



WORCK Newsletter N° 9

Aalborg/Vienna, 4 July 2021

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

two more weeks to go until **the registration period for the WORCK Conference 2 / ELHN Conference 4 ends**. If you would like to participate in the event, please make sure to register **by 15 July**. Non-WORCK members can register through our website: <https://www.worck.eu/conference-2-2021-vienna/>. WORCK members and invited guests shall use the individual registration link they have received via email on 10 May 2021.

As you already know, the conference will be carried out as a **hybrid event**. This means that the conference format will be composed of

- **plenary events in a streamed format** in which onsite participants at the venue in Vienna can communicate among each other while at the same time watching and listening to those taking part online via a shared screen;
- **parallel sessions in a virtual setting via Zoom** where onsite participants sit in a huge lecture hall with their laptops and headsets and participate in the virtual sessions via the respective Zoom links in the conference programme;
- **working group meetings and writers' workshops in a virtual setting via Zoom** in which all onsite participants of the specific meeting sit together in a seminar room with their laptops and headsets and communicate with the online and onsite participants via Zoom;
- an **onsite exhibition** on the campus site of the University of Vienna.

The streamed plenary sessions will include an ELHN keynote lecture by László Andor on "Social Rights in Europe and the East-West Gap", a roundtable discussion on "Working Conditions under Covid-19", the ELHN General Assembly and the conceptual plenary discussions based on readings and short inputs dedicated to the topic "Historicising the Concept of Europe in Global History". The parallel sessions consist of about 50 panels with paper presentations from 14 different ELHN working groups. The working group meetings are organised by the working group coordinators of both networks, the European Labour History Network and the COST Action WORCK, while the writers' workshops are dedicated to ongoing collaborative WORCK publication projects. The onsite exhibition presents artistic illustrations on labour and coercion that have been developed by three different artists in cooperation with Anamarija Batista and Corinna Peres (coordinators of the WORCK Public Outreach Group) based on a selected set of research papers from the WORCK Conference 1.

Please remind: WORCK members and invited guests who would like to participate onsite will receive partial or full reimbursement by the COST Action WORCK. Yet, as travelling remains difficult to plan due to the pandemic, we kindly ask you to make **no definite travel arrangements before having received an official eCOST invitation**. For your and our planning security, we would like to ask you

- to check all cancellation policies before you make any travel arrangements, and
- to accept or decline the eCOST invitation (once you have received it) as soon as possible.

Besides to the conference, we would like to draw your attention to three further matters:

1. Our next **Management Committee Meeting** will take place online via Zoom on **Monday, 4 October 2021, from 12-3pm (CEST)**. For all those who are officially nominated MC Members or MC Substitutes representing a COST member country in the WORCK network, we kindly ask you to save the date and attend the meeting. At that meeting, we will decide on the budget for the next grant period, fix the locations for the next WORCK events and decide on the strategic direction of the WORCK network for the remaining time of the Action. In order to meet the necessary quorum for decision-making, we require your participation and your vote as COST country representatives.
2. As COST has launched a set of new Virtual Networking Tools, we are happy to inform you that **Teresa Petrik has been nominated as Virtual Networking Support Manager** and that our first call for virtual mobility grant applications is now open: <https://www.worck.eu/2021/06/30/call-open-for-virtual-mobility-grants/>. The first Virtual Mobility Grant has already been approved and was awarded to Nicole Schmidt who offers an **online training on “Interactive moderation – onsite, virtual & hybrid”** taking place on 14 July 2021, 10-12 and 1-3pm (CEST), with an additional masterclass on 28 July 2021, 10-11am (CEST). The training is meant to support WORCK working group leaders and active WORCK members in the preparation of digital and hybrid events such as conference panels and working group meetings or workshops. If you would like to participate, please send an email to juliane.schiel@univie.ac.at.
3. Our **WORCK Publication Platform (data.worck.eu)** is constantly growing. Clara Almagro-Vidal (Frankfurt/M.) has published a fascinating dataset on the transfer of land and people on the late medieval Iberian peninsula showcasing the constraints for Muslim subjects in the reorganisation of the territories and their exploitation. Anders Dyrborg Birkemose (Aalborg) added another dataset on runaways in 18th century Denmark by compiling a sample of runaway advertisements found in the Danish newspaper Copenhagen’s Intelligence Sheet. The data story by Uiran Gebara da Silva (São Paulo) deals with the legal and social status of the tenants in the Later Roman Empire by analysing semantics of coercion in the Theodosian and Justinian law codes. And Müge Telci Özbek (Istanbul) has published a data story tracing the life course of a female domestic worker in late Ottoman Istanbul. Other datasets and data stories are in preparation.



We wish you a wonderful and relaxing summer and are very much looking forward to meeting many of you at our big hybrid experiment end of August “in” Vienna!

All best,

Johan Heinsen and Juliane Schiel