The Leibniz ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe -Global Area« (EEGA) is committed to developing new research perspectives on Eastern Europe, engaging in knowledge exchange activities on the region with stakeholders, promoting and young researchers. It follows the idea that the multidisciplinary and multi-faceted examination of processes of globalisation are a key for a better understanding of societal developments. The focus is on Eastern Europe's diverse, tension-filled, and sometimes paradoxical globalisation projects »from within« and »from the outside«, and thus, on the self-positioning of Eastern European societies under the global condition.

brings together interdisciplinary EEGA knowledge and expertise from researchers affiliated with universities and research institutes in Leipzig, Jena and Halle. Together with partners from the region, EEGA explores the fields of migration and mobilities, business strategies and political economies, cultural and intellectual perspectives and identities, and political integration in a changing global arena. Overcoming prejudices and clichés, some of which are rooted in the era of the Cold War, and promoting an informed understanding of Eastern Europe in its diverse traditions and positions, developments and internal dynamics are the primary mission.

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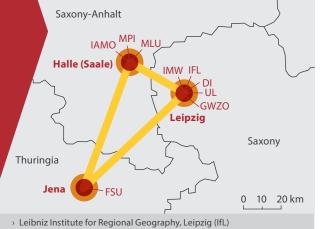


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Eastern Europe – Global Area



- Leipzig University (UL)
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- > Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU)
- > Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture Simon Dubnow, Leipzig (DI)
- > Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig (GWZO)
- Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies, Halle (Saale) (IAMO)
- › Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU)
- > Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale) (MPI)

Research Area 1

Mobilities and Migration Regimes in Eastern Europe under the Global Condition

In the wake of economic and political transformations, fuzzy territorialities, and technological innovations, mobility and migration regimes have repeatedly shifted on all scales. After investigating transformations and contestations of mobility and migration in the region, Research Area 1 aims at a better longitudinal understanding of underlying normativities and infrastructures and their effects on the region's position and agency in processes of globalisation. Thus, it addresses present and historical migration and bordering practices, materialities and technologies, and justice regimes. A joint outcome will be to develop a comprehensive and historically informed collection of forms and methods of visualisations to grasp the region's ambiguous and disputed mobility and migration regimes in a transregional perspective.

Research Area 2

Self-Positioning of Eastern Europe in a New World Order

The collapse of state socialism in Eastern Europe marked an ending of the global Cold War and ushered in a new world order. This initially rather unipolar (US-led) order has been challenged by the rise of China's power, waning US hegemony, renewed tensions between Russia and the North Atlantic Bloc, and is being confronted by the dynamics and reverberations of the COVID-19 pandemic. Research Area 2 focuses on the positioning of Eastern European (EU member and non-member) states and societies in the context of the evolving geopolitical conditions. It encourages a dialogue between post-socialist and post-colonial approaches and looks specifically at changing geostrategical imaginations and spatial reconfigurations at multiple scales as well as the roles of finance, social movements and academia in these processes.

Research Area 3

Economic and Regional Development under the Global Condition

The transformation from planned to market economy and the integration of the economies of Eastern Europe into a unified global economy have brought about accelerated industrial structural changes with serious social and demographic effects to this day. Research Area 3 deals with the development of regional disparities with a special focus on external influences such as foreign direct investments in Eastern Europe. It also addresses the extent to which regional policy objectives and instruments are shaped by historical experience, external approaches and interests as well as by various actors such as the European Union.

Research Area 4

Cultures of Internationalism and Internationalism of Cultures

International collaboration as well as intercultural transfers and entanglements are two crucial and partly overlapping domains in which actors from the region positioned themselves in global relations and processes since the middle of the 19th century. Research Area 4 investigates Eastern European actors, initiatives, strategies and positions in international movements and organisations which interconnected the societies of the region in multiple ways. In parallel, a wide range of cultural fields (music, literature, film, fine arts, and architecture) are explored to gain a nuanced understanding of the potentials and limits of cultural globalisation in Eastern Europe, including its dialectic relationship with the search for national and regional identities, and of the role of Eastern European artists in international cultural developments.

Research Area 5

Populist Movements and Regimes in Eastern Europe

So-called populist movements and the openness of citizens for populist arguments have gained in importance worldwide. They are more successful in Eastern Europe than in many other parts of the world. In some Eastern European countries right-wing populists even came to power. However, explanations for the specific success of populists in Eastern Europe are rare. Especially when it comes to empirical and comparative analyses. Research Area 5 contributes to the comparison of populisms and investigates the effects of long-lasting traditions, social and political circumstances and recent experiences with transformation, migration, and external influences of globalisation on populism.