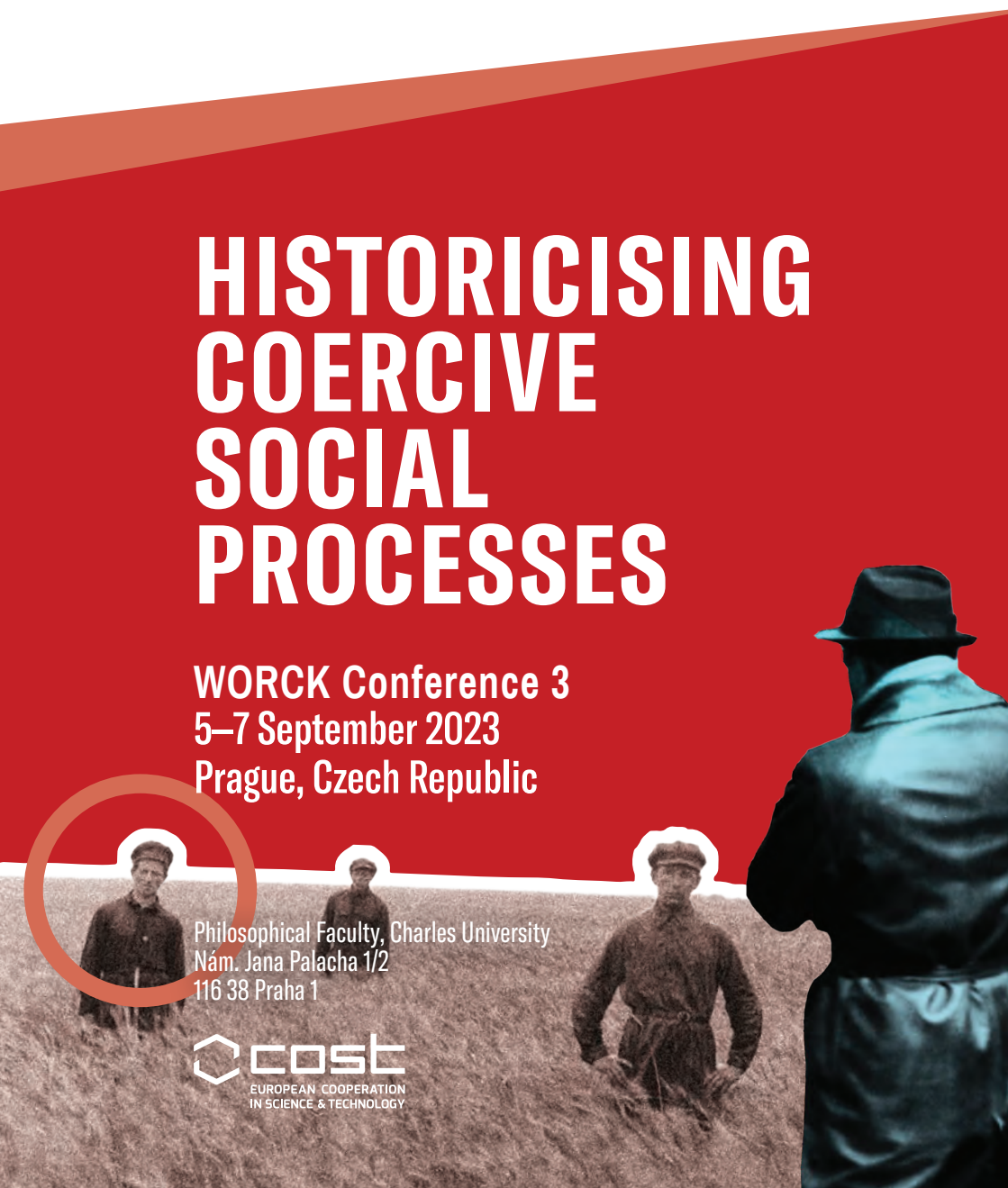


HISTORICISING COERCIVE SOCIAL PROCESSES

WORCK Conference 3
5–7 September 2023
Prague, Czech Republic

Philosophical Faculty, Charles University
Nám. Jana Palacha 1/2
116 38 Praha 1

 **cost**
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY





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Historicising Coercive Social Processes · WORCK Conference 3

Legal philosopher Alan Wertheimer wrote that “our understanding of coercion underlies... our view of various social practices”. The opposite also holds true: Researching social relations in a given historical context is essential for understanding how coercion underpins the organisation of production, the administration of punishment, and interpersonal relations in conditions of power asymmetry. In turn, social practices can only be understood within processes such as valorisation, im/mobilisation, and punishment that converge to create the historical dimension within which we understand those practices.

Moving on beyond a research agenda that seeks to posit a dichotomy between free and unfree labour or design a spectrum of scalar shades of coercion between the opposite poles of freedom and unfreedom, the WORCK network has attempted to understand how practices and processes of labour coercion can illuminate social practices (and vice versa) at specific historical junctures and in various geographical settings.

This conference brings together scholars conducting empirical research on such practices and processes, as well as on the perspectives of historical actors and how they were entangled in social asymmetries.

About WORCK

Over the past three years, WORCK has attempted to bridge gaps between the specialised but hitherto often separate subfields of labour history, global history, colonial history, and feminist history, creating an academic space that cuts across standard research fields. WORCK enables exchange between scholars working on topics as varied as construction work in ancient civilisations; indentured work and sharecropping in rural societies; chattel slavery and coolie work; debt bondage, convict labour, and military impressment; coercive mechanisms in household work and wage labour; precariousness and modern forms of casualisation.

By studying the persistence and transformation of coercion across gender orders, geographies, and historical eras, WORCK has shifted the focus of labour history. Neither the male breadwinner model nor the free wage labourer or the capitalist mode of production can provide a comprehensive blueprint for this endeavour. Instead, WORCK has striven to attain a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of coercion in all work relations throughout history.

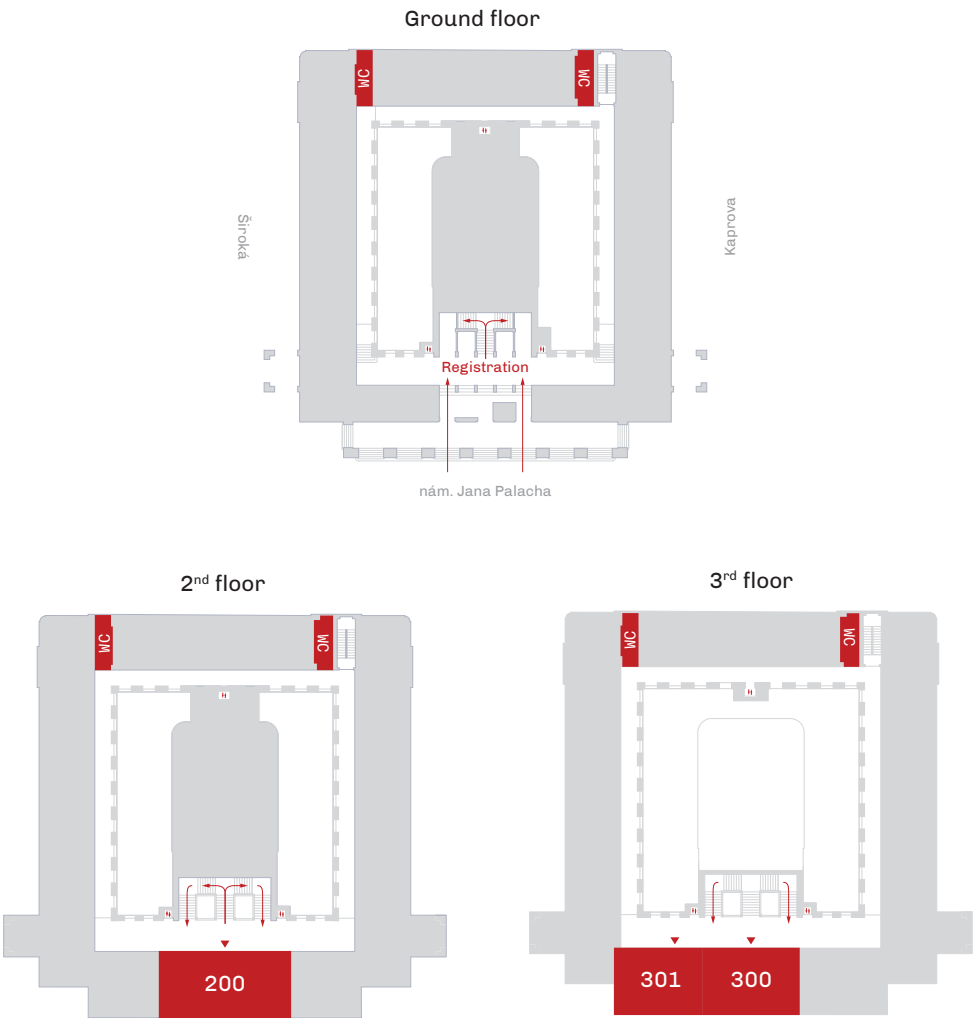
WORCK comprises four working groups: Grammars of Coercion; Sites and Fields of Coercion, (Im)mobilisation of the Workforce, and Intersecting Marginalities. The research undertaken in each of these groups has transformed our understanding of the stories of work and production and their entanglement with violence, expropriation, and marginalisation.

Conference Overview

Tue, 5 September		Wed, 6 September		Thu, 7 September	
		Paper Panels 9:00–10:30 am		Paper Panels 9:30–11:00 am	
		Paper Panels 11:00 am–12:30 pm		Paper Panels 11:30 am–1:00 pm	
		Lunch Break		Film Projection 11:30 am–1:00 pm	
Registration 12:00–2:00 pm				Lunch Break	
Welcome Address 2:00–2:15 pm		Paper Panels 2:00–3:30 pm			
Paper Panels 2:30–4:00 pm		Paper Panels 4:00–5:30 pm		Roundtable 2:30–4:00 pm	
Keynote Speech 4:30–6:00 pm				Paper Panel 2:30–4:00 pm	
Free Time		Free Time		Plenary Discussion 4:30–6:00 pm	
				Closing Remarks 6:00–6:15 pm	
		Social Event 8:00 pm			
Film Screening and Discussion 8:30 pm					
<div><div></div> Parallel Sessions</div> <div><div></div> Plenary Sessions</div>					

Location

Philosophical Faculty, Charles University
Nám. Jana Palacha 1/2
116 38 Praha 1





Tuesday, 5 September 2023

12:00–2:00 pm	Registration
2:00–2:15 pm	Welcome Address
2:30–4:00 pm	<p>Panel: Conceptualising Coercion I: Grammars, Semantics, Ontologies</p> <p>Panel: The Problem of Freedom. Status and Labour Relations in the Caribbean Age of Abolition, 19th Century</p>
4:30–6:00 pm	Keynote: Further Reflections on Coerced Labour
6:00–8:30 pm	Free time
8.30 pm	<p>Film Screening and Discussion: Work Safely</p> <p>Kino NFA Ponrepo – Bartolomějská 291/11</p>

Wednesday, 6 September 2023

9:00–10:30 am	<p>Panel: Conceptualising Coercion II: WORKsites on Trial. Graph Modelling as a Transversal Approach to Social History</p> <p>Panel: Coercive Fields in Empires</p>
11:00 am–12:30 pm	<p>Panel: Networks, Mobility and Migration</p> <p>Panel: Punishment and Coercion: Carceral Assemblages in Early Modern Europe</p>
12:30–2:00 pm	<p>Lunch break</p>
2:00–3:30 pm	<p>Panel: Architectural, Diagrammatic and Artistic Practices: How can Coercive and Interdependent Relationships be Depicted Along Different Media?</p> <p>Panel: Coercion, Labour Market and Institutions</p>
4:00–5:30 pm	<p>Panel: Problematising Freedom</p> <p>Panel: Coercive Spaces and Technologies</p>

Wednesday, 6 September 2023

5:30–8:00 pm	Free time
8:00 pm	Social Event: Party and Concert at Hybernská Campus Hybernská 4, Praha – Nové město, Main hall

Thursday, 7 September 2023

9:30–11:00 am	<p>Panel: Linking Coercion to Historical Change</p> <p>Panel: Religious Difference at Work: Exclusion, Coercion, and Opportunity in the Medieval Mediterranean</p> <p>Panel: Coercion, Work, and Punishment in the U.S.</p>
11:30 am–1:00 pm	<p>Panel: Violence, Retribution, Chastisement</p> <p>Panel: Inside the Household</p> <p>Film Projection: “Fragmented Memories”</p>

Thursday, 7 September 2023

1:00–2:30 pm	Lunch break
2:30–4:00 pm	Roundtable: Coercive Archives: Labour Coercion in the Courtroom and Its Afterlives Panel: Paternalism in the Household and on the Shop Floor
4:30–6:00 pm	Plenary Discussion: Studying Labour and Coercion: What have we done and what now?
6:00–6:15 pm	Closing Remarks

Outreach Event

Work Safely

Film projection and discussion in cooperation with the Czech National Film Archive Prague (Národní filmový archív Praha)

Work Safely: A series of short documentary films / total 71 min. / DCP

Introduction by Lucie Česálková (National Film Archive, Prague)

This series of short films from the 1950s to the 1960s will focus on a specific subgenre of industrial film – films about work safety. This collection brings a specific view on industrial production, on the relationship between machines and people, on human work. While traditional films of industrial production are often said to be dehumanizing because they aestheticize both mass production and work itself, films about work safety put the human being and his*her vulnerability in the work process at the center. Yet some of them choose often surprising rhetoric – as commissions of Czechoslovak state-socialist enterprises, they elevate the smooth running of production and the execution of the plan above humanity, and point to injury as a mistake that should have been avoided.

The films will be shown in Czech with English subtitles.

Venue: Kino NFA Ponrepo – Bartolomějská 291/11, 110 00 Praha 1





Tuesday, 5 September 2023

12:00–2:00 pm

Arrival of Participants, Registration **Entrance hall**

2:00–2:15 pm

Welcome Address **200**

2:30–4:00 pm

Conceptualising Coercion I: Grammars, Semantics, Ontologies **200**

Chair: Claude Chevalleyre (ENS de Lyon)

Claudia Bernardi (University of Perugia): “What is in a name?” Questioning the conceptualisation of coercion and contract workers’ endurance of coercive practices

Tommaso Vidal (University of Parma): The ideology of coercion: Semantics and practices of rural labour and coercion in North-eastern Italy (1200s–1400s)

Claudio Costa Pinheiro (Rio de Janeiro Federal University): Epistemic colonialism in history and historiography

Miroslav Vašík (Charles University): Franz Brauner and his attitudes to robota

The Problem of Freedom. Status and Labour Relations in the Caribbean Age of Abolition, 19th Century **300**

Organisers: Giulia Bonazza (University of Venice Ca’ Foscari / Columbia University) and Matilde Flamigni (Scuola Normale Superiore / University of Naples Federico II)

Chair: Mònica Ginés-Blasi (ENS de Lyon)

Elena Barattini (University of Turin): Apprenticing free labour? Work, abolition, and gender between the Cuban Juntas and the Spanish Cortes

Giulia Bonazza (University of Venice Ca’ Foscari / Columbia University): Les esclaves du roi: Coercion and worksites in Martinique (first half of the 19th century)

Siân Davies (University of Edinburgh): Competing theories of freedom: Coercion in post apprenticeship Jamaica

Matilde Flamigni (Scuola Normale Superiore / University of Naples Federico II): Performing freedom(s). Urban slavery and abolition in the French Antilles (1831–1848)

Amelia Spooner (Columbia University): Affranchissement before abolition: Labour and the law in French Guiana, 1831–1848

Tuesday, 5 September 2023

4:00–4:30 pm

Break

Light refreshments such as coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available in the corridor next to room **200**.

4:30–6:00 pm

Keynote: **Further Reflections on Coerced Labour** **200**

Marcel van der Linden, International Institute of Social History (IISG)

Moderator: Bridget Kenny (University of the Witwatersrand)

6:00–8:30 pm

Free time

8:30 pm

Outreach Event: Work Safely **Kino NFA Ponrepo**

Film projection and discussion in cooperation with the Czech National Film Archive Prague (Národní filmový archiv Praha)

Work Safely: A series of short documentary films / total 71 min. / DCP
Introduction by Lucie Česálková National Film Archive, Prague

Venue: Kino NFA Ponrepo – Bartolomějská 291/11, 110 00 Praha 1

Wednesday, 6 September 2023

9:00–10:30 am

Conceptualising Coercion II: WORKsites on Trial. Graph Modelling as a Transversal Approach to Social History 200

Panellist-organised session

Chair: Hanne Østhus (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Juliane Schiel (University of Vienna)

Claude Chevalyre (ENS de Lyon)

Coercive Fields in Empires 300

Chair: Müge Özbek (Kadir Has University)

Umoh Adetola Elizabeth (University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal): Contract labour and indentured Indian woman migrant labourer in British colonial Natal South Africa

Beate Althammer (Humboldt University of Berlin): Foreign Polish labour migrants in the German empire: Between coercion and autonomy

Diogo Cardoso (University of Porto): Indigenous and African slave labour and social interactions in the 17th century Portuguese-America

10:30–11:00 am

Break

Light refreshments such as coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available in the corridor next to room 200.

11:00 am–12:30 pm

Networks, Mobility and Migration 200

Chair: Nico Pizzolato (Middlesex University, London)

Mònica Ginés-Blasi (ENS de Lyon): Replacing Chinese “coolies”: Spanish racialised discourses on immigration in Cuba and in the Philippines (1847–1898)

Punishment and Coercion: Carceral Assemblages in Early Modern Europe 300

Organisers: Johan Heinsen (Aalborg University), Christian De Vito (University of Bonn)

Chair: Akin Sefer (Kadir Has University)

Andrea Giuliani (University of Rome Tor Vergata): From the galleys to the Ergastolo: The convict labour in Austrian Lombardy in the second half of the eighteenth century

Wednesday, 6 September 2023

Fernando Mouta (University of Porto):

Coercive social processes in the African Atlantic trade (1435–1622)

Tathagato Ganguly (University of Delhi):

The long quest for autonomy: The case of Afro-descendants in Esmeraldas, Ecuador

Emilie Luther Valentin (University of

Southern Denmark): Between coercion and autonomy: Inmate agency in the prison workhouse at Christianshavn, 1769–1800

Teresa Petrik (University of Vienna): Making

people work, creating productive subjects? The Vienna Zuchthaus and convict labour in early modern Austria

Johan Heinsen (Aalborg University): Shack-

led history: Extramural convict labour across early modern Europe

12:30–2:00 pm

Lunch break

2:00–3:30 pm

Architectural, Diagrammatic and Artistic Practices: How Can Coercive And Inter-dependent Relationships be Depicted Along Different Media? 200

Panellist-organised session

Chair: Christian De Vito (University of Bonn)

Waltraud P. Indrist (Graz University of Technology / Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna): Coercive consequences of the NS-regime in the work of architect Hans Scharoun

Anamarija Batista (Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna / Vienna University of Economics): Statistics and art: The possibilities of making connections through images

Iva Simčić (Academy of Fine Arts, University of Sarajevo): Work and coercive mechanisms in marriage relations

Coercion, Labour Market and Institutions 300

Chair: Jakub Štofanič (Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic)

Lucie Dušková (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, GWZO): The “Socialist work discipline” and its impacts on everyday working and living in state-socialist Czechoslovakia

Fia Sundevall (Stockholm University), Johan Svanberg (Stockholm University), Yvonne Svanström (Stockholm University) and Sofie Tornhill (Linnaeus University): Coercive labour relations and the Swedish welfare state (1920s–2020s)

Judith Spicksley (University of Hull): “Slavery” before slavery: An act for the punishment of vagabondes, 1547

Sofi Vedin (Karlstad University): “Help Wanted!”: Recruitment, coercive labour, and power relations of domestic workers in Sweden, 1890–1939

Wednesday, 6 September 2023

3:30–4:00 pm

Break

Light refreshments such as coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available in the corridor next to room **200**.

4:00–5:30 pm

Problematising Freedom **200**

Chair: Fia Sundevall (Stockholm University)

Therese Christofferson (Stockholm University): Free labour? How non-public labour market intermediaries shaped “free labour” in Sweden 1884–1942

Viola Müller (University of Bonn): Labour coercion, pollution, and immobilisation in 19th-century Regla, Havana

John Latham-Sprinkle (Ghent University): Labour, debt and enslavement in the late medieval northwest Caucasus

Coercive Spaces and Technologies **300**

Chair: Nico Pizzolato (Middlesex University, London)

Bridget Kenny (University of the Witwatersrand): Coercive technologies: Lifts, labour and affective space in Johannesburg, South Africa in the 20th century

Samuel Uwem (University of Hradec Kralove): Mines, migration and close compound system in 19th–20th century South Africa

Jacob Nerenberg (Leiden University): Displaced, not “lazy”: Contradictions of im/mobilisation on a Papuan frontier of “empowerment” and “protection”

5:30–8:00 pm

Free time

8:00 pm

Social Event: **Party and Concert** **Kampus Hybernská**

Venue: Hybernská 4, Praha–Nové Město, Main hall

Thursday, 7 September 2023

9:30–11:00 am

Linking Coercion to Historical Change 200

Chairs and organisers: Christian De Vito (University of Bonn), Göran Rydén (Uppsala University), Amal Shahid (Geneva Graduate Institute / University of Lausanne)

Marian Niedermayr (Johannes Kepler University Linz): Personal dependence, exploitation and class relations on the estates of the bishopric of Passau in what is today Austria, ca. 1250–1367

Siân Davies (University of Edinburgh): Racialising the will to work. Coercing transformation in and between Jamaica and North Wales

Tibor Valuch (Hungarian Academy of Sciences): The coercion of labour in Hungary before, during and after communism in a Central European comparison

Måns Jansson (Uppsala University): Seeing, knowing, and doing coercion: Mobile state administrations and changing work practices in the early modern European metal trades

Religious Difference at Work: Exclusion, Coercion, and Opportunity in the Medieval Mediterranean 300

Organiser: Clara Almagro Vidal (National Distance Education University, UNED Spain)

Chair: Corinna Peres (University of Vienna)

Ana Echevarria (National Distance Education University, UNED Spain): Trade privileges and limitations for Muslim neighbours of Castilian cities

Delfi Nieto (Queen Mary University of London): Li fromages vostres ne sont pas vendus: Inquisitorial persecution, social disruption and alternative networks

Clara Almagro Vidal, (National Distance Education University, UNED Spain): Restrictions and choice in work for Muslims under the rule of military orders

Coercion, Work, and Punishment in the U.S. 301

Panellist-organised session

Chair: Viola Müller (University of Bonn)

Thomas J. Adams (University of South Alabama): Freedom, work, and compulsion: Toward a new political-historical synthesis

Cedric Johnson (University of Illinois Chicago): Policing surplus population

Matthew Stanley (University of Arkansas): “Voluntary slaves”: Contract, competition, coercion, and the meaning of “Free Labor” in the Illinois coal fields

Thursday, 7 September 2023

11:00–11:30 am

Break

Light refreshments such as coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available in the corridor next to room **200**.

11:30 am–1:00 pm

Violence, Retribution, Chastisement **200**

Chair: Magnus Ressel (Goethe University Frankfurt)

Carla Andrés Bauzá (University Pompeu Fabra): Afro-descendant women at war in Cuba (1868–1878). Interpreting colonial violence and black women's agency in the military archives

Hillary Taylor (University of Cambridge): Violence and labour discipline in English agricultural work, c. 1600 – 1800

Ben Raffield (Uppsala University): Life on the margins: Structural violence and coercion in Viking-age Scandinavia

Film Projection: "Fragmented Memories" **301**

37'14"

by Anamarija Batista

Part of the FWF-funden project "Collective Utopias of Postwar Modernity: The Adriatic Coast as a Leisure and Defence Paradise"

1:00–2:30 pm

Lunch break

Inside the Household **300**

Chair: Vilhelm Vilhelmsson (University of Iceland)

Carolina Uppenberg (Stockholm University): The benevolent patriarch? How early-modern households' labour organisation reveals the reach of patriarchal care across the Baltic Sea, 1723–1809

Amalia S. Levi (University of Bonn): Manumitted enslaved people in Jewish households in Bridgetown, Barbados

Corinna Peres (University of Vienna): "A slave woman ... is beholden to us for the next eight years". Slavery and debt-credit relations in late medieval Tuscany

Olimpia Capitano (University of Teramo): Historicizing social coercive processes through the lens of paid domestic work

Thursday, 7 September 2023

2:30–4:00 pm

Roundtable: Coercive Archives: Labour Coercion in the Courtroom and Its Afterlives 200

Organisers: Johan Heinsen (Aalborg University), Müge Özbek (Kadir Has University), Vilhelm Vilhelmsson (University of Iceland)

Chair: Müge Özbek (Kadir Has University)

- **Johan Heinsen** (Aalborg University)
- **Vilhelm Vilhelmsson** (University of Iceland)
- **Müge Özbek** (Kadir Has University)
- **Aigi Rahi-Tamm** (University of Tartu)
- **Akın Sefer** (Kadir Has University)
- **Nayan Jyoti Kalita** (Central European University)
- **Viola Müller** (University of Bonn)

Paternalism in the Household and on the Shop Floor 300

Chair: Carolina Uppenberg (Stockholm University)

Lawrence T. McDonnell (Iowa State University): Will and power in the Old South: Paternalism's work at the whipping post

Göran Rydén (Uppsala University): Households and Haushalten in eighteenth century Swedish iron making

Diego Latorre Manglano (Complutense University of Madrid): Paternalism, indirect compensation and resistance in Franco-era Spain

Joel Quirk (University of the Witwatersrand): Paternalism as “benign” coercion

4:00–4:30 pm

Break

Light refreshments such as coffee, tea, water, and snacks are available in the corridor next to room 200.

4:30–6:00 pm

Plenary Discussion:

Studying Labour and Coercion: What have we done and what now? 200

Moderator: Christian De Vito (University of Bonn)

- **Johan Heinsen** (Aalborg University)
- **Juliane Schiel** (University of Vienna)
- **Joel Quirk** (University of the Witwatersrand)

6:00–6:15 pm

Closing Remarks 200

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Stories of Work And Coercion

The illustrations presented in this folder are featured in the virtual exhibition *Stories of Work and Coercion: Scientific Contributions Depicted in Illustrations* designed to complement the collaborative publication *Coercion and Wage Labour. Exploring work relations through history and art* (2023) edited by researchers and members of the WORCK network Anamarija Batista, Viola Müller, and Corinna Peres. To learn more about the publication and explore the captivating artworks and experience the virtual exhibition, visit www.worck.eu.

Illustrators: Dariia Kuzmych, Monika Lang, Tim Robinson

This publication is based upon work from the COST Action “Worlds of Related Coercions in Work” (WORCK), CA18205, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

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Funded by
the European Union

Imprint

COST Action CA18205 “Worlds of Related Coercions in Work”
Universität Wien · Institut für Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte
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ДА ЗДРАВСТВУЕТ
III^я ИНТЕРНАЦИОНАЛ



