

PERIPHERAL LIBERALISM. MARKET ECONOMISTS AND THE LIBERAL SCRIPT OUTSIDE THE WEST, 1970–2020

WORKSHOP
THUR, 6TH OCT – FRI, 7TH OCT 2022
AT THE HUMBOLDT FORUM & SCRIPTS VILLA, BERLIN

PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

Economic reform debates and the political impact of pro-market economists in countries outside the Cold War Western alliance are undergoing revision by scholars of political economy, global history, and neoliberalism. Most recent research now firmly places intellectual and economic changes within global shifts in economics and economic thought that began in the 1970s, thus moving away from a fixation on 1989 and the arrival of foreign advisors as external promoters of a liberal script created in the West. Forms of 'peripheral liberalism', a range of ideas on market- and individual rights-based transformation, emerged in most parts of the world and would – to varying degrees – have momentous effects on economic reforms and political change.

The two-day workshop revisits the global history of economic transformation since the 1970s. Scholars from five continents will present new research on the role of (neo-)liberal thought and self-professed liberal intellectual and political figures in countries that once belonged to the second and third worlds during the Cold War.

The workshop is organised by members of the Junior Research Group 'Peripheral Liberalism': Dr Tobias Rupprecht; Alice Trinkle; Kevin Axe; Maximiliano Jara; George Payne.

Attendance is open to all. The workshop takes place on site, but online participation via Cisco WebEx is possible. If you want to participate, please write an e-mail to George Payne - g.payne@fu-berlin.de

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 6th October 2022

HUB_X, 1st floor, Humboldt Forum, Schloßpl. 1, 10178 Berlin

10:00 am – Welcome speech: Tobias Rupprecht, Freie Universität Berlin

10:15 am – Session 1: Soviet Union

Olessia Kirtchik, École des hautes études en sciences sociales

From Collective to Private Farm. Economic Experts and Power during Perestroika

Adam Leeds, Columbia University

Yegor Gaidar's Early Thought. The Perfection of the Economic Mechanism and Reform Thinking Before Transition

Tobias Rupprecht, Freie Universität Berlin

A Failed Precursor of Russian Peripheral Liberalism. Why Gorbachev's 'Chinese Path' Was Doomed

Comments: Juliane Fürst, Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam

12:00 pm – Session 2: Soviet Union-Russia

Ivan Boldyrev, Radboud University

A Soviet (Neo)liberal? Leonid Kantorovich in his Final Years

Fritz Bartel, Texas A&M University

In Search of a Superpower. The IMF's First Visits to Post-Soviet Russia

Ilya Matveev, Public Sociology Laboratory

From the Chicago Boys to Hjalmar Schacht. The Trajectory of the Neoliberal Bloc in Russia

Comments: Tobias Rupprecht, Freie Universität Berlin

2:15 pm – Session 3: Former Soviet Union

Kevin Axe, Freie Universität Berlin

A Baltic Tiger Teaches Abroad. Estonian Exportation of Neoliberal Thought, 1985-2008

Juhan Saharov, University of Tartu

Horizontal Contractuality in Services and Agriculture in the Estonian SSR (1985-87)

Vladimer Papava, Tbilisi State University

On Liberal Economic Reforms in Post-Communist Georgia

Comments: Fredrik Stöcker, Universität Wien

4:00 pm – Session 4: Africa

Sa'eed Husaini, Center for Democracy and Development Abuja

A Case of Convergence? Market Ideology in Nigeria's Four Republics

Alex Peeples, Johns Hopkins University

Financiers and Liberal Bureaucrats of African Socialism. Tanzania and Neoliberalism 1961-1990

Comments: Jeremiah Arowosegbe, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

5:00 pm – Session 5: Latin America

Maximiliano Jara Barrera, Freie Universität Berlin

An Alternative Route of Chilean Neoliberalism. Pedro Ibáñez Ojeda and the Regional Meeting of the Mont Pelerin Society in Viña del Mar, 1981

José Antonio Galindo Dominguez, El Colegio de México

Architects of the Latin American Neo-liberal Order. The Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production. Space of Contact and Formation of the Latin American Liberal Ideas, 1945-1955

Comments: Álvaro Morcillo, Freie Universität Berlin

6:00 pm – Close

Friday, 7th October 2022

SCRIPTS Villa, Dahlem Dorf, Edwin-Redslob-Str. 29, 14195 Berlin

10:00 am – Session 1: China and Southeast Asia

Barry Naughton, University of California San Diego

How Thorough Was China's Commitment to Market Liberalism? How Much Was Forsaken?

Wang Hui, Tsinghua University Beijing (via WebEx)

Chinese Neoliberalism

Tuong Vu, University of Oregon & Pham Thi Hong Ha, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences

The Resilience of Liberal Economic Ideas and Their Contributions to Vietnam's Market Reform in the 1980s

Comments: Felix Wemheuer, Universität zu Köln

11:45 am – Session 2: China

Alice Trinkle, Freie Universität Berlin

Abandon Leninism, Accomplish Freedom. How Su Shaozhi's Reform Theories Were Shaped by Encounters with Hungarian Reformers

Yating Zhang, Freie Universität Berlin

The Grey Zone of China's Economic Reform. Private Sectors and Economic Crimes in the 1980s

Federico Pacchetti, Corvinus University

Tailored. The Political Economy of the World Bank's Early Contacts with China

Comments: Genia Kostka, Freie Universität Berlin

2:45 pm – Session 3: Central and Eastern Europe

Cornel Ban, Copenhagen Business School (via WebEx)

Are there Neoliberals in the Trenches? Policy Orthodoxy and Nationalism from the Great Recession to the Great Volatility in Hungary and Romania

Péter Vámos, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (via WebEx)

Do Hungarian Economists ‘Share Blame’ for China’s ‘Monstrous Turn’? The Influence of Hungarian Economic Reform Theories and Practices on China’s Market Reforms in the 1980s

Ia Eradze, Ilia State University (via WebEx)

Making of the Central Bank of Georgia in the 1990s. Tracing the Roots of Neoliberalism in a Transition State

Comments: Aron Buzogany, Universität für Bodenkultur Wien

4:30 pm – Session 4: Central and Eastern Europe

Luboš Studený, Charles University

Towards a ‘Real Functioning Market’. Czechoslovakia between Socialism and Capitalism

Benedek Pál, Central European University

Between Crisis and Reform. Critical Discourses on the Future of State Socialism in Hungary, 1980-87

Venelin Ganey, University of Miami

Neoliberalism or Post-Communism? The Transformation of Eastern Europe in the 1990s

Comments: Sebastian Hoppe, Freie Universität Berlin

5:45 pm – Close