

## Newsletter

April 2025

## Publications

### Books

Roland ERNE, Stan, S., Golden, D., Szabo, I. and Maccarrone, V. (2024) *Politicising Commodification. European Governance and Labour Politics from the Financial Crisis to the Covid Emergency*. Cambridge University Press. Download free open access e-book [here](#)

Rianka ROY, Anjana NARAYAN, Melanie HEATH and Bandana PURKAYASTHA (2025) *Theory Reimagined: Voices of Sociologists from around the World* London: Frontpage Publications.

### Book Chapters

L.N. LATA (2025). Urban informality and spaces of exception: Urban planning and social distinction in Dhaka. In Fuad H. Mallick, Tanzil Shafique and Saimum Kabir (Eds.), *Next50: Collective Futures Critical-creative perspectives on the built environment in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: University Press Limited. <https://uplbooks.com/shop/9789845064620-next-50-22343#attr=>

M. LIPON & L.N. LATA (2025). The Question of ‘Land Justice’ in Urban Bangladesh. In Urmi Sengupta and Kenneth Bo Nielsen (Eds.), *The Politics of Urban Land in South Asia: Current Challenges and New Directions*. London: Routledge.  
<https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781003530664-7/idea-land-justice-urban-bangladesh-lipon-mondal-lutfun-nahar-lata>

Jörg NOWAK ‘Strikes and Decent Work’, in: Moore, M., Scherrer, C. and van der Linden, M. (eds.) *The Elgar Companion to Decent Work and the Sustainable Development Goals*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, p. 438-447

Roland ERNE, Anner, M., Ford, M., Kay, T. and Maccarrone, V. (2025) 'Regional integration: a promising tool to advance the international decent work agenda?', in: Moore, M., Scherrer, C. and van der Linden, M. (eds.) *The Elgar Companion to Decent Work and the Sustainable Development Goals*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, pp. 396-411

Lorenzo CINI, Vincenzo MACCARRONE, Jörg NOWAK & Arianna TASSINARI. E pluribus union(s)? Assessing the diversity of organisation among food delivery couriers across Europe. In: Kurt Vandaele; Silvia Rainone. (Org.). *The Elgar Companion to Regulating Platform Work*. 1ed. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2025, v. 1, p. 59-75.

## Journal Articles

### *Global Labour Journal*

February 2025 (Vol. 16, No. 1)

This quarter includes a Special Issue on ‘The Gig Economy and Women Workers in the Middle East’. Edited by Stella Morgana, the Special Issue includes articles by Crystal A. Ennis, Froilan Malit, Hawra Milani, Zahra Shah and Rikke Bjerg Jensen, and Laila Mourad.

**Please note:** The *International Labour Review*, journal of the International Labour Organisation, is now free access via [this portal](#).

Kathleen GRIESBACH (2025), Space and Inequality in Precarious Work: Thinking With and Beyond Platforms. *Sociology Compass*, 19: e70026. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.70026>

Pablo PÉREZ-AHUMADA & Charo ASTORGA-PINTO (2024). Why are union members more willing to strike and protest than non-union members? Evidence from Argentina and Chile. *Journal of Industrial Relations*, 67(1), 56-79.

Al Amin RABBY & Devi SACCHETTO (2025). Bangladeshi workers on the edge of the labour regime in Italian Fincantieri shipyards. *Journal of Industrial Relations*, 67(1), 80-100.

Roland ERNE (2025) 'The EU Minimum Wage Directive: To Be or Not to Be?' *Social Europe*, 24 February. [Full text](#).

Golden, D., Szabó, I. and Erne, R. (2025) 'Commodifying public utilities: EU's new governance prescriptions for rail and water', *Governance*, 38(1), DOI: 10.1111/gove.12909. [Full text](#).

Erne, R. et al. (2024) ‘*Politicising Commodification: A Response to Ban, Béthoux, Rhodes, and Martínez Lucio*’, *ILR Review*, 78(1): 251-254. [Full text](#).

Erne, R. Hauptmeier, M., Pulignano, V. and Turnbull, P. (2024) ‘Introduction to a Special Issue. Social Europe: The Changing Contours of Transnational Employment Relations in the European Union’, *ILR Review*, 77(5): 643-658. [Full text](#).

Andrea BOTTALICO & Jörg NOWAK. (2024) Employment conditions, conflicts, and new challenges along the transport-logistics chain. *Sociologia Del Lavoro*, v. 1, p. 9-23.

Rianka ROY. 2025. “Resentment and Recrimination: Can U.S. Labor Unions and Indian Tech Workers on H-1B Visas Ever Get Along?” *New Labor Forum*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10957960251331972>

Lorenzo CINI (2025). 'Misbehaving for Deliveroo. How couriers' digital manipulation boosts the platform's business'. *Organization*, Online  
First: <https://doi.org/10.1177/13505084251334994>

L.N. LATA (2025). Algorithmic control and resistance in the gig economy: A case of Uber drivers in Dhaka. *The Sociological Review*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00380261251335371>

L.N. LATA & Copolov, A. (2025). Parasitic platform urbanism in Dhaka and Melbourne. *Human Geography*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19427786251321611>

## Podcasts & videos

New Books Network Podcast with R. Erne on *Politicising Commodification*. Cambridge University Press, October 2024, available on NBN's [Spotify channel 'New Books in Political Science'](#),

Schmit, N., Countouris, N., Erne, R, et al. "Symposium on the Minimum Wages Directive Court Case", S&D Group, European Parliament, 27 March 2025, <https://youtu.be/4ENQlwarrXA>

"AFL-CIO Solidarity Center Warns of Bankruptcy in DC Court Filing and Calls on Trump for More Funding." Kim Scipes interviewed by Steve Zeltzer, Labor Video Project, San Francisco. 4 April. On-line at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6XbV3WL2OA>.

## Other articles

Kim SCIPES 2025. AFL-CIO Foreign Policy Leaders Lie to Members, Refuse to Mobilize Members Against Trump. *Green Social Thought*, 10 April  
<https://www.greensocialthought.org/labor-economics/afl-cio-foreign-policy-leaders-lie-to-members-refuse-to-mobilize-members-against-trump/>.

# Call for Papers

## Journal

The *International Labor and Working-Class History journal* (ILWCH) invites submissions for a **special thematic issue on “The Global Labor History of Artificial Intelligence,”** edited by Aaron Benanav (Cornell University) and Susannah Glickman (SUNY Stony Brook). This issue aims to explore both the displacement and creation of labor that these technologies entail. We invite traditional scholarly articles (up to 8,000 words, including footnotes, before peer review) as well as shorter formats such as photo essays, transcribed interviews with workers, and field notes. We aim to represent a wide range of historical periods and places, including Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, the Middle East, North and South America, Europe, and Oceania. If you would like to submit an article, please begin by submitting a 250-word abstract that outlines your research question, central argument, and contribution to the special issue. The abstract should also briefly describe the sources or evidence on which the article is based. Submit your abstract at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ilwch> as a “Special Feature Abstract.” If selected, you will be invited to submit a “Special Feature Article” through the same system.

## Conferences

The **Radboud University Network on Migrant Inclusion (RUNOMI)** is hosting the upcoming **IMISCOE Research Network** event in collaboration with **Centre of Migration Research**, 13-14 November 2025, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands. In line with this occasion, the organizers invite submissions for the conference: “Labor Markets and the “Migrant Worker” in Light of Technological Transformation: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue.” Interested scholars are asked to submit their abstracts by **June 22, 2025** to [runomi@ru.nl](mailto:runomi@ru.nl) with the subject line “Labor markets and the migrant worker conference.” Selected papers will be informed within two weeks and authors will be asked to submit their full papers by September 15, 2025 in order to best facilitate the discussion.

## Announcements

### Conferences

The third edition of the ‘**Capitalist Transformations in Eastern and Central Europe**’ conference is an academic event that aims to create a space for discussion, debate and research of the social, political and economic changes taking place in the region. The event takes place online between 19 - 22 May 2025, and hosts 50 panels, around 190 presentations and 250 participants from all over the region. You can see the conference programme [here](#). Participation is **free of charge**, but requires **registration** [here](#).

[Materialities of AI: Labour, Ecology and Inequalities at the Technological Frontier](#), 28-29 May, Centre on Labour, Sustainability and Global Production, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)

La politica di Big Tech: dall'Amazon-capitalism al tecno-autoritarismo? Vi aspettiamo il 9 e 10 giugno a Bologna per un seminario di approfondimento sulla torsione autoritaria delle Big Tech. Dove: Sala Rossa, Via Azzo Gardino 32, Bologna.

[https://www.intotheblackbox.com/events/seminario-la-politica-di-big-tech/?utm\\_source=mailpoet&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source\\_platform=mailpoet](https://www.intotheblackbox.com/events/seminario-la-politica-di-big-tech/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_source_platform=mailpoet)

## Seminar

*The Sociological Review* Conversation Series: 'Palestine: A Sociological Issue' (online event), 8 May, 6.30-8.00pm GMT. Speaker: Rafeef Ziadah, Ashjan Ajour, Cairsti Russell, and Yasmin Gunaratnam. Together with Sociologists in Solidarity with Palestinians (SISP), this event will explore the role of sociology in addressing the ongoing genocide in Gaza and settler occupation in Palestine. Details & registration [here](#).

## Call for Award Nomination

### Labor Tech Research Network Annual Awards 2025

As part of its mission to promote scholarship and activism towards more equitable forms of labor and technology, Labor Tech Research Network hosts three annual awards—Book, Graduate Student Paper, and Social Justice. These honor projects which have distinctive intellectual merit or activist impact; advance the knowledge about labor and technology in the global society; and address our core focus on labor and technology, and which may simultaneously address feminism, anti-racism, and/or transnationalism. **Deadline and Contact:** The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2025. Send questions to [labortechresearchnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:labortechresearchnetwork@gmail.com). For full details, visit [here](#).

## Other

LEPAIO, the Labor Education Project on AFL-CIO International Operations in the US (website: <https://aficio-int.education>) issued two statements this month regarding developments in the US labor movement. (Thanks to RC44 member and LEPAIO co-founding member, Kim Scipes for this information.)

- LEPAIO Condemns AFL-CIO's Support of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), April 16, 2025. Available [here](#).
- LEPAIO Opposes Dissolution of UAW Caucus, April 20, 2025. Available [here](#).

## Reminders

(1) RC44 has a Bluesky account ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/@labourrc44.bsky.social)), and we are continuing with our presence on Twitter/X for the time being. Please follow us there, as well as on our recently established [LinkedIn page](#) or [Facebook](#) (which we will look to resurrect ASAP).

(2) Items for the newsletter are always encouraged and welcomed, e.g., new or forthcoming publications, upcoming events, calls for papers or abstracts, job posts, links to reports about labour movement activities, or other relevant news/announcements. Send any items to [tom.barnes@acu.edu.au](mailto:tom.barnes@acu.edu.au). The deadline for the next newsletter is 31 March.

(3) A reminder that you are strongly encouraged to invite colleagues and comrades to join our eList, including fellow researchers, academics and students of labour, work, employment and labour movements (and related fields), as well as trade unionists, NGO and movement activists, practitioners, etc. It's easy! If you're already on the list, you can invite them yourself. Alternatively, tell them to sign up directly by signing up to googlegroups and searching for 'rc-44', or just email a request to [tom.barnes@acu.edu.au](mailto:tom.barnes@acu.edu.au).

## RC44

### RC44 Board (2023–2027)

**Michele Ford**, *President*

**Jörg Nowak**, *Vice-President for Programme*

**Tom Barnes**, *Vice-President for Communications*

**Cirila Quintero Ramírez**, *Secretary*

**Marcel Paret**, *Treasurer*

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**Lutfun Nahar Lata**, *Board member at-large*

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**Isil Erdinc**, *Western Europe Regional Representative*

**Clara Marticorena**, *Latin America Regional Representative*

**Barry Eidlin**, *North America Regional Representative*

### RC44 Newsletter & RC44 ISA Webpage

Managed by **Tom Barnes**

### RC44 Bluesky ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/labourrc44.bsky.social)), LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter/X

Moderated by **Tom Barnes**

### Global Labour Journal

Editors: **Maurizio Atzeni**, **Elena Baglioni**, **Teri Caraway**, **Neethi P.**, **Nicolas Pons-Vignon**, **Ben Scully**

Reviews Editor: **Omar Manky Bonilla**

Managing Editor: **Claire Ceruti**

Social Media Coordinator: **Christopher Raymond**

Consulting Editor: **Robert O'Brien**

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In solidarity,

Tom, on behalf of the RC44 Board (2023-2027)

1 May 2025