

Ernst Langthaler

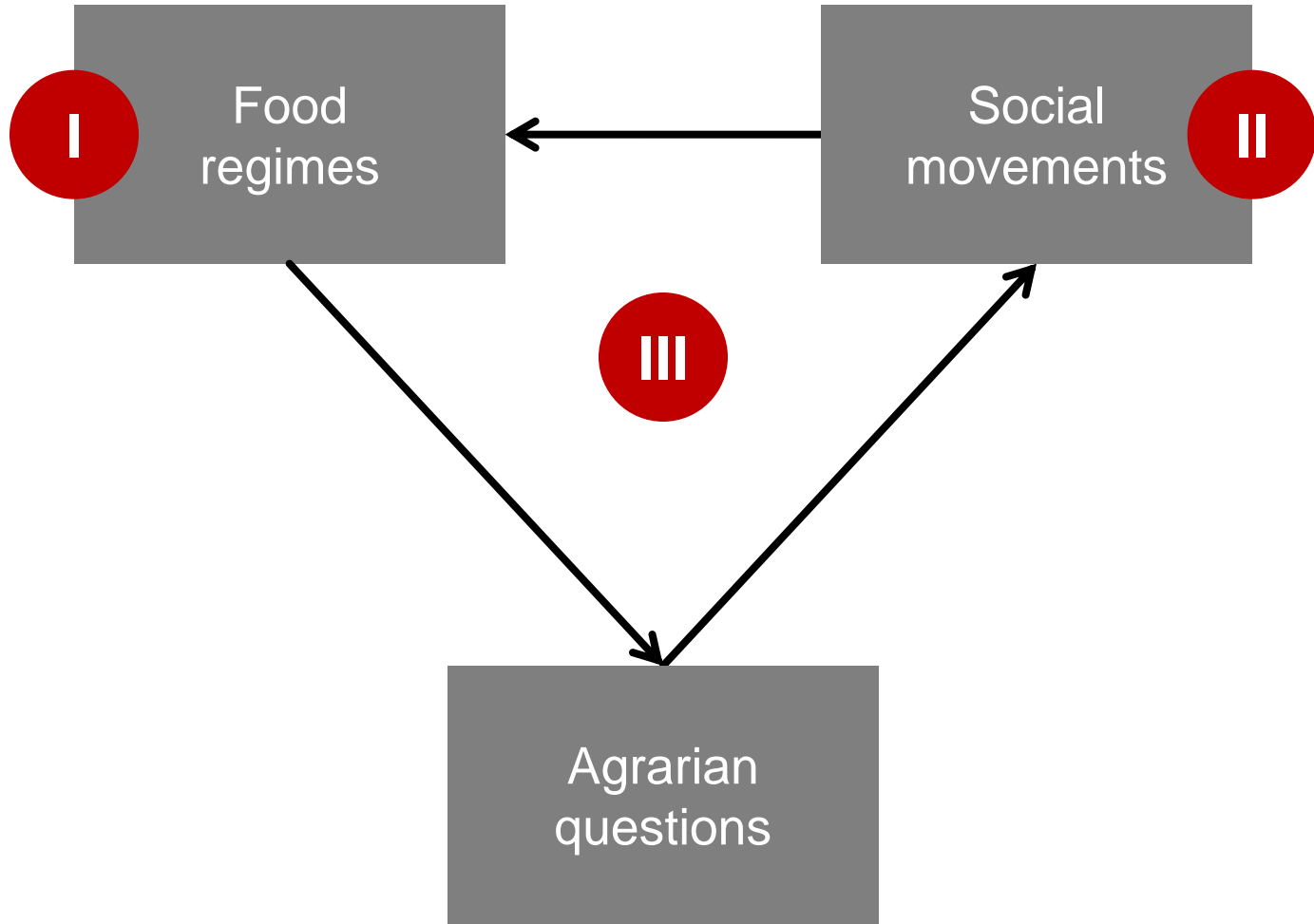
The Commodification of Food: Old and New Agrarian Questions

International conference *A Great Transformation?*
Global Perspectives on Contemporary Capitalisms
(Linz, 10-13 January 2017)



**JOHANNES KEPLER
UNIVERSITÄT LINZ**

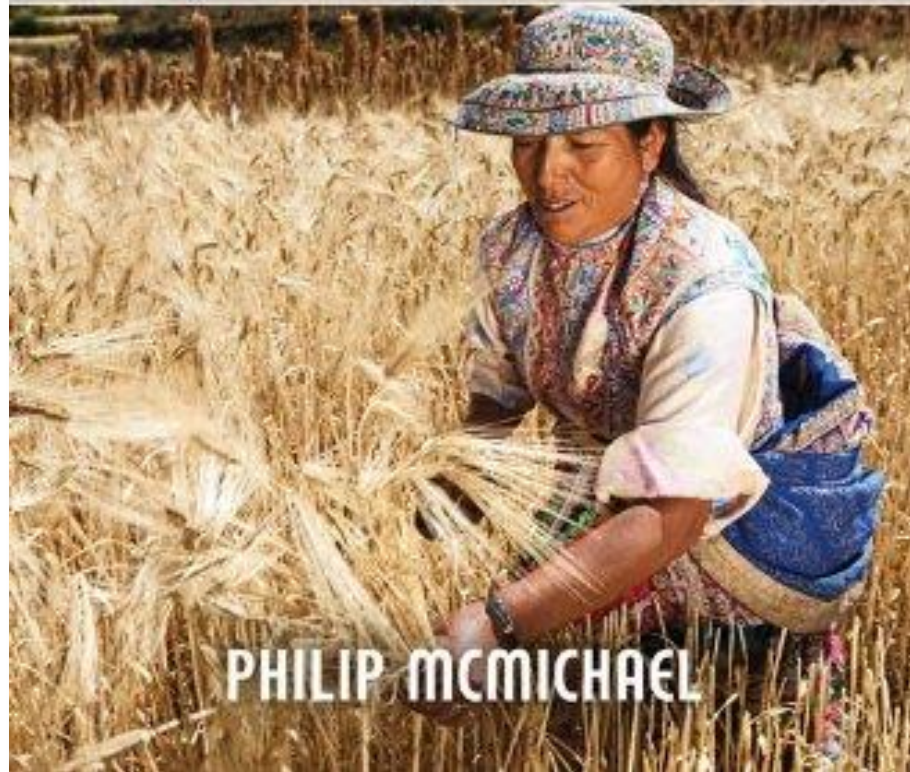
Outlook



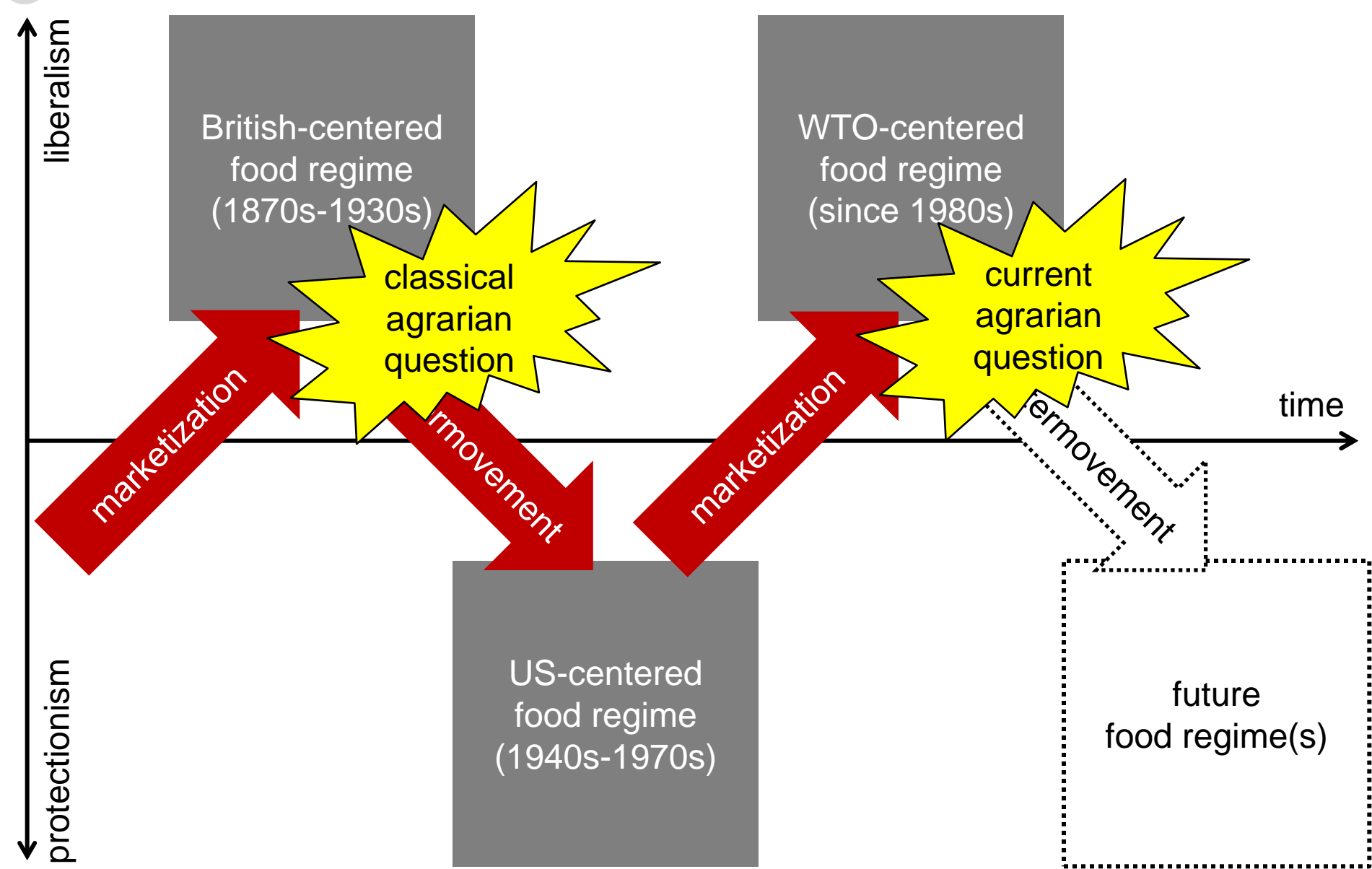


FOOD REGIMES AND AGRARIAN QUESTIONS

Agrarian Change & Peasant Studies



Global food regimes and agrarian questions



Old and new agrarian questions



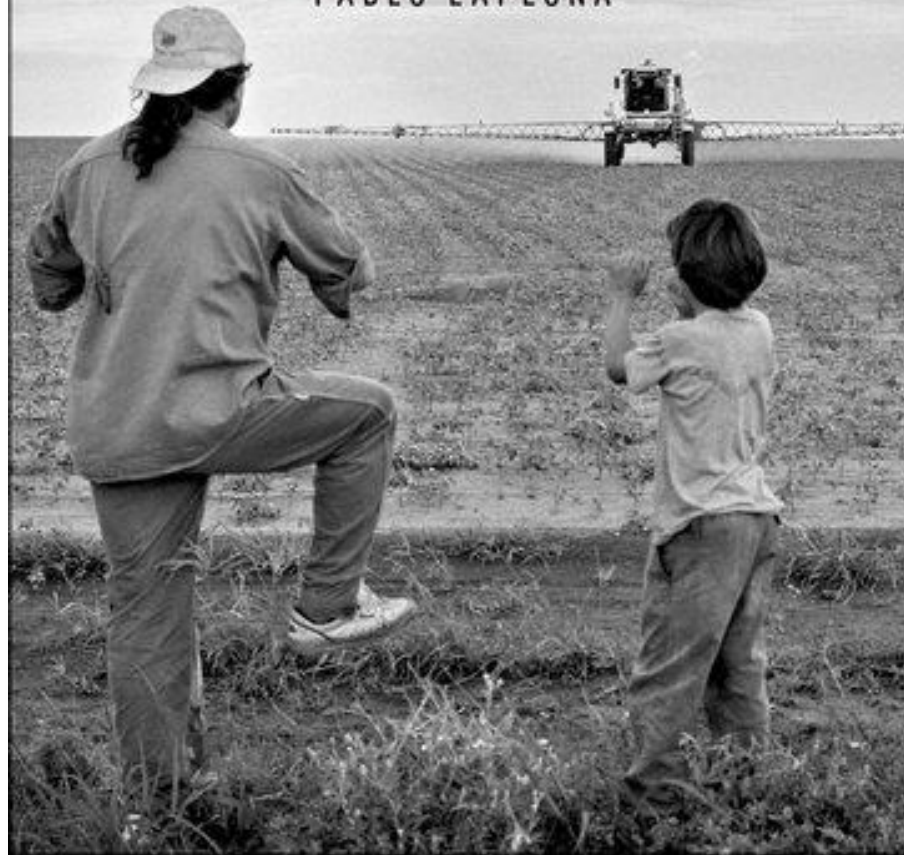
	Classical agrarian question	Current agrarian question
Diagnosis	e.g. Kautsky 1899	e.g. McMichael 2013
Focus	Relations of agro-economic production: fate of agriculture in classical-liberal capitalism	Relations of social and environmental reproduction: fate of human and non-human life in neoliberal capitalism
Time	Late 19th/early 20th c.	Late 20th/early 21st c.
Space	National	Global
Actors	Metropolitan estate-owners and peasantries	Peasants and smallholders (especially Global South)
Movement	Organized agrarianism (e.g. <i>Bund der Landwirte</i>)	Food sovereignty movement (e.g. <i>La Via Campesina</i>)



SOYBEANS AND POWER

Genetically Modified Crops,
Environmental Politics, and
Social Movements in Argentina

PABLO LAPEGNA



Regional social movements and the agrarian question

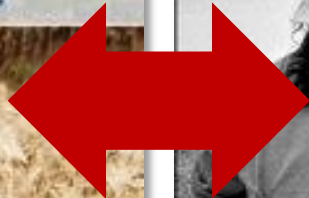
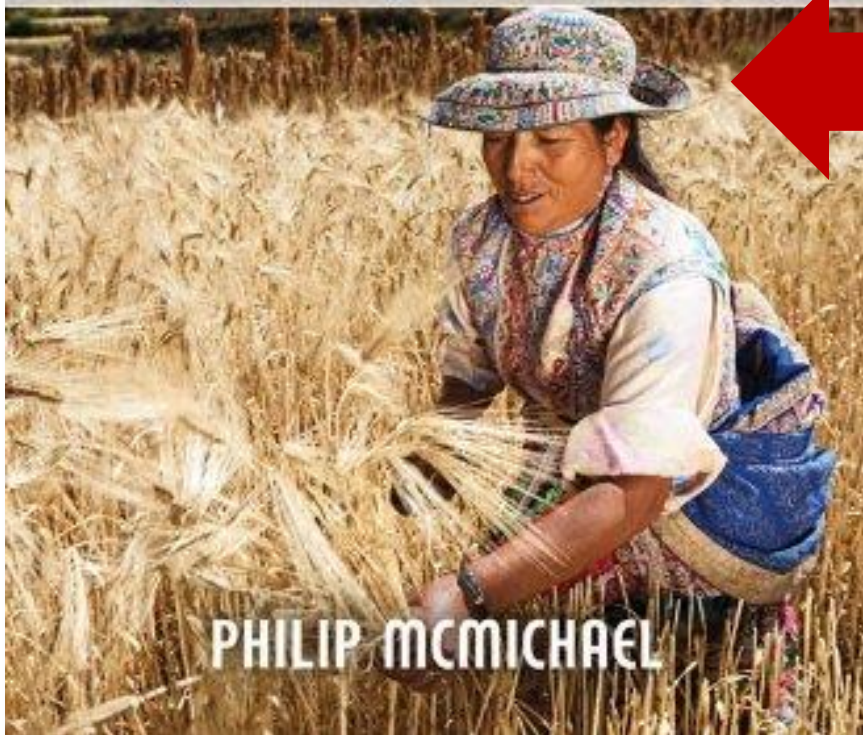
- I
- II
- III
- ✓ **Techno-productivist discourse:** GM crops as weapon against rural poverty and ecological degradation
- ✓ **Environmental resistance:** long-standing use of glyphosate in combination with resistant GM soy → emergence of herbicide-resistant weeds
- ✓ **Social resistance:** destruction of smallholders' and peasants' produce and causation of health problems by agrochemical drift in 2003 → (self-)mobilization of regional movement
- ✓ **Environmental override:** weed control by escalating use of more and stronger herbicides → rising risk of 'collateral damages'
- ❓ **Social override:** (self-)demobilization by patronage politics ('paradox of collaboration') → lack of protest against agrochemical drift in 2009

Sceptical counter-narrative to food regime scholarship's optimism: progressive (self-)mobilization ('weapons of the weak') & regressive (self-)demobilization ('weapons of the wealthy') → ambivalence of resistance and accommodation



FOOD REGIMES AND AGRARIAN QUESTIONS

Agrarian Change & Peasant Studies



SOYBEANS AND POWER

Genetically Modified Crops,
Environmental Politics, and
Social Movements in Argentina

PABLO LAPEGNA

