work and care, but also in professional care provision by the private sector, the state and the third sector, drawing on a largely female migrant workforce and shaping new divisions of labor between men and women and among women. Although commodification of care and care work is embedded in and interlinked with supra- and international politics regulating the interrelations between care provision, migration and gender, the transnational and national care regimes and working conditions significantly differ within and between the Global North and South, West and East. The session invites papers on recent developments in this field and to focus on the following questions: How can we conceptualize a political economy of care, gender and migration enabling us to understand the status and development of care work in contemporary capitalisms? What significance do power, violence and injustice have in the field of care, making care workers a class of denizens serving the citizens of the middle and upper classes around the world? In what ways do changing demographics, institutional policies and cultural practices affect who provides care across national borders? How are care workers challenging new forms of commodified care? What examples of decent care work have emerged, and under what conditions? The session seeks to understand and discuss the interrelations between the societal
organization of care and care work, migration and gender on the national, trans-, inter- and supranational levels.

Session Organizers:

Brigitte AULENBACHER, Johannes Kepler University, Austria
Heidi GOTTFRIED, Wayne State University, USA

Universalism: Past, Present and Possible Futures
(Joint session with RC19 Sociology of Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy)

We propose a session critically examining the role and place of universalism in contemporary political economy, comparative social policy and social movement literature. The aim of this session is to bring together scholars interested in the idea of universalism from different disciplinary angles. The rationale for proposing such a session reflects profound dissatisfaction with disciplinary boundaries that lead scholars to ignore how political economy, welfare state and social movement literature are thoroughly interrelated.

‘The apparent demise’ of universalism underlying welfare capitalism and the fragmentation of both political movements and national party politics raise serious questions about the viability of social scientific theories rooted in this ethos. Conversely, theorists steeped in universalism, such as Karl Polanyi, have never been more popular. The cross-disciplinary panel welcomes both theoretical and empirical contributions engaging these challenging issues. The following questions provide more specific insight into the goals of the panel:

Is the apparent fragmentation and individualization fostered by neoliberalism, itself, universal, or rather is this fragmentation a reflection of a broader counter-movement in response to decades of liberalization? Is the quest for a ‘new universalism’ fostered by rising social movements in various parts of the globe a reaction to welfare state retrenchment and increased conditionality? What is the relationship between ideological and organizational fragmentation and universal attitudes concerning resultant ideologies? Is there the possibility to renew a universalistic ethos beyond Keynesianism and neoliberalism? How have social/economic conditions changed and how have these changes contributed to the possibility of universal politics or progressive economic reforms?

Session Organizers:

Cory BLAD, Manhattan College, USA
Emanuele FERRAGINA, Sciences Po Paris, France

Thursday, 19 July

08:30-10:20

Theorizing Changes in Gender Regimes and Gendered Institutions
(Joint session with RC32 Women in Society)

This session addresses debates about the theorization of gender at the meso-institutional and macro-systemic levels in order to engage in historical comparative analyses of varieties of gender regimes. Historical-institutional approaches have yielded new insights into the transformation of gender regimes. Today however, the sustainability of gender transformations is challenged by the financial and economic crisis, demographic change, and transnational mobilities. The papers address gender transformations in
relation to state policies, institutional arrangements and gender systems that are consequential for explaining rising and complex inequalities in Europe and beyond. A key issue concerns the interaction of gender and class inequalities.

Papers can propose indicators of gender inequalities in the context of financialization and transnationalization, investigate the impact of the crisis on gender inequalities, and bring to light the interaction of European with non-European gender regimes especially in relation to the increasing dependence of households on migrants as unpaid care and domestic labor. The papers also can engage with a set of policy shifts re-shaping gender equalities in specific institutional domains, including employment, welfare, taxation, households, violence, and political representation, not all of which take the same direction in relation to gender equality. Are varieties of gender regimes congruent with varieties of capitalism? Does the crisis restructure regimes or just some institutions?

Session Organizer:

**Karin GOTTSCHELL**, University of Bremen, Germany

**10:30-12:20**

**Global Perspectives on Care and Care Work II: Marketization, New Forms of Governance and Gender**

(Joint session with RC32 Women in Society)

Care work is undergoing a dramatic change worldwide. Countries in the Global North experience a ‘care crisis’ resulting from neoliberal deregulation of welfare provision. In these countries marketization implies that those who can afford it outsource care. The majority of migrant care givers come from countries in the Global South. However, there are important differences. In Europe millions of care givers come from post-socialist countries which struggle with the fact that their inclusion in the global system resulted in the deregulation or elimination of state run care infrastructure now replaced by private institutions. As a result, markets become the main actors of care provision. The low level or even absence of welfare state provision in many countries has always implied a situation where wealthy families employed care givers from ethnic minorities or poorer strata of the population, but here, too, the situation is changing. In some middle income-countries of the Global South care work is a social issue moving up on the political and state’s agenda, and care provision in part involves populations previously excluded or ignored. Furthermore, the global economic crisis lays off ‘surplus workers’ and often results in extensive migrations, but migrants’ provision of care in faraway countries generate care gaps in their home countries. We invite papers dealing with the connection of marketization and new forms of governance and the following question: How does the change of provision, institutionalization and regulation of care work affect social differences and inequalities of gender, race and class?

Session Organizers:

**Birgit RIEGRAF**, University of Paderborn, Germany

**Helma LUTZ**, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

**15:30-17:20**

**Interpreting and Questioning Finance As Social Relationships**

Sociologists frequently understand finance in essentialist terms—as the creation and brokerage of capital. However, in line with other relational approaches in sociology, numerous scholars have investigated debt, credit, bonds, and other debt-like financial instruments as social relationships. And of course, equity relationships have long been understood in transactional terms.
Building on sessions at the ISA Forum in Vienna in 2016, this open call for papers seeks theoretically-driven empirical research that investigates finance as social relationships, as well as papers that directly refute this framing. For example, if financial instruments, products, and services are social relationships, how are they embedded in racial and gender systems, and with what consequences? If financial products are conceived of as commodity chains—a string of interorganizational relationships stretching across time and space—how is finance racialized and gendered? Conversely, how is financialization changing racial and gender systems? More broadly, how does culture, moral beliefs, norms, habit, imitation, strategic behavior, social networks, or social institutions shape ongoing financial relationships? At the level of organizations, how does viewing debt and equity as relationships alter our understanding of the behavior of households, firms, corporations, municipalities, states, or transnational regions? At the level of financial instruments and markets, how are bonds, mortgages, and equity products created, marketed, and consumed? These broad questions are merely indicative of the wide range of research welcome in this panel.

Two types of theoretically-driven empirical papers will be given preference. First, research that addresses gender and/or racial systems. Second, research conducted outside of the North Atlantic.

Session Organizer:
Aaron PITLUCK, Illinois State University, USA

17:30-19:20
Transforming Capitalism: Between Market Fundamentalism and Alternative Visions, the Authoritarian Shift and the Defense of Democracy

For some decades we have witnessed far-reaching transformations of capitalisms in both the Global North and South. Market fundamentalism and neo-liberalism are putting democracy at risk. On the one hand, stalling “recoveries” and extended recessions amidst a deepening global crisis and continuous military interventions in challenged regimes further spiked increasing inequalities, precarity, migratory displacement and desperation. These processes accompany the resurgence of right wing political forces in and outside of the electoral realm and “populist“ political movements advocating new forms of nationalism, exclusion and violence that pose important social implications for progressive alternatives. On the other hand, besides right wing movements, social protest and initiatives are pushing alternative visions of a just, solidary, democratic, neo-socialist society. Following the theme “transforming capitalism,” the session invites papers to discuss research about this worldwide “double movement,” the “movement“ in the capitalist relations of economy/market and politics/state and the “counter-movement“ of civil society (Polanyi), the shift to an authoritarian capitalism and the defense of democracy, the shift to “free trade“ and the defense of human and social rights. Welcome are theoretical and empirical contributions dealing with the question whether we are witnessing a fundamental transformation of capitalism, and analyzing the uneven development and the pathways between market fundamentalism and alternative visions, the authoritarian shift and democratic ideas around the world.

Session Organizers:
Brigitte AULENBACHER, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria
Ricardo DELLO BUONO, Manhattan College, USA
Friday, 20 July

08:30-10:20

The Climate Crisis and Just Transitions - Democratic Eco-Socialist Alternatives from South Africa and Beyond

This is an author meets critic session.

Chair: Heidi Gottfried

Presenters: Vishwas Satgar and Michelle Williams

Critic: William Carroll

This panel will engage with an edited collection focusing on the climate crisis as a systemic crisis of global capitalism. It steers clear of millenarian catastrophism or millenarian ends of time discourses. Instead it brings together some of the leading international and South African climate just activists, movement voices and scholars. This includes Nnimmo Bassey from Nigeria who won the alternative Nobel prize to Pablo Salon the former climate negotiator for the Bolivian state; the only state that has held a climate justice position in the multi-lateral system.

This volume brings together an analysis of the failures of multilateral leadership in resolving the climate crisis and the rise of systemic alternatives. Moreover, there is a critical engagement with Anthropocene discourse particularly its official UN version and popular renditions. However, the main focus of this volume is on further elaborating the the notion of just transition and its content. In this regard various systemic alternatives are engaged with, emerging from climate justice and transformative movements to advance a deep just transition. This ranges from the rights of nature, living well (buen vivir), ubuntu, food sovereignty, basic income grants, commoning, solidarity economy, climate jobs to socially owned renewables. Crucial to this volume is a recognition of how these systemic alternatives transform socialism as democratic eco-socialism.

Session Organizer:

Vishwas SATGAR, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

10:30-12:20

Global Inequality in the Era of Generational Conflict

This session will explore issues related to global inequality and its relationship with inter-generational conflict. Inter-generational conflict is an old story and continues to reemerge in different forms. In the world revolution of 1968, students and youth proclaimed that those over 30 years of age were not to be trusted. We have a newly emerging global inter-generational conflict due to globalization.

The wealth difference between the young and the old has been increasing in recent years. With increasing precarious employment under global economy, steady improvements in careers along the path of life cannot be easily attained for the younger generation as it had been for the older generations in the core countries. Ongoing and novel reconfigurations of class relationships reveal growing inequality and formation of a new mass class of the precariat. The history of generational relations has taken different forms in the Global North and South. In the Global South, effective welfare states did not usually emerge, and the precariousness of employment was always a general situation.

This session is open to political, economic, social, and psychological aspects of the related theme, including issues of income, wealth, education, environment, equity of youth rights, and migration. We
welcome papers on the past and present social movements and the ways in which youth have mobilized and been mobilized. A wave of youth mobilization in the 1960s and 1970s needs to be compared with contemporary developments. The session calls for papers from various frameworks and methodologies and is not limited to aforementioned topics.

Session Organizers:

Yoshimichi SATO, Tohoku University, Japan

Christopher CHASE-DUNN and Hiroko INOUE, University of California-Riverside, USA

15:30-17:20

Welfare Market Making and the Private Organization of Social Services

The aim of this session is to explore the origins, structure and outcomes of private welfare markets. Private welfare typically originates in shifts from public provision of welfare to private market-based services. Welfare markets also originate in shifts from family provided care to market-based services, as part of policies to support families and move unpaid domestic and care labor to the market. Tax credits and other fiscal mechanisms create incentives and support for individuals and families to purchase welfare and care services as varied as private pension insurance, ambulatory eldercare, and private medical coverage from market providers, either to replace or supplement public programs. Introducing welfare markets means that providers compete and employment also shifts from the public sector to less protected private sector labor markets. State policies creating private welfare markets have consequences for the quality of services, and related to this, the quality of employment and work. One consequence may be increasing insecurities and anxiety among citizens in relation to life risks and the adequacy and affordability of available market-based protection schemes. Given the labor intensity of social and care services, another consequences of private markets may be the expansion of low-wage and informal labor also associated with the increasing use of migrant labor, especially in care services. Consumer organizations, labor unions and migrant rights groups may play an important role in efforts to educate citizens about market options, providing consumer protections and mobilizing to improve service quality and insure decent work.

Session Organizers:

Franca VAN HOOREN, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Clémence LEDOUX, Université de Nantes, France

17:30-19:20


“Human reproduction” is an indispensable component of social reproduction, while it hasn’t acquired an adequate position in social sciences.

Against this context, feminist scholars have put tremendous effort to theorize human production as part of the economy. Various concepts were coined to theoretically capture the activities for human reproduction, such as “housework”, “reproductive labour,” “unpaid work,” “care,” “emotional labour” and “intimate work (labour).” On the other hand, feminist scholars have criticized the welfare regime literature, pointing out the lack of attention to the family which has been working as the core producer of welfare in most societies.
Sylvia Walby proposes redefinition of the “economy.” “The concept of the economy needs to be widened so as to include not only marketized activities, but also domestic labour and state welfare.” (Walby 2009: 102) “The conceptualization of unpaid domestic care-work as part of the economy is a challenge to the narrow definition of the economy as activities that have monetary value.” (Walby 2009: 102) At the same time, we should pay attention to the fact that “The tasks accomplished by domestic care-work could be accomplished as either welfare provided by the state, or as goods and services purchased on the market (inside or outside the home). (Walby 2009: 103) This is called “defamilialization” in welfare regime literature.

The session aims to bridge (conventional) economics, welfare state studies and the studies of intimate lives to contribute to the formation of the integrated theory of social reproduction.

Session Organizer:

Emiko OCHIAI, Kyoto University, Japan

Saturday, 21 July

08:30-10:20

Rethinking Transitions: Where Is the “Universality” of Capitalism Located?

Global capitalism has given rise to various problems for decades, which includes increasing social inequalities, broken social solidarities, environmental destruction and climate change, and so forth. One of causes for these problems can be derived from the crisis of capitalism such as the dysfunction of capital accumulation. Some scholars also assert that these phenomena should show the end of capitalism is now approaching, and they are designing the model of coming post-capitalism: solidarity economy, shared economy, community-based economy, and the like.

However, the debate on post-capitalism is lacking in examining how capitalism will end and post-capitalism will rise. In retrospect, capitalism was born, based on some conditions and overcoming many constraints, through transitions from former systems, and it can now appear to be “universal” or “omnipotent” in the world. Why can capitalism on earth obtain such “universality”? What are the causes of such “universality”? The origin of such “universality” should be considered again through examining various transitions, while the model of post-capitalism is elaborated.

This session addresses various transitions to capitalism and from capitalism, and seeks out conditions and mechanisms for the “universality” of capitalism. The supposed topics will include followings—various transitions from pre-capitalist societies to capitalist ones in advanced or developing countries, transitions from socialist or communist societies to capitalist ones, the model of post-capitalism and its conditionality, and so on. The perspective can also be local, national or global, and empirical or historical, while theoretical consideration is better to be added.

Session Organizer:

Nobuyuki YAMADA, Komazawa University, Japan

10:30-12:20

Twenty-First Century Fascism

During the first half of the twentieth century, famously called the Age of Extremes by historian Eric Hobsbawm, the global system experience two devastating world wars sorting out the issue of hegemony and strong social movements posed significant counter-hegemonic challenges that shaped the nature of
emerging world society. The different versions of the labor movement (anarchism, socialism, communism) competed with one another and were encouraged to cooperate by the rise of twentieth century fascism, though their relations remained contentious. All three labour traditions where challenged to build solidarities and capacities for resistance in the context of a rapidly change global order. In the first decades of the twenty-first century as somewhat similar situation has emerged. Economic slow-downs and the rise of geopolitical challenger to the global power of the United States are once again moving in the direction of a multipolar interstate system. And strong social movements seem to be emerging. Right-wing nationalist and anti-immigrant movements and parties have emerged in many countries. The purpose of this proposed session is to compare the similarities and differences between twentieth and twenty-first century fascisms and to discuss the prospects for global social change in the first half of the 21st century.

Session Organizers:

Christopher CHASE-DUNN, University of California-Riverside, USA
Vishwas SATGAR, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

12:30-14:20
Carbon Capitalism, Climate Capitalism, Energy Democracy

Although the scientific consensus on causes and implication of global warming is well established, the climate crisis has provoked three distinct political-economic projects, rooted in differing class fractions and social interests, which currently vie for hegemony at different levels and regions of the world-system. Carbon capitalism is a project of ‘business as usual’ (in the Stern report’s terminology), with efficiency improvements (and possible sunsetting of coal) but no major changes to the political ecology of contemporary capitalism. Climate capitalism proposes the ecological modernization of the energy base of capitalism, by redirecting flows of capital away from fossil fuels, and toward more climatically benign sources of energy including hydropower, solar, wind and nuclear. The first two projects are capital-centric: they leave the class structure of capitalism untouched, including the concentration of economic power in the hands of a relatively small group of major investors, executives and corporate directors. In contrast, energy democracy finds its social base in environmental and other progressive movements, including sections of the labour movement. It mandates a dual power shift, from fossil-fuel power to renewables (decarbonization) and from corporate oligarchy to public, democratic control of economic decisions (democratization). This session welcomes papers exploring the sociology of these projects, singly or in combination, especially analyses that foreground issues of political economy and political ecology.

Session Organizers:

William CARROLL and J. P. SAPINSKI, University of Victoria, Canada

14:30-16:20
Kondratieff Waves and the World-System Development

This session calls for papers that address issues related to the scientific study of the World-System processes, Kondratieff Waves (K-waves), and especially K-wave manifestations in the World-System processes. Cycles of various lengths (from a few years to a few hundred) are found not only in economic but social life. Large-scale wave-like perturbations of the global socioeconomic realm with a characteristic length of about half a century appear to be among the most important among different cycles. These periodic fluctuations were named ‘Kondratieff waves’ after the famous Russian scientist Nikolay Kondratieff. Many researchers find such cycles in social and political life from ancient times.
Kondratieff waves constitute a sort of mystery that has been haunting economic and social researchers for almost a century. Why in certain periods do we observe prolonged upswings, whereas in other periods - notwithstanding all the enormous efforts of interested macroeconomic actors - socioeconomic development is accompanied by prolonged depressions? What gets out of order in social and economic mechanisms? The analysis of K-waves allows to understand the long-term dynamics of the World-System development, as well as to propose future scenarios of global development. K-waves are considered as one of the most important components of the World System dynamics. In its turn the World System processes turn out to be very important for the understanding of the K-wave dynamics. The session is open to various theoretical frameworks, perspectives and methodologies.

Session Organizers:

Leonid GRININ, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russia
Andrey KOROTAYEV, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia

World Congress 2018 Funding opportunity

RC02 Small Travel Grant Award

RC02 sets aside funds for seeding small travel grants to the World Congress in Toronto. The Board has allocated a total of 1,000 CAD from our budget. The size of grants will range from 75 CAD to 100 CAD increments, depending on the number of applications. A cash payment will be given to each recipient in Toronto.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The allocation of funds is based on financial need.
- Firstly, the applicant must be a member in good standing at the time of application.
- Secondly, to be eligible members must be either unemployed; graduate students; post-doctoral students; low-waged workers (activists working for NGOs); unemployed, and/or from countries in B & C categories.

To apply, submit:

- Name:
- Affiliation:
- Position:
- Residence:
- Member of RC02:
- Brief Rationale for support:

Submit applications to the President Heidi Gottfried at Heidi.gottfried [at] wayne.edu

Deadline for Applications: Deadline is March 1, 2018.

Selection Process: A committee of three members of the board will select awardees based on the above criteria. Notification of awards will be announced by March 15, 2018.
Invitation to join ISA Research Committee 44 - Labor Movements

For the last couple of years, RC44 and RC02 have co-sponsored sessions at both the Congress and Forum meetings of ISA. We believe that the missions of our research committees overlap and we’d like to make our links even stronger by inviting RC02 members to join RC44.

Research Committee 44, Labor Movements, was formed in 1990 to encourage international research on labor movements (broadly understood), with a focus on their role both in industrial relations and in the political arena. Joining RC44 will provide an opportunity for RC02 members to engage with interdisciplinary academics and researchers from Africa, Asia, North and South America, Europe, and Oceania. You will also receive regular email digests of new RC44 website materials posted featuring international articles on labor, book reviews and commentaries, debates on cutting-edge research, profiles of research units, conference announcements, calls for paper and more. Most importantly, by joining you will help both our RCs to unite the professional and activist experience of its members for work on the problems of the sociology of economic activities throughout the world, one of the key missions of RC02.

For more information about ISA and RC44, please contact the current RC44 President, Bridget Kenny (Bridget.Kenny[at]wits.ac.za) or its Secretary, Kim Voss (kimvoss[at]berkeley.edu). You can also go directly to the RC44 website (http://www.rc44labour.org).

To join RC44 and/or ISA, please visit: http://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/individual-membership/.

There is a sliding scale for a four-year membership in RC44; for ISA members, it ranges from $5 to $40, depending upon whether you reside in the Global South or not and whether you are a graduate students or not. We hope you will decide it is a small price to pay for solidarity!

Employment opportunities

Society Work & Development Institute (SWOP)
Johannesburg, South Africa

Director

Closing Date: 16th February 2018

The Society Work and Development Institute (SWOP) seeks a new director. SWOP is a research institute dedicated to the critical analysis of the making and remaking of social orders, and the social forces, contestations and politics that underlie these. The Institute has over a period of more than 30 years established a national and international reputation in the study of work, labour, the interface between nature and society, new mining frontiers, rural transformations, movements, violence and democracy. SWOP is a vibrant intellectual space constituted by researchers, postgraduate students, postdoctoral fellows and networks of research associates. SWOP has three main activities: scholarly research, social and public engagement over social justice, and teaching in pursuit of our commitment to the formation of a new generation of socially committed researchers.
Applications are invited for the position of Director. This is a five-year contract position with the option of renewal. Suitable candidates will be leading scholars with strong intellectual networks within South Africa, in Africa and globally. The ability to engage with partners ranging from trade unions to senior government officials to funders is essential. S/he will provide energetic and imaginative intellectual leadership across the full range of the SWOP Institute’s activities and interests.

The Director will report to the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, and will shape the Institute’s activities in close consultation with staff, the SWOP Board, and the Dean. The appointment will be made at the level of Professor or Associate Professor.

**Qualifications**

A PhD in a relevant discipline such as sociology or development studies is essential. A substantial track record of research and publications, appropriate administrative, project management, and fundraising experience.

**Duties**

Responsible for the day-to-day management of the Institute, ensure its long-term growth and development, enhance its status as a cutting edge global research Institute, develop its national and international research networks and partnerships, expand its relationship with civil society and government, provide an enabling, supportive and collegial environment within the SWOP Institute, manage staff and students, forge synergies between SWOP, the academic departments, and other entities within the University, raise donor funding to support research and salaries.

Further information about the SWOP Institute is available from Lucinda Becorny (Lucinda.Becorny[at]wits.ac.za, or 011 7174464) or from the website, [www.swop.org.za](http://www.swop.org.za).

**Salary**

In accordance with experience and qualifications, within the normal University scales. Benefits include an annual bonus, generous leave, pension fund, medical aid, relocation expenses.

**How to apply**

Submit a letter of motivation, detailed CV, the names and contact details of three referees (incl. e-mail addresses) and four publications that demonstrate your intellectual qualities and interests.

*External applicants* are invited to apply, by registering profile on the Wits i-recruitment platform located at [https://irec.wits.ac.za](https://irec.wits.ac.za) and submitting your application.

The University is committed to employment equity. Preference may be given to appointable applicants from the underrepresented designated groups in terms of the relevant employment equity plans and policies of the University.

The University retains the right not to make an appointment and to verify all information provided by candidates; including qualifications and credit standing.

**Closing Date: 16th February 2018**

Please note that only applications via the website will be considered for shortlisting. Correspondence will only be entered into with shortlisted candidates. The University reserves the right not to make an appointment or to re-advertise.
Up to 8 Doctoral Positions in Economic Sociology and Political Economy at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, the University of Cologne, and the University of Duisburg-Essen

The International Max Planck Research School on the Social and Political Constitution of the Economy (IMPRS-SPCE), conducted jointly by the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies and the University of Cologne, with the University of Duisburg-Essen as an associated partner, invites excellent candidates to apply for its doctoral program. The graduate school features a unique curriculum of core courses, research methods, electives, and summer school sessions. The positions begin on October 1, 2018. They will be awarded for 15 months with an option for an additional 27 months.

The deadline for applications is February 28, 2018.

For more information, visit: http://imprs.mpifg.de/imprs_admission.asp or see the announcement: http://www.mpifg.de/jobs/2017-11_IMPRS-SPCE.pdf.

How to apply: http://imprs.mpifg.de/imprs_how_to_apply.asp.

University of St. Andrew
ENERGYETHICS Postdoctoral fellowship

Applications are invited for a 3-year postdoctoral Research Fellow who will explore ethnographically how energy analysts and traders in the financial sector conceptualise and value oil at a time of heightened concerns about climate change and ‘stranded oil assets’. The successful candidate will carry out extended fieldwork with energy analysts and traders, examining the financialization of the oil market premised on uncertain relationships that include physical and financial flows of oil.

Closing date for applications: 16 March 2018.

The postdoctoral position is part of a European Research Council-founded project entitled “The Ethics of Oil: Finance Moralities and Environmental Politics in the Global Oil Economy (ENERGYETHICS)”, led by Dr Mette M. High in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrew (2017-2022).

The position will commence on 1 September 2018, or as soon as possible thereafter. It will be based in the Department of Social Anthropology and provide substantial scope for academic judgement, originality, interpretation, presentation and publication of results.

The prospective candidate will have a strong interest in fields such as finance and economic life, risk and value, morality and ethics, energy and climate change, corporations and organisations. Applicants are asked to contribute their own provisional research ideas in the form of a proposal as part of their application. Projects will have ethnographic fieldwork at their core, but may also draw on other methodologies, including archival and visual media work.
Requirements:

The successful candidate must hold, or will be about to be awarded, a PhD in anthropology or a closely related discipline. You must be able to engage critically and creatively with relevant theoretical and conceptual frameworks within anthropology. You should have strong communication and organisational skills with a passionate interest in carrying out ethnographic research. You should be willing to work in a team and contribute to public events, publications and limited teaching alongside your research project.

Application:

Please apply online at [www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx](http://www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx). However, if you are unable to do this, please call +44 (0) 1334 462571 for an application pack. Please quote ref.: AR2029SB.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Principal Investigator Dr Mette M. High at mmh20[at]st-andrews.ac.uk for further information about the project in advance of submitting applications.

Conference announcement

5th Global Conference on Economic Geography
Session on Radicalising global production networks

Organizers: Carlo Inverardi-Ferri and Dennis Stolz
National University of Singapore

As a heuristic framework for understanding the organisationally fragmented and spatially dispersed nature of contemporary production, the Global Production Networks (GPN) approach has become one of the most influential paradigms in geography today (Coe & Yeung, 2015). From its earliest formulations, the GPN framework held the promise of a critical investigation of uneven geographical development, integrating elements from world-systems theory, dependency analysis and other radical traditions in political economy (Dicken et al., 2001; Henderson et al., 2002). Later scholarship has in part departed from this initial agenda (Bair, 2005; Smith, 2015). While intersections between GPN and critical strands of geographical research have certainly emerged in the literature (Arnold & Hess, 2017; Hudson, 2008; Leslie & Reimer, 1999), this session suggests that a more robust engagement with radical schools of economic thinking is needed to fulfil the original promise of the project.

The session invites theoretical, empirical, and methodological contributions that cover themes including, but are not limited to:

- Marxist approaches and GPN
- Political ecology and GPN
- Cultural political economy and GPN
- Feminist geography and GPN
- Neo-Gramscian approaches and GPN
- Polanyian economic geography and GPN
- Labour geography and GPN
- State and institutions within GPN
- GPN, primitive accumulation, and enclosures
- Social reproduction and GPN
- Food and GPN
- Waste and GPN
- Animal geographies and GPN
- Mobility and migration in GPN
- Informality and the illicit in GPN

Confirmed speakers include Martin Hess and Adrian Smith.


Social Theory is often interested in describing and explaining social change. For such explanations, an understanding of how micro-, meso- and macro phenomena interact and causally influence each other over time is essential. We refer to the empirical analysis of dynamic linkages on multiple levels as process-oriented analysis. The works of Norbert Elias (e.g. with Scotson 2008) or Pierre Bourdieu (e.g. 1984) provide ample illustrations of this approach, moreover current field theory (e.g. Fliigstein & McAdam, 2012; Hilgers & Mangez, 2015) or relational theory (e.g. Powell & Dépelteau, 2013; Crossley, 2015; Abbott, 2016), to name but a few examples, offer productive grounds for process-oriented analysis.

This process orientation raises fundamental methodological issues (Baur, 2017):

Take, for example, case selection. A process-oriented analysis struggles with the instability of social units and social problems over time. Shifting the focus to explaining change, a major task is to define before and after states of that social unit or social problem. Other methodological issues include defining a starting point for the analysis and the piecing of the longue durée into comparable and distinct phases. Further, a process-oriented analysis needs to define relevant interactions, institutions, and structures at play and define the methods adequate to reconstruct these micro-meso-macro levels. Finally, a key methodological issue relates to identifying the causal relations between the different levels within and across periods. Only on such grounds can patterns of social change become evident.

Research designs typically combine or mix different data types in order to capture multiple levels and various time layers (Baur, 2011). Micro phenomena often address the individual life course or biographies, which are usually analyzed either with quantitative survey data or qualitative narrative interviews. Alternatively, very short-term social processes are often grasped by methods such as ethnography and video analysis. Meso and macro phenomena, on the other hand, typically change only on the longue durée, thus requiring either longitudinal analysis, historical methods or archival methods, which make use of qualitative documentary analysis or quantitative public administrative data, structural or trend data. Such research designs realizing process-oriented analysis in social research touch upon still unresolved methodological concerns. These problems are owed to three blind spots in current methodological debates: First, a mixed-methods debate that thus far mainly focuses on the integration of qualitative and quantitative methods, but only scarcely reflects upon the integration of historic or archival methods (e.g. Cresswell & Clark, 2011; Sligo, Nairn, & McGee, 2018). Second, digital and big data movements celebrate the progress made by an increasing availability of process-generated data (both historical and contemporary public administrative data, trend data, but also pictures, private texts and audios). Lacking is, however, a critical reflection upon the socio-historic circumstances that produce these data and thus the problems of selectivity and availability these kinds of data hold (e.g. Tinati & Halford, 2014; Halford et al 2017). Third, the debates about causality within qualitative and quantitative methods are often discussed separately. Hence, there is a need for an integrated reflection upon the meaning of causality in order to address time, multi-level and multi-method issues adequately (e.g. Harding, 2013; Johnson, Russo, & Schoonenboom, 2017).

This special issue aims at initiating a debate about the methodological underpinnings of process-oriented analysis. Based on above considerations, we ask: How can we conduct process oriented micro-meso-macro analysis? By doing so, we aim at provoking reflections in three ways - methodological issues
connected to process-oriented analyses, the empirical realization of process-oriented analyses, and finally blind spots in current methodological debates. While this thematic issue does not aim at narrowing the debate to any particular theoretical couleur, we appreciate contributions and arguments that are sufficiently theoretically anchored.

We are particularly interested in contributions by scholars who have engaged themselves in empirical process-oriented analyses. We welcome submissions that identify a particular methodological issue of process-oriented analyses and discuss adequate solutions to address this issue. Ideally, contributions will contain three elements a.) a reflection of the selected methodological issue and how it relates to the overall research process b.) a description of the empirical design as it contributes to solving the methodological issue and c.) a discussion of how the solution may offer insights to thus far overlooked concerns in current methodological debates. Contributions that consider only one of these elements are also strongly encouraged to submit to this special issue.


For more information, please contact Isabell Stamm (isabell.stamm[at]tu-berlin.de)

References


The Revolution of 1968 - were there socio-economic drivers?

A panel contribution to the international symposium:
Latinoamérica, el Caribe y el año 1968, Vienna, 2018

By Uwe Christian Plachetka

Introduction

The so-called “Revolution of 1968” - as are labeled in Europe the student protests in Berkeley, Paris, Berlin, and somehow in Vienna, along with the so-called “spring of Prague” - is still an unclear issue. The renowned historian Eric Hobsbawm (1994) mentioned it as a part of a general post-war cultural revolution without any forces on the economic or technological basis of the affected societies.

In terms of global history, the idea of the absence of any socio-economic drivers to promote the Revolution of 1968 is questionable. A symposium at the University of Vienna reviewed the Revolution of 1968 from a new point of view, that of Cuba due to the foregone missile crisis. The keynote speech was delivered by Sergio Guerra Vilaboy (University of Havana) (Cuba Debate 2018) emphasizing especially the ideological conflict between Cuba and the USSR concerning the issues of decolonialization, thereby indicating the social origins of the World-System theories due to the intellectual paradigm shift promoted by the student protests.

As an invited panel member, the present author added the protests against the Vietnam war, the Civil Rights movement in the USA, the Peruvian revolution of 1968, as an event of that revolutionary conjuncture along with the Tlacelolco massacre (Matanza de Tlacelolco) in Mexico and the events in Indonesia prior to 1968, the failed coup of the Communist Party of Indonesia and its persecution during 1965-66. Whereas the events in Indonesia are a hot issue until now, the Peruvian revolution enacted by a military coup by Velasco Alvarado and to realize a revolution (Cotler 1978) which meant essentially a land reform by the government in response to the Peruvian guerrilla of 1965 was clearly a momentum to mold Darcy Ribeiro’s cultural configuration theory concerning the Americas (Ribeiro [1969] 1977), a lesser known contribution to World-System theory. Anyway, the new socioeconomic theories provided by the revolutionists of 1968 may not explain the essential drivers towards the conjuncture of revolutions during those days as essential questions are to be answered: how to identify the socio-economic drivers of that revolution. Once identified, another question can be answered: When did the “revolution of 1968” start and when did it end?

Material and methodology

The keywords to search for possible socio-economic reasons for the revolution of 1968 were delivered by the ideological sources such as the French philosopher Herbert Marcuse, and the so-called “critical theory” somehow denounced as “cultural Marxism”, elaborated by Max Horkheimer and Theodor W. Adorno before World War II (Horkheimer 1937). Due to the divergence between sociological theories stemming from the pre-War World and the situation of the revolutionists in the post-war world, an “intellectual delay” of the revolutionists can be assumed. Essential sociopolitical reforms were enacted by social-democratic governments in Western Europe such as those of Olof Palme in Sweden, Willy Brandt in Germany and Bruno Kreisky in Austria thriving of the new popular mentality disseminated by the protesters, especially the pivot of the critical mind. US-students had a good reason to protest and made up a critical mind: Many of them received their conscription orders to fight the Vietnam war, which would not have been enough a momentum to turn the revolution into a quite global phenomenon. A change in
modes of production would have done so. The first hint that the Western World during the 1960s were characterized by a change in the mode of production is to be found in that compact model of socio-economic evolution elaborated by Korotayev (2005). The model is a dynamic model, that means it is generated by “laws of nature” that can be written down in the formal language of mathematics to run the model in a computer. In very general terms the model assumptions are that population growth produces a certain proportion of critical and innovative population whose inventions improve the economic and technological basis to feed more people to overcome the Malthusian trap. The thereby produced data are to be correlated with observed data to establish the correlation by statistical methods. The scale of the model encompasses the timeline between 500 BCE and 2000 CE, which means that the model has a large scale. Alterations in the correlation of the model during a specific period, which are but “slight” due to the model’s large scale, can indicate a tremendous impact on the people living at that specific period. Due to the large scale, “zooming in” becomes imperative that means detailed investigations on what happened during the respective period. The period to “zoom in” was the year of 1962 and the following years when the hitherto confirmed parallelism between population growth and improving of the knowledge and technological level of the population had a “slight” slump. What did this “slight” slump mean to the people living in the period between 1962 and 1970? Toffler (1970) provides an analysis chiefly of the United States of his days. Such an analysis is to be done in order to identify the momenta of socioeconomic or technical momenta of emerging and future developments, which is a standard method of foresight studies. The UNIDO (2005) provides a manual for complex technological foresights, but Toffler (1970) was a pioneer. The basic assumption of foresight exercises is that the state of the world in the future is the result of decisions made now. Therefore, futurologists do not predict anything, they are elaborating scenarios describing possible states of the world in the future as a result of present decisions and policies.

Now, 48 years later Toffler’s predictions can be put to the test concerning not only the accuracy of his scenarios but also the relevance of his analysis. Anyway, even the foresight exercises were a specific phenomenon of a socio-economic crisis, which lead to the commodification of scientific work, i.e. the employment of science as a direct mean of production (Cooper 2008).

Results and discussion

The “Revolution of 1968” lasted between 1962 (Korotayev’s date) and 1973 (Pinochet’s coup in Chile) or until the Anglo-Argentine Falkland (Malvina) war in 1982 in Europe or Ronald Reagan’s term as president of the United States (1981-1989).

Korotayev’s calibrated date is to be explained by the emergence of smart technologies (e.g. computers) as a new principle of production (Grinin 2012:16-45) due to their pivotal role in the Apollo space travel program. Cooper (2008) argues that the critique of capitalism by the revolutionists of 1968 based on their ideology was accompanied by the Club of Rome report on the limits to growth, which was a major challenge to the then ruling elites. They had to find a response to that challenge. The so-called smart industries or bio-economy should be understood as a knowledge-based production principle to overcome the limits to growth or at least to devaluate the Club of Rome report. Toffler’s first-hand observations on profound changes in the social organization of work, i.e. team-work instead of chains of command, which requires “collective intelligence” (Lévy 1994) may justify theories on critical minds as propellants of progress in certain key industries. Anyway, the 1970s had possibly been an age of crisis which was not felt by the public due to left-wing politics. The exception was the USA, due to their specific troubles in Vietnam having caused a conflict of generations: The parents of the young revolutionists remembered Chamberlain’s appeasement politics at the brink of World War II, paralleling Ho Chi Minh to Hitler - as Ho was an alleged communist. The young generation was aware of the risks of a nuclear war (Frey 2010): Therefore, they acquired a global mind. To them even a rice farmer in Vietnam was their neighbor, facing the same threat of total annihilation by a nuclear war as they did.
Anyway, the known manifestation of such a global mind was the ideology of “tiers mondisme” (tercermundistas or Third-World aficionados) due to the self-organization of the “Third World” at the Afro-Asian conference of Bandung, Indonesia (April 18-24, 1955) among recently decolonized countries. The Vietnam war was in fact a war to decolonize Vietnam, which was lost by the French army but prolonged by US containment politics against the Soviet Union and her allies. Decolonization became overlapped by the logics of the cold war, which grew hot on the periphery causing perpetual bloodshed.

The Latin American “Operation Condor” was an alliance between dictators to suppress especially the left-wing opposition since Pinochet’s coup d’état in Chile. This counter-insurgent association among dictators (Abramovici 2001, Rhymes 2017) suppressed any social unrest, people suspected to be communists, etc. there and possibly halted any development in Latin America until 1989, the year the Berlin Wall and Paraguay’s dictator Stroessner fell. It was sheer violence that brought an end to the revolution of 1968 there. In Peru, which was not member of this association, the issues of land reform and indigenous political participation was a long-simmering issue since the 19th century as development required the integration of the Quechuas (Mariátegui [1928] 2003, Plachetka 2011: 61-65), which was eventually headed for by the Velasco government since 1968. Maybe the revolution of 1968 was the rejection of 19th century mentality or, in Lewis Mumford’s wordings, the beginning of the mega-machine’s end (Mumford 1967).

Conclusion
The idea of a counter-revolution against the revolution of 1968 means to give way to the P.R. China as a new global hegemon by giving up all Western competences and social skills required to cope with the challenges of the present world since 1968.

Acknowledgements
The present paper is based on the author’s comments as invited panelist to the symposium, thanks to the Senior Lecturer Christian Cwik (University of West Indies) and the association for investigation and promotion of Continental America and the Caribbean (KonaK) and the associated institutions. The basic research on foresight methods were elaborated in the EURATOM program SERF (Socio-Economic Foresights on Nuclear Fusion), Project identification code TW5-TRE-FESO/A led by Prof. Wolfgang Kromp, the EC-funded project FOCUS (led by Prof. Alexander Siedschlag). Special thanks to Lecturer Urpi Adela Carlos Rios (now University of Illinois, USA) and Prof. Andrea Komlosy (University of Vienna) for the workshops on Global History in 2017.

References


Recent publications

Books


This handbook presents a comprehensive view of the current theory and research surrounding political elites, which is now a pivotal subject for academic study and public discourse. In 40 chapters by leading scholars, it displays the field’s richness and diversity. The handbook is organized in six sections, each introduced by a co-editor, focusing on theories about political elites, methods for studying them, their main structural and behavioral patterns worldwide, the differentiation and integration of political elite sectors, elite attributes and resources, and the dilemmas of political elites in this century. Forty years since Robert Putnam’s landmark *Comparative Study of Political Elites*, this handbook is an indispensable resource for scholars and students engaged in the study of this vibrant field.


In the collective psyche, a financier is a capitalist. In managerial capitalism, the notion of the ‘manager’ emerged, and the role of the manager was distinct from the role of the ‘owner’. Financial capitalism is similarly underpinned by financiers who are not the holders of the financial assets they buy, sell, trade or advise upon.

*Finance at Work* explores the world of financiers, be they finance-oriented CEOs, CFOs, financial journalists, mergers and acquisitions’ advisors or wealth managers. Part I investigates the professional trajectories of members of corporate boards and financialisation as the dissemination of financial logic outside its primary ‘iron cage’; Part II responds by studying financiers at work within financial occupations or financial operations involving external actors; while Part III pursues the issue of financial boundaries by seeking out the way financial logic crosses these boundaries. Part IV takes back the hypothesis of differentiations within finance presented in Part I, and analyses the internal boundaries of asset management, wealth management and leveraged buyout (LBO) acquisitions.

http://www.idhes.cnrs.fr/finance-at-work-2/

Responses to Marx's Capital: From Rudolf Hilferding to Isaak Illich Rubin is a collection of primary sources dealing with the reception of the economic works of Karl Marx from the First to the Third International. The documents, translated for the first time from German and Russian, range from the original reviews of the three volumes of Capital and the three volumes of Theories of Surplus Value to the debates between the Marxist economists and the bourgeois academic representatives of the theory of marginal utility and the German historical school. The volume close with six essays by the prominent economist Isaak I. Rubin, including ‘Essays on Marx's Theory of Money’ and ‘The Dialectical Development of Categories in Marx's Economic System’.


This book critiques and extends the analysis of power in the classic, Who Rules America?, on the fiftieth anniversary of its original publication in 1967—and through its subsequent editions. The chapters, written especially for this book by twelve sociologists and political scientists, provide fresh insights and new findings on many contemporary topics, among them the concerted attempt to privatize public schools; foreign policy and the growing role of the military-industrial component of the power elite; the successes and failures of union challenges to the power elite; the ongoing and increasingly global battles of a major sector of agribusiness; and the surprising details of how those who hold to the egalitarian values of social democracy were able to tip the scales in a bitter conflict within the power elite itself on a crucial banking reform in the aftermath of the Great Recession. These social scientists thereby point the way forward in the study of power, not just in the United States, but globally.


Bryan M. Evans, Stephen McBride, and their contributors delve further into the more practical, ground-level side of the austerity equation in *Austerity: The Lived Experience*. Economically, austerity policies cannot be seen to work in the way elite interests claim that they do. Rather than soften the blow of the economic and financial crisis of 2008 for ordinary citizens, policies of austerity slow growth and lead to increased inequality. While political consent for such policies may have been achieved, it was reached amidst significant levels of disaffection and strong opposition to the extremes of austerity. The authors build their analysis in three sections, looking alternatively at theoretical and ideological dimensions of the lived experience of austerity; how austerity plays out in various public sector occupations and policy domains; and the class dimensions of austerity. The result is a ground-breaking contribution to the study of austerity politics and policies.


This transdisciplinary volume puts forward proposals for wiser, socially just and sustainable socio-economic systems in transition. There is growing support for the view that the end of capitalism is around the corner, but on which conceptual and ethical basis can we interpret these times? With investigations into feminist economics, post-growth environmentalism, socio-technical digital design, collaborative and commons economics, the editors create a dialogue between radical knowledge/practices and contemplative social sciences to transgress disciplinary boundaries and implement new visions of reality. This important book challenges our ways of thinking and outlines a pathway for new research.

Chapter 13 of this book is available open access under a CC BY 4.0 license at https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-66592-4_13.


After the financial crisis of 2008, the debate was opened on the need to resize and regulate the participation of the financial sector in the world economy. In addition, it became visible because of the process of globalization, in which financial means the most recurrent, lasting and severe crises are felt in all corners of the planet. Much of the economic literature focused on the analysis of the economic slowdown, the depreciation of currencies, fiscal and monetary policies, the resulting geopolitical conflicts and the seizure of political power by financial actors. In this context, the book coordinated by Alicia Girón and Eugenia Correa: Financial reorganization in Asia and Latin America is subscribed in the postcrisis period. This work retrieves evidence on the tangible effects of the Great Crisis in three sections: Reorganization from the post-crisis; Economic Integration and Governance; Segmentation and Economic, Monetary and Financial Regionalization. It shows how the interests of financial capital always overlap the socially justice. And that this phenomenon is not exclusive of certain regions, so it is possible to observe it in Asia and Latin America. This allows us to move towards the creation of new financial structures more dangerous than those that contacted the world in 2008. Thus, it is interesting to consult this book for economists and non-economists who can understand the functioning of international financial circuits.


This book addresses the global need to transition to a low-carbon society and economy by 2050. The authors interrogate the dominant frames used for understanding this challenge and the predominant policy approaches for achieving it. Highlighting the techno-optimism that informs our current understanding and policy options, Kirby and O’Mahony draw on the lessons of international development to situate the transition within a political economy framework. Assisted by thinking on future scenarios, they critically examine the range of pathways being implemented by both developed and developing countries, identifying the prevailing forms of climate capitalism led by technology. Based on evidence that this is inadequate to achieve a low-carbon and sustainable society, the authors identify an alternative approach. This advance emerges from community initiatives, discussions on postcapitalism and debates about wellbeing and degrowth. The re-positioning of society and environment at the core of development can be labelled “ecosocialism” - a concept which must be tempered against the conditions created by Trumpism and Brexit.

The fall-out from the economic and financial crisis of 2008 had profound implications for countries across the world, leading different states to determine the best approach to mitigating its effects. In The Austerity State, a group of established and emerging scholars tackles the question of why states continue to rely on policies that, on many levels, have failed. After 2008, austerity policies were implemented in various countries, a fact the contributors link to the persistence of neoliberalism and its accepted wisdoms about crisis management. In the immediate aftermath of the 2008 collapse, governments and central banks appeared to adopt a Keynesian approach to salvaging the global economy. This perception is mistaken, the authors argue. The “austerian” analysis of the crisis is ahistorical and shifts the blame from the under-regulated private sector to public, or sovereign, debt for which public authorities are responsible.

The Austerity State provides a critical examination of the accepted discourse around austerity measures and explores the reasons behind its continued prevalence in the world.


Since the economic crisis of 2007/8, signs of discontent among citizens of Western democracies include the election of Donald Trump and the Brexit vote. Such examples suggest that many people may feel increasingly alienated from the economic and political forces that shape their lives.

working? focuses on Canada to explore the experience of work in today’s labour market. How did we get here? What role has policy played? How viable is this path in the long run?

To answer these questions, award-winning scholar Stephen McBride, whose expertise spans economics, public policy, globalization, and labour studies, considers key topics and issues that have grown in importance over the past few years: changes in the political and economic environment; labour market trends; working and living conditions; trade unions; education; and immigration. McBride draws on the most recent and most reliable data available to make his case. In a conclusion that is both brilliant and provocative, McBride returns to his original question: Is “here” where we are stuck?

https://www.rocksmillspress.com/mcbride----working.html

This book re-shapes thinking on ‘gender gaps’—differences between men and women in their incomes, their employment and their conditions of work. It shows how the interaction between regulation distance and content, labor segmentation and norms helps us understand various aspects of gender gaps. It brings together leading authors from industrial relations, sociology, politics, and feminist economics, who outline the roles the family, state public policy, trade unions and class play in creating gender gaps, and consider the lessons from international comparisons. While many studies have focused on the role of society or organizations, this book also pays attention to the role of occupations in promoting and reinforcing gender gaps, discussing groups such as apparel outworkers, film and video workers, care workers, public-sector professionals like librarians, chief executives, academics, and coal miners. This book will be of interest to practitioners, policy makers, academics and students interested in understanding why inequality between men and women persists today—and what might be done about it.


This text provides a cutting edge analysis of the increasingly central role think tanks play in societies worldwide. Examining their control of global resources both in economic and political policy fields and their inroads into structures of power, it addresses key questions. How have think tanks reached these positions of power? Has the northern core produced neoliberal clones that have hydra-like colonised the globe? Who funds and controls these think tanks and for what purpose? How is policy making knowledge created? How are new policy ideas propagated and validated? How do think tanks become dominant sources of knowledge in public spheres including the media? Exploring the dynamics of think tank networks in specific regions and countries, this book considers the coalitions they generate to advance the social purpose they endorse and, in particular, the spaces they occupy in the structures and fields of power at the national, regional and global level.


Ecofeminism as Politics is now a classic, being the first work to offer a joined-up framework for green, socialist, feminist and postcolonial thinking, showing how these have been held back by conceptual confusions over gender. Originally published in 1997, it argues that ecofeminism reaches beyond contemporary social movement ideologies and practices, by prefiguring a political synthesis of four-revolutions-in-one: ecology is feminism is socialism is postcolonial struggle. Ariel Salleh addresses discourses on class, science, the body, culture and nature, and her innovative reading of Marx converges the philosophy of internal relations with the organic materiality of everyday life.

This new edition features forewords by Indian ecofeminist Vandana Shiva and US philosopher John Clark, a new introduction, and a recent conversation between Salleh and younger scholar activists.


In *Where Bad Jobs Are Better*, Françoise Carré and Chris Tilly investigate retail work across different sub-sectors and seven countries to demonstrate that better retail jobs are not just possible but already exist. They document the numerous problems with US retail jobs, but also show that US companies organize the same work differently, as do retail employers in six European countries and Mexico—and that these differences in many cases lead to better jobs. The authors show that disparities in job quality are largely the result of differing social norms and national institutions. By carefully analyzing the factors that lead to more desirable retail jobs, *Where Bad Jobs Are Better* charts a path to improving job quality for all low-wage jobs.

[http://www.russellsage.org/publications/where-bad-jobs-are-better-0](http://www.russellsage.org/publications/where-bad-jobs-are-better-0)
Articles and book chapters


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