



KNOWLEDGE AND SOCIETY IN TIMES OF UPHEAVAL

Abstracts and Biographies

(in chronological order)

20. NOVEMBER 2018

2:00 pm

| **Welcome**

Andreas Eckert (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin/Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin)

Simone Lässig (German Historical Institute Washington DC)

Franz Waldenberger (Deutsches Institut für Japanstudien Tokyo)

Andreas Eckert is Professor of African History at Humboldt University Berlin (since 2007) and has been leading the “IGK Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History (re:work)” research center since 2009. Before that, he was Professor of Modern History with a focus on African history (2002-2007). As Visiting Professor and Fellow, he worked at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Indiana University in Bloomington, and Harvard University. Andreas Eckert also writes for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and DIE ZEIT. He has been Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Forum Transregionale Studien.

Simone Lässig has been the director of the German Historical Institute (GHI), Washington DC, since 2015. She is currently on leave from the University of Braunschweig, where she holds a professorship in modern history, and from the directorship of the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research. In 2009-2010, she was a visiting professor at St Antony’s College, Oxford. She is co-editor of the journal *Geschichte und Gesellschaft* and founded the *Journal for Educational Media, Memory, and Society (JEMMS)*, which she edited until 2015. Simone Lässig serves on the boards of several organizations and research institutions, and is currently working on two research projects.

Franz Waldenberger is Director of the German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ) in Tokyo. He is on leave from Munich University where he holds the professorship for Japanese Economy at the Munich School of Management and the Japan Center. His research focuses on the Japanese Economy, Corporate Governance and International Management. He has published numerous articles and books on the Japanese economy. He is editor-in-chief of *Contemporary Japan* and member of the editorial boards of other Japan and Asia related social science and economics Journals. He was visiting professor at Hi-

totsubishi University, Osaka City University, Tsukuba University, the University of Tokyo and Shimomura Fellow at the Research Institute of Capital Formation of the Development Bank of Japan. He is member of the German Japan Forum and member of the board of the Japanese German Business Association (DJW).

2:30–4:30 pm | New Infrastructures as Drivers of Change

Anja Senz (Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg)

China's Belt and Road Initiative as a Driver of Change in South and Southeast Asia

Johann Kranz (Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München):

How to Tame the Tech Giants? Blockchain and the Future of the Internet Economy

James Sidaway (National University Singapore):

Planetary Urbanization's Multiple Frontiers: Viewed through Security Infrastructures of Yangon, Myanmar

Chair: **Franz Waldenberger** (Deutsches Institut für Japanstudien, Tokyo)

Anja-Désirée Senz studied political science, sociology, anthropology and Chinese language at the University of Trier (Germany) and the Sun-Yatsen University in Guangzhou (China). For several years she worked at the Institute of Political Science and the Institute of East Asia Studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Since 2014 she is Professor for contemporary Chinese economy, politics and society at the University of Heidelberg. Working on different research projects provided her with broad fieldwork experience in Asia, in particular China, Hong Kong, India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Her research focuses on local politics, institutional change, China's reform and development process, border management and environmental issues.

China's Belt and Road Initiative as a Driver of Change in South and Southeast Asia

China's Belt and Road Initiative has drawn much attention with regard to its geostrategic consequences since it seeks to invest heavily in maritime "roads" and land "belts", this means through infrastructure networks (highways, railways, airport, harbors, economic zones etc.) to connect China with Asia, Africa and Europe. Aimed to boost trade and economic growth, coordinate policies, facilitate connectivity, support financial integration and "people-to-people contacts, the initiative has raised a lot of concern and met mistrust in many target countries. The paper looks the example of one of the six so called Economic Corridors – the BCIM EC (Bangladesh, China, India, Myanmar) – and analyzes the impact of infrastructure investment and the Chinese development narrative on local communities in the respective countries. How does China shape the region through investment, technology, educational programs and

its foreign policy? Which impact does China's initiative have on her perception in the respective countries? How do concepts of development change in this process of accelerated exchange?

Johann Kranz heads the Professorship for Internet Business and Internet Services at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (LMU). He teaches and researches in the fields of internet economics, digital transformation and business models with a focus on blockchain and sustainability. His research appeared in Information Systems Journal, Energy Policy, Journal of Service Research and numerous other renowned outlets. Johann is an active member of various associations and associations in which he engages in responsible digitalization.

How to tame the tech giants? Blockchain and the future of the internet economy

The internet was meant to be an open system with low barriers to entry and a level-playing field for entrepreneurs. Today, however, dominant platforms have generated a worrying backlash as extensive network effects, switching costs, and lock-in effects have led to the emergence of monopolistic structures in the internet economy. Sir Tim Berners-Lee, the inventor of the internet, stated that those platforms "are able to lock in their position by creating barriers for competitors. They acquire startup challengers, buy up new innovations and hire the industry's top talent. Add to this the competitive advantage that their user data gives them and we can expect the next 20 years to be far less innovative than the last." Currently, regulators across the globe are thinking about how regulation can mitigate the negative side-effects these dominant platforms have on innovation, competition, and societies. In my talk, I will focus on an emergent technological solution to these problems, decentralized internet apps enabled by blockchain technology. Data of decentralized apps is not stored on servers of a single firm, but on a network of computers which are unable to read the data as they are encrypted. In essence this means that users have control over their data and are able to easily switch between internet services. For the internet economy, decentralized apps may be a way to overcome the negative effects of dominant platforms.

James D. Sidaway has served as a Professor of Political Geography at NUS since January 2012. Previously he was Professor of Political and Cultural Geography at the University of Amsterdam and prior to that a Professor of Human Geography at Plymouth University, UK. During the 1990s, he was a lecturer at the University of Birmingham, UK. Sidaway studies the interactions of cities, development, geopolitics and states, influenced by a wide range of postcolonial writing and theory. His other main research interest is the history and philosophy of geography. Bringing all these together is an enduring fascination with the relationship between geography and a range of area studies traditions. Recently this has led him (with NUS colleague Chih Yuan Woon) to study the reception of China's "Belt and Road" initiative. Since June 2017, Sidaway has been involved in a new Research Group on Borders, Mobility and New Infrastructures, supported by the Max Weber Foundation: <http://www.maxweberstiftung.de/en/ueber-uns.html>. Their foci are: Changing borderscapes in Southeast Asia (and between Southeast Asia and the wider world): air, land and sea; Cross-border infrastructures and new scales and spaces of interaction.

Planetary Urbanization's Multiple Frontiers: Viewed through Security Infrastructures of Yangon, Myanmar

This paper draws on Myanmar's largest city and commercial capital of Yangon, studying security infrastructures as a window on wider political and socio-economic dynamics. Narratives of Myanmar as an investment frontier have ushered in a host of private surveillance and security actors; in an atmosphere of business opportunity, urban surveillance and intricate relations between investors, public service providers and military procurement. Configuring this shifting landscape are Tatmadaw (Burmese military) generals, surveillance equipment manufacturers, security firms and state security agencies. In 2015, Singaporean funders organized the first ever international Security Expo in Yangon that attracted dozens of foreign security firms. Drawing on interviews with key investors and buyers in the security industry including at the Expo (which we also visited in when it was restaged in 2018), and street-level observations in Yangon conducted over three years, we traverse structures of power, urban transformation and government-military-capital relations in a transitional Myanmar. The paper contextualizes these structures drawing on literatures on colonial cities and frontiers and reading these with developing debates about planetary urbanization. Yangon thereby becomes a site for critical reflections about complex and multiple imbrications of security, frontiers and urbanization with implications for how these may be conceptualized elsewhere.

5:00-7:00 pm | Discourses and Publics

Omar Al-Ghazzi (London School of Economics)

The Politics of Infantile Communication in Syria's War

Nataliya Gumenyuk (hromadske.ua, Kyiv)

Regaining Public Trust in Times of Populism. Lessons from Ukraine

Alia Mossallam (Cairo / EUME Fellow der Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung 2017-19)

Visualising, Enacting and Writing Histories in Times of Political Upheaval

Chair: **Georges Khalil** (Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin)

Omar Al-Ghazzi is Assistant Professor in the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE). Dr Al-Ghazzi's expertise is in global communication and comparative journalism, with a focus on digital contention and collective memory in the Middle East and North Africa. Before joining LSE, he was a lecturer (assistant professor) at the Department of Journalism, the University of Sheffield. Dr Al-Ghazzi completed his PhD at the Annenberg School for Communication, the University of Pennsylvania. His research has appeared in top journals in the field of communication. In 2014, he participated in the EUME Summer Academy on Conflict and Mobility in the City, organized by the Forum Transregionale Studien in Rabat, Morocco.

The Politics of Infantile Communication in Syria's War

This presentation examines children's use of, and use in, media in relation to the Syria conflict. I explore what I call "infantile communication" to explain how, and to what effect, have discussions about authenticity and truth got to be focussed on the child figure. Inspired by Berlant's (1997) notion of infantile citizenship, I contend that the figure of the Syrian child has been naively constructed as the most authentic image and truthful voice supposedly able to speak beyond the complexities of geopolitics, war, and ideology, and regardless of the question of journalistic presence. I focus on two cases that unfolded in the autumn of 2016 during the Russo-Syrian military campaign in eastern Aleppo: the image of three-year-old Omran Daqneesh, known as 'ambulance boy,' and the Twitter account of seven-year-old Bana Al-Abed. I argue that activist witness narratives and global news media and social media witnessing of children suffering in Syria was characterized by two seemingly opposing trends: an assumption of the possibility of unmediated witnessing, and a politicisation of competing witness accounts. This ultimately led to utilising children as media texts and as tools in the struggle over Syria and over what its conflict means.

Nataliya Gumenyuk is a Ukrainian journalist specializing in conflict reporting and foreign affairs. She is head of independent TV-channels Hromadske, a Ukrainian public broadcasting platform, and Hromadske International, which reaches both an English and Russian-speaking audience. Gumenyuk has reported from the field during the Euromaidan Revolution of 2013-14, the annexation of Crimea and the conflict in eastern Ukraine (Donbas). As an independent, international correspondent, she has covered major political and social events in nearly 50 countries. Gumenyuk is an established author, 'Maidan Tahrir. In Search of the Lost Revolution,' a collection of her own various reports from Egypt to Iraq, and other countries in conflict in the Middle East, surrounding and the development after the Arab Spring. Gumenyuk cooperates with a number of Ukrainian and international media outlets, and speaks at many media events. In 2017, she was selected by Res Publica, the Warsaw-based journal; Google; Visegrad Fund; and the Financial Times as one of New Europe's 100 Top Leaders, an annual list of Central and Eastern Europe's brightest citizens changing their region.

Regaining Public Trust in Times of Populism. Lessons from Ukraine

It's 5 years since Ukrainian popular uprising called "Euromaidan" had started. Later it was followed by Russian aggression in Crimea and the East of the country. Ukraine had become a playground for disinformation, hybrid warfare while 'fake news' is something society had to live with since 2014. Despite the conflict and from the first sight different context the acute issues society is facing are very similar to those in Europe and the USA: growth of populism when anti-corruption fight is causing further disappointments, distrust to the institutions, polarisation and fragmentation of the audience, and urban-rural divide. What are the lessons from Ukraine, and what is done to regain trust and preserve civilized debated?

Alia Mossallam holds a PhD in Political Science. Her dissertation explores a popular history of Nasserist Egypt through stories told and songs sung by people behind the 1952 revolution. She has taught at the American University in Cairo (AUC), the Cairo Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences (CILAS), and holds the series of workshops 'Reclaiming Revolutionary Histories' with students, activists and artists in governorates all over Egypt, an experiment in history-telling. In the spirit of making histories more accessible, she also worked – e.g. in the case of the play *Hawwa al-Hureyya (Whims of Freedom)* – with a number of theatre practitioners to document revolutionary experiences of the present, explore alternative histories of the past, and recreate them on the stage. She continues to look for these stories and songs in an attempt to recover and document a lost history of popular movement in Egypt. She currently is working on a book on a popular history of the building of the Aswan High Dam, and starting a new project on the experience of the Egyptian Labour corps in World War I – mainly through songs, theatrics and cultural articulations of their experience on the home and war fronts. She has written for Mada Masr, Jadaliyya and Ma'azif. From 2017 to 2019 Mossallam is a EUME-FU Fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien with a fellowship of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Visualising, Enacting and Writing Histories in Times of Political Upheaval

Moments of political upheaval often stir the dust on questions of political struggles of the past. Are these movements truly unprecedented, and what invisible legacies could they be pulling through? Historical research and historical writing - particularly in the fields of politics and struggle - thus acquire a different significance, they become a task of unearthing legacies, of making accessible the possibilities (if often unrealised) of change and the strategies of achieving them. Many scholarly groups have raised questions as to how the histories of popular struggles could be re-searched, and how they could be re-written. The Subaltern history group in the quest to 'de-sanitize' stories of struggle and texture them with humanism, the Popular Memory Group declares that all forms of history writing and are 'social productions of memory' where academic writing is just as selective and politicised as communal memories of struggle can be. Public History Workshops as that of Wits University in Johannesburg introduce the long and arduous task of the engagement of communities in the writing of their own histories - linking the academy to the communities who waged the struggles in question. Bringing to life the belief Raphael Samuel articulated with the History Workshops movement in the UK in the 1970s that "history is or ought to be a collective enterprise, one in which the researcher, the archivist, the curator and the teachers, the 'do it yourself' enthusiast and the local historian, the family history societies and the individual archeologist should all be regarded as equally engaged". In the last 5 years, projects such as The History Workshops in Egypt (Ihky ya Tarikh), and the Harvard Design Studio question how these histories can then be re-told to ensure they are accessible to wider publics, including the researched communities - rather than a limited scientific audience. So that the multiple dimensions of these struggle are not flattened with the weight of historical analysis, but somehow left open for more interpretations and more understandings, and more access as time goes by. In this presentation, i will raise the main questions (ethical and theoretical) faced by historians of popular struggle today, and how these questions have been tackled by Public History Projects of historians of

Egypt, South Africa and the Atlantic. Bringing forth various theses on the philosophy of historical research and writing in moments of struggle.

Georges Khalil is the Academic Coordinator of the Forum Transregionale Studien. He is also responsible for the research program Europe in the Middle East—The Middle East in Europe (EUME). He was the Coordinator of the Working Group “Modernity and Islam” (AKMI) at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin from 1998-2006. Georges Khalil studied History, Political Science and Islamic Studies in Hamburg and Cairo, and European Studies at the Europa-Kolleg Hamburg. He was a fellow of the College for International Affairs, Robert Bosch Foundation. He was co-editor of *Di/Visions. Kultur und Politik des Nahen Ostens* (2009), *Islamic Art and the Museum. Approaches to Art and Archeology of the Muslim World in the Twenty-First Century* (2012) and *Commitment and Beyond: Reflections on/of the Political in Arabic Literature since the 1940s* (2015).

21. NOVEMBER 2018

10am-12pm | Migration and Mobility

Jan C. Jansen (German Historical Institute Washington DC)

Papers and Trails: Migration Control and Agency during the Atlantic age of Revolutions (1770s-1820s)

Xóchitl Bada (The University of Illinois at Chicago)

Portable Labor Rights for Migrant Workers in North America

Leo Lucassen (International Institute of Social History / Leiden University)

Expert Knowledge on Migration in the Public Arena: How to Get Your Message Through?

Chair: **Simone Lässig** (German Historical Institute Washington DC)

Jan C. Jansen is research fellow at the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC. Prior to joining the GHI, he was a lecturer and fellow at the University of Konstanz and held research positions in London (SOAS) and Tunis (IRMC). His main research interests concern the comparative history of colonial empires and decolonization with a particular focus on the Mediterranean and Atlantic worlds since the eighteenth century. His books include *Erobern und Erinnern: Symbolpolitik, öffentlicher Raum und französischer Kolonialismus in Algerien, 1830-1950* (2013), *Decolonization: A Short History* (co-authored with Jürgen Osterhammel, 2017), and *Refugee Crises, 1945-2000: Political and Societal Responses in International Comparison* (co-edited with Simone Lässig, 2019). He is currently engaged in a research project on the Saint-Domingue diaspora.

Papers and Trails: Migration Control and Agency during the Atlantic age of Revolutions (1770s-1820s)

The revolutionary upheavals that rocked the Atlantic world in the half-century between the American Revolution in the 1770s and the revolutions in Spanish America in the 1810s and 1820s unleashed political refugee movements of an unprecedented scale. As a consequence, the "age of revolutions" saw a proliferation of official or semi-official paperwork relating to the whereabouts, trajectories and status of individuals moving between the Atlantic's arenas of revolutionary politics. Discussing different types of documents from several regional contexts, the paper argues that this massive growth in documentary evidence was driven by two apparently opposing factors: the attempts by authorities to contain and control migratory movements and the need of individual migrants and refugees to navigate through a world in turmoil.

Xóchitl Bada is an associate professor in the Latin American and Latino Studies Program of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her articles have appeared in *Forced Migration Review*, *Population, Space, and Place*, *Latino Studies*, and *Labor Studies Journal*. She is the author of *Mexican Hometown Associations in Chicagoacán: From Local to Transnational Civic Engagement* (Rutgers University Press, 2014). Her areas of specialization include migrant access to political and social rights, migrant organizing strategies, violence and displacement, and transnational labor advocacy mobilization in Mexico and the United States. She is coeditor of the books *New Migration Patterns in the Americas. Challenges for the 21st Century* (Palgrave, 2018), *Accountability across Borders: Migrant Rights in North America* (The University of Texas Press, 2019), and the *Handbook of Sociology of Latin America* (Oxford University Press, 2020).

Portable Labor Rights for Migrant Workers in North America

According to 2017 UN figures, there are 258 million international migrants and 750 million internal migrants worldwide. Many international immigrants face precarious working conditions and limited labor rights. Immigrants with low levels of education and limited language skills in countries of reception are frequently subject to low-wage positions with flexible arrangements and are forced to join a global "precariat" workforce that is hireable and available on demand, highly exploitable, and easily firable. On the ground, "glocalized" campaigns are being waged to link local worker advocacy to global movements, and in doing so hold up labor and migrant rights as universal human rights. For example, as part of the International Labor Organization (ILO)'s "Decent Work for all Campaign" unions and alt-labor groups have collaborated to offer testimony of migrant labor violations. Civil society organizations have also demanded a seat at the table with global governance institutions, such as the 2006 UN-High Level Dialogue on Migration and the first Global Forum on Migration and Development in 2007.

The portability of migrant labor rights has garnered increasing attention from academic and advocacy spaces. What began as a concern for the fate of social welfare entitlements of older migrants who needed those contributions transferred to their countries of origin upon retirement, now encompasses a demand for basic labor rights and protections even after a migrant returns

to their country of origin, and regardless of their immigration status. This has given rise to new efforts to remedy abuses to low-wage migrant workers such as wage theft, recruitment fraud, and gender discrimination for both migrants working abroad and returned migrants who may be able to continue claiming those rights in foreign courts while living in countries of origin.

The goal of this project is to analyze current advocacy practices of transnational civil society organizations interested in advancing a portable labor rights framework and how these practices are constituted at different scales, ranging from the local to the transnational. This research addresses multiple strategies that these organizations pursue to expand their influence across borders and questions the meaning of associating effective communicative power with discursive spaces that do not necessarily correlate with sovereign states. This multilevel approach gives equal importance to all actors including government bureaucracies, subnational diplomacy, worker centers, labor unions, and binational organizations. The analysis aims to identify the challenges arising from this transnational public sphere with distinctive actors in labor rights arenas in which the interlocutors are not fellow members of a political community but are constantly attempting to gain equal rights. Taking Mexico and the United States as entry points, the study addresses empirical case studies including domestic labor rights enforcement practices and transnational labor advocacy on behalf of low-wage migrants working in precarious conditions.

Leo Lucassen is Director of Research of the International Institute of Sociale History (IISH) in Amsterdam and professor of Global Labour and Migration History at the University of Leiden. Among his publications are *The Immigrant Threat: Old and New Migrants in Western Europe since 1850* (Urbana and Chicago: UIP, 2005); (co-editor) *The Encyclopedia of Migration and Minorities in Europe. From the 17th Century to the Present* (New York: CUP, 2011); co-editor of *Globalizing Migration History: the Eurasian Experience* (Leiden: Brill, 2014) and co-author of *Vijf Eeuwen Migratie: een verhaal van winnaars en verliezers* (Amsterdam 2018) . More recently he published on global migration and the refugee crisis in the *Journal of Global History* (2016), *Social Science History* (2017), the *International Review of Social History* (IRSH) (2017) and *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (2018) .

Expert knowledge on migration in the public arena: how to get your message through?

In this talk I will share my experiences as a public intellectual in the public and political debate on migration, integration and refugees in the Netherlands in the ;past 5 years. What are the do's and dont's of expert knowlegde and advice and how to evade counterproductive media frames? But also, how media engagement can have bring about a positive feed back loop and strengthen fundamental research and deepening scientific insights.'

1:30-3:30pm | Labour and Technological Transformation

Prabhu Mohapatra (University of Delhi)

Notes on Technology and the Future of Work: A View from India

Nicole Mayer-Ahuja (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

The Fourth Industrial Revolution? Labour in Times of Digitisation

Frank Bösch (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam)

Western Knowledge About Reforming China, 1972-1989

Chair: **Andreas Eckert** (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin / Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin)

Prabhu Mohapatra teaches economic and social history at the University of Delhi. He has been, at various times, a research fellow and visiting professor at Yale University, at the School of Oriental and African Studies (London), at the University of Cambridge, at the University of Amsterdam, at the University of Leiden, and at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (Paris), Ecole de Haute Etudes (Cachan), University of Goettingen and Re Work, Humboldt University. His research has been on agrarian history, transnational labor history, the history of labor regulation in South Asia, global migration history, and the economic and social history of modern South Asia. He has coedited with Marcel Van der Linden "Labour Matters: Towards a Global History" (Delhi, 2009) and has published in several edited books on labour history and in leading social history Journals including International Review of Social History, Indian Economic and Social History Review and Studies in History.

Some Notes on Technology and its impact on the world of work: A view from India

The world of work is in a churn. A cluster of digitally driven technologies ranging from automation, Robotics, to Artificial intelligence and Internet of Things collectively known sometimes as the Industrial Revolution 4.0 or the "Second Machine Age" is seen as heralding a profound transformation in the world or work. The current technological transformation is seen to have a far reaching impact not only in the advanced countries but also in the developing countries. Key variables to consider when analyzing how technology impacts meaning of work and work relations are a) *Nature and spread of contemporary Technological change*, b) *Question of automation and job loss*, c) *Issues of rising income and wage inequality*, d) *Changes in dominant models of work relation*.

Based on these major variables, the impact of technology on the world of work and, more particularly the changing meaning of work in India illustrated. While economic development of the countries of the Global North and East Asia was marked by sequential transition of employment and output share from agriculture to industry and services, Indian structural transformation has been marked by a specific pattern. First, there has been what can be called atemporal lag and secondly a distortion in the pattern of transformation. At the same time, India is undergoing a unique "demographic transition". Technological change and the consequent meaning of work is played out in a labour market which is characterized by multiple segmentation.

Nicole Mayer-Ahuja is professor of sociology at University of Goettingen, Germany, and director of the Sociological Research Institute (SOFI). Her research focuses on labour, the labour market and its regulation, from a historical and transnational perspective. During the last years, she has been involved in projects on precarious and informal labour, work in transnational companies, labour and migration, and new approaches to the history of labour in the field of e-Humanities, with a regional focus on Europe and South-Asia.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution? Labour in Times of Digitisation

Around the world, the impact of digitisation on labour is widely discussed. In many accounts, the rising importance of new technologies is presented as a force of nature, overpowering mankind and leaving many without a job. In this paper, instead, current trends in digitisation will be considered as new technological options, which might or might not be applied on the shop-floor and which can have strikingly different results, depending, first of all, on specific power relations, within companies and beyond. Based on the findings of current research in the field of labour sociology, it will be argued that the technological developments we witness today tend to reinforce processes of precarisation, flexibilisation, and skill polarisation that can be observed since the 1980s. Since many new technologies have a potential to render labour easier, more challenging, or more humane, however, it is hardly surprising that discussions about ‚good work‘ gain impetus. Drawing upon experiences with the last round of accelerated technological rationalisation (around 1980), the development of technology can be discussed as a field of conflict, between capital, labour, and the state, which might inspire not only historical, but also transnational comparison.

Frank Bösch is director of the Center for Contemporary History in Potsdam and Professor of European 20th Century History at the University of Potsdam. He obtained his PhD in 2001 in Göttingen with a thesis on the Christian Democratic Union of Germany 1945-1969, taught as Junior-Professor at the University of Bochum and as professor at the University of Gießen. His recent publications include "Media and Historical Change. Germany in International Perspective (Berghahn: New York 2015)" and "A Shared and Devided History. East and West Germany since the 1970s (ed., Berghahn: New York 2018). In January 2019, the German edition of his new book on global events and transformations of the late 1970s will be published, which analyses the impact of changes in countries like China, Iran or Nicaragua on Germany ("Zeitenwende 1979. Die Welt am Beginn unserer Gegenwart, Beck: München 2019).

Western Knowledge About Reforming China, 1972-1989

In the 1970s Western knowledge about China was very poor. Due to the fundamental economic reforms under Deng Xiaoping Western observers and companies tried to gain detailed information about the Chinese market, education and factories to prepare the production and the selling of goods in China.

This paper analyses how German officials, academics and companies like Volkswagen gained knowledge by visiting China and discusses the consequences of their specific perception.

4-5:30pm | ROUNDTABLE Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft an den Grenzen Europas

Jeanette Hofmann (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung)

Paweł Machcewicz (Polnische Akademie der Wissenschaften/Fellow des Imre-Ketész-Kolleg Jena)

Ernst Dieter Rossmann (Ausschuss für Bildung, Forschung und Technikfolgenabschätzung, Deutscher Bundestag)

Amr Hamzawy (Stanford University/Fellow des Wissenschaftskollegs zu Berlin 2018-19/)

Chair: **Christoph Möllers** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin/ Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin/)

Jeanette Hofmann is a political scientist with a focus on Internet regulation. At the WZB Berlin Social Science Center she heads the research group 'The Internet Policy Field', which studies the institutionalization of Internet regulation on the national level. She is co-director of the Berlin-based Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society, professor of Internet policy at the Freie Universität Berlin, and principal investigator at the newly founded Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society. At the latter institute, she heads two research groups on 'digitalisation and democracy' and 'quantification and regulation'. In addition to her academic work, Jeanette has been involved in various political processes such as the UN World Summit on the Information Society, the Internet Governance Forum, and, as an expert member, in the committee of inquiry of the German Parliament "Internet and Digital Society".

Paweł Machcewicz is a historian and political scientist. He is professor of history at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Science. 2017-2018 - fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin; 2008-2017 – founding director of the Museum of the Second World War in Gdańsk, in April 2017 dismissed from its position by the Law and Justice government immediately after opening the Museum to the public; he has taught at the Warsaw University and the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and was a co-founder of the Institute of National Remembrance, in 2000-2006 was director of its research and education branch. His many books include *Rebellious Satellite: Poland 1956* (2009) and *Poland's War on Radio Free Europe, 1950-1989* (2014) in the Cold War Series of the Woodrow Wilson Center Press and Stanford University Press. He was also editor and co-author of the two-volume series *Wokół Jedwabnego, 2002* (the German edition: *Der Beginn der Vernichtung. Zum Mord an den Juden in Jedwabne und Umgebung in Sommer 1941. Neue Forschungsergebnisse polnischer Historiker*, Fibre, Osnabrück 2004). His most recent book "Muzeum" (ZNAK, Kraków 2017) describes the history of creat-

ing the Museum of the Second World in Gdańsk and controversies it evoked (its German edition was published in May 2018 by the Harrassowitz Verlag: *Der umkämpfte Krieg. Das Museum des Zweiten Weltkriegs in Danizg. Entstehung und Streit*). From October 2018 until September 2019 he is a fellow at the Imre Kertesz Kolleg at the Jena University. He works currently on a comparative book on retributive justice since the end of the Second World War until the aftermath of the collapse of Communist regimes in Eastern Europe.

Ernst Dieter Rossmann, born on 4 February 1951 in Elmshorn, married, 1 daughter; in 1969 obtained Abitur (school-leaving certificate giving right of entry to university), in 1974 graduated in psychology, in 1985 obtained doctorate in sports science, from 1975 to 1988 research assistant at a college for the training of youth and community workers, in addition from 1976 to 1983 carried out two projects in the field of sports science (Federal Institute for Sports Science) and various temporary lecturerships in sports science at the University of Hamburg; in 1971 joined the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), member of the Young Socialists, from 1981 to 2017 chairman of the local association of the SPD, town councillor, member of the town council responsible for cultural affairs; from 1987 to 1998 Member of the Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein, 1996 – 1998 deputy chairperson of the SPD parliamentary group, 1992 – 1996 Second Vice-President of the Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein; Member of the German Bundestag since October 1998, 2002 – 2017 Spokesperson of the group of parliamentarians from Schleswig-Holstein within the SPD parliamentary group, 2006 – 2014 Spokesperson of “Parlamentarische Linke”/group of left members within the SPD parliamentary group, 2009 – 2018 Deputy spokesperson of the working group on education and research of the SPD parliamentary group in the Bundestag.

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