



WORCK Newsletter N° 5

Aalborg/Vienna, 1 September 2020

Dear members of the COST Action WORCK,
dear colleagues interested in the study of labour and coercion,

a few days ago, the Hungarian government has announced to close its national borders due to the rising numbers of new infections. Therefore, our **1st WORCK Conference** on “Reconceptualising Wage Labour From a Long-Term and Transregional Perspective” needs to be transformed into an **online conference (via Zoom)**. Attached to this newsletter, please find the new programme for the event.

To **access the conference sessions**, just click on the links in the PDF file. Please note that this programme is for your personal use only. Colleagues who are no WORCK members yet and don't receive this newsletter, may register for the conference by sending an email to christian.devito@gmail.com. They will then receive the conference flyer with all session links via email.

Besides the conference sessions and round table discussions, we also arranged virtual lunch breaks in separate **breakout rooms**. If you would like to talk individually to one of the speakers or just chat with some other conference participants in a smaller, more informal setting, just follow the link to the breakout room and meet your colleagues and friends there.

In case of technical problems, please don't hesitate to contact the IT services of the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, Hungary, for **technical support**. Their hotline is +36 1327 3000 / 6000. The number is active on weekdays between 8am and 9pm, and on weekends between 1pm and 6pm.

While the WORCK Conference on “Reconceptualising Wage Labour” represents the first conceptual milestone of our 4-year COST Action, the four methodological working groups have been very active over the last couple of months.

Working Group 1 is preparing a special issue with the “Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften/Austrian Journal of Historical Studies” (OeZG) on “Semantics of Coercion”. **Working Group 2** collects essays on specific sites of coercion. **Working Group 3** is working on a proposal for a collected volume on “The Political Economy of Labour (Im)Mobilisations” and **Working Group 4** is planning a special issue on “Intersectional Approaches to Coerced Labour”.

The next **working group meetings** to discuss these projects will all take place online:

- 8 September 2020, 2-3pm (UTC+2): WG 4 Proposal Workshop for Special Issue Publication (contact: Hanne Østhus)
- 24 September 2020, 2-5pm (UTC+2): WG 2 Meeting (contact: Christian De Vito)
- 29 September 2020, 3-5pm (UTC+2): WG 1 Proposal Workshop for Special Issue Publication (contact: Claude Chevalyere)



Also, the **Think Tank** and the **Public Outreach** Group will meet on 8 October, 3:30–5pm to discuss the future setup of the WORCK Blog (contact: Viola Müller).

Hopefully, we will soon be able to meet in person again. WG 1 is planning a “real” meeting in Vienna for 23-24 October 2020. Others think of editorial meetings for the preparation of the WG publications.

If you would like to organise an activity related to labour and coercion at your home institution or apply for one of the WORCK grant, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us.

WORCK finances **conference grants** for PhD students and Early Career Investigators located in an “Inclusiveness Target Country”. If you would like to apply, please follow the instructions on our website: <https://www.worck.eu/activities/itc-grant/> and contact the ITC Conference Grant Manager Jakub Stofaník (itc-cg@worck.eu).

WORCK offers **mobility and collaboration grants**, both to support the individual mobility of young researchers and to foster collaboration between active WORCK members. If you would like to apply, please follow the instructions on our website: <https://www.worck.eu/activities/stsm/> and contact the STSM Coordinator Clara Almagro-Vidal (stsm@worck.eu).

Finally, we would like to draw your attention to a number of calls related to our endeavour at WORCK:

- Martin Andersson and Carolina Uppenberglund (Lund University) are planning a session on “New Theoretical Approaches to Pre-Industrial Rural Household Labour” at the next **European Rural History Conference**, taking place on 23-26 August 2021 in Uppsala, Sweden (<https://www.ruralhistory2021.se>).
- The European Labour History Network is preparing its fourth **ELHN Conference**, taking place in cooperation with WORCK from 30 August to 1 September 2021 in Vienna, Austria. The ELHN Working Groups have now published their **Call for Sessions** (<https://www.worck.eu/conference-2-2021-vienna/>). The deadline for ELHN session proposals is 1 October 2020.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our virtual conference in September.

Stay safe and take care!

Johan Heinsen and Juliane Schiel

Attachment:

- Programme of the WORCK Conference “Reconceptualising Wage Labour” (16–19 September 2020)
- WG 1 Proposal for OeZG Special Issue