



Neuankommende IWM Visiting Fellows im April 2024

Das Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen heißt diesen Monat elf neue Gastwissenschaftler:innen willkommen. Wir freuen uns, neben Koryphäen wie Lea Ypi, Jonathan White oder Till van Rahden zahlreiche weitere Gäste mit faszinierenden Projekten begrüßen zu dürfen, die vom Spannungsfeld zwischen KI und Marxismus über Narrative des russisch-ukrainischen Krieges hin zu Mensch-Natur-Beziehungen ein breites Spektrum an Themen bearbeiten und beforschen.



Adrian Cvitanović

Independent translator

April – June 2024

Witold Gombrowicz: Dziennik 1953–1969 [Journal 1953–1969] (POL > HRV)

This book, written by the literary author Witold Gombrowicz, presents a long journey into the abyss and profound depths of the human written word. It includes several aspects of knowledge and culture, represented in philosophy, sociology, psychology, literature, fine arts, music, film, and politics. Gombrowicz led a full life: he was at the top and at the bottom, he knew both fame and anonymity, he was nobody and the greatest. All this is contained in this single thick volume, which will be the first translation of this important work into the Croatian language.



Tendai Ganduri

University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

April – June 2024

Communicating and Contesting Climate Change in the Global South: The Zimbabwean and South African Twitterspheres

This research project examines how climate change is communicated and contested on X (previously Twitter) with Zimbabwe and South Africa as the case studies. Tendai Ganduri focuses on conversations around COP 26 and 27, as well as Cyclone Idai of 2019 in Zimbabwe and the KwaZulu Natal floods of South Africa in 2022, using Python and academic X to gather online data. This approach is complemented by in-depth interviews in the respective disaster-struck communities. Ganduri explores the pluralities within human communities and compares how citizens critique and/or support their governments in relation to national and international events and platforms.



Darren Gardner

New School for Social Research, New York

April – May 2024

Resistance and Dissidence: Epimeleia in Patočka and Foucault

In Foucault's lectures for the Collège de France (*The Government of Self and Others; The Courage of Truth*) and Patočka's *Plato and Europe*, the theme of care of the self/care of the soul is surprisingly central. Foucault credits Patočka in 1984 (*The Courage of Truth*) and recommends to his audience that they read *Plato and Europe* as it is the only modern philosophical text on the topic of epimeleia in Plato. So, it is worth investigating what is so central to both thinkers about the notion of care, and how and to what extent the tradition of the care of the self and the care of the soul can function as a modern praxis.



Ilya Kalinin

Humboldt University, Berlin

April 2024

"(Post)Soviet Union" of National Form and (Post)Socialist Content (Culture, Nation, Class)

Ilya Kalinin's research interest concentrates on reconstructing the tension between the social/ideological and the national/imperial trends in modern post-Soviet culture, as well as discovering its origin in the national politics of the Bolsheviks. A hundred years after the formation of the USSR and thirty years after its collapse, it becomes obvious that the process of this collapse has not yet been completed and, perhaps, it is right now entering its critical phase.



Lachlan Kermode

Brown University, USA

April – June 2024

Computer Science, Cybernetics, and the Philosophy of Error: The Humanist Critique of Capitalism in an Age of Artificial Intelligence

This project returns to developments in early twentieth-century mathematics on the one hand, and the Marxian critique of capitalism on the other, in an attempt to critically map the philosophy of humanist freedom at stake in the mid-century practice of cybernetics, the late-century emergence of computer science, and these projects' most recent continuations in contemporary debates regarding artificial intelligence.



Mykola Riabchuk

Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

April- May 2024

Calling a Spade a Spade: International Narratives on the Russia-Ukraine “Conflict” and the Crisis of “Realpolitik”

Within two months of his research at IWM, Mykola Riabchuk will study topical narratives on the Russo-Ukrainian war arising from various sources (scholarly journals, think tanks, and mass media) to find out the hidden ideologies (normative principles and practical interests) that

drive each of them, to establish some typology of these narratives, define their peculiarities, and detect the way and degree to which they reflect and/or mystify reality.



Till van Rahden

Université de Montréal, Canada

April - June 2024

Minority and Majority as Asymmetrical Concepts: The Perils of Democratic Equality and Fantasies of National Purity

To this day, the conceptual couple of majority and minority is viewed as a harmless way of identifying an arithmetic relationship to make sense of cultural differences. In his current work, Till van Rahden argues that a history of the binary juxtaposition between a majority and one or several minorities suggests that it is both a recent neologism and an essentially contested conceptual couple.

Based on an analysis of sources in several European languages, van Rahden studies when, where, and why it became seemingly self-evident to neatly compartmentalize societies and their history into a majority and minorities.



Jonathan White

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), UK

April 2024

Technocratic Myopia

That democratic authorities are systematically focused on short-term considerations is a charge often made. This "democratic myopia" thesis typically becomes the basis for advocating the empowerment of technocratic institutions, e.g. in economic or environmental policy. Much less examined is what one may call the technocratic myopia thesis – the possibility that technocratic institutions have their own distinctive drivers

of short-termism. This project aims to explore the thesis with reference to the legitimacy forms, epistemologies, and organizational structures in which technocratic authority is grounded.



Lea Ypi

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), UK

April 2024

Indignity

Lea Ypi will be working on her new book project, titled *Indignity*, which is under contract with Penguin Press. The book will follow the journey of a woman from Ottoman Salonica to a life under surveillance in post-war Communist Albania. The book explores the moral and political meanings of dignity, individual and collective, in connection to questions of truth and reconciliation, historical injustice, and the relation-

ship between fact and fiction.



Yuliya Yurchenko

University of Greenwich / Critical Political Economy Research Network (CPERN)

April – June 2024

The Social Contract and (Post)War Ukraine: Designing Out Conflict

Yuliya Yurchenko examines the nature of the social contract being forged in Ukraine amidst the neocolonial genocidal invasion, tracing historicized trajectories of underlying decolonization and de-russification processes and exploring the preconditions for a lasting peace. This project is contextualized by the social changes in Ukraine since the

1990s and is set against the backdrop of dynamics in the global and regional political economy that gave way to new strata and classes, as well as new and frequently transforming social institutions with further (dis)empowered positioning of various social groups, civil society organizations, private sector groups, and the state.



Iryna Zamuruieva

Artist and cultural geographer

April – June 2024

A Field from Afar

Iryna Zamuruieva's writing and photography explore human-environmental relationships at different scales. During her fellowship at the IWM, she will build on strands of her research and creative work, where she considers the importance of particular plants. Having recently worked with *Adonis vernalis* to write about the steppe and kin-relations, and *Geranium* to study the making of militarized landscapes and

feminist approaches to landscape photography, Zamuruieva is now planning to examine Rapeseed and contemporary agricultural practices and land relations in Ukraine.

Für Interviewanfragen kontaktieren Sie bitte iwm-pr@iwm.at.

Mehr Informationen zu unseren momentanen Visiting Fellows finden Sie [hier](#).

Rückfragehinweis:

Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen

Jakob Angeli

Content & PR Manager

+43-1-313-58-204

iwm-pr@iwm.at

www.iwm.at