

A Great Transformation?

Global Perspectives on Contemporary Capitalisms

International Conference
Johannes Kepler University Linz/Austria
January 10 – 13, 2017

Pre-Conference: January 9, 2017

Contemporary Capitalisms and Karl Polanyi's '*The Great Transformation*'

Ever since the global economic area opened up in the 1990s – and most recently, in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis – **Karl Polanyi's economic and cultural history of capitalism**, published as ***The Great Transformation*** in 1944, has been attracting renewed attention. Given his deft analysis of the liberal creed or how he refers to labor, land, and money as fictitious commodities, Polanyi's critique of capitalism has never disappeared from the discussion. However, the unleashing of the market – and more specifically, of financial markets – has resulted in his ideas being widely re-read among sociologists, political scientists, and economists from all over the world. Polanyi's analysis of the relationship between economy and society, and between economy/market and politics/state – along with his perspectives on civil society movements – all seem to be tailor-made for capturing the crises, changes, and transformations of contemporary capitalisms. Meanwhile, Polanyi's ideas and models have been thoroughly revised, pursued, developed, and checked for appropriateness when analyzing developments in the Global North and South. Moreover, a wealth of answers has emerged to the question of how his particular analysis of society may have inspired sociology, political science, and economics.

The conference ***A Great Transformation? Global Perspectives on Contemporary Capitalisms*** seeks to continue this discussion, identify new salient points and study the following **questions**: How do developments in contemporary capitalisms in the Global North and South constitute a great transformation, i.e. an epochal change in which the relationship between politics/state and economy/market undergoes fundamental changes at the global, international, transnational, and national levels? Have there been parallel, contradictory or interwoven developments and what forms do these take? How are they shaped by social inequalities, by power and dominance, and by conflict and resistance? How can all these developments be considered in the light of Karl Polanyi's *The Great Transformation*? How do other perspectives and theories on capitalism rooted in sociology, political science, and economics contribute to social analysis and criticism? Where do they interlink with Polanyi's perspective and where do they take different paths? All these questions will be thoroughly discussed at this interdisciplinary international conference.

The conference is hosting a book table organized by Bernd Köster. Here you can find recent publications and you have the opportunity to buy them. There will be a reading corner with further publishers' information and some space for the conference participants to exhibit inspection copies (at own risk and without responsibility of the organizers).

Pre-Conference

Wissensturm, Kärntnerstraße 26, 4020 Linz

Monday, January 9, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Market Fundamentalism and New Right-Wing Populism

Hans-Jürgen Bieling (Tübingen, Germany)

Die Transformation gebiert ihre Kinder: Rechtspopulismus als Gegenbewegung zum liberalen Kosmopolitismus

Klaus Dörre (Jena, Germany)

Polanyi und die neue national-soziale Gefahr

Birgit Sauer (Vienna, Austria)

Kulturkampf 2.0? Zur Bedeutung von Geschlechterverhältnissen in der neuen Rechten

Moderator: Fabienne Décieux

(Simultaneous Translation into English)

In Cooperation with:

Volkshochschule Linz



Conference

January 10 – 13, 2017

Johannes Kepler University Linz, Altenberger Straße 69, 4040 Linz

Tuesday, January 10, 2017 (Uni-Center)

12:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Registration**

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **Opening**

Welcome Addresses

Meinhard Lukas, Rector of the Johannes Kepler University Linz

Klaus Furlinger, Federal Council Member, Upper Austria

Christian Forsterleitner, Deputy Mayor of Linz

Georg Steiner, Director of Tourist Board Linz

Andreas Novy, Institute for Multi-Level Governance and Development, Department of Socioeconomics, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Johann Bacher, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics and Business, Johannes Kepler University Linz

Opening Address & Discussion

Michael Burawoy (Berkeley, USA)

Karl Polanyi Today

Moderator: Brigitte Aulenbacher

7:00 p.m. **Austrian Beer and Wine Reception**

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Registration** (Uni-Center)

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Session 1** (Science Park 1)

Politics of Crisis I (Science Park 1, MT 127)

Reinhard Schumacher (Potsdam, Germany)

Fictitious Commodities, Double Movement and the Euro: How Karl Polanyi's Insights can Explain the Development of the Euro Crisis

Friederike Elias & Elizângela Valarini (Heidelberg, Germany)

Neoliberal Transformation in Latin America?

Jakob Kapeller, Bernhard Schütz & Dennis Tamesberger (Linz, Austria)

From Free to Civilized Trade: A European Perspective

Moderator: Karin Fischer

The (Neo)Liberal Creed I (Science Park 1, MT 128)

Paolo Ramazzotti (Macerata, Italy)

Policy, Empowerment and the Neoliberal Project

Andreas Nölke & Christian May (Frankfurt/Main, Germany)

Comparative Capitalism Research in Times of the Financialization Crisis: From an Inter-national to an Inter-temporal Study of Economic Institutions

Timo Walter (Geneva, Switzerland)

The Meta-pragmatics of Prices and the Disembedding of Markets

Moderator: Jakob Kapeller

Theoretical Conversations with Polanyi I (Science Park 1, MT 130)

Ulrich Brand (Vienna, Austria) & Christoph Görg (Klagenfurt, Austria)

Polanyi Meets Regulation Theory: Re-embedding and Transformation as Contested Processes

Ernst Langthaler (Linz, Austria)

Food Regime Theory Meets Polanyi

Moderator: Dieter Segert

(De)Commodification I (Science Park 1, MT 132)

Karina Becker (Jena, Germany)

Commodification of Private Domestic Work and Care Work: The Furtive Transformation

Max Höfer (Potsdam, Germany)

Let's Disrupt All Basic Social Niceties and Monetize Them!

Moderator: Roland Atzmüller

(Wednesday, January 11, 2017 ctd.)

Degrowth I (Science Park 1, MT 226)

Samuel Decker (Berlin, Germany)

Green Capitalism, Social-ecological Transformation and the Financialization of Nature

Matthias Aistleitner (Linz, Austria)

Toward a New "Great Transformation": Perspectives for a Sustainable Automotive Industry

Moderator: Andreas Novy

Transformation and (Counter)Movements (Science Park 1, MT 226/1)

Bernhard Leubolt (Vienna, Austria)

The Pendulum Strikes Back? Crisis and Social Protest Dynamic in Brazil

Fabienne Décieux (Linz, Austria)

A Need for Marketization? Commodification of and (Counter)Movements in Early Childcare

Martin Seeliger (Jena, Germany)

Ambivalences in the Countermovement: Does Re-embedding Take Place as a General Move toward More Equity?

Moderator: Kristina Binner

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Plenary 1: Short Lectures and Discussion (Uni-Center)

Polanyi and Marx

Kari Polanyi-Levitt (Montreal, Canada)

Marx and Polanyi as Complementary Social Philosophers

Bob Jessop (Lancaster, United Kingdom)

Marx and Polanyi on the Limits and Barriers to Capital Accumulation

Klaus Dörre (Jena, Germany)

Marx and Polanyi on Countermovements and Class Struggle

Moderator: Birgit Sauer

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Lunch Break (Uni-Center)

(Wednesday, January 11, 2017 ctd.)

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Plenary 2: Short Lectures and Discussion (Uni-Center)

Social and Ecological Reproduction: Fictitious Commodities, Marketization and the Imperial Mode of Living

Cornelia Klinger (Tubingen, Germany)

NOT FOR SALE?!? Toward an Integrative and Transformative Understanding of Polanyi's Three "Fictitious Commodities"

Brigitte Aulenbacher (Linz, Austria) & Birgit Riegraf (Paderborn, Germany)

The Never-ending Story of Marketization!? Care as a Fictitious Commodity and Points of Resistance

Ulrich Brand (Vienna, Austria)

Understanding the "Imperial Mode of Living" and Strategies for a Social-ecological Transformation based on Polanyi's Insights

Moderator: Roland Atzmüller

3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Session 2 (Science Park 1)

Politics of Crisis II (Science Park 1, MT 127)

Susanne Giesecke (Linz, Austria)

From Social Innovation to Social Transformation (Exemplified by Housing in Vienna)

Ernst Hollander (Stockholm, Sweden)

Financialization, Semi-fictitious Commodities and Other Concepts in a "Polanyian Reading" of Sweden

Phoebe Zoe Maria U. Sanchez (Cebu, Philippines)

History of Cebu's "Tabo-tabo" (Auction Market): Social Construction of Lexicons of Trust, Redistribution, Reciprocity and Kinship Ranks

Moderator: Birgit Sauer

The (Neo)Liberal Creed II (Science Park 1, MT 128)

Jakob Huber (Linz, Austria)

CGE Models as Powerful Artifacts of the Liberal Creed

Philipp Heimberger & Jakob Kapeller (Linz, Austria)

Enforcing Economic Liberalism in European Fiscal Policy-making: On the Role of the European Commission's Potential Output Model

Oliver Prausmüller (Vienna, Austria)

CETA, TTIP and TiSA as Rule-making Laboratories: The Political Constitutionalization of (Internationalized) Markets Revisited

Moderator: Roland Atzmüller

(Wednesday, January 11, 2017 ctd.)

Theoretical Conversations with Polanyi II (Science Park 1, MT 130)

Rune Møller Stahl (Copenhagen, Denmark)

Rethinking the Relation between Neo-liberalism and Classical Liberalism

Paula Valderrama (Berlin, Germany)

The Problem of Democracy in a “Market Society”; Friedrich Hayek and Karl Polanyi on Politics, Economy and Freedom

Moderator: Karin Fischer

(De)Commodification II (Science Park 1, MT 132)

Philipp Degens (Hamburg, Germany)

Community Currencies and the Decommodification of Money

György Lengyel (Budapest, Hungary)

Double Movement and Double Dependence (Hungary)

Moderator: Julia Eder

Degrowth – Alternative Economies, Social-ecological Transformation and the Post-growth Society: Seeking Utopias and Avoiding Dystopias I (Science Park 1, MT 226)

Andreas Novy (Vienna, Austria)

In Search of a Polanyian Countermovement of Coordinated Economic De-Globalization

Tone Smith (Vienna, Austria)

Building on Polanyi to Strengthen the Social Aspect of an Ecological Economy

Moderator: Clive Spash

Fictitious Commodities I (Science Park 1, MT 226/1)

Simon Derpmann (Munster, Germany)

Money as a Fictitious Commodity

David Woodruff (London, United Kingdom)

“The Institutional Mechanisms of the Downfall of a Civilization”: Understanding Polanyi's Fictitious Commodities in the Context of the Double Movement

Jakob Feinig (New Yourk, USA)

Money and the Promise of Democratization in Karl Polanyi's Great Transformation

Moderator: Fabienne Décieux

5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

(Wednesday, January 11, 2017 ctd.)

5.45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. **Plenary 3: Short Lectures and Discussion (Uni-Center)**

Polanyi Travels South: Global Capitalisms, Neo-liberalism and Social Movements

Sumedha Dutta (Punjab, India)

Beginning with Polanyi: Global Capitalism vs. Civil Society Movements in Neoliberal India

Víctor Ramiro Fernández (Santa Fe, Argentina)

From a Post-neoliberal Laboratory to Neoliberal Resurgence: Toward a Creative Revision of Polanyian Double Movement in Latin America

Moderator: Ulrich Brand

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Steeltown Linz Invites the Conference**

The Steelmill voestalpine: A Guided Tour

Sponsored by Tourist Board Linz and hosted by voestalpine

The plant tour: A tour of more than five square kilometers of production facilities: the blast furnace, the hot-rolling mill and the blank production line.

Thursday, January 12, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **Plenary 4: Book Discussion (Uni-Center)**

Karl Polanyi: A Life on the Left

Gareth Dale (London, United Kingdom)

Andreas Novy (Vienna, Austria)

Moderator: Fabienne Décieux

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Registration**

(Thursday, January 12, 2017 ctd.)

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Session 3 (Science Park 1)

The (Neo)Liberal Creed III (Science Park 1, MT 127)

Daniel Šitera (Prague, Czech Republic)

Embedded Neo-liberalism(s) in the EU's Cohesion Agenda: Bringing the Peripheral Development in (European) Order

Till Hilmar (New Haven, USA)

"In This Together": Post-socialist Transformations to Capitalism in the Realm of Interpersonal Relationships

Martin Mendelski (Trier, Germany)

A Polanyian Perspective on Post-communist Transformation

Moderator: Dieter Segert

Theoretical Conversations with Polanyi III (Science Park 1, MT 128)

Michael Brie (Berlin, Germany)

The Great Double Transformation of the 21st Century

Claus Thomasberger (Berlin, Germany)

Accumulation, Colonialization, Transformation: "A Critique of Political Economy" after Polanyi

Deniz Seebacher (Vienna, Austria) & Andreas Streinzer (Halle/Saale, Germany)

At the Blurry Margins of Society and Markets: On the Ethical Turn in Capitalism

Moderator: Birgit Riegraf

Degrowth – Alternative Economies, Social-ecological Transformation and the Post-growth Society: Seeking Utopias and Avoiding Dystopias II (Science Park 1, MT 130)

Ernest Aigner & Manuel Scholz-Wäckerle (Vienna, Austria)

Social Accounting in a De-growing Economy

Katarzyna Gruszka (Vienna, Austria)

The Collaborative Economy: What Would Polanyi Say? On the Tragedy of Sharing

Moderator: Clive Spash

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

12:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Plenary 5: Round Table Discussion (Uni-Center)

Crisis, Reform, Transformation? Economy and Democracy in Contemporary Capitalisms in Europe and Beyond

Michele Cangiani (Venice, Italy)

Christoph Deutschmann (Tubingen, Germany)

Maria Markantonatou (Lesvos, Greece)

Hans-Jürgen Urban (Frankfurt/Main, Germany)

Moderator: Jakob Kapeller

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Lunch Break (Uni-Center)

(Thursday, January 12, 2017 ctd.)

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Plenary 6: Short Lectures and Discussion (Uni-Center)

Uneven Development and Experiences of (Ex)Commodification: A View from the Global South

Karin Fischer (Linz, Austria)

The Transformation of Global Inequality: Unequal Inclusion or Exclusion

Ernst Langthaler (Linz, Austria)

The Commodification of Food: Old and New Agrarian Questions

Jenny Chan (Hong Kong, China)

The Commodification of Labor and the Conditions for Collective Resistance in China

Moderator: Dieter Segert

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 4 (Science Park 1)

Politics of Crisis III (Science Park 1, MT 127)

Dinabandhu Sahoo & Dhiraj Kumar (Odisha, India)

From Polanyi to Gramsci and Foucault: Looking at Polanyian Concepts through the Lenses of Neoliberal Cultural Politics of Development in India

Gareth Dale (London, United Kingdom)

Polanyi and the Politics of Crisis

Manuel Rivera (Potsdam, Germany)

The Growth Paradigm in Parliamentary Communication

Moderator: Martin Seeliger

Theoretical Conversations with Polanyi IV (Science Park 1, MT 128)

Gabor Scheiring (Cambridge, United Kingdom)

Sustaining Democracy in an Era of Free Markets: Karl Polanyi's Perspectives on the Politics of Finance

Michele Cangiani (Venice, Italy)

Beyond Neoliberalism: Suggestions from Karl Polanyi's Work

Christoph Deutschmann (Tubingen, Germany)

Disembedded Markets and Society: Ambiguities in Polanyi's Analysis

Moderator: Karina Becker

(Thursday, January 12, 2017 ctd.)

(De)Commodification III (Science Park 1, MT 130)

Salimah Valiani (Johannesburg, South Africa)

Understanding the Universal Mobilization of Caring Labor in the 21st Century via Polanyi's "Universal Mobilization of Land"

Dhanapala Wijesinghe Mudiyanse (Nugegoda, Sri Lanka)

A Study on the Commodification of Religious Rituals and Social Reproduction in Contemporary Sri Lanka

Otto Penz & Birgit Sauer (Vienna, Austria)

A Neoliberal Regime of Self-protection: Activation and Affective Subjectivation

Moderator: Lena Weber

Degrowth II (Science Park 1, MT132)

Silke Ötsch (Innsbruck, Austria)

The Formal Capitalist and Objective-material Logic of Provisioning in the Perspective of a Degrowth Society

Christoph Görg (Klagenfurt, Austria) & Tilman Sanatarius (Berlin, Germany)

Revisiting Karl Polanyi for a Social-ecological Transformation: Technology, Capital Accumulation and Institutional Embeddedness

Thomas Sauer (Jena, Germany)

Ostrom Meets Polanyi: A Talk on the Commodification and De-commodification of Ecological and Social Reproduction in the Perspective of Contextual Economics

Moderator: Hanna Lichtenberger

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Plenary 7: Evening Lecture (Uni-Center)

Beverly Silver (Baltimore, USA)

Forces of Labor Revisited

Moderator: Karin Fischer

Friday, January 13, 2017

09:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Session 5 (Science Park 1)

Transformation (Science Park 1, MT 127)

Cletus Ikechukwu Anah (Owerri, Nigeria)

Capitalist Crises and Pathways toward Transformation in Africa: The Role of International Financial Institutions

Frédéric Moulène (Strasbourg, France)

Is a New Great Transformation Possible? The Power of Language and Ideology in the Global Economy

Christian Karner (Nottingham, United Kingdom)

Austria between “Social Protection” and “Emancipation”: Negotiating Global Flows, Marketization and Nostalgia

Moderator: Birgit Sauer

Crisis & Welfare (Science Park 1, MT 128)

Markus Griesser (Vienna, Austria)

Uneven Waves of Commodification, Decommodification and Recommodification

Roland Atzmüller (Linz, Austria)

Great and not so Great Transformations in Welfare Policies: Welfare Reconfigurations between Social Investment and Activation

Zoltán Pogátsa (Sopron, Hungary)

Welfare States and the Systematic Crisis of Capitalism

Moderator: Bernhard Schütz

Fictitious Commodities II (Science Park 1, MT 130)

Sabine Frerichs (Vienna, Austria)

Polanyi’s Property: Law of the Land, Law of the Market?

Kai Mosebach (Ludwigshafen, Germany)

Making Sense of Health Care Commercialization and Liberal Utopias of Market-driven Health Care

Takato Kasai (Kyoto, Japan)

“Socialistic” Design for the Future based on Karl Polanyi’s Theory: The Evolution of Bentham’s and Owen’s Ideas on Poor Relief

Moderator: Julia Eder

(Friday, January 13, 2017 ctd.)

Alternatives (Science Park 1, MT 132)

Aslihan Aykac (Izmir, Turkey)

Solidarity Economies: The Countermovement Rising

Klara Helene Stumpf & Bernd Sommer (Flensburg, Germany)

The Economy for the Common Good: A Social Movement Altering the Relationship between Economy, Society and State?

Leonhard Dobusch (Innsbruck, Austria)

Share Economy between Commons and Commodification

Moderator: Jakob Kapeller

Marketization of Knowledge and Science (Science Park 1, MT 226)

Brigitte Aulenbacher, Kristina Binner (Linz, Austria), Birgit Riegraf & Lena Weber (Paderborn, Germany)

The Entrepreneurial University in the Welfare State from a Polanyian, Feminist and Neo-institutionalist Perspective

Elisabeth Abergel (Montreal, Canada) & Claire Lagier (Munich, Germany)

Fictitious Commodities: Marketization of Knowledge and Science

Petra Biberhofer (Vienna, Austria)

The Economization of Education

Moderator: Karin Fischer

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Plenary 8: Conversation (Uni-Center)

Michael Burawoy (Berkeley, USA) & Kari Polanyi-Levitt (Montreal, Canada)

Karl Polanyi's Great Transformation

Introduction: Brigitte Aulenbacher

12.30 p.m. – 1.00 p.m. Coffee Break (Uni-Center)

(Friday, January 13, 2017 ctd.)

1.00 p.m. – evening **Mauthausen Memorial**

1.00 p.m. – 1.45 p.m. **Lecture about Mauthausen (Uni-Center)**

Andreas Kranebitter (Mauthausen Memorial)

The History of Mauthausen from a Sociological Point of View

Moderator: Roland Atzmüller

2.00 p.m. – evening **Excursion to the Former Concentration Camp Mauthausen**

Sponsored and hosted by Mauthausen Memorial

Between 1938 and 1945, around 190,000 people from more than 40 Nations were imprisoned in the Mauthausen and Gusen concentration camps or one of their subcamps. At least 90,000 people were murdered.

- Audio Guided Tour
- Exhibition or the opportunity to ask the experts about details of Mauthausen

Organizing Committee

Institute of Sociology, Johannes Kepler University, Linz/Austria (Roland Atzmüller, Brigitte Aulenbacher, Fabienne Décieux, Karin Fischer; conference administrator: Heidemarie Schütz)

Institute for Comprehensive Analysis of the Economy, Johannes Kepler University, Linz/Austria (Jakob Kapeller)

Department of Political Sciences, University of Vienna/Austria (Ulrich Brand, Birgit Sauer, Dieter Segert)

DFG-Kollegforscher_innengruppe „Landnahme, Beschleunigung, Aktivierung. Dynamik und (De)Stabilisierung moderner Wachstumsgesellschaften“, Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena/Germany (Klaus Dörre)

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