



## Call for Papers

**42<sup>nd</sup> International Labour Process Conference**

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, University of Göttingen**

## Coercion, Consent and Conflict in the Labour Process and Beyond

The International Labour Process Conference is one of the longest established and best-known global events for empirical and theoretical discussion of work, employment and capitalist transformations. Every year, the conference brings together researchers and policy makers from a variety of countries in order to share knowledge and initiate new collaborations. We are pleased to announce that the International Labour Process Conference will return to Germany in 2024.

Göttingen is a picturesque university town, situated at the geographical centre of the country and easy to reach by highspeed trains from Berlin, Hamburg or Frankfurt international airports. It is the ideal place for vivid discussions on the developments of the working world: Whereas the Institute of Sociology at University of Göttingen has constantly strengthened its focus on sociology of work over the last decade and attracts more and more young researchers in the field, the Sociological Research Institute Göttingen (SOFI) has been among Germany's leading empirical research institutions of sociology of work from the late 1960s onwards until today. Together, we are looking forward to host the ILPC 2024 and to welcome critical minds from around the world.

### Call for Papers

The ILPC welcomes papers on a wide range of topics regarding the labour process, labour markets, labour relations, reproduction of labour and capitalist transformation. The 2024 conference theme '*coercion, consent and conflict in the labour process and beyond*' addresses classical problems of organization, coordination, and control but explicitly encourages to extend the view to the manifold, and often conflictual, interrelations between the actual labour process on the one hand, and changes in economy, politics, and society on the other hand. Thus, the conference attends to address the complex re-articulation of coercion and consent and the formation of diverse work interests and conflicts by focusing on the interrelations between

- the changes within the labour process itself (e.g. due to the implementation of new (digital) technologies and other socio-technological challenges)
- the transformations in the sphere of economy (e.g. given the massive shocks to transnational value chains and subcontracting pyramids through the pandemic, geopolitical confrontations and intensified warfare)
- the developments in the sphere of political regulation (e.g. in regard to selective migration policies, the return of the 'strong state' as indicated by authoritarian assaults on workers' rights in many countries, 'activation policies' and policies of precarisation that continue to put pressure on material conditions of reproduction not least for workers in low-paid, precarious and informal jobs)
- and the social division of labour along the axis of geography, gender, age, ethnicity, and class that constitute new and reconfigure old forms of workforce segmentation.

We especially invite new theoretical and empirical contributions on the production of consent and legitimation as well as on arising conflicts and practices of resistance. After all, all these developments have provoked renewed discussions about (the re-composition of) class, and the dynamics of class society under conditions of the multiple crises in the 21st century.

Within and beyond this special focus we welcome papers on general issues in the field such as...

- ... theories of the labour process and other critical theories of work relations
  - ... modes of control and changing workplace regimes
  - ... the nature and impact of digital technology on the labour process and work relations
  - ... the meaning, value, quality and experience of work
  - ... alienation and worker's consciousness
  - ... employee participation and involvement; resistance and misbehaviour
  - ... worker's voice (or silence), participation, mobilization and solidarities
  - ... industrial relations, representation, and trade union strategies
  - ... power, inequality and labour market segmentation
  - ... gender, race, ethnicity and class at work
  - ... changing forms of formal and informal employment relations, including self-employment
  - ... 'free' and 'unfree' wage labour, and the shifting boundaries between them
  - ... migrant work and migrant workers
  - ... non-paid work, labour process and reproduction process
  - ... political economy and the labour process
  - ... corporate restructuring and global value chains
- and others, explicitly including global and historical perspectives.

Abstracts (of 350 to 500 words) will be externally evaluated. They should contain key words indicating the focus of research as well as information about theoretical orientation, methodology, and findings. We encourage contributions from the Global South and North. **Abstract submission through the ILPC website ([ilpc.org.uk](http://ilpc.org.uk)) will be possible between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. Decisions of acceptance will be provided by early December 2023.** Abstracts might be submitted to the general conference or to special streams. The latter will be announced by the beginning of September 2023.

## Proposals for Symposia

Apart from single abstracts we also welcome proposals for a small number of symposia (of 1.5 hours' duration) addressing the conference theme. Proposals should be between 750 and 1000 words, encompassing a detailed description of the structure and (potential) contributors (with a short note as to whether they have already confirmed their availability) as well as a statement about how the symposium will contribute to the conference theme. International collaborations are especially welcome. **Please submit proposals to [ilpc2024@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ilpc2024@uni-goettingen.de) between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**, or contact one of the conference organisers beforehand for an informal discussion.

## Proposals for Special Streams

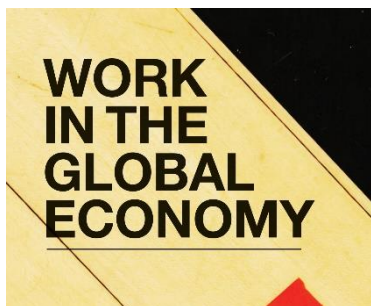
ILPC is not a fully streamed event and most proposals for papers are submitted to the general conference. Nevertheless, we do welcome special streams which address new topics or those that attract scholars who may be new to the event. We especially encourage international collaborations on putting together a special stream. Stream proposals should include a) a detailed description of the proposed stream, including title and key convenors; b) a discussion of how the stream will address topics not normally covered in detail in the conference or treat a traditional ILPC topics in a novel way. Stream organisers should select the abstracts and coordinate the program of this particular stream in cooperation with the conference organisers. **If you are interested in organising a special stream, please send a proposal of approx. 750 to 1200 words to [ilpc2024@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ilpc2024@uni-goettingen.de) until 31st July 2023.** Decisions on acceptance will be communicated by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

## Conference Venue

Göttingen is a lovely little town with an atmosphere that is shaped by the university and its students. You will find pubs, bars and restaurants all over the old city centre with its historic half-timbered houses and medieval churches. Göttingen is situated in the centre of Germany, close to the famous Harz National Park and several historic villages, picturesque lakes and medieval castles. The University of Göttingen, founded in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, is the oldest University in Lower Saxony and among the most reputed institutions of higher education in Germany. The Conference will be held on the University's main campus, in walking distance from the train station. Due to its central location, Göttingen is easily reached by highspeed trains going every 30 minutes from Hannover (approx. 30 minutes), Hamburg (approx. 2 hours) and Frankfurt/Main (approx. 2 hours).

## Further Remarks on the Conference

As established over the last years, the 2024 conference will feature a **pre-conference workshop** dedicated to PhD students and early-stage researchers. The workshop will take place on the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April and aims at providing an informal environment in which to share experiences and develop relationships. The doctoral workshop takes place in addition to contributions of doctoral candidates to the general conference (doctoral papers are not streamed separately). You will be able to sign up for the doctoral workshop on registration (no special submission needed).



In the aftermath of the conference, all ILPC attendees are strongly encouraged to consider **submitting papers**



BRISTOL  
UNIVERSITY  
PRESS

from the conference to *Work in the Global Economy*. *Work in the Global Economy* is an interdisciplinary **peer-reviewed journal** that promotes understanding of work, and connections to work, in all forms and dimensions and that builds upon a tradition of shared scholarship and a commitment to theory building and rigorous empirical enquiry that has been exemplified by the annual International Labour Process Conference (ILPC). A special session with the editors at the conference will address all questions regarding the journal and the submissions of papers.

Further information on the journal: [Work in the Global Economy](#)

## Organising Team

Prof. Dr. Nicole Mayer-Ahuja, Prof. Dr. Sarah Nies, Moritz Kuhles, Linda Beck, Mario Becksteiner, Dr. Felix Bluhm, Heiner Heiland, Annemarie Kern (University of Göttingen)  
Dr. Martin Kuhlmann, Antonia Altendorf, Dr. Peter Birke, Lukas Underwood (SOFI)