

## Conference Program

**Title:** Workers and the “Golden Age of Social Democracy”, 1945-1975

**Venue:** Institut für soziale Bewegungen, Clemensstr. 17-19, 44789, Bochum

**Language:** English

### Wednesday, 26 April 2023

- 10:30 am Welcome & Introduction
- 11:00 – 1:00 Panel 1: *The Aftermath of the Second World War* (Commentator: Eileen Boris)
- 11:00 – 11:15 Jan de Graaf (Ruhr-Universität Bochum): “Opportunities for Workers in Postwar Eastern and Western Europe: Participation versus Mobility”
- 11:15 – 11:30 Alexandre Fortes (Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro): “Brazilian Workers in the Postwar Era: Continuity and Change in the Struggle for Democracy and Social Rights”
- 11:30 – 11:45 Howard Brick (University of Michigan): “Has Capitalism Changed?”
- 11:45 – 12:00 commentator’s remarks
- 12:00 – 1:00 discussion
- 1 pm – 2 pm lunch break
- 2 pm – 4 pm Panel 2: *The Rebuilding of Democracy after 1945* (Commentator: Paulo Fontes)
- 2:00 – 2:15 Felix Spremberg (Universität Tübingen): “Democratization in Postwar Japan and the Rise and Fall of Social Democracy”
- 2:15 – 2:30 Martin Conway (University of Oxford): “Workers and the Reconstruction of Democracy in Western Europe”
- 2:30 – 2:45 commentator’s remarks
- 2:45 – 4:00 discussion
- 4:00 – 4:30 coffee break
- 4:30 – 6:30 Panel 3: *Democracy at the Workplace* (Commentator: Leon Fink)
- 4:30 – 4:45 Nelson Lichtenstein (University of California, Santa Barbara): “Why No Corporatism in the United States? American versus German Models of Industrial Relations in the Early Postwar Era”
- 4:45 – 5:00 Hannah Forsyth (Australian Catholic University): “Shop Floor Democracy and the Australian Arbitration System”
- 5:00 – 5:15 Stefan Müller (Universität Duisburg-Essen): “The Humanisation of Labor and Safety at Work in Post-War West Germany”
- 5:15 – 5:30 commentator’s remarks
- 5:30 – 6:30 discussion

## Thursday, 27 April 2023

- 9 – 11 am Panel 4: *Social Democratic State Formations* (Commentator: Larissa Correa)
- 9:00 – 9:15 Kjell Östberg (Södertörn University): “Swedish Social Democracy, The Nordic Model and State Formation”
- 9:15 – 9:30 William A. Booth (University College London): “Workers, the State, and Left-Wing Movements in Mid-Century Latin America”
- 9:30 – 9:45 Mathieu Fulla (SciencesPo Paris): “Extending State Prerogatives while Being Reluctant to Transform its Machinery: Social Democratic Parties and State Formation in Post-war Western Europe”
- 9:45 – 10:00 commentator’s remarks
- 10:00 – 11:00 discussion
- 11 – 11:30 break
- 11:30 – 1:30 Panel 5: *The Feminization of the Working Class?* (Commentator: Gabriel Winant)
- 11:30 – 11:45 Eloisa Betti (Università degli Studi di Padua): “Deconstructing Fordism from the Perspective of Women’s Work in Postwar Italy”
- 11:45 – 12:00 Dorothy Sue Cobble (Rutgers University): “Reimagining the Labor Movement: The Midcentury Origins of a New Social Democracy”
- 12:15 – 12:30 Natalia Jarska (Polish Academy of Sciences/Czech Academy of Sciences): “Expertise and Women Workers in Poland 1945–1970: From Occupational Health to Sociology of Medicine”
- 12:30 – 12:45 commentator’s remarks
- 12:45 – 1:30 discussion
- 1:30 – 2:30 lunch break
- 2:30 – 4:30 Panel 6: *Workers and Decolonization* (Commentator: Silke Neunsinger)
- 2:30 – 2:45 Babacar Fall (Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar): “Labor Relations in Pre-and Post-Independence in French-speaking West Africa”
- 2:45 – 3:00 Ravi Ahuja (Universität Göttingen): “Labour as a Political Category: Twentieth-Century Trajectories”
- 3:00 – 3:15 Alex Lichtenstein (Indiana University): “Industrial Relations and the Struggle for Racial Justice in Postwar South Africa”
- 3:15 – 3:30 commentator’s remarks
- 3:30 – 4:30 discussion
- 4:30 – 5 pm break
- 5:00 – 6:30 Panel 7: *Worker Education and the Cultural Milieu* (Commentator: Vanessa May)
- 5:00 – 5:15 Marsha Siefert (Central European University): “Workers of the World Unite - On Screen: The World Federation of Trade Unions, *Das Lied der Ströme* (1954), and the International Left”
- 5:15 – 5:30 Jenny Jansson (Uppsala University): “Workers’ Education during the Post-War Period: Trends in Sweden”
- 5:30 – 5:45 commentator’s remarks
- 5:45 – 6:30 discussion

8 pm Conference Dinner

after dinner speaker: Leon Fink (editor of LABOR: Studies in Working-Class History),  
“Postwar Social Democracy: Cradle of Neoliberalism?”

**Friday, 28 April 2023**

9 – 11:30 am Panel 8: *Corporatism and the Interventionist State* (Commentator: Stefan Berger)

9:00 – 9:15 Andrew Elrod (Research Department, United Teachers Los Angeles): “The Idea of a US National Wage Policy from the Truman to the Carter Administrations”

9:15 – 9:30 Juan Manuel Palacio (Universidad Nacional de San Martín): “Perón and the Invention of the “Labor State” in Argentina (1943-1955)”

9:30 – 9:45 Mike Beggs (University of Sydney): “Labour in the Technocratic Frame: Macroeconomic Policy and Wages in 1950s Australia”

9:45 - 10:00 commentator’s remarks

10:00 – 11:00 discussion

11:00 – 11:30 coffee break

11:30 – 13:30 Panel 9: *Divisions within the Postwar Labor Movement* (Commentator: Will Jones)

11:30 – 11:45 Gerd-Rainer Horn (SciencesPo, Paris): “Workers and Catholicism in Postwar Western Europe and Latin America”

11:45 – 12:00 Susan Zimmermann (Central European University): “Spurring Women to Action? Communist-led Women’s Trade Unionism Between the Hungarian Shopfloor and Top-level Internationalism, 1947 to 1959”

12:00 – 12:15 Eric Arnesen (Columbia University): “The Crisis of the Black Working Class in the Age of Affluence: A. Philip Randolph, the Civil Rights Movement, and the American Economy”

12:15 – 12:30 commentator’s remarks

12:30 – 01:30 discussion

2:00 – 3:30 lunch & closing discussion