

International Conference

Revisiting the First Socialisms: Histories, Debates, and Contemporary Resonances

Nouveaux regards sur les premiers socialismes : histoires, débats et résonances contemporaines

Conveners: Anne Kwaschik (University of Konstanz);
Michel Lallement (CNAM, Lise-CNRS, Paris)

Venue: Bischofsvilla, University of Konstanz, Otto-Adam-Straße 5, 78467 Konstanz

Date: 2–4 April 2026

Thursday, 2 April 2026

14:00–14:30 Anne Kwaschik (Konstanz) / Michel Lallement (Paris): Welcome and Opening Remarks

Panel 1 – Conceptual Approaches to the First Socialisms

Chair: Michel Lallement (Paris)

14:30–15:05 Thomas Bouchet (Dijon): La question de l'échec dans l'histoire et l'historiographie des premiers socialismes

15:05–15:40 Etienne Lamarche (Paris): Les vertus de la loi civilisée pour l'expérimentation sociale : variations fouriéristes autour de l'usage politique du droit

15:40–16:15 Anne Kwaschik (Konstanz): Colonialism and the First Socialisms. Entanglements and Tensions

Pam Pilbeam (London): Early Socialism Transformed (Pre-recorded presentation available)

16:15–16:35 Coffee Break

Panel 2 – Gender and Social Order

Chair: Anne Kwaschik (Konstanz)

16:35–17:10 Ophélie Siméon (Paris): Before the 'first wave'. Utopian Socialism and Early Feminist Networks (1800–1848)

17:10–17:45 Caroline Fayolle (Montpellier): Lectures féministes de l'utopie socialiste de l'Association (1830–1840)

17:45–18:20 Caroline Arni (Basel): The Nature and Politics of Maternity in Saint-Simonian Feminism

20:00 Conference Dinner

Friday, 3 April 2026

Panel 3 – Practical Socialisms: Range and Resonances

Chair: Christoph Streb (Paris)

Panel 3a – Community and Belief

09:30–10:05 Susanne Lachenicht (Bayreuth): Community and Communalism in 18th Century Evangelical Missions

10:05–10:40 Damien Rousselière (Rennes): Organizational Choices, Community Belief, and the Fate of Socialist Communes. A Quantitative Analysis of 19th Century American Intentional Communities

10:40–10:55 Break

Panel 3b – Work and Institutions

10:55–11:30 Michel Lallement (CNAM, Lise-CNRS, Paris): The Labor Exchange Movement in Practice. Lessons from Modern Times for the Modern Times

11:30–12:05 Nathalie Brémand (Poitiers/Paris): Les premiers socialistes français et le débat sur le travail en prison (1830–1852)

12:05–13:15 Lunch Buffet

Panel 4 – Semantics and Political Imaginaries

Chair: Ophélie Siméon (Paris)

13:15–13:50 Bruno Leipold (London): Politik und Sozialismus / La Politique et le Socialisme. Reflections on Karl Grün, Otto Lüning and George Sand

13:50–14:25 Ludovic Frobert (Lyon): Un socialisme avant le socialisme: à travers les carnets d'un tailleur lyonnais, Jean Claude Romand (1798–1867)

14:25–14:45 Coffee Break

Panel 5 – Eco-Utopian Horizons

Chair: Anne Kwaschik (Konstanz)

14:45–15:20 Gregory Claeys (London): Early Socialism and the Environmental Crisis

15:20–15:55 Milo Probst (Basel): « Faire du neuf avec de l'ancien ». Historiciser la pensée écologique des socialismes du XIXe siècle

From 16:00 Excursion & Informal Dinner

Saturday, 4 April 2026

09:30–10:30 Final Roundtable Discussion & Publication Project



le cnam

