

Report

2021 – 2022

**Eastern Europe –
Global Area**

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01 Preface

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When developing the last research programme, the Leibniz ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe – Global Area« (EEGA) and its members found themselves in the typical severe lockdown-situation induced by the Covid-19 pandemic. While international travelling for research and conferences had come to a complete halt, teaching and meeting tools had been adjusted to online formats, Postdoc fellows pursued their projects from home offices in Leipzig, Halle and Jena, and novel ways of academic exchange in virtual conferences were established. The start of EEGA's second funding phase in October 2020 was yet productive, with five new Research Areas being formed, and a new generation of younger scholars taking over responsibilities in the ScienceCampus' leadership. Whilst the Covid-19 pandemic has not lost its global relevance, 2022 has brought new challenges – especially in Eastern Europe, but with worldwide repercussions. The theme of the ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe – Global Area« is more relevant than ever.

While we cannot yet foresee how this »new era in Europe« will affect our work practically and in terms of content, we know that this further caesura will have an impact on our collaborations and also on our vision of the area Eastern Europe. We look to the future with reservations, but also with a great motivation to meet this challenge with a suitable intellectual programme, and continuously strong scholarly relationships in our network.

One such step in the direction of such strategic cooperation and structure building is the new »Ethics Ad Hoc Committee« formed on the basis of the EEGA net-

work. We are pleased to be able to collaborate in this framework also with the neighbouring ZOIS in Berlin.

We are also taking positive steps into the future with numerous events that have stimulated and advanced scientific exchange: a roundtable discussion with artists in Leipzig in March 2022, panels and round tables at the BASEES annual conference in Cambridge in April and the VAD conference in Freiburg this June, a writing workshop on publishing in scientific journals in July, followed by a book discussion on »Global Easts« – to name just a few. After a successful congress in April 2021 on »Globalising Eastern Europe – New Perspectives on Transregional Entanglements« in cooperation with the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES), then still online, this year's annual conference of the ScienceCampus was a joint effort together with the Regional Studies Association (RSA). In several EEGA Special Sessions, scholars from all over the world presented their research results on global and transregional entanglements in Eastern Europe. The in-situ conference in Leipzig, city of EEGA's headquarters, brought to the fore once more the intellectual capacity that is assembled in the Leipzig, Halle, Jena region, re-emphasizing EEGA's position within the field of global perspectives and transregional studies, and the new clusters developing in this area of expertise. The activities continue, and likewise we will continue to be ready to face and investigate global challenges in this doing.

We hope you enjoy reading.

Yours sincerely,



Prof Dr Sebastian Lentz
(Spokesperson)



Prof Dr Matthias Middell
(Spokesperson)

02 EEGA Members

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03 The Research Areas

The Leibniz ScienceCampus EEGA is organised in five research areas:

- 1) Mobilities and Migration Regimes in Eastern Europe under the Global Condition
- 2) Self-Positioning of Eastern Europe in a New World Order
- 3) Economic and Regional Development under the Global Condition
- 4) Cultures of Internationalism and Internationalism of Cultures
- 5) Populist Movements and Regimes in Eastern Europe.

Their research activities all aim at understanding how Eastern Europe's diverse, rich, and incidentally conflicted societies position themselves in global processes and conflicts, engage in the dynamics of global integration, and champion these developments.

Research Area 1

Mobilities and Migration Regimes in Eastern Europe under the Global Condition

Coordination: **Jonathan Everts** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) / **Steffi Marung** (Leipzig University) / **Wladimir Sgibnev** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography)

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 trans-regional perspective.

Affiliate Researchers: **Kristine Beurskens** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography) / **Bettina Bruns** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography) / **Larissa Fleischmann** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) / **Diana Forker** (Friedrich Schiller University Jena) / **Karin Wiest** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography)

Research Area 2

Self-Positioning of Eastern Europe in a New World Order

Coordination: **Frank Hadler** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe) / **Marek Mikuš** (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology) / **Lela Rekhviashvili** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography)

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 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 geostrategic imaginations and spatial reconfigurations at multiple scales as well as the roles of finance, social movements and academia in these processes.

Affiliate Researchers: **Lyubomir Pozharliev** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography) / **Stefan Rohdewald** (Leipzig University) / **Elisa Satjukow** (Leipzig University) / **Asta Vonderau** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg)

Research Area 3

Economic and Regional Development under the Global Condition

Coordination: **Sebastian Henn** (Friedrich Schiller University Jena) / **Nadir Kinossian** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography) / **Lena Kuhn** (Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies) / **Uwe Müller** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe)

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.

Affiliate Researchers: **Azar Aliyev** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) / **Corinne Geering** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe) / **Marco Zimmermann** (Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy)

Research Area 4

Cultures of Internationalism and Internationalism of Cultures

Coordination: **Katja Castryck-Naumann** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe) / **Stefan Keym** (Leipzig University) / **Yvonne Kleinmann** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg)

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. Such developments have a long intriguing tradition, speeding up and expanding spatially since the middle of the 19th century.

Research Area 4 investigates Eastern European actors, initiatives, strategies and positions in international exchanges, movements and organisations, which interconnect the societies of the region in multiple ways. It explores a wide range of cultural fields – music, literature and other arts, and in a broader sense also legal, political and scholarly cultures – to gain a nuanced understanding of the potentials and limits of cultural globalisation in Eastern Europe. This includes its dialectic relationship with the search for imperial, national and regional identifications, and of the impact of Eastern Europeans on international cultural developments.

Affiliate Researchers: **Patrick Becker-Naydenov** (Leipzig University) / **Christoph Brumann** (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology) / **Linda Cimardi** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) / **Jan Gerber** (Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture – Simon Dubnow) / **Beáta Hock** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe) / **Sven Jaros** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) / **Nadine Menzel** (Leipzig University) / **Klaus Näumann** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) / **Martin Rohde** (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg)

Research Area 5

Populist Movements and Regimes in Eastern Europe

Coordination: **Gert Pickel** (Leipzig University) / **Alexander Yendell** (Leipzig University)

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.

Affiliate Researchers: **Yvonne Jaeckel** (Leipzig University) / **Astrid Lorenz** (Leipzig University)

04 Annual Conference and General Assembly

Each year, EEGA organises an annual conference. After a successful congress in April 2021 on »Globalising Eastern Europe – New Perspectives on Transregional Entanglements« in cooperation with the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES), then still online, this year’s conference was a joint effort of the Regional Studies Association (RSA) and the ScienceCampus. Taking up the RSA Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) conference theme »**Bridging Old and New Divides: Global Dynamics & Regional Transformations**«, scholars from all over the world presented their research results on global and transregional entanglements in Eastern Europe in several EEGA Special Sessions. Contributions covered topics ranging from infrastructural materialities to racialisations in a comparative perspective.

The in situ conference from 14 to 16 September, 2022 in Leipzig, city of EEGA’s headquarters, brought to the fore once more the intellectual capacity that is assembled in the Leipzig, Halle, Jena region, locating EEGA’s activities over again in the strong, emerging field of global perspectives and transregional studies.

EEGA Special Session: Old or New Divides? Blackness, Whiteness and Racialisation in Eastern Europe in a Comparative Perspective

Picking up the conference theme, one of EEGA’s Special Sessions was centred on »**Old or New Divides? Blackness, Whiteness and Racialisation in Eastern Europe in a Comparative Perspective**«. Inspired by Critical Whiteness Studies and Critical Race Studies/Theory, fields that have disproportionately focused on issues of race and racism in the West, the Special Session, composing of **four interrelated panels**, interrogated the concepts of »whiteness« and »race« as core components for understanding national belonging in Eastern Europe. In responding to the theoretical and empirical terrain of both »whiteness« and »race«, the special session unpicked the ways in which the language of whiteness, blackness, and otherness have manifested in different settings in Eastern Europe and among migrants from the region abroad. The session in its comparative approach took a closer look at discourses about and lived experiences of racialization and othering in a variety of contexts, including media in Eastern European societies. The contributions compared and contrasted how »Old and New Divides« are indeed bridged, or rather deepened – and which societal and political developments and legacies affect such change. Featuring historical studies as well as current empirical investigations, the four interdisciplinary panels engaged with the understudied histories of race in Eastern Europe and the failure within the dominant geographical accounts of the region to engage with global contexts of race and racism. In the discussions, attempts were made to understand the histories of race nationally, regionally, and to situate them within the overlooked global contexts. In so doing, the papers aimed to understand the historical roles of race, not as an adaptation from the West, but rather as internal manifestations in Eastern Europe as well as in the West. To do this effectively, individual papers discussed the formations which constitute the underpinning for diverse, yet interrelated racialized exclusions and marginalization, and afterlives of socialist legacies (both as opportunity as well as an obstacle). They dealt with issues such as language, societal integration, the nexus of race



EEGA Information Booth

Information, annual reports, and promotional material on the Leibniz ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe – Global Area« were available for all guests at the **EEGA information booth** every day during conference hours. Individual appointments for consultation with the EEGA team could be arranged on request.

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Daria Krivonos and Monika Bobako (at the back) during the discussion following the individual presentations in panel III of the special session on »Old or New Divides? Blackness, Whiteness and Racialisation in Eastern Europe in a Comparative Perspective«. © Swen Reichhold

and migration, the intersection of race and class, and the multiplicity of exchanges and entanglements with communities in the Global South in a trans-regional perspective. Individual papers included the following subjects: »Racialisation and/as Translation? Eastern European Migrants' Racial Subjectivities Beyond the Metaphor of »In-Betweenness« by **Spela Drnovsek Zorko**, Waseda University, »Racial Identity Politics in the Czech Republic: Focus on the African Diaspora«, by **Stephanie Rudwick** and **Nsama Simuziyya**, both University of Hradec Králové, »From Neoliberal Restriction to the Control of the Population«, by **Lucie Trlifajová**, Sociological Institute Czech Academy of Science, and »Evictability and Hierarchy on a Wild Dump: A Historical Anthropology of the Racialized Governance of Public Hygiene in Belgrade«, by **Eva Schwab**, CEU Democracy Institute. In the second of the four panel session, topics comprised of »Uncle Tom's Cabin. Understandings of »Slavery« in Polish Society in the Nineteenth Century« by **Agata Łuksza**, University of Warsaw, »Visual Archive of the Inter-War Polish Colonial Complex and it's Contemporary Legacy«, by **Łukasz Zaremba**, University of Warsaw, and »The Public Ramification of Racializing Jews and Slavs in Interwar Eastern Europe: The Case of Liberal Periodicals« by **Victoria Shmidt**, University of Graz. Panel session III then focused on »Black Marx-



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James Mark (at the back), member of EEGA's Scientific Advisory Board, impresses with his lecture on »Anti-Colonial Whiteness: Communism, Eastern Europe and the Politics of Race«. © EEGA

ism, Racial Capitalism and the Balkans & the Eastern Mediterranean Complex. On the Abolition of Europe's Racial Supremacy« by **Dusan Bjelic**, University of Southern Maine, »Class Racism, Antisemitism and the Polish Racialization Matrix. A Bid to re-Contextualize Critical Race Theory in Poland«, by **Monika Bobako**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, »Bringing Political Economy Back in Critical Whiteness: Racial Capitalism and Postsocialist Migration« by **Daria Krivonos**, University of Helsinki, and »Situating Eastern Europe Within the »Varieties of European Colonialism« by **Bolaji Balogun**, University of Sheffield. These contributions were discussed by **Leon Reichle**, Institut für Demokratie und Zivilgesellschaft (IDZ). The last panel session then finally discussed issues such as »Anti-Colonial Whiteness: Communism, Eastern Europe and the Politics of Race«, by **James Mark**, Exeter, member of EEGA's Scientific Advisory Board, »Hungarian Negro: Race and Coloniality in Interwar Hungarian Literature Through the Writings of René Maran, Illés Kaczér and Miklós Radnóti«, by former EEGA Postdoc Fellow **Zoltán Ginelli**, Researcher, National University of Public Service, and »Solidarity With Women From »Developing Countries« and Central Asian Women« by **Yulia Gradszkova**, Södertörn University. Discussant for these highly relevant topics was Research Area Coordinator **Steffi Marung**.

EEGA Special Session: Infrastructural Materialities: Human and Non-Human Interactions

The Special Session »**Infrastructural Materialities: Human and Non-Human Interactions**«, chaired by **Maria Gunko** (University of Oxford), explored how CEE infrastructures affect, determine or co-produce human-non-human interactions and how those interactions are intertwined in the course of infrastructures' conception, production, perception or operation. Non-human actants play a crucial, though underestimated role in making social sense of infrastructures. Looking into multiple processes of planning, policy-decision making as well as public contestation, one observes non-human actors as crucial vehicles shaping common perceptions of material environments. In this context, **Karol Kurnicki** (IfL) gave a talk on »Material Objects and Infrastructuring in Social Practices of Car Parking«, **Matthias David** (TU Berlin) presented his research on »New Infrastructure Spaces in the Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg – A TPSN-Inspired Study of Transport Development« and **Lukas Adolphi** (IfL) spoke about »Urban Nutrias at the Kotgraben: A Decaying Infrastructure Beyond Human Control«.



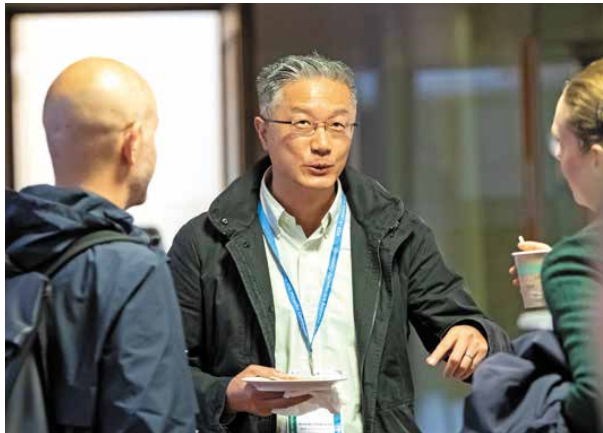
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Karol Kurnicki (IfL) presents his research on »Material Objects and Infrastructuring in Social Practices of Car Parking« within the special session »Infrastructural Materialities: Human and Non-Human Interactions«. © EEGA



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Lela Rekhviashvili (IfL) discusses with the audience after her presentation on »Multi-Scalar Contestations of Infrastructure-led Development in the Post-Socialist East: Making and Unmaking of Georgia's Flagship Infrastructure Projects«. © EEGA

EEGA Special Session: Chinese Investments in East Europe's Infrastructures: A Relational Critical Political Economy Perspective

Within European debates, Chinese investments in Europe's infrastructures have been most often discussed in terms of threats vs. opportunities they entail for different European countries and subregions. These dichotomic discussions tend to naturalise foreign direct investments as virtuous and simultaneously exceptionalise Chinese investments as uniquely geo-politically and geo-economically threatening phenomenon. Despite the fact that Europe's core economies (like Germany, France and the UK) have been main recipients of Chinese infrastructural investments, China's engagements with Eastern Europe have been met with a particular suspicion. Beyond rare exceptional studies that attempt to embed Chinese investments in Eastern Europe in broader discussions of changing accumulation regimes and spatial restructuring of capitalism, existing research on the region has tended to be dominantly nation centric and to reproduce geopolitical and moral East/West binaries. Meanwhile, broader international critical economic geography and political



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Henry Wai-Chung Yeung, keynote speaker of the conference, in lively exchange with participants of the conference. © Swen Reichhold

economy discussions thematize infrastructural investments and a global trend of increasing state interventions in infrastructure deals as part of the uneven development of the current global transformation. The Special Session, with **Henry Wai-Chung Yeung** (National University of Singapore) acting as chair, addressed »Paternalistic Urbanism: Mediating Between the State and Society in Large-Scale Urban Redevelopment in Guangzhou and St Petersburg« (**Oleg Golubchikov** – Cardiff University) and talked about »Multi-Scalar Contestations of Infrastructure-led Development in the Post-Socialist East: Making and Unmaking of Georgia's Flagship Infrastructure Projects« (**Lela Rekhviashvili** – IfL). **Linda Szabó** (Periféria Policy and Research Center, Hungary) and **Tamás Gerócs** (State University of New York Binghamton) presented their research on »The Impact of China's Rise and the Global »Infrastructure Turn« on the Governance and Financing of Infrastructure-Led Development in Hungary«, whereas **Yujing Tan** (Leiden University) broached the issue of »The Infrastructuralization of Chinese Investment in Budapest After 2008 Crisis«.

EEGA Special Session: Infrastructures of Finance and Finance as Infrastructure in Eastern Europe

Arguments centred on infrastructure have become increasingly influential across social sciences. While infrastructure is primarily understood as embedded technical support systems that provide services to populations and

organizations, social scientists document that infrastructures themselves are integrated into larger ecologies of other infrastructures, social organization, work routines, norms and standards, communities of users etc. (Niewöhner 2017). Infrastructures can be thus seen as extended and technologically mediated material assemblages that continuously produce social and socio-technical relations in both planned and unplanned ways (Harvey et al. 2017). Scholars working on finance deploy the concept as a heuristic for making visible »hard« infrastructures in finance as well as the socio-technical and organizational arrangements and processes surrounding them (Bernards and Campbell-Verduyn 2019; Krarup 2019). They further developed the notion of the infrastructural power of finance to draw attention to the ways in which state actors such as central banks and treasuries come to depend on financial actors, markets and practices for the execution of their policies, with obvious implications for regulation (Braun 2020; Gabor and Braun 2020). A related line of enquiry focuses on entanglements between financial infrastructures and security (de Goede 2020), which have been recently taken to a new level with unprecedented sanctions against Russia's access to particular financial markets, assets or payment systems. This Special Session analysed these two dimensions of the relationship between infrastructure and finance in Eastern Europe – a region in which this line of enquiry is still underdeveloped, al-



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EEGA's Research Area Coordinator Steffi Marung (Leipzig University) points out problems and challenges for university-based regional research during roundtable discussion on regional research about CEE in Leipzig. © EEGA

though existing scholarship already points to distinctive financial infrastructures such as foreign-led banking systems. The following topics were discussed: »Financial Infrastructures and Sovereign Debt Management in Croatia« by **Marek Mikuš** (MPI), also functioning as panel chair; »Growth Models, Dependent Financialization and Financial Infrastructures in Central and Eastern Europe: The Case of the Baltic States« by **Leonardo Pataccini** (Trinity College Dublin); »The Financial and Legal Infrastructure of the Swiss Franc Mortgage Issue in Poland« by **Mathias Sosnowski Krabbe** (MPI), and »The Financial-Legal Infrastructure of the Debt Economy: The Development of Judicial and Extra-Judicial Debt Collection in Post-Socialist Hungary« by **Balázs Gosztonyi** (MPI).

EEGA Special Session: Roundtable Discussion on Leipzig-Based Regional Research About CEE: Institutional Settings and Research Agendas

Research on Central and Eastern Europe and other regions has a decade's long tradition in Leipzig's academic institutions. It is currently anchored at several non-university research institutes, at Leipzig University and in the EEGA. Contemporary and historical processes in the societies and politics of CEE are studied from a broad spectrum of disciplines – geography, history and cultural studies, political science, sociology, economy as well as environmental sciences. The interdisciplinary work is built upon a close inter-institutional collaboration, which is embedded in a large network of partners in CEE, and other parts of the world. The roundtable discussion, moderated by **Lela Rekhviashvili** (IfL), introduced these interconnected institutional settings, and the existing as well as emerging lines of CEE-focused research agendas pursued in Leipzig. It was discussed how the ongoing multi-disciplinary and collaborative knowledge production could contribute towards understanding and elaborating responses to various kinds of crises in CEE, including the recent war in Ukraine ushering unprecedented wave of displacement, geopolitical shifts and uncertainties. The participants of the roundtable discussion – **Annegret Haase** (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany), **Wladimir Sgibnev** (IfL), **Steffi Marung** (Research Centre Global Dynamics, UL), and **Benjamin Klement** (Fraunhofer IMW) –



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Sebastian Henn, spokesperson of EEGA's Steering Committee, presents recent publications to the audience at the first General Assembly of the ScienceCampus. © Swen Reichhold

stressed the importance of the following research foci in particular: Regionalisation and transregionalisation in the context of international organisations and conflicts; socialist mobilities of activists and experts from Eastern Europe and the Global South; urbanisation dynamics in cities and urban regions: post-socialist urban shrinkage, growth and reurbanisation after shrinkage, green governance and environmental justice; multiple geographies of local and regional development, migration and mobility; transformation of regional innovation systems.

General Assembly

Under the direction of the spokespersons of EEGA's steering committee, **Katja Castryck-Naumann** (online) and **Sebastian Henn**, together with the speaker of the ScienceCampus, **Sebastian Lentz**, EEGA's first General Assembly in the second funding phase started with a warm welcome to all Research Area Coordinators, Affiliated Researchers and guests. After a report on recent and upcoming EEGA related publications and a review of developments in collaborative efforts, such as a cluster of excellence, a joint graduate school, and a cross-institutional ad-hoc ethics committee, EEGA coordinator **Lena Dallywater** presented past and future EEGA activities and events to the interested audience. A festive get-together in the Campus Jahnallee formed the celebratory ending of the assembly, and the EEGA Annual Conference 2022 as such.

05 Co-operations and Events

Overcoming the most recent challenges in maintaining personal contacts, several events could be organised with old and new cooperation partners.

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In September 2021, EEGA organised an international panel at the **Viva Africa conference »Africa and (the Other) Europe: Imageries – Discourses – Exchanges«** at Charles University, Prague. From an interdisciplinary, transregional perspective, the discussion with scholars from South Africa, Portugal, and Germany revolved around reconsiderations of aspects of Eastern Europe's role in the decolonisation of Southern Africa. Following up on the presenters' research on actors and archives in both Anglophone and Lusophone contexts, and connecting these new sources and materials to previous dialogue and scholarly exchange on the manifold ties of Eastern Europe and Southern African decolonisation which, among others, led to the publication of **Southern African Liberation Movements and the Global Cold War »East«** (2019), the panel teased out more of these networks, movements and connections. A thematic focus was placed on the diversity of relations between the »Other Europe« and African independent countries and liberation movements from 1960 to 1990, while also acknowledging the role of scientific exchanges and transfers in this dynamic process.

Interdisciplinary Methods Workshop: Alexander Kiossev and the »self-colonizing metaphor«

The EEGA interdisciplinary methods workshop from 28 November to 4 December 2021 in Leipzig was organised by **Lyubomir Pozhaliev** and **Lela Rekhviashvili** (RA 2) from the IfL-team of the project *CoMoDe – Contentious Mobilities: rethinking mobility transitions through a decolonial lens*, in collaboration with EEGA Affiliate Researcher **Corinne Geering** (GWZO). **Alexander Kiossev** is a Professor of History of Modern Culture and Director of the Cultural Centre of Sofia University. His research interests include problems of reading, the visual culture of the city, cultural history of totalitarianism and transition.



Alexander Kiossev and the participants of his master class at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (IfL). © EEGA



Kiossev's theoretical and analytical interventions throughout various formats of the week-long interdisciplinary methods workshop contributes significantly to ongoing discussions within IfL, GWZO and EEGA. The workshop created space to disentangle and clarify conceptual usage and methodological-epistemological foundations of competing and complementary concepts such as post-socialist, post-colonial, colonization, decolonization, hegemony, Balkanism, nested-orientalism, and last, but not least Kiossev's own concept of »self-colonizing metaphor«.

While presenting the core of his theory during the master class held at the IfL, at his keynote lecture at GWZO he gave an original example of the devastating erasure of the old Ottoman heritage in the newly established capital of the Principality of Bulgaria after 1878.

Presentation on »Multidisciplinary Regional Studies within the Leibniz ScienceCampus »Eastern Europe – Global Area« (EEGA) at ZIRS Halle

In order to further strengthen interdisciplinary cooperation and the visibility of the EEGA at the site in Halle beyond the customary disciplines, on 4 February 2022, **Sebastian Lentz**, one of the two spokespersons of the ScienceCampus, presented EEGA's aims and research perspectives to the researchers affiliated with the Center for Interdisciplinary Regional Studies (Zentrum für Interdisziplinäre Regionalstudien, ZIRS) at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg.

Presentation and discussion: »Curatorial and artistic research: Exploring transregional and gendered trails in recent East European art history«

The closing event of a two-day workshop titled »Transregional Dynamics in Eastern Europe and the Americas: New Empirical Approaches« which was held at the Tagungslounge in Leipzig on Friday, 4 March, 2022, took place as moderated session on »Curatorial and Artistic Research: Exploring Transregional and Gendered Trails in Recent East European Art History«. At this po-



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The podium (Nagy, Szarvas, Hock and Wille – from the left) discusses different ways of making research accessible/visible for a broader audience. © EEGA.



Przemysław Strożek introduces the research and intention behind his exhibition on Ahmed Cherkaoui in Warsaw © EEGA



dium three curatorial projects and one academic research project were introduced and subsequently discussed in the framework of a conversation, led by **Beáta Hock** and **Simone Wille** respectively.

Two of the curatorial projects – *Left Performance Histories* presented by **Beáta Hock** and *Left Turn, Right Turn* presented by **Kristóf Nagy** and **Márton Szarvas** – explored artistic activities that have often been left out of critical debates with gender insubordination and a discursive reading of leftist political criticism as thematic strands that connected the two projects. The curatorial in both works came as a communal effort and as research projects.

Research based was also the project that **Przemysław Strożek** presented: *Ahmed Cherkaoui in Warsaw: Polish-Moroccan Artistic Relations, 1955–1980* which he realized as an exhibition in 2020 at Zachęta – National Gallery of Art Warsaw. **Simone Wille's** research on *Patterns of Trans-regional Trails: The materiality of art works and their place in the modern era. Bombay, Paris, Prague, Lahore, from ca. 1920s to the early 1950s* (FWF, P29536-G26) overlapped with the three curatorial projects in its methodological endeavor to transcend boundaries such as the lo-

cal, the regional, gender, but also the boundaries of disciplines. What the works also have in common is the endeavor to make the invisible visible. While these studies are very much rooted in archival research, the presenters spoke about different ways of making this research accessible/visible for a broader audience.

The four projects connected well with the overall topic of the conference, namely the Transregional Dynamics in Eastern Europe, in that they explored trans as a method of inquiry and as a method to overcome established frameworks of research within area studies. Here, the overall impression is that the habilitation and book projects presented over the course of the two-day event were collectively concerned with questions about the perception of difference, border crossing both physical but also ideological, the connection that the trans can potentially establish between space and body, between modernism and modernity, but also the quest to locate the periphery.

JMCoE Spring School 2022 – »Contested EUrope: Imagining citizenship at European peripheries«

On 3 March 2022, the Leipzig Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (JMCoE) in cooperation with EEGA organised its first spring school »Contested EUrope: Imagining citizenship at European peripheries«, focussing on methodological approaches for how to translate key concepts in European Studies into empirical research.

In five workshops the JMCoE researchers **Steffi Marung** (RA 1), **Gert Pickel** (RA 5) and **Alexander Yendell** (RA 5), all Research Area Coordinators of EEGA, **Lars Vogel**, **David Will** and **Rebecca Pates** presented insights into their ongoing work, thus offering graduate and post-graduate students a unique opportunity to address their own questions on how to plan research, how to operationalise conceptual and theoretical frameworks, how to identify empirical material, and how to develop in-depth analytical insights.

In the context of (EU-)citizenship and EUropolitan peripheries, researchers and students discussed what citizenship means in relation to different territorial contexts,

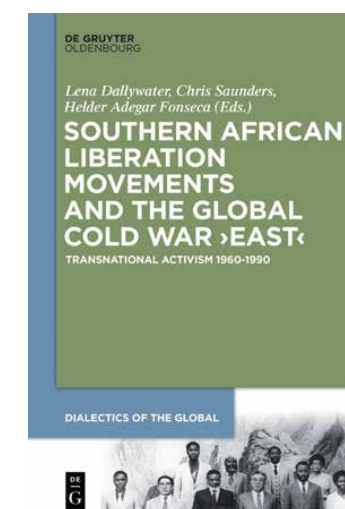
what effects geographical and territorial positionalities have on how citizenship is perceived and imagined in EUropa, and what role the juxtapositions of centre/periphery, rural/urban spaces play in how people articulate belonging to communities, how they relate themselves to Europe and the EU, and how they perceive their positions in a political and cultural space that has been and continues to be highly changeable historically.

EEGA at the BASEES Annual Conference 2022, Cambridge, UK

Round Table »Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and African Decolonization: New Perspectives«

The Round Table »Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and African Decolonization: New Perspectives« took place on 8 April 2022, 4 pm, at Robinson College as part of the **British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) Conference 2022**, in Cambridge, UK. Panels and roundtables at the conference featured papers from Politics, History, Sociology and Geography, Film and Media, Languages and Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures, and Economics.

With participants **Lena Dallywater** (Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Germany), **Christopher Saunders** (University of Cape Town), **Helder Adegar**



The discussion took further themes explored in the edited volume »Southern African Liberation Movements and the Global Cold War ›East‹«, a collection of essays published in 2019.

Fonseca (University of Evora), **Natalia Telepneva** (University of Strathclyde), and **Ulf Engel** (Leipzig University), the Round Table was composed of these different disciplines and perspectives. Adopting an interdisciplinary, transregional perspective, and inspired by the spatial turn in the humanities and social sciences, the participants in this roundtable aimed to cast new light on aspects of the role of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union in the decolonisation of Africa. The roundtable drew on new sources to explore some of the networks that were shaped through the movement of individuals and ideas from Africa to the »East« and from the »East« to Africa in the decades in which African countries moved to independence. It is now widely recognised that a Cold War perspective falls short in unfolding the complex geographies of such connections and the multipolarity of actions and transactions, some of which continue to influence relationships today. The history of the ties that existed between African liberation movements and the socialist bloc were of particular interest, taking further themes explored in a collection of essays published by the organisers of the roundtable in 2019.

The round table started with an introduction of guests, background and idea of the book, followed by a presentation of glimpses of the book's individual chapters on transregional connections between for example South(ern) Africa, Lusophone Africa, and Hungary, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union. **Natalia Telepneva** and **Ulf Engel** gave critical comments each on concept, structure and set-up of the volume, relation to state of the art in respective field, connection to and comparison with other books, projects, and perspectives. Telepneva enriched the discussion with a Soviet Union History perspective, highlighting the role of actors from Africa, Asia, and Latin America in the Cold War, as well as the role of Eastern European states in the process of decolonization, looking at economic dependence, effects of socialist international-

ism, and anti-imperial influences by China, whilst Ulf Engel focused on the perspective of African studies. He pointed out the disciplinary breadth and geographic scope of the anthology, emphasizing the impact of networks that provide for reciprocal movement of people and ideas between the East and Africa, shedding new light on the Cold War entanglements of the two regions and thus able to challenge even mainstream narratives. Finally, he pleaded for further discussion of the tension between historical path dependencies and dynamics between East and South that are more recent.

Panel on »New Regionalisms in Eastern Europe«

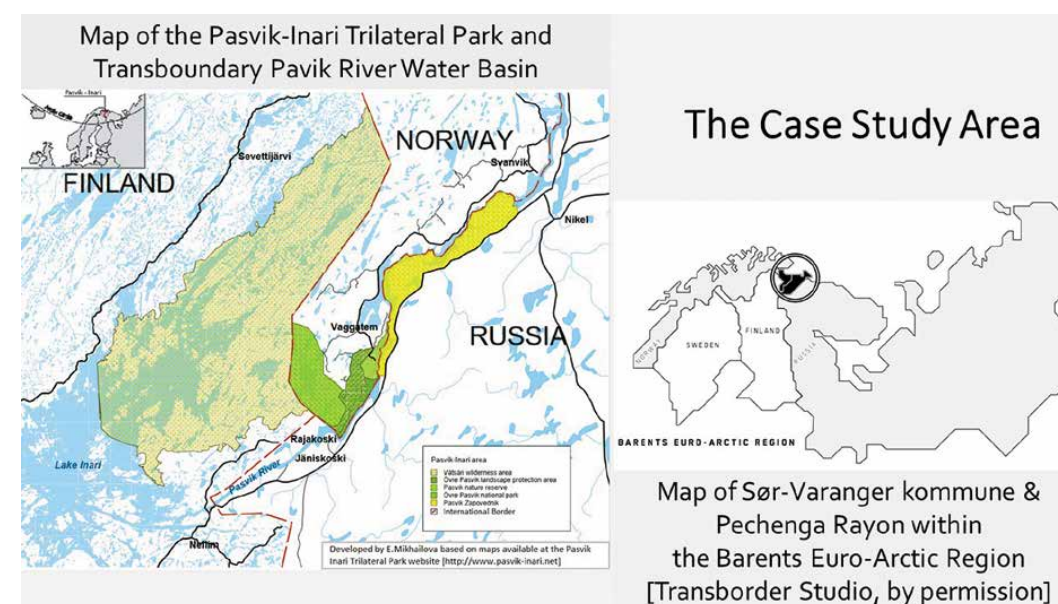
Under the heading »New Regionalisms in Eastern Europe«, EEGA hosted a panel at the BASEES Annual Conference, chaired by EEGA spokesperson **Sebastian Lentz**. The starting point was research concepts from the Leipzig Collaborative Research Center 1199 and the finding that processes of globalisation are often accompanied by attempts to create new or even novel spatial formats. The conceptual focus of the panel was on regions or the attempts to create regional constructs. The aim of the exchange between geographers and political scientists was to compare their empirical approaches and their concepts of regions in light of recent developments in Eastern Europe.

As all other panels of the Annual Conference, this one was also heavily influenced by discussions around Russia's war against Ukraine. Whereas the production of regions had previously been conceptually linked to considerations of new spatial orders, all panelists as well as visitors now posed the question of the reconfiguration of a world order.

The presentations included scales in a very wide range from the local to the global. From the perspective of political geography, **Ekaterina Mikhailova** (University of Geneva) showed how actors in cross-border town twinning between Russia and Norway had initially found a trusting working relationship and balance of interests, which, however, in recent weeks has again been increasingly overshadowed by central government controls on the part of Russia. **Corey Johnson** (University of North Carolina) asked about large-scale transformations from the perspective of Critical Geopolitics. He referred to the »splintering regionalisms« that are the result of energy infrastructure policies of recent decades in Eastern Europe. At the same time, he warned against interpreting such analyses in terms of inevitable consequences that would make the actions of political actors appear to be determined and predictable with certainty. He referred in particular to the anticipated reorienta-

tion of energy infrastructures both spatially and technically (the renewable energy sector) and of European integration, triggered by the war against Ukraine. **Margarita Balmaceda** (Seton Hall University) presented her research concept, which aims to gain better insight into the black box of national energy policies using a »follow the molecule« approach. She, too, pointed out the extent to which spatial relations and political multilateralism have already been altered by the Nordstream 1 and 2 pipelines, since supply contracts for gas and oil concluded at national level are usually very non-transparent (e.g. with regard to pricing) and include, among others, the prohibition to resell energy carriers internationally.

The subsequent discussion emphasized repeatedly how fruitful an interdisciplinary exchange of this kind is, so that, among other things, the joint publication of the presentations given was agreed upon.



The case study area of Ekaterina Mikhailova's research project on cross-border towns. Picture credits: Draft by E. Mikhailova based on maps available at the Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park website [http://www.pasvik-inari.net].

Panel Discussion »Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and African decolonization: new perspectives«

In the framework of this year's **VAD Conference »Africa-Europe: Reciprocal Perspectives«** from 7 to 10 June 2022 in Freiburg, Germany, the editorial team of »Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and Africa: New Perspectives on the Era of Decolonization, 1950s to 1990s« held a workshop for the advancement of the collective volume, to be published in winter 2022/23. The editorial workshop included the discussion of advanced chapters, a conversation about newly acquired contributions, and plans for the restructuring of the four book's parts. After intensive work on the introduction, next steps in the publication process were discussed. The intense work on the volume was rounded off with a **panel discussion on »Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and African decolonization: new perspectives«** the following day. The panel drew on new sources to explore some of the networks that were shaped through the movement of individuals and ideas from Africa to the »East« and from the »East« to Africa in the decades in which African countries moved to independence. **Jocelyn Alexander** (University of Oxford) presented her research on »Making armies in exile: ZAPU and the ANC in the 1960s« and **JoAnn McGregor** (University of Sussex) spoke about »Cultures of military training and encounters with difference: beyond stereotypes of Soviet vs Chinese influence in ZPRA/ZANLA conflict in the mid-1970s«. **Christopher Saunders** (University of Cape Town) finally offered new perspectives on »Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and West and Southern Africa«.



Co-organiser of the conference Hana Antal (GWZO) compares Austrian, Slovakian and Czech Populists. © EEGA

Workshop and Conference »Post-Imperial and Post-Socialist Legacies in Today's Populisms in Central and Eastern Europe«

The workshop »Post-Imperial and Post-Socialist Legacies in Today's Populisms in Eastern Europe« took place online on 14 December 2021 and was organised by the Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO) in cooperation with the Research Institute Social Cohesion (FGZ) and the EEGA through the contribution of the EEGA Research Area Coordinators **Katja Castryck-Naumann** (RA 4), **Frank Hadler** (RA 2) and **Alexander Yendell** (RA 5).

In the first session, **Zsuzsanna Végh** (European University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder), **Edit Zgut** (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw) and **Daniel Hegedüs** (German Marshall Fund of the United States, Berlin) spoke on »Populism, Euroscepticism and Foreign Policy in Eastern Europe«. In the second session, **Kostiantyn Yanchenko** (University of Hamburg) and **Artur Lipiński** (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań) discussed »Historical specifics of populism in Eastern Europe«. In **Kostiantyn Yanchenko's** case, the effect of EEGA's networking activities in recent years can be seen very directly. Yanchenko, who got to know the EEGA at a summer school, was now actively involved again with his contribution in the context of this workshop.

During the workshop it became clear that the topic deserves further attention because references to historical predecessors – who opposed to past foreign interference into the respective nations – can be observed



In her presentation, Valeria Korablyova (Charles University, Prague) points out similarities and differences between Ukraine and Russia in terms of imperial legacies, nationalism and populism. © EEGA



in the populisms in East-central Europe. The aim is to reconstruct national myths and identities that have emerged since the interwar period. However, this aspect tends to be under-researched in the scholarship. Consequently, in June 2022, numerous researchers gathered in Leipzig for a two-day conference to take a deeper and comprehensive look at »**Post-Imperial and Post-Socialist Legacies in Today's Populisms in Central and Eastern Europe**«. The first panel »Historical Narratives, Identities and Populism in Eastern and Central Europe« consisted of two parts. Part one featured **Andrzej Sadecki** (Charles University, Prague), **Pál Dunay** (George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, Garmisch-Partenkirchen) as well as **Jogilė Ulinskaitė**, **Monika Verbalytė**, **Rosita Garškaitė** (Vilnius University, Vilnius) and **Alexander Yendell** (FGZ) as commentator. Two of the lectures within the first session dealt with Hungary, one with Viktor Orbán's Hungary and the exploitation of the legacies of the Treaty of Trianon (Sadecki), and one with the experiences of Hungary's populist transition (Dunay). The third lecture discussed »Emotional Narratives of Post-communist Transformation« (Ulinskaitė, Verbalytė, Garškaitė) using the example of Lithuania.

In part two of the panel **Edit Zgut** (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw), **Hana Antal** (GWZO) and **Paolo Zucconi** (FGZ) presented their research projects with a

comment by **Juraj Marušiač** (Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava). The topics ranged from »Eurosceptic Populism in Hungary and Poland« (Zgut) over »A Comparison of the Austrian, Slovakian and Czech Populists« (Antal) to the »Complex Relationship between Historical Legacies and Populism« in the Czech Republic and Russia (Zucconi). From the three case studies it became clear that populism in the countries presented, although historically shaped in different ways, has commonalities in many aspects.

On the second conference day, **Matthew Blackburn** (University of Warsaw), **Victor Apyrshchenko** (Southern Federal University, Rostov-on-Don) and **Valeria Korablyova** (Charles University, Prague) talked about »Ukraine and Russia: Imperial Legacies, Nationalism and Populism«. The discussion illustrated that a concrete definition of terms, be it populism, hegemony or legacies, is indispensable.

Frank Hadler (GWZO) and **Gert Pickel** (Leipzig University) wrapped up the two days in a final discussion and described populism as a global but context based phenomenon. All contributions were characterised by transnationality, interdisciplinarity and a wide range of methodology. The participants agreed that history does not simply repeat itself, but also that not all phenomena are new. Rather, historical experiences help to better understand and contextualise current political situations.

Workshop »Between Trade and Aid: Theories, Practices and Results of Attempts of Exporting State-Socialist Development Models for the Third World«

On 30 June and 1 July 2022, the workshop »Between Trade and Aid: Theories, Practices and Results of Attempts of Exporting State-Socialist Development Models for the Third World«, jointly organised by SFB 1199, GWZO and EEGA, took place in Leipzig. The workshop looked at the interactions between East and South during the Cold War. The five panels *Theories of economic development*, *Development Practices in Sub-Saharan Africa*, *Infrastructure*, *Technology transfers*, and *Socialist Development policy from outside the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance* asked how actors change their thinking about East-South exchange over time and what impact this exchange has on their home countries. It was discussed whether business and trade practices change as a result of mutual exchange and to what extent the exchange of knowledge between the East and the South has changed the socialist development models in the respective regions.

Summer School: Writing workshop on publishing in scientific journals related to Eastern Europe

With the aim of supporting young researchers in publishing in academic journals and giving them confidence in the process, EEGA organised a writing workshop on publishing in academic journals related to Eastern Europe together with the Leipzig regional group of Junge DGO, the young academics' organisation within the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Osteuropakunde e.V. (German Society for Eastern European Studies). The event took place on 5 July 2022 in Leipzig. In the rooms of the Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO), 37 participants came together who are at the end of their Master's degree or in the doctoral phase.

→

Workshop leader Manfred Sapper (OSTEUROPA) explains what to pay special attention to when writing articles for academic journals.
© EEGA



In the first (hybrid) part of the workshop, Editor-in-Chief **Sabine Rutar** (COMPSEES) and **Manfred Sapper** (OSTEUROPA), moderated by **Anne Kluger** (Junge DGO), introduced the journals they supervise and, based on their work, explained the various stages of a publication process – from the preparation and submission of a text to its peer review and editorial work on it to publication. In the following Q&A, the participants were interested in »typical mistakes« in submitted texts, the work processes, and responsibilities within the journal editorial offices, and how to deal with »fake« articles.



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Sabine Rutar (COMPSEES – on the right) and Manfred Sapper (OSTEUROPA – in the middle) explain the characteristics and special features of their respective journals © EEGA.



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Joint work on sample texts.
© EEGA

After this introduction, the participants divided into two practical workshops according to their preference. Under the leadership of **Manfred Sapper** (OSTEUROPA), a group worked intensively on the compilation of criteria that make up a good text and that should increase the chances of young scientists being able to publish their own contributions in renowned journals. The participants gained insights into editorial processes and discussed standards and examples of successful texts together with the workshop leader, whereby good readability, innovation and relevance, among other things, were seen as central characteristics. The second practical workshop was conducted by **Sabine Rutar** (COMPSEES), **Carna Brkovic** (PoLAR), **Ivana Dinić** (COMPSEES), and **Hendrik Geiling** (COMPSEES). Guided by them, the participants were given different insights behind the scenes of editorial operations. In addition, the different stages of

the publication process were methodically illustrated in a variety of ways.

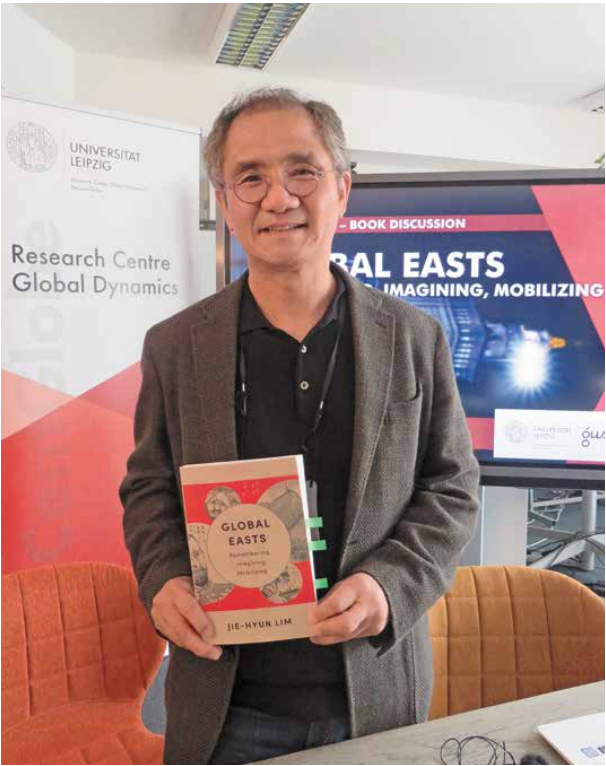
The workshop day ended with a roundtable discussion on »Perspectives on publishing in scientific journals«. It drew on the experiences of the participants in their previous scientific work and the impressions of the day and brought together the perspectives of publishers, editors and authors. Moderated by **Elisa Satjukow** (Junge DGO), **Sabine Rutar**, **Manfred Sapper**, **Carna Brkovic** and **Paula Seidel** (Centre Marc Bloch) discussed what added value, but also what limits are associated with publishing in area-based journals (compared to discipline-based journals). The second topic of the panel discussion was the review process. Particular emphasis was placed on the agility of the classic editorial process on the one hand and the lengthier, but possibly more quality-assuring variant of the peer review process on the other.

»Global Easts – Remembering, Imagining, Mobilizing«
– Book Discussion

The Book Discussion on 14 July 2022 in Leipzig organised by EEGA, the Research Centre Global Dynamics (ReCentGlobe) of Leipzig University and the GWZO, featured South Korean historian **Jie-Hyun Lim**’s book »**Global Easts – Remembering, Imagining, Mobilizing**«.

The book explores the intertwined eastern territories to re-examine global history from the margins. By examining the politics of history and memory, Lim reveals the commonalities between Eastern Europe and East Asia.

In the discussion, he showed similarities in their experiences of modernity, in their transition from dictatorship to democracy, and in the shaping of collective memory. Using examples from Poland, Germany, Israel, Japan and Korea, the book traces the global history in which notions of victimhood became a central element of nationalism. In discussion with EEGA’s Research Area Coordinators **Katja Castryck-Naumann** (RA 4) and **Frank Hadler** (RA 2) Lim argued that nationalism is inherently transnational and critiques how the nationalist imagination of the Global East has influenced countries across borders.



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Jie-Hyun Lim presents his new book.
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Research Forum at the XXIII International Congress
of Historical Sciences Poznań 2020/2022

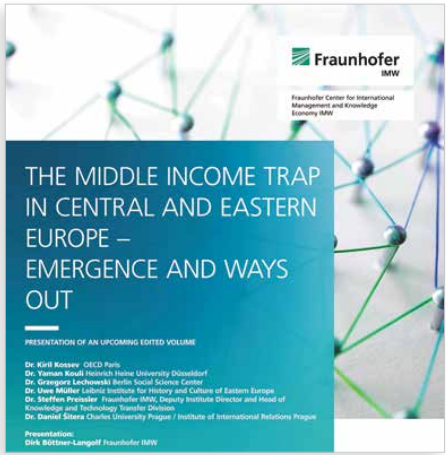
EEGA’s participation at the **Research Forum** at the 23rd **Congress of Historical Sciences in Poznań** was a great opportunity to present its research variety to an audience of established scholars and highly-qualified early career researchers, especially from Eastern Europe and Poland. Leipzig, the city of EEGA’s headquarters, could represent

itself as the city of Global History it is, particularly with the ResearchCentre Global Dynamics (ReCentGlobe) of Leipzig University and the Leibniz ScienceCampus EEGA. Between panels and events, the approx. 400 present participants of the congress could walk by the Leipzig booth, which was located in the city’s castle called »Zamek« next to publishers, Polish universities and international history associations. Participants could take a look at a presentation of selected events and at books published by the participating institutions. For personal contact EEGA’s spokesperson **Matthias Middell** as well as the Research Area Coordinators **Katja Castryck-Naumann** (RA 4) and **Frank Hadler** (RA 2) came by to answer questions from the interested scholars, who were really keen on the comparative, interdisciplinary and transregional approach EEGA takes on investigating Eastern Europe as a research area that is always in motion.



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The joint information booth of EEGA, ReCentGlobe, GWZO, NOGWHISTO, and ENIUGH with the representatives of the institutions: Frank Hadler (on the screen), Katja Castryck-Naumann (in the middle), and Matthias Middell.
© Emma Hughes/Miriam Meinekat

06 EEGA Colloquium – A Forum for Global, Transregional and Eastern European Studies



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Detail of the event poster
© Fraunhofer IMW

EEGA organises a colloquium for researchers, students and interested guests involved in the fields of Global, Trans-regional and Eastern European Studies, and neighbouring disciplines. The colloquium serves as a hub and melting pot for research in Leipzig – Halle – Jena, crossing borders and strengthening the network between the various academic and research institutions in the region. Here, researchers from EEGA’s partners, EEGA’s own Research Areas and holders of the EEGA Fellowship enjoy the limelight of an expert forum to present and discuss activities, projects, strategies and plans.

The colloquium incorporates events at EEGA’s partner institutions, thus offering a stage with a broader audience and building up momentum for development and outreach within an overarching framework.

Numerous events took place both in the winter semester 2021/2022 and in the summer semester 2022.

Book presentation: »The middle income trap in Central and Eastern Europe – emergence and ways out«

In the past 30 years, Central and Eastern Europe have demonstrated impressive economic growth. Differences among the new member states of the European Union do persist, yet these countries were able to significantly increase their GDP and productivity. This process has led said countries into a middle-income trap: they have become too expensive to attract foreign investments via low prices. At the same time, they have not yet become innovative enough to justify high prices for their products. The repercussions of this phenomenon are still unclear, and understanding this theme might be key for future economic policies of these countries. In theory, countries should attempt to continue attracting foreign investors through low prices and production costs and focus on innovativeness and quality – yet doing both at the same time is far from easy. This is a crucial topic for understanding Central and Eastern Europe and its current challenges. For that reason, Berghahn Books agreed to include this edited volume of »The Middle-Income Trap in Central and Eastern Europe – Emergence and Ways out« in their programme.

Edited by **Yaman Kouli** (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf) and **Uwe Müller** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe), this work addresses the question of possible consequences of the middle-income trap. Both editors and three contributors presented the main topics of the book in the Kupfersaal Lounge in Leipzig on October 26, 2021. After introductory speeches by **Lena Dallywater** (EEGA/IfL) and **Steffen Preissler** (Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy IMW), **Uwe Müller** explained the process of creating the book. **Yaman Kouli** took the opportunity to shed light on the general idea of the middle-income trap. He clarified that the current democratic backlash in some countries (such as Poland or Hungary) might be interlinked with the repercussions of the middle-income trap. The three contributors gave an overview of the main topics of the book. **Kiril Kossev** (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development OECD, Paris) argued that the catch-up process in CEE has come

to an end, and that economic policies need to shift towards a more inclusive growth model founded in innovations.

Grzegorz Lechowski (Berlin Social Science Center) dedicated his presentation to the software industry in Poland as an example for a promising, innovative industry. **Daniel Šitera** (Charles University Prague) discussed the »Developmentalist illusion« and the obstacles that have come up since the 2010s. The subsequent discussion was moderated by **Dirk Langolf** (Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy IMW).

The event took place with the support of EEGA, GWZO, and the Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy.

Round Table Discussion »Navigating Eastern Europe’s Transregional Histories«

In cooperation with GWZO and De Gruyter publishers, Berlin, EEGA organised a round table discussion on the two edited volumes »**Navigating Socialist Encounters. Moorings and (Dis)Entanglements between Africa and East Germany during the Cold War**« (2021, De Gruyter), and »**Transregional Connections in the History of East-Central Europe**« (2021, De Gruyter) as a hybrid event at the GWZO in Leipzig on 18 November, 2021.



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The participants of the round table discussion
»Navigating Eastern Europe’s Transregional Histories«
© EEGA

The panel included: **Katja Castryck-Naumann** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig), **Immanuel R. Harisch** (University of Vienna), **Anne-Kristin Hartmetz** (Humboldt University Berlin), **Uwe Müller** (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig), and **Anne Dietrich** (Leipzig University) as well as guests **Eric Burton** (University of Innsbruck) and **Marcia C. Schenck** (University of Potsdam).

After a warm welcome by moderator **Lena Dallywater** (EEGA/IfL), Katja Castryck-Naumann and Immanuel R. Harisch introduced the main topics and aims of the two edited volumes. »Transregional Connections in the History of East-Central Europe« explores a transregional connectivity by showing how people from Eastern and Central Europe positioned themselves within global processes and in turn helped shape them. Katja Castryck-Naumann enumerated the different fields of action, such as economy, arts, international regulations and law, development aid, and migration to which the contributions refer in the period from the mid-19th century to the end of the Cold War. The volume uncovers spaces of interaction and illustrates that internal and external entanglements established East-Central Europe as a distinct region. Understanding the connectedness of this subregion is stimulating both for the historiography of East-Central Europe and for the field of global history.

Immanuel R. Harisch emphasised that »Navigating Socialist Encounters. Moorings and (Dis)Entanglements between Africa and East Germany during the Cold War« examines entanglements and disentanglements between Africa and East Germany during and after the Cold War from a global history perspective. It expands the view beyond political elites, it asks for the negotiated and plural character of socialism in these encounters, shedding light on migration, media, development, and solidarity through personal and institutional agency. With its distinctive focus on moorings and unmoorings, the volume shows how the encounters, albeit often brief, significantly influenced both African and East German histories.

The commentator, **Jan Koura** (Charles University Prague) praised the currency and relevance of the topics in both books, but also shared his critical thoughts. Koura

→ Immanuel R. Harisch (University of Vienna), one of the editors of »Navigating Socialist Encounters. Moorings and (Dis)Entanglements between Africa and East Germany during the Cold War«. © EEGA



→ Commentator Jan Koura (CWRG, Charles University) © EEGA



suggested changes in perspective, methodology and an extended bibliography. Against this background, a lively discussion arose about cooperation with academia from African countries, chosen methodological approaches and the delimitation of the Global Area of Eastern Europe.

Anna Fortunova and Stefan Keym: Eastern European Emigrants and the Internationalisation of 20th-Century Music Concepts

Stefan Keym (Leipzig University) and **Anna Fortunova** (Leipzig University/Hannover) presented their book »Eastern European Emigrants and the Internationalisation of 20th-Century Music Concepts« (forthcoming in 2022). The edited volume arose from the conference of the same name, supported by EEGA, in January 2020.

The topic of this collection of papers is the relationship between emigration and the global transfer of ideas. It focuses on the role and the impact of composers and other artists who emigrated from Russia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia and Czech Republic to France, Germany, England and the United States, as protagonists of the internationalisation of artistic concepts and the rise of new global trends of culture.

The history of music in the 20th Century is particularly characterized by the global transfer and exchange of artistic concepts, models and techniques. An important catalyst for these processes of cultural transfer was the phenomenon of emigration (often politically caused, involuntary emigration of artists persecuted by totalitarian regimes). The global spread of Arnold Schönberg's compositional method of dodecaphony or of Heinrich Schenker's new system of analysis were mainly a result of the emigration of these musicians and/or their disciples to the USA in the 1930s.

Many musicians and scholars from Eastern Europe also emigrated to other (mainly Western) countries, beginning with and even before the Russian October Revolution and again during and after Second World War. These émigrés also brought their artistic and cultural heritage to their temporary or long-term hosts. As a result, their music concepts interacted with local traditions and thus contributed to the internationalization and global melting of ideas and artistic concepts.

The aim of this conference is to reinvestigate the paths of Eastern European émigré composers and other artists and scientists by examining the productivity of their interactions with host cultures and the internationalization of artistic concepts and the rise of new global trends in music and the other arts.

The conference is bringing together seventeen musicologists and other researchers from seven countries in order to rethink the relationship between the emigration of artists and scientists from Eastern Europe and the globalization of ideas.

Conception and Organisation:
Anna Fortunova, PhD (Leipzig University)
Prof. Stefan Keym, PhD (Leipzig University)

Location:
Institute of Musicology
Leipzig University
Neumarkt 9-19, Staircase E, Lecture Hall 302

Contact:
anna.fortunova@uni-leipzig.de

**Supported by Leibniz ScienceCampus
Eastern Europe Global Area (EEGA)**

Abb.: Russische Gedächtniskirche Leipzig, Foto: Dirk Goldhahn,
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5d/Leipzig_Russische_Gedachtniskirche.jpg

International
Conference
29–31 January 2020

**Eastern European Emigrants
and the Internationalisation of 20th-
Century Music Concepts**



Folder of the conference »Eastern European Emigrants and the Internationalisation of 20th Century Music Concepts« in January 2020.

The history of music in the 20th Century is characterised by global transfers and exchange of artistic concepts, models and techniques. An important catalyst for these transfer processes was the phenomenon of emigration (often involuntary, such as by artists persecuted by totalitarian regimes). Many musicians and scholars from Eastern Europe emigrated to other (mainly Western)

countries, especially around the time of the October Revolution and as a result of the Second World War. They also brought their artistic and cultural heritage to their temporary or long-term host countries, where their concepts came into interaction with local traditions and thus contributed to the internationalisation and global fusion of ideas.

Sven Jaros: ›Science and History, your two advisers.‹ Role and ambivalences of scholarly expertise within state formation

Affiliate Researcher **Sven Jaros** (MLU Halle-Wittenberg) presented his new project on Eastern Europe in the 19th and early 20th centuries moderated by Research Area Co-ordinator **Yvonne Kleinmann** (MLU Halle-Wittenberg). The Paris Peace Conference was a decisive moment for the renegotiation of the political world map, especially for (South) Eastern and Central Europe, where the collapse of the former continental empires created a »Ground Zero« for a new international order (Wheatley). Based on concepts like »New Diplomacy« and »National Self-Determination«, just and lasting borders were supposed to be found between the new nation states that emerged out of these old empires. This goal was to be achieved by applying a hitherto unprecedented amount of scholarly expertise during the peace negotiations. Most modern studies address this relation between schol-

arly expertise and political decision making within a national framework. Furthermore, their main period of focus commences no earlier than the outbreak of World War I and they therefore fail to address the longer dynamics leading towards this »Paris mindset«. Moreover, these studies tend to concentrate on the relationship between politics and academia while largely neglecting the role of the public. In his research project, Jaros thus aims for a transnational approach which acknowledges the dynamics between the spheres of academia, politics, and the public from the 19th century onwards. All three spheres underwent profound consolidation and institutionalisation in this period and thus cannot be separated sharply. Within this framework, his focus rests on scholars within the Diaspora communities from Eastern Europe, primarily from the Russian Empire. He will investigate how they tried to shape public opinion for their causes (»at home« and »abroad«) and how this affected the way in which the future political prospects they worked for were adapted by »western« politicians.



Sven Jaros shows a map of Central and Eastern Europe around 1815. Picture Credits: EEGA, for the content: Sven Jaros

EEGA Fellows on their research topics

Ekaterina Mikhailova, invited visiting researcher at the Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz, Germany, and a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Geography and Environment, University of Geneva, Switzerland, gave a talk on »Withstanding the Strain? Border Cities in a Comparative Perspective«.

Lea Horvat, teaching associate at the History department of Leipzig University, currently works on a joint project with the title »A Taste of Caffeinated Emancipation: Coffee, Cafés, and Gender in the Habsburg Monarchy (1815–1918)«.

Natalia Martini, research assistant at the Institute of Sociology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland, presented her research project topic »Daily Im/Mobilities of Homeless Urbanites in Poland. Methodological Remarks«.

Gergely Rosta, associate professor in sociology at the Pázmány Péter Catholic University in Budapest, gave a lecture on »Rechtspopulismus und Religion in Ungarn (Right-wing populism and religion in Hungary)«.

Other guests and topics in the colloquium included:

- Kasia Narkowicz & Lela Rekviashvili: Conjunctural Geographies of Postsocialist and Postcolonial Conditions
- Anna Hajdu: Imprints of an insecure institutional environment on perceptions of social responsibility of large farms in Romania
- Book launch: The Balkan Route: Historical Transformations from Via Militaris to Autoput
- Bettina Bruns: Big politics and local patriotism. German »Heimatschutz« and Polish Territorial Defence as everyday geopolitical security agents
- Dorottya Víg & Madeleine Hartmann: Rule of Law in East-Central Europe

07 PhD and Postdoc Fellows

In 2021 EEGA welcomed two new PhD Fellows at Leipzig University (both for three years).

→
Karina Khasnulina
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› **Karina Khasnulina** is working on the transnational interactions in the field of industrial and urban construction in China under the supervision of EEGA Research Area Coordinator **Steffi Marung** and **Elisabeth Kaske**. She earned a MA degree in Oriental Studies at the Novosibirsk State University (Russia). She also studied and conducted research at the European University at Saint-Petersburg (Russia) and Nanjing University (China). Karina took part in several Oral History projects led by the Center of Contemporary China studies (Nanjing). In addition, Karina initiates and develops free public education related to the modern Chinese history. Her research interests lie in entanglement and globalization, history of the Cold War and Sino-Soviet relations, China’s modernization debates, urban history and architecture, global and transnational history.

→
Milan Procyk
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› The working title of Milan Procyk’s PhD project is »A socialist intelligence community? Transnational China expertise in Eastern Europe« on which he is working under the supervision of **Steffi Marung**. After getting a BA degree in Social Sciences at the University of Göttingen, he earned a MA degree in »European Studies – Eastern Europe Global Area« at Leipzig University.

The Leibniz ScienceCampus EEGA supports researchers from within and outside the science region Leipzig – Halle – Jena. In the reporting year five PostDocs received an EEGA fellowship (between 1 week and 3 months) and stayed at one of our partner institutions.



→
Ekaterina Mikhailova
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- › **Ekaterina Mikhailova** (Research Area 1): one week stay at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography; research project: Withstanding the Strain? Cities along Russian Borders in a Comparative Perspective.

→
Agnes Gagyi
© private



- › **Agnes Gagyi** (Research Area 2): one month stay at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography; research project: Chinese investments and 'Peripheral Debt' in Eastern Europe as part of the complex interlinkages of the contemporary global transformation.

→
Natalia Martini
© private



- › **Natalia Martini** (Research Area 1): three months stay at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg; research project: Practice Theories, Mobilities and the Urban Multiple.

→
Lea Horvat
© private



- › **Lea Horvat** (Research Area 2): three months stay at Leipzig University; research project: Balkan Route(s). A History of Crossing, Leaving and Staying (in) the European Periphery.

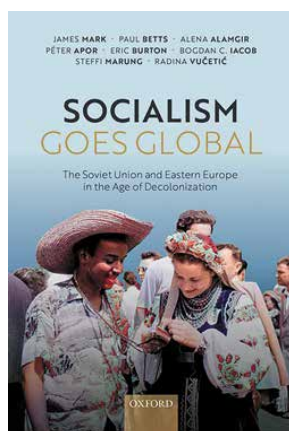
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Gergely Rosta
© private



- › **Gergely Rosta** (Research Area 5): two weeks stay at Leipzig University; research project: Right-wing populism and religion in Hungary.

08 Publications

In the following a selection of the latest EEGA-related publications from EEGA partner institutions, EEGA Fellows and Affiliates are presented.



EEGA Scientific Advisory Board member **James Mark** together with **Paul Betts** co-ordinated the publication of the collectively researched and written monograph »**Socialism Goes Global. The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in the Age of Decolonisation**« (Oxford University Press, 2022). The book provides a

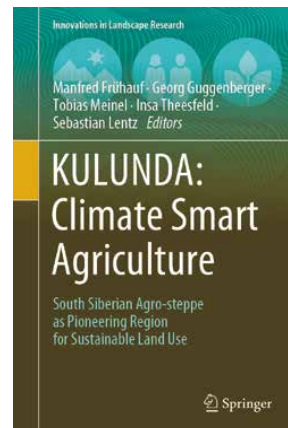
wide-ranging overview of the relationship between Eastern Europe and non-European world in the 20th century. It offers an alternative history of the Cold War and non-capitalist globalisation and provides a new interpretation of the link between international socialism and decolonisation.

Former EEGA fellow **Constantin Katsakioris** published the article »**The Socialist Countries, North Africa and the Middle East in the Cold War: The Educational Connection**« (Cambridge University Press, journal »Contemporary European History«, 30(4), 597–612.) His study revisits the Eastern Bloc's educational assistance provided to North Africa and the Middle East during the Cold War and highlights the political and economic premises and interests and policies at play.

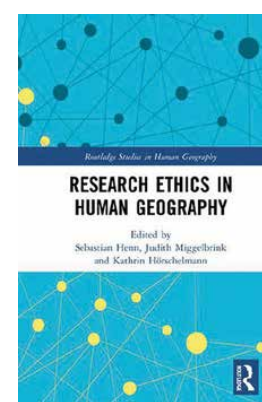
Gert Pickel, Coordinator of EEGA's Research Area 5, together with **Susanne Pickel** edited the textbook »**Demokratie**« (Kohlhammer, 2022). Looking at the media, one gets the impression that democracy is the only legitimate form of government. At the same time, there are many analyses that attest to



a crisis of democracy or even predict its decline – among other things, there is talk of post-democracies or façade democracies. In this respect, fundamental questions arise for politically interested contemporaries, which the textbook answers: What actually characterises a democracy? What forms can democracy take? How can it be distinguished from other systems of rule and what are the intermediate forms? How can democracy and its quality be measured? And what do citizens actually think about democracy?



EEGA's spokesperson **Sebastian Lentz** is one of the editors and authors of the volume »**KULUNDA: Climate Smart Agriculture. South Siberian Agro-steppe as Pioneering Region for Sustainable Land Use**« (Springer, 2020). The book, which is part of the book series *Innovations in Landscape Research (ILR)*, focuses on climate adaptation and land-use methods. It offers tested key solutions for sustainable agriculture in dryland areas of Russia and Kazakhstan and provides a transdisciplinary approach to the under-researched area of steppe conversions



The volume »**Research Ethics in Human Geography**« (Routledge, 2021) explores common ethical issues faced by human geographers in their research. It offers practical guidance for research planning and design that incorporates geographic disciplinary knowledge to conceptualise research ethics. The book, edited by **Sebastian Henn** (coordinator of Research Area 3), **Judith Miggelbrink** and **Kathrin Hörschelmann**, brings together international insights from researchers in geography and related fields to provide a comprehensive overview of relevant ethical frameworks and challenges in human geography research.

Studying Delhi's radio taxi industry, the paper »**Before the Gig Economy. Tracing the Transformations in Delhi's Taxi Industry**« (Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 57, Issue No. 12, 19 Mar, 2022) by former EEGA fellow **Mithilesh Kumar** traces the transitional process of traditional taxi services in the capital to radio taxi services and finally to the current app-based taxi aggregators. The radio taxi companies ruptured old kinship ties and informal relations with a combination of technology, surveillance, and finance – a process app-based taxi aggregators have further refined. There is also an account of the labour struggles in the industry that preceded the advent of the platform economy.



Matthias Middell, spokesperson of EEGA, edited the book »**Verräumlichungsprozesse unter Globalisierungsbedingungen I**« (Leipziger Universitätsverlag, 2021). The Leipzig Collaborative Research Centre 1199 is working on a theory of processes of re-localisation under the conditions of changing globalisation. This goes hand in hand with the transformation of territorial states in the course of nationalisation and colonisation, later also decolonisation, it leads to cultural interconnections and value chains across borders and stimulates the formation of political enclaves and special economic zones. The variety of re-localisations is considerable. They are all adaptations to the challenges that flows of people, goods, capital and ideas as well as the fluidity of viruses pose to established orders. This volume presents important results of the research achieved by the SFB in its first phase of work and in this way allows a glimpse into the interdisciplinary workshop of a large-scale network that is investigating historical developments from the later 18th to the early 21st century in the Americas as well as in various parts of Africa, Asia and Europe.

EEGA closely co-operates with the e-journal *Connections* (<http://www.connections.clio-online.net/>). Here, EEGA has its own column »EEGA in dialogue«, publishing news, calls for applications and for papers, and events. It also serves as a platform for EEGA members, guest researchers, and Postdoc Fellows to publish their project outlines and first findings. Articles and reviews published by EEGA's Fellows since September 2021:

- **Dontsow, Alexander:** review on **Shaping the Future of Power. Knowledge Production and Network-Building in China-Africa Relations.** (by Lina Benabdallah)
- **Ilovan, Oana-Ramona:** review on **Socialist and Post-Socialist Urbanisms. Critical Reflections from a Global Perspective** (by Douglas Young and Lisa B. Welch Drummond -eds.)
- **Petrushkevich, Alena N.:** **Foreign Direct Investment in the EAEU: Asymmetric Participation in the Globalized Economy**

For further publications of EEGA and our EEGA fellows, please have a look at our **Open Access Library** (<https://www.leibniz-eege.de/open-access/>).

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