

MOSEC

*Modernization by the State and its
Ecological Consequences in East-Central Europe*

Online Workshop, 5–6 May 2022

Centre for Economic and Social History, University of Ostrava, Czech Republic



Image: Fortepan.hu / N. Kósa Judit



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Operační program Výzkum, vývoj a vzdělávání



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MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY

Workshop Programme

(All times in Central European Time, CET)

5 May, THURSDAY

9.00–10.30 Welcome and Keynote Session

9.00–9.15 Welcome to sessions

Professor Aleš Zářický, Vice-Rector for Studies and Lifelong Learning & Director of the Centre for Economic and Social History

Michaela Závodná, Vice-Dean for Development & Deputy Director of the Centre for Economic and Social History welcome us all to Ostrava.

9.15–10.30 Opening Keynote

“Tensions of Environmental State Making” Dr Richard Hölzl, Lecturer in Modern History at the University of Göttingen, Germany

Summary

The keynote explores and questions the “environmental state” in its temporal scope and from its boundaries: Has it got a long history going back to the beginning of modern statehood, or is a recent phenomenon that developed during the “age of ecology” since the 1970s? How can it be defined and what are the principle characteristics: enclosure, extraction, conservation, preservation, sound management of human-nature-relations? Was it made from above, or from below? How “solid” are its boundaries, considering transboundary material flows, global circulation of species, the transfer and adaption of knowledge, green or ecological imperialism?

Bio

Richard Hölzl is a historian and lecturer at the Seminar for Medieval and Modern History, University of Göttingen. His research interests are situated in the fields of European environmental history, history of forests, the history of environmental movements and European colonial history. He published two books, *Umkämpfte Wälder. Die Geschichte einer ökologischen Reform in Deutschland, 1760–1860* (Frankfurt 2010) and *Gläubige Imperialisten. Katholische Mission in Deutschland und Ostafrika, 1830–1960* (Frankfurt). He co-edited the volume *Managing Northern Europe's Forests* (The Environment in History, Oxford/New York 2018) and published a number articles, among them: “Historicising Sustainability: German scientific forestry in the 18th and 19th centuries,” *Science as Culture* 19, 2010, 4, 430–60.

10.30–10.45 BREAK



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10.45–12.15 Session 1. Histories of Modernization and Industrialisation in East-Central Europe

- Bruno Raguž, University of Applied Sciences Baltazar, Croatia
The beginnings of industrialization in Sisak and impact on the environment—example: Sisak Refinery
- Ágnes Németh, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary
“The ecological consequences of the sewerage system’s reform in Budapest in the 2nd half of the 19th century”
- Anastasiia Khovtura , V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine
“The struggle for cleanliness: waste management in Kharkiv at the turn of the 19th - 20th centuries”
- Andrija Filipović, Faculty of Media and Communications in Belgrade, Serbia
“(Post)socialist meontopolitics: Sava river and the necroecological modernization of Belgrade”

12.15–13.00 LUNCH BREAK

13.00–14.30 Session 2. Industrialisation and Urbanization in East Central Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries

- Gábor Koloh, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary
“State measures, ecological changes and peasant farming in South Transdanubia (Hungary) in the 18th–19th centuries”
- Piotr Boroń and Jakub Grudniewski, University of Silesia, Poland
“The influence of the state policy on the development of industry in Upper Silesia on the example of the zinc smelter in Katowice-Szopienice (Wilhelminehütte) and the ecological consequences of the production of non-ferrous metals in the region”
- Marcin Szymański, Agata Zysiak, University of Lodz, Poland
“Modernization of Lodz industrial plants and the issues of environment and health and safety. Outline of the problem”
- Michaela Závodná, University of Ostrava
“Let them breathe—ecological aspects of urban transport in Ostrava region during 19th and 20th century”

14.30–14.45 BREAK



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14.45–15.45 Roundtable Session

“Modernization by the State and its Ecological Consequences in East-Central Europe”

Summary

During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries urbanization and industrialization altered the environment dramatically in East-Central Europe, and much of this change was instigated, facilitated and coordinated by the state while being interconnected with agents of capitalism and science. This roundtable session invites leading environmental-, economic-, and technological historians to discuss the complex interconnectedness of state-intervention, capitalism and anthropogenic environmental change in the East-Central European context.

Panelists

Josef Djordjevski, University of Graz, Austria

Jiří Janáč, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czechia

Sławomir Łotysz, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

Péter Szabó, Institute of Botany, Czech Academy of Science, Brno, Czechia

Michaela Závodná, University of Ostrava, Czechia

Moderator: Viktor Pál, University of Ostrava, Czechia

15.45–16.00 BREAK

16.00 –17.00 Book Presentation Session

Ştefan Dorondel, Stelu Şerban eds. *A New Ecological Order. Development and the Transformation of Nature in Eastern Europe* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022).

Summary

The rise of industrial capitalism in the nineteenth century forged a new ecological order in North American and Western European states, radically transforming the environment through science and technology in the name of human progress. Far less known are the dramatic environmental changes experienced by Eastern Europe, in many ways a terra incognita for environmental historians and anthropologists. *A New Ecological Order* explores, from a historical and ethnographic perspective, the role of state planners, bureaucrats, and experts—engineers, agricultural engineers, geographers, biologists, foresters, and architects—as agents of change in the natural world of Eastern Europe from 1870 to the early twenty-first century. Link to publication: <https://upittpress.org/books/9780822947172/>

Panelists

Abran Agota, New Europe College, Romania

Eunice Blavascunas, Whitman College, USA

Ştefan Dorondel, Romanian Academy, Romania

Anna Olenenko, Khortytsia National Academy, Ukraine

Flora Roberts, University of Cardiff, Wales



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6 May, FRIDAY

9.00–9.45 COST Actions Planning Session

Summary

COST funds interdisciplinary research networks called COST Actions. These Actions bring together researchers, innovators and other professionals including industry specialists, who are based in Europe and beyond, to collaborate on research topics for a period of 4 years. Funding for COST Actions covers the expenses of networking activities and as such is used to organize meetings, training schools, short term scientific missions, and other networking activities. During this planning session conveners invite potential COST Actions participants to work toward a joint application with a deadline in October 2022.

Conveners:

Michaela Závodná, University of Ostrava, Czechia

Viktor Pál, University of Ostrava, Czechia

9.45–10.00 BREAK

10.00–11.30 Session 3. Industrialisation and Urbanization in Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries

- Iaroslav Golubinov, Samara National Research University, Russian Federation
“War debris: the problem of creation and utilization of military waste on the Eastern Front 1914-1918”
- Elena Kochetkova, HSE University, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
Socialist quest for no-waste economy and wood consumption, 1950s–80s
- Ľudovít Hallon, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia
“Attempts to overcome the effects of socialist industrialization on nature and the landscape in Slovakia in the period of ‘political normalization’ in the 70s and 80s of the 20th century”

11.30–12.15 BREAK



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12.15–13.45 Session 4. Environmental Legacies of Socialism and Post-socialism

- Marta Rendla and Janja Sedlaček, Institute of Contemporary History, Slovenia
Industrialization and Urbanization in the Slovenian part of Socialist Yugoslavia and Their Impact on the Environment
- Ferenc Jankó, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary
“Political ecology of environmental conflicts in Hungary: from socialism to the present”
- Weronika Parfianowicz, University of Warsaw, Poland
“Central European heralds of ecosocialism”

13.45–14.00 BREAK

14.00–15.30 Session 5. Resource Extraction and the Environment since the 18th century

- Oleksii Kompaniets, Bohdan Khmelnytsky National University of Cherkasy, Ukraine
“Forest Harvesting as a Factor of Increasing in the Frequency of Floods: the Case of Galicia and Bukovina From the Period of the Austrian and Austro-Hungarian Empire (1772–1918)”
- Róbert Balogh, University of Public Service, Hungary
“The Role of Forest Laws in the Transition to Profit-oriented Agriculture as State Project in the Kingdom of Hungary, 1849–1918”
- Viktor Pál, University of Ostrava
“Nationalist Modernization and Ecological Crisis in the Habsburg Empire during the Nineteenth Century”
- Steven Jobbitt, Lakehead University, Canada
“Interwar Assessments of Hungary’s Modernization Project: Hydrological Science and the Question of Water Management, 1920–1938”

END OF WORKSHOP

The Modernization by the State and its Ecological Consequences in East-Central Europe (MOSEC) Online Workshop is co-organized by Michaela Závodná and Viktor Pál and is realised in the frame of OP VVV grant scheme, reg. no CZ.02.2.69/0.0/0.0/18_053/0017856 Posílení vědeckých kapacit na OU II / Strengthening the university’s scientific capacities II



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