

About the workshop

The history of the Cold War has been, as the name suggests, predominantly narrated as a history of conflicts, confrontation, and competition. At the same time, the economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe since the 1970s tell a different story: The contacts and cooperation between companies and individuals in East and West developed dynamically throughout the late Cold War period.

While the trade relations with the "Eastern Bloc" were of secondary importance for the West European economies until 1989, the inefficient planned economies were increasingly dependent on transfers of technology and eventually of capital. The interests in and experiences with the asymmetrical economic relations on both sides have been researched only marginally, although they contributed to the détente and created trust between East and West, which in turn played an important role for ending the Cold War in Europe.

Two levels of economic interactions will be at the centre of attention: The first papers deal with official economic relations, which were generally based on bilateral contracts. The presentations cover companies and their eastern contacts in several larger West European economies (such as Germany, Italy, or Great Britain) as well as smaller states such as Austria. The following presentations deal with economic fields that tend to be overlooked in economic history, such as retail trade, smuggling, or tourism as a form of small trade. The economic contacts "from below" also include different places of economic exchange such as trade fairs, border regions or tourist destinations such as Vienna.

Forschungsplattform
Wiener Osteuropaforum



Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen
Institute for Human Sciences

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Europas Osten im 20. Jahrhundert. Historische Erfahrungen im Vergleich

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University of Vienna
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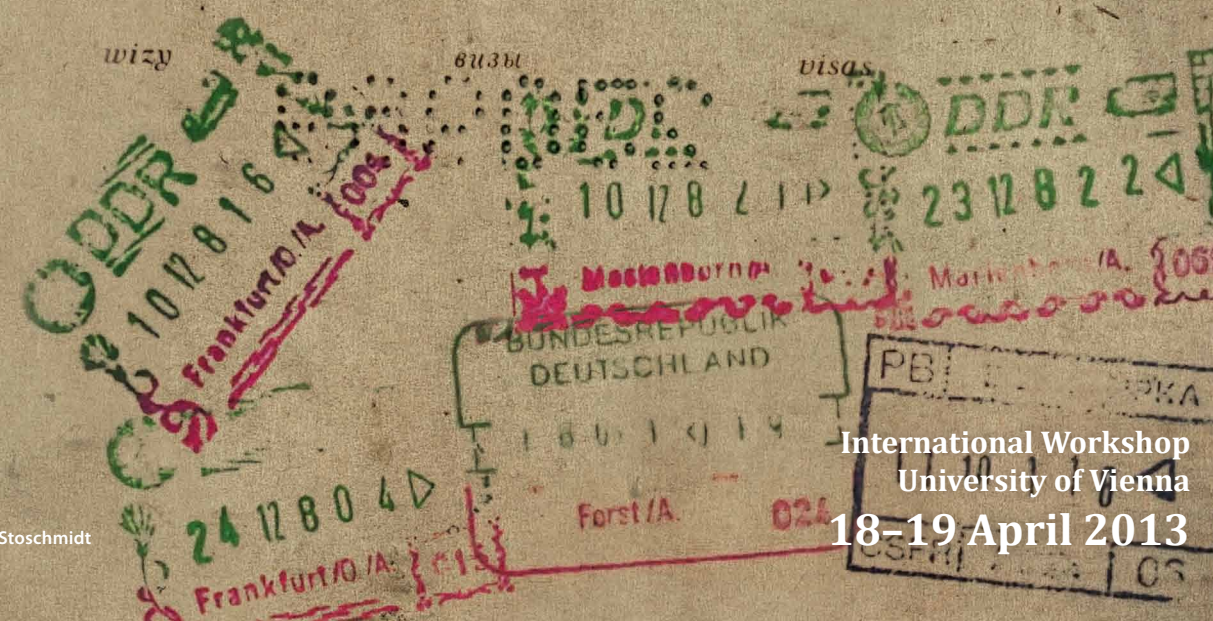
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Loopholes in the Iron Curtain

Economic Contacts between Eastern and Western Europe since the 1970s



International Workshop
University of Vienna
18–19 April 2013



Programme

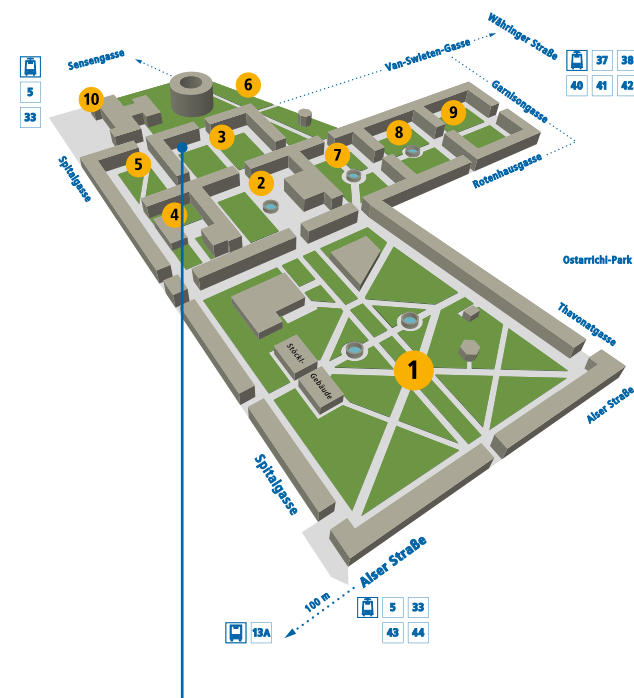
Thursday,
18 April 2013

- 13:00–14:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Philipp Ther (Wien)
Włodzimierz Borodziej (Jena)
- 14:00–16:30 **Official Economic Contacts (I)**
Chair: Angela Romano (London)
Oliver Rathkolb (Wien)
Comment: Valentina Fava (Helsinki/Milano)
Klaus Kiran Patel (Maastricht)
- Coffee break
- Maximilian Graf (Wien)
Large Scale Orders in Return for Credits? The VÖEST and the Smelters of Eisenhüttenstadt/GDR
Wolfgang Müller (Wien)
East-West Trade and the Emergence of the CMEA's Strategy toward the EEC
- Coffee break
- 17:00–19:00 **Roundtable Discussion: "Economic Contacts between Eastern and Western Europe and the Changes of 1989"**
Chair: Péter Felcsuti (Budapest)
former CEO, Raiffeisen Bank in Hungary
János Mátyás Kovács (Wien)
Oskar Grünwald (Wien)
former CEO of ÖIAG (Holding Company of State Owned Industries)
Grzegorz Korytowski (Poznań)
CEO, OWA Polska
Ferdinand Lacina (Wien)
former Austrian Minister of Finance
- Small wine reception
- 20:00 **Conference Dinner**
Restaurant „Fromme Helene“
Josefstädter Straße 15, 1080 Vienna

- 9:00–11:00 **Official Economic Contacts (II)**
Chair: Stanislav Holubec (Jena)
Joachim von Puttkamer (Jena)
Comment: Wolfgang Müller (Wien)
- Pavel Szobi (Praha)
Devisenläden als Schauplätze des Westens. Intershop und Tuzex
György Peteri (Trondheim)
The World Fair of Hunting in Budapest 1971
- Coffee break
- 11:30–13:00 **Economic Contacts "From Below" (I)**
Chair: Jerzy Kochanowski (Warszawa)
Włodzimierz Borodziej (Jena)
Comment: Dieter Segert (Wien)
- Anna Pelka (München)
Die staatssozialistische Mode zwischen westlichen Modellen und heimischer Mangelwirtschaft
Patrik Wasiak (Warszawa)
The Digital Revolution of the 1980s in Central Europe
- Lunch (Buffet)
- 14:00–15:30 **Economic Contacts "From Below" (II)**
Chair: Eva Kovács (Wien/Budapest)
Philipp Ther (Wien)
Comment: Fredrik Stöcker (Tallinn)
Włodzimierz Borodziej (Jena)
- Fredrik Stöcker (Tallinn)
Smuggling in the Baltic and the Political Dimension of East-West-Contacts
Katerina Lozoviukova/Philipp Lesiak (Wien)
Smuggling Across the Iron Curtain into Czechoslovakia and its Legal Consequences
- Coffee break
- 16:00–18:00 **Final Discussion**
Dinner

Friday,
19 April 2013

Campus of the
University of Vienna



Institute for Eastern European History
(Institut für Osteuropäische Geschichte)
Seminar room/lecture room
Spitalgasse 2, Court 3, A-1090 Vienna

Public transportation

Underground U2 – Schottentor; U6 – Alser Straße
Tram Lines 5, 33, 43, 44 – Lange Gasse
Bus Line 13A – Skodagasse