

# International Conference: “Inter-continental personal entanglements and disruptions in the socialist world, 1970-1990”

17-18.11.2023

University  
of Vienna

**Organizers: Berthold Unfried/Claudia Martínez Hernández**

**Venue: Seminarraum Geschichte 1, Hauptgebäude, 1.Stock, Stiege 10**

## Aims and concept

The European socialist states' assistance to countries and liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America was called "Internationalism" - in Cuba *Internacionalismo* - or "International Solidarity". In this encounter, we will explore that world of politico-economic connections. Our FWF-research project: Entanglements Cuba-GDR: mobilities, exchanges, circulations within the *Council for Mutual Economic Assistance* (<https://socialist-entanglements.univie.ac.at>) has investigated inter-continental personal flows as an expression of such "internationalist" practices in the socialist world. This resuming conference will look into situations where such personal flows created situations of *entanglement* or, alternatively, where such encounters led to conflict and disruption.

## For online participants via Zoom

Passcode: 723192

Join link: <https://univie.zoom.us/j/63088148086?pwd=bi9pL0o4bUF1TDNkaWVpWVpWGTldGpkQT09>

## Programme:

### Friday, 17th of November

#### **13h-15h: Introduction: Socialist Internationalisms and Solidarity**

Berthold Unfried/Claudia Martínez Hernández, Wien:  
Introduction: *The Socialist World and the Three Continents*

Radoslav Yordanov, Harvard: *Cuba-CMEA: Inter-continental entanglements at the highest level in the Cold War.*

Commentary: Ulrich Mücke, Hamburg

#### **15h-15h15: Break**

#### **15h15-17h15 Panel 1: Entanglements and disruptions: The personal side I**

Chair: Ingrid Miethe

Berthold Unfried, Wien: *Contacts and Conflicts in "internationalist" encounters on the ground*

Claudia Martínez Hernández, Wien: *The institutional framework for Cubans in transcontinental movement. 1972-1990*

Marcia Schenck, München: *Entanglements and Disruptions in the Case of Angolan Contract Workers in the GDR*

Commentary: Christian Cwik, Graz-Wien

#### **17h15-17h30 Break**

#### **17h30-18h50 Panel 2: Entanglements and disruptions: The personal side II**

Chair: Berthold Unfried

Pavel Szobi, Praha-Wien: *From Prague to Luanda and Alto Catumbela – Czechoslovak Experts in Angola during the 1970s and 1980s*

Goran Music, Wien: *Socialist Businessmen in the Global South: Yugoslav Managers in Zambia and Peru*

Commentary: Jelena Dureinovic, Wien

#### **18h50-19h Break**

#### **19h: Book Presentation:**

Marcia Schenck: *Remembering African Labor Migration to the Second World: Socialist Mobilities between Angola, Mozambique, and East Germany*  
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-06776-1>

Commentaries: Dirk Hoerder/Claudia Martínez/Kirsten Rüter/Berthold Unfried

### Saturday, 18th of November

#### **9h-10h30: Panel 3: Education and Transfers I**

Chair: Ulrich Mücke

Ingrid Miethe, Gießen: *Building Socialist Universities in Africa: The Example of Mozambique*

Arianna Pasqualini, Bologna: *Solidarity and socialist education: Namibian students in the GDR*

Commentary: Claudia Kraft, Wien

#### **10h30-10h45: Break**

#### **10h45-12h45: Panel 4: Education and Transfers II**

Chair: Marcia Schenck

Lea Börgerding, Berlin: *The Queen of Condoms – Monika Krause, socialist women's organizations, and the circulation of knowledge on sex education between the GDR and Cuba in the 1970s*

Constantin Katsakioris, Praha-Bagdad: *Algerians after their return from Soviet schools of higher education*

Rafael Pedemonte, Poitiers: *Cuban "becarios" in the Soviet Union (1960s)*

Commentary: David Mayer, Wien

#### **12h45-13h30: Concluding Discussion**