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

17-18.11.2023

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://univienna.zoom.us/j/63088148086?pwd=bi9pL0o4bUF1TDNKaWVPWGtldGpkQT09
Programme:

Friday, 17th of November

13h-15h: Introduction: Socialist Internationalisms and Solidarity
Radoslav Yordanov, Harvard: Cuba-CMEA: Intercontinental entanglements at the highest level in the Cold War.
Commentary: Ulrich Mücke, Hamburg

15h15-17h15: 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
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
Commentaries: Dirk Hoerder/Claudia Martínez/Kirsten Rüther/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