

**SESSION 5**

**LABOUR AT THE SITE OF PRODUCTION: LABOUR PROCESS, CONTROL, QUALITY OF WORK (II)**

**9.00 Chair:** **Nicole Mayer-Ahuja** SOFI/University of Goettingen, Germany  
**Jonathan Pattenden** University of East Anglia, United Kingdom:  
**Labour Control Regimes and Collective Action: Capital and Labour in Bangalore's Construction Sector**  
**Stefan Schmalz, Natalia Berti, Johanna Sittel** University of Jena, Germany and Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá:  
**Precariousness and Informality in the Argentinean Automobile Industry: A Global Perspective**  
**Elena Shulzhenko** Copenhagen Business School, Denmark:  
**Paying for performance in Russia: between the customary and international approaches**

**Comment:** **Martin Kuhlmann** SOFI/University of Goettingen, Germany

**10.30 Coffee Break**

**10.45 Papers and discussion**

**Chair/Comment:** **Klaus Dörre** University of Jena, Germany  
**Praveen Jha** Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India:  
**Politics of Labour and Global Production Networks: Some Reflections from Experiences in India**  
**Brigitte Aulenbacher, Fabienne Décieux, Birgit Riegraf** University of Linz, Austria; University of Paderborn, Germany:  
**Capitalism Goes Care. The Commodification of Care and Care Work, Social Justice and Points of Resistance**  
**Christa Wichterich** freelance author, researcher and lecturer:  
**Transnational Reproductive Chains and Care Extractivism**

**SESSION 6**

**POLITICS OF LABOUR: COLLECTIVE ACTION (II)**

**9.00 Chair:** **Marcel van der Linden** University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
**Chris Tilly and Rina Agarwala** University of California, Los Angeles, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, United States:  
**Who defends informal workers? A comparison of the roles of trade unions, governments, and informal worker associations in improving labor standards for informal textile and apparel workers in Brazil, China, India, and South Africa**  
**Adam Mrozowicki** University of Wrocław, Poland:  
**Young precarious workers in Poland: the experiences of work and the patterns of coping with the capitalist transformation**  
**Ad Knotter** Maastricht University, The Netherlands:  
**Precarious labour and trade union response in the cleaning industry: a transnational history (1988-2012)**

**Comment:** **Ingrid Artus** University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany

**10.30 Coffee Break**  
**11.00 Papers and discussion**  
**Chair:** **Christoph Scherrer** University Kassel, Germany  
**Peter Wegenschimmel** University of Regensburg, Germany:  
**Socialist Bargaining: The Power Resource Approach in Socialist Economies**  
**Chitra Joshi** University of Delhi, India:  
**The Promise of the 1950s and the Politics of labour in the Post-independence decade in India**  
**Thomas Goes** SOFI/University of Goettingen, Germany:  
**A permanent revolution? Productive mobilizations, rationalization conflicts and the birth of competition-oriented labour relations in the (Western) German automotive industry 1980–2005**

**Comment:** **David Mayer** University of Goettingen, Germany

**12.30 Lunch Break**

**13.30 Round Table:**  
**Globalisation of Insecurity? Workers of the World between Segmentation and Globalised Precarisation**

**Chair:** **Ravi Ahuja** University of Goettingen, Germany  
**Birgit Mahnkopf** Berlin School of Economics and Law, Germany  
**Ludger Pries** Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany  
**Gaochao He** Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangdong, China  
**Prabhu Mohapatra** University of Delhi, India

**14.30 Final Remarks: Steering Committee**

**15.00 End of Conference**

**REGISTRATION:**  
Please use the homepage of the Volkswagen Foundation to register for the conference: [www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/events.html](http://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/events.html)

**CONFERENCE VENUE:**  
**Herrenhausen Palace, Conference Center**  
Herrenhäuser Straße 5, 30419 Hannover, Germany

The entrance of the Conference Center is located on the right site of the building next to the restaurant "Schlossküche".

**HOW TO REACH HERRENHAUSEN PALACE:**  
**By car:**  
From the north or south: Autobahn (motorway) A7/ A35 to A2, then take "Herrenhausen" exit (highway B6) in the direction of "Zentrum" (city center).  
From the east or west: Autobahn (motorway) A2, then take "Herrenhausen" exit (highway B6) in the direction of "Zentrum" (city center).  
**By public transport:**  
Subway/tram 4 or 5, or bus 136 to the stop "Herrenhäuser Gärten"

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD**  
Exploring global perspectives on labour from the 1950s to the present

**Symposium**  
**June 28 – 30, 2017**  
**Schloss Herrenhausen**  
Herrenhäuser Straße 5  
30419 Hannover, Germany



## WORKERS OF THE WORLD

### Exploring global perspectives on labour from the 1950s to the present

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

#### Wednesday, June 28, 2017

- 15.00** **Welcome**  
**Wilhelm Krull**  
Volkswagen Foundation and Foundation Council,  
University of Goettingen
- 15.15** **Mapping the field I**  
**Nicole Mayer-Ahuja**  
SOFI/University of Göttingen, Germany
- 15.45** **Mapping the Field II: From the perspective of ...**  
**Peter Alexander** University of Johannesburg, South Africa:  
**Sociology of social change, focus on South Africa,**  
**Marcel van der Linden** University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands:  
**Global history of labour**  
**Rina Agarwala** Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, United States:  
**Sociology of informalisation, focus on India**
- Chair:** **Christoph Scherrer** University of Kassel, Germany
- 17.15** **Get-Together with Poster session and Poster Presentation of young researchers**
- 18.15** **Dinner**
- 19.30** **Keynote**  
**Jan Breman** University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands:  
**The end of Social Welfarism?**
- Chair:** **Andreas Eckert** Humboldt-University Berlin, Germany

#### Thursday, June 29, 2017

- SESSION 1**  
**POLITICAL REGULATION OF LABOUR: TRENDS AND CONTRADICTIONS**
- 9.00** **Papers and discussion**  
**Chair:** **Ravi Ahuja** University of Göttingen, Germany  
**Sandrine Kott** Université de Genève, Switzerland:  
**Growth and Productivity as Social Policy of the ILO**  
**Bob Hancké** London School of Economics, United Kingdom:  
**Beyond Varieties of Capitalism: Conflict, Contradiction and Institutional Change**
- Comment:** **Christoph Scherrer** University of Kassel, Germany
- 10.30** **Coffee Break**
- SESSION 2**  
**LABOUR AT THE SITE OF PRODUCTION: LABOUR PROCESS, CONTROL, QUALITY OF WORK**
- 10.45** **Keynote**  
**Paul Thompson** University of Stirling, United Kingdom:  
**Capitalism, Contradictions and Conflict: Reflections on Global Challenges for Work and Workers from a Labour Process Perspective**
- Chair:** **Klaus Dörre** University of Jena, Germany
- 12.15** **Lunch Break**
- 13.30** **Papers and discussion**  
**Chair:** **Nicole Mayer-Ahuja** SOFI/University of Göttingen, Germany  
**Jörg Flecker** University of Vienna, Austria:  
**Global digital labour – delocalized work and the international division of labour**  
**Ching Kwan Lee** University of California, Los Angeles, United States:  
**Labor Practices in China and Africa**
- Comment:** **Martin Krzywdzinski** Berlin Social Science Centre, Germany
- 15.00** **Coffee Break**
- SESSION 3**  
**POLITICS OF LABOUR: COLLECTIVE ACTION**
- 15.15** **Keynote**  
**Beverly Silver** Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, United States:  
**Labor and Systemic Chaos: The End of British and US World Hegemonies Compared**
- Chair:** **Marcel van der Linden** University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 16.45** **Coffee Break**

- 17.00** **Papers and discussion**  
**Chair:** **Martin Krzywdzinski** Berlin Social Science Centre, Germany  
**Jennifer Jihye Chun** University of Toronto, Canada  
**Organizing South Korea/USA**  
**Rohini Hensman** independent scholar:  
**Workers and unions confronting global capitalism: The need for internationalism**  
**Sakhela Buhlungu** University of Cape Town, South Africa:  
**Unions in South Africa**
- Comment:** **Ravi Ahuja** University of Göttingen, Germany
- 18.30** **Poster session and Presentation of young researchers**
- 19.30** **Dinner**

#### Friday, June 30, 2017

- Parallel sessions 4–6 (9.00–12.15)**
- SESSION 4**  
**POLITICAL REGULATION OF LABOUR: TRENDS AND CONTRADICTIONS (II)**
- 9.00** **Papers and Discussions**  
**Chair/Comment:** **Andreas Eckert** Humboldt-University Berlin, Germany  
**Ben Scully** University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa:  
**Labour Migration in Comparative-Historical Perspective: Ghana and South Africa 1960s-Present**  
**Nick Bernard** Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada:  
**Governing Irregular Labour: The Politics of ‘Informal’ Work and Unemployment 1970-Present in Sub-Saharan Africa**  
**Irene Pang** Brown University, Providence, United States:  
**Precarity as a Legal Construction: Lessons from the Construction Sectors in Beijing and Delhi**
- 10.30** **Coffee Break**
- 10.45** **Papers and discussion**  
**Chair:** **Martin Krzywdzinski** Berlin Social Science Centre, Germany  
**Paul André Rosental, Bernard Thomann:** Science Po and Inalco, Paris, France:  
**Job precariousness in the context of economic growth**  
**Ralf Hoffrogge** Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany:  
**Engineering New Labour: Trade Unions, Social Partnership and the Stabilization of British Neoliberalism 1985-2002**  
**Iain Campbell** University of Melbourne, Australia:  
**The challenge of casual work to labour movements: a two-step historical perspective**
- Comment:** **Lutz Raphael** University of Trier, Germany
- 12.15** **Lunch Break**