

61st International Academic Week 2023

Wind of Change? Academic and Artistic Perspectives on Experiences of Change in Southeast Europe



Photo: Participants of the 60th International Academic Week

Date: 2 - 6 October 2023

Venue: Akademie für Politische Bildung in Tutzing, Germany

Conference Language: English and German

Conference Committee:

Prof. Dr. Daniel Göler, University of Bamberg

Prof. Dr. Eckehard Pistrick, Gustav Mahler Private University for Music, Klagenfurt

Participation upon invitation only.

The International Academic Week is the Southeast Europe Association's (Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft – SOG) annual key event to bring together early-career researchers (MA/ PhD/ Post-Doc levels) and experienced scholars from all over Europe and beyond to present and discuss their research on the region. As always, it will take place in cooperation with the Akademie für Politische Bildung at the beautiful Lake Starnberg in Tutzing from 2 - 6 October 2023.

This year's conference is hosted by Prof. Dr. Daniel Göler (University of Bamberg) and Prof. Dr. Eckehard Pistrick (Gustav Mahler Private University for Music, Klagenfurt). The International Academic Week 2023 will focus on central as well as supposedly marginal aspects of recent change in Southeast Europe – from large-scale infrastructures to the individual - through selected themes from society, space, the arts, and culture.

The conference follows change and transformation in Southeast Europe from a diachronic perspective through comparative contributions in the three dimensions of **time**, **space**, and **culture** beyond national or ethnic history with reference to the 20th and early 21st centuries.

Time

We consider time/experience of time as a central category which indicates dynamics of change, inspired by Svetlana Boym's work on the "Future of Nostalgia", Paul Virilio's research on the relation of modernity to speed and Zszusza Gille's/Maria Todorova's volume on post-communist nostalgia. Time is discussed as an instrument of social control, as a component of projects of political progress, as an instrument of structuring and disciplining everyday life as well as a collectively effective instrument of emotionalized contemplation of the past and the future.

Space

From a spatial perspective, the event tackles the diversity of transformative processes in rural and urban areas, the tensions between centre and periphery, aspects of economic transition and its social consequences. Further contributions (potentially with a post-colonial approach) highlight the intended and unintended effects of transformation, the emergence of power asymmetries as well as the role of informality in socialism and post-socialism.

Culture

Throughout the academic week presentations and artistic interventions will analyze and discuss the impact of culture and media on socio-political change. On a first level, the role of "culture" as a legitimizing instrument of power in the hands of authoritarian regimes is considered. On a second level, we discuss media (radio, television) and their networks as agents of change. On a third level, we examine the role of artists, musicians and intellectuals from the region as agents of change. In this context, social and economic crises are not presented as artistic crisis situations, but as situations of self-empowerment that induce alternative societal ideas as well as visionary creative action guided by utopia.

16:00

Registration / Welcome Coffee

16:30

Welcome Addresses

Manuel Sarrazin, President, Southeast Europe Association (online)

Prof. Dr. Ursula Münch, Director, Akademie für Politische Bildung, Tutzing

16:45

Award Ceremony: Best Master Thesis in Southeast European Studies

Awardee: **Melanie Jaindl**: *“Gender and Visual Securitization of Migrants along the Balkan Route”*

Laudation: **Franz-Lothar Altmann**, Bucharest University / Munich

17:00

Introduction by the Conference Committee

Prof. Dr. Daniel Göler, Bamberg

Prof. Dr. Eckehard Pistrick, Klagenfurt

17:15

Academic Keynote: “Beyond ‘Postsocialism’ and ‘Transition’: Theorising Social Change in Eastern Europe”

Dr. Deema Kaneff, Reader in Social Anthropology, Dept. of Politics and International Studies /
Director Centre for Russian, European and Eurasian Studies, University of Birmingham

18:00

Artistic Keynote: “The Songs We Must Talk About / Lieder, über die wir reden müssen”

Dr. Irina Karamarković, Musician, Author, Activist / University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz

Denovaire, Composer and Performer, Graz

19:00

Reception

21:00 – 23:00

Performance Lecture “Ganga - Gastarbeiter meets DJ Culture” and Artist Talk

Tomislav Matković, DJ and Radio Moderator, Radio Grude, Imotski

Intro: *Documentary film sequence “Radio Ganga” by Tomislav Bubalo/Zdenko Jurilj (2019) 23’*

Moderation: **Joško Čaleta**, Institute for Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb

Eckehard Pistrick, Gustav Mahler Private University for Music, Klagenfurt
(*in German with English translation*)

TUESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2023

08:00 - 09:00

Breakfast

09:30

Coffee Break

10:00 - 12:00

Panel 1: Paths of Transition

Chair: **Franz-Lothar Altmann**, Bucharest / Munich

Panelists:

Kristijan Fidanovski, University of Oxford: *"From a Demographic Trend to an Existential Threat: The Discursive Representation of Low Fertility in North Macedonia and Serbia"*

Lumnije Jusufi, Humboldt University of Berlin / **Dhimitër Doka**, University of Tirana: *"Die Autokultur im Zeichen der Transition in Albanien"*

Jonida Lesha, University of Shkodra "Luigj Gurakuqi": *"Economic and Social Transformation of Albanian Women During and After the Communist Regime"*

Florian Kienzle, Munich: *"Lieu de Mémoire and Self-Empowerment: Prison Literature in Albania"*

12:30

Lunch

14:00 - 15:30

Panel 2: Readings of Socialism

Chair: **Visar Nonaj**, Regensburg

Panelists:

Visar Nonaj, University of Regensburg: *"Relying on Our Forces" or the Albanian Way of Development"*

Artan Hoxha, Academy of Albanian Studies, Tirana: *"A Microhistory of the 20th Century: Spatial Transformation, Social Engineering, and the Industrialization of the Albanian Countryside"*

Olivier Givre, Université Lumière Lyon 2: *"Smells like Kurban Spirit...Ritual Sensoryscapes and Social Change in Postsocialist Bulgaria"*

15:30

Coffee Break

16:00 – 18:00

Simultaneous Workshop Sessions

Workshop 1 (Seminarraum 3)

Photography as Medium, Method and Object in Historical-Anthropological Research of the Balkans

Convenors: **PD Dr. Robert Pichler**, ÖAW Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna

Dr. Vida Bakondy, ÖAW Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna

The workshop deals with the medium of photography, its use in (field) research and photographs as a historical source. We ask about the visual reality of photographs, present and discuss methods of using photography in ethnographic research, and provide insights into the manifold meanings inherent in photographs as a source. We also discuss ethical issues in the use of visuals in research, documentation, and art, as well as issues of visual representation of the Balkans. Exercises in photographic practice are part of the workshop.

Workshop 2 (Auditorium)

From Sound to Podcast – Journalistic and Academic Work in Radio Format

Convenors: **Ass. Prof. Dr. Olivier Givre**, Université Lumière Lyon 2

Prof. Dr. Eckehard Pistrick, Gustav Mahler Private University for Music, Klagenfurt

How can we attentively listen to Southeast Europe? How can this be an activity of empathizing with everyday lives, with offering alternative ways to study history and histories? The workshop offers insights into the potential of an artistic, scientific, and journalistic engagement with sound. Historical (archive) sounds as a source for dealing with the communist heritage (e.g. Radio Tochka in Bulgaria, Radio Tirana Archive) as well as current post-socialist soundscapes will be addressed as resources for thinking Southeast Europe through the senses. A practical part with exercises offers insights into the creation of radio scripts, assembly techniques and knowledge transfer into public media.

Workshop 3 (Seminarraum 1)

Potentials of Intermediality – Collaboratively processing a recent protest movement through film documentation, online platform communication, and situated social science research

Convenors: **Nina Krienke**, M.A., Research Centre for East European Studies, University of Bremen

Sergiu Zorger, Cluj-Napoca/Academy of Media Arts, Cologne

In contentious politics, there is no single „truth“. Even more so when, as in case of the recent waves of protest mobilization in Romania, its societal context is a plural and liminal one. To grasp an understanding of the highly diverse reality of Romanian protest activities, political discourse, and thematic and collective movement formations, we propose an intermedial, collaborative approach to generating knowledge, allowing for multiperspectivity and discussion. In the workshop, we will give an insight into our project-in-the-making „O altă poveste“ (a different story) – an online participative archive and blog project – and we will introduce and work on the (often productive!) areas of tension between social science, political activism, and documentary film. Participants are invited to bring in own projects and ideas to reflect on in the group.

18:30

Dinner

19:30 (Hörsaal B)

Fireside Chat: Reflecting Transformations through Media and in Everyday Life

Moderation: **Eckehard Pistrick**, Gustav Mahler Private University, Klagenfurt

Panelists:

Ilinca Calugareanu, Cluj-Napoca / Edinburgh

Ana Hofman, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana

Irina Karamarković, Graz / **Denovaire**, Graz (Artistic Intervention)

Igor Štiks, Faculty of Media and Communications, Belgrade / University of Ljubljana

WEDNESDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2023

08:00 - 09:00

Breakfast

09:00 - 11:00

Panel 3: Transition of the Urban and Regional

Chair: **Adelheid Feilcke**, Bonn

Panelists:

Dragana Konstantinović, University of Novi Sad: *“Yugoslav Architectural Heritage in Post-socialist Times: Audience Development”*

Miljana Zeković, University of Novi Sad: *“Yugoslav Architectural Heritage in Post-socialist Times: Empowering and Activating through Education”*

Yuliya Popcheva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia: *“Newcomers and Old Traditions: Revitalisation of Local Communities Through Rediscovering and Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage”*

Anastasia Romanova, Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Chisinau: *“Changes in Urban Place Names (Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova)”*

11:00

Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:00

Artistic Intervention I: “The Evasive Choir” - Artistic Performance and Discussion

Antoni Rayzhekov, Sofia/ St. Pölten

12:30

Lunch

13:30 - 15:30

Panel 4: Sounds of Transition

Chair: **Joško Čaleta**, Zagreb

Panelists:

Ana Hofman, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana: *“Strategic Amateurism: From Subject- to Structure-oriented Approach to Social Change”*

Dora Dunatov, Institute for Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb: *“How Early Sound Media Transformed the Experience of Everyday Life: Insights From the Era of Yugoslavia”*

Mikaela Minga, Academy of Albanian Studies, Tirana: *“Urban Music Practices in Albania: Paths of Investigation, Paths of Understanding”*

Tatiana Churchulieva-Knight, University of Cologne: *“Transitional Sounds? The Wedding Band Phenomenon in Pre-Democratic Bulgaria”*

Adriana Sabo, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana/Novi Sad: *“All I Want Is To Do What I Love and Be Rich’: Serbian Trap Music Scene Monetizing the Change”*

15:30 – 18:30

INDIVIDUAL WORKING TIME // OPTIONAL PROGRAM

15:30

Coffee

18:30

Dinner

19:30

Filmscreening and Discussion with Directors

Chair: **Eckehard Pistrick**, Klagenfurt

Discussants:

Ilinca Calugareanu, Cluj-Napoca / Edinburgh

Dimitris Dalakoglou, Vrije University Amsterdam

*“Chuck Norris vs. Communism” (2015) by Ilinca Calugareanu 78’
(Romanian with English subtitles)*

*“Colony/Αποικία” (2022) by Spyros Gerousis/Dimitris Dalakoglou 47’
(Greek with English subtitles)*

THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2023

08:00 - 09:00

Breakfast

09:00 - 10:30

Panel 5: Spaces and Infrastructures

Chair: **Dimitris Dalakoglou**, Amsterdam

Panelists:

Dimitris Dalakoglou, Vrije University Amsterdam: *“Infrastructures, Sustainabilities and the Commons”*

Aris Dougas Chavarria, University of Graz: *“The Impact of Digital Nomadism on Zadar”*

Michael Anranter, University of Vienna: *“Waiting for a New Highway: From Postsocialist Distrust to Mistrusting Democracy”*

10:30

Coffee Break

10:45 - 12:30

Panel 6: Visions of Transition

Chair: **Robert Pichler**, Vienna

Panelists:

Oriane Girard, Aix-Marseille University / French School of Athens: *“Balkan Unframings: Photographic Encounters in Albania Through the Lens of Ethnography. Cross-Perspectives on a Society Under the Grip of Dictatorship”*

Vida Bakondy, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna: *“Images That “Take Position”: Jovan Ritopečki’s Iconotexts and the Articulation of Yugoslav Migrant Experiences in Austria”*

Mariya Slavcheva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia: *“States of Crisis: Body and Photography”*

Maria Adamopoulou, ELTE University Budapest: *“Change It, Till You Make it: Return Migrants as Agents of Change in Greece After 1974”*

12:30

Lunch

14:00 – 16:00

Panel 7: Transformations of Citizenship and Activism

Chair: **Jelena Vasiljević**, Belgrade

Panelists:

Jelena Vasiljević, University of Belgrade: *“Between Institutions and the Streets: The Case of Ne Davimo Beograd and Building of Green-Left Coalition in Serbia”*

Martin Kuka, University of Durrës: *“Too Much Action as a Cause for Inaction. The Negative Effect of the Albanian Political Opposition’s Protests on Civic Engagement”*

Fabio Ashtar Telarico, University of Ljubljana: *“A Nationalist-Conservative Grammar of Change? How Bulgarian Nationalists’ Political Discourse Articulates the Notion of ‘Change’”*

Nikola Lero, University of Sheffield: *“A Research-Poetry Activist Performance: Velkom tu Bosnija/Welcome to Bosnia (Dobrodošli u Bosnu i Hercegovinu)”*

16:00

Coffee Break

16:30 (Hörsaal B)

Reading and Discussion with Igor Štiks “The Judgment of Richard Richter”

Moderation: **Tatjana Petzer**, Institute of Slavic Studies, University of Graz

18:30

Dinner

FRIDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2023

08:00 - 09:00

Breakfast

09:00 - 09:30

Artistic Intervention II: Curating Sounds of Change

Asmir Šabić, Munich

09:30 - 10:45

Roundtable: Potentialities of Academic and Artistic Perspectives on Transformation

Chair: **Daniel Göler**, Bamberg and **Eckehard Pistrick**, Klagenfurt

Panelists:

Nina Krienke, Research Centre for East European Studies, University of Bremen

Robert Pichler, ÖAW Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna

Jelena Vasiljević, University of Belgrade

Antoni Rayzhekov, Sofia/ St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences

10:45

Coffee Break

11:15 - 11:45

Artistic Intervention III: The Negative (of) Change: Curating the Spectre of Socialism

Vesna Madžoski, European Graduate School, Saas-Fee, Switzerland

11:45 - 12:30

Wrap-up and Feedback

12:30

Lunch

13:30

Departure of Participants

Parts of the program were kindly supported by:



Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft e.V.

Widenmayerstr. 49
80538 München
Tel. +49 89 2121 540

Fax +49 89 2121 5499
E-Mail: info@sogde.org
www.sodge.org



Auswärtiges Amt

Institutionell gefördert
vom Auswärtigen Amt.
*Institutionally supported
by the German Federal
Foreign Office.*