

[Wo]Menpower!

Frontier Research Approaches in Gender and Labour Histories



Line Up of Some of Women Welders Including The Women's Welding Champion of Ingalls [Shipbuilding Corp., Pascagoula, MS], 1943, NARA file 86-WWT-85-35.

ONLINE WORKSHOP

Link Zoom: <https://uni-lj-si.zoom.us/j/94218996256>
ID Zoom: 942 1899 6256

13 May

afternoon

14:00-18:00 CEST

OPENING ADDRESS

Marta Verginella

EIRENE - University of Ljubljana

Erica Mezzoli

WeCanIt - University of Ljubljana

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Sabine Rutar | IOS, Regensburg

1st SESSION

Chair: Alina Bartscher

University of Bonn

Tanja Petrović

ZRC SAZU

Urška Strle

University of Ljubljana

14 May

morning

09:30-12:30 CEST

2nd SESSION

Chair: Erica Mezzoli

WeCanIt - University of Ljubljana

Susan Zimmermann

ZARAH - Central European University

Alina Bartscher

University of Bonn

Eloisa Betti

University of Bologna

Stefano Agnoletto

Fondazione ISEC, Milano - BI

Norwegian Business School, Oslo

14 May

afternoon

14:00-17:30 CEST

3rd SESSION

Chair: Sabine Rutar

IOS, Regensburg

Chiara Bonfiglioli

University of Cork

Christian G. De Vito

University of Bonn

Erica Mezzoli

WeCanIt - University of Ljubljana

Sonja Bezjak and Sergeja Masten

Slovenian Social Science Data Archives



Univerza v Ljubljani



The workshop is realised in the framework of the MSCA-IF Project 2019 "We Can Do It! Women's labour market participation in the maritime sector in the Upper Adriatic after the World Wars in an intersectional perspective" (acronym: WeCanIt; grant agreement no. 894257)

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WeCanIt MSCA Project

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Frontier Research Approaches in Gender and Labour Histories

13-14 May 2021

Program

13 May 2021

14:00 CEST - OPENING ADDRESS

Marta Verginella (ERC Project EIRENE, University of Ljubljana)

Erica Mezzoli (MSCA Project WeCanIt, University of Ljubljana)

14:15 CEST - KEYNOTE LECTURE

Sabine Rutar (Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies - IOS, Regensburg)
Epistemology of Labour in the North-eastern Adriatic Border Region

DISCUSSION

15:30 - Coffee break

16:30 CEST - 1st SESSION AGENCIES AND SUBJECTIVITIES

Chair: **Alina Bartscher** (University of Bonn)

Tanja Petrović (Institute of Culture and Memory Studies - ZRC SAZU, Ljubljana)
An Ethnographic Perspective on Gender and Labor in Socialism: Women's Agency in/through Labor

Urška Strle (University of Ljubljana)
Workers in the Spotlight of Migration, Subjectivity and Gender

DISCUSSION

14 May 2021

09:30 CEST - 2nd SESSION (POST-)INDUSTRIAL TURNS

Chair: **Erica Mezzoli** (WeCanIt - University of Ljubljana)

Susan Zimmermann (ZARAH - Central European University)
Labor Movements and the Emancipation of Women

Alina Bartscher (University of Bonn)

It Takes Two to Borrow: The Effects of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act on Homeownership and Mortgage Debt of Married Couples

10:15 - Coffee break

Eloisa Betti (University of Bologna)

Engendering Working From Home: Production, Reproduction and Precarity

Stefano Agnoletto (Fondazione ISEC, Milano - BI Norwegian Business School, Oslo)

Disseminating Industrial Labour History Outside Academia. An Experience with Italian Schools

DISCUSSION

14:00 CEST - 3rd SESSION MICRO & MACRO - GENDERED & UNGENDERED

Chair: **Sabine Rutar** (Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies - IOS, Regensburg)

Chiara Bonfiglioli (University of Cork)
'Some went on holiday, but not us from the sewing department': Gender and Labour History in Socialist Yugoslavia From an Intersectional Perspective

Christian G. De Vito (University of Bonn)
Micro-spatial Perspectives on Labour History and Intersectionality

14:45 - Coffee break

Erica Mezzoli (WeCanIt - University of Ljubljana)
'In this Woman's Praises'. The (Un)Gendered Dimensions of the Upper Adriatic Shipping Industry, 1879-1923

Sonja Bezjak and **Sergeja Masten** (Slovenian Social Science Data Archives)
Data on Gender and Labour in Social Science Data Archives

DISCUSSION

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Frontier Research Approaches in Gender and Labour Histories

13-14 May 2021

Abstracts

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Sabine Rutar (Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies – IOS, Regensburg)

Epistemology of Labour in the North-eastern Adriatic Border Region

In my keynote, I focus on the meaning of the “border” in both labour history and historiography, taking the North-eastern Adriatic as a case in point. I have worked on shipyard and port workers’ shop floor relations in the cities of Koper and Rijeka during the Cold War, and in doing so I looked towards the shipyards in Trieste and Monfalcone to see whether common threads of motivation and action existed that transcended the border. In historiography, conceptual mental maps have largely separated shop floor relations in state socialism from those in capitalist (western) Europe. In the northeastern Adriatic during the Cold War, the border was one of the most open ones between “East” and “West”, but the respective historiographies in Italy, Slovenia, and Croatia still remain mostly nation-state-defined (and also linguistically apart). I am interested in the actual workings of shop floor relations after 1945, that is the workplace as a place of socioeconomic patterns and engagement. I look at concepts and repertoires of social action valid and applied among industrial workers of analogous industries on both sides of the border, taking moments of social protest and confrontation with the management and/or governing authorities as examples.

1st SESSION AGENCIES AND SUBJECTIVITIES

Tanja Petrović (Institute of Culture and Memory Studies – ZRC SAZU, Ljubljana)

An Ethnographic Perspective on Gender and Labor in Socialism: Women’s Agency in/through Labor

My contribution focuses on the ways we understand and discuss “the women’s question” in socialist Yugoslavia and argues that these understandings and discussions are significantly shaped by two dominant sets of discourses that both foreclose the possibilities of observing complex gender dynamics in the second half or the 20th century. The first insists on the failure of the socialist state to provide complete emancipation of women, pointing to the alliance between the socialist state and patriarchal structures. The

second denies the possibility of agency of women in state socialism, interpreting their efforts to improve their position in society as simply an instrument of the Communist party. In this contribution, I ask in what way discrete, ethnographic accounts of women's labor in diverse fields, such as industry and social and political work, intervene in these dominant sets of discourses, challenge and complicate them. I will focus on discursive strategies of women's self-representation, their understanding of their labor and the ways they reflect on tensions and ambiguities that constituted their experience of work in socialism. I will pay particular attention to the concept of agency and the ways it unfolds ethnographically and discursively.

Urška Strle (University of Ljubljana)

Workers in the Spotlight of Migration, Subjectivity and Gender

The paper brings about some epistemological and historiographical findings based upon personal experiences of migrant workers. It follows the principle of labour historians who have researched history of workers beyond formal archival records, usually executed by employers and trade unions. Such an impetus stems from the hypothesis, that migrating workers are often engaged in the grey zones of administrative spotlight, thus failing to be fully recognized in classical historical sources relevant for the history of labour. Instead, the paper brings closer oral history interviews presenting a noteworthy empirical basis to elucidate a diversity of perception the interviewees laid upon various aspects of work. They mediate meanings given to the occupational activities, which both shaped and were shaped by workers with a migratory background themselves. In order to avoid generalizations, the paper touches upon three perspectives on migration, based on common spatio-temporal specifics: North-Eastern Adriatic territory in the long post-war period. The first perspective relates to the periodical border-crossing of housemaids, who were based in Yugoslavia, but executed work in rather well-known Italy, the second recounts post-war Slovenian emigrants who carved their way overseas, to Canada, and the third details workers who came to Slovenia from other parts of former Yugoslavia. The central focus is given to women's narratives, which do not present themselves in a social vacuum, but lay much focus to family relations, interpersonal interactions, network activities etc. Paper's main intention is to stimulate discussion on the validity of observational framework that unites various migratory aspects with the concept of work and gender with the colleagues from the field.

2nd SESSION (POST-)INDUSTRIAL TURNS

Susan Zimmermann (ZARAH – Central European University)

Labor Movements and the Emancipation of Women

Foregrounding the activism and demands of women identifying with working class struggle, this presentation discusses, in a long-term perspective, the engagement of (non-communist) labor movements with women's emancipation. The first section provides insight into the contours of the complex relationship between labor movements, gender, and women. It focuses on the negotiation of gender and class interests, and the position and the available organizational-political choices for socialist women and their allies within the workers' movement and in-between the labor and the women's movements. It argues that the organizational and activist choices of women identifying with any of the currents of socialism and advocating class and gender interests of

working-class women were limited and demonstrates that each option came with both opportunity and considerable drawbacks. The second section discusses the socialist program of women's emancipation and related struggles. For women and men identifying with the labor movement, women's "social individuation" and the equalization of the status of women and men could and would only be attained when connected with overall economic liberation, and via putting women into the position to earn their own living via full and equal participation in the world of work. This section foregrounds the evolving socialist program of women's economic liberation and the politics of women's work. It discusses how socialist women and men construed and delimited women's interests, the tensions between straightforward vision on the one hand and retarding and conflicting interests on the other, and some of the limitations of the socialist program of women's emancipation.

Alina Bartscher (University of Bonn)

It Takes Two to Borrow: The Effects of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act on Homeownership and Mortgage Debt of Married Couples

Until the 1970s, U.S. mortgage lenders commonly discounted the wife's income when a couple jointly applied for a mortgage. This changed with the introduction of anti-discrimination legislation in the 1970s. In particular, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA) of 1974 prohibited credit discrimination related to marital status and sex. It constitutes a historical natural experiment to study the relaxation of income-related borrowing constraints, since married couples could now use all of the wife's income as collateral for a mortgage. I examine the effects of the reform based on data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), and find positive effects on mortgage borrowing and homeownership rates of married couples with working wives. My results imply that upon its introduction, the new equal credit opportunity legislation enabled 1.4 million couples to move into their own home. On impact, the new reform mainly benefited households in which the wife had already been working, as lenders were still allowed to consider factors such as income stability and employment continuity when making lending decisions. However, a young woman planning her financial future at the beginning of her adult life in the post-reform world faced different incentives for labor supply than she would have without the reform. On the one hand, a woman suddenly had to work less in order to afford the same house. On the other hand, her return to working in terms of borrowing capacity increased. I use a simple theoretical economic model to study these counteracting effects. The results imply that the reform incentivized married women to join the labor force in the medium to longer run, which in turn amplified the positive effect on married couples' homeownership.

Eloisa Betti (University of Bologna)

Engendering Working From Home: Production, Reproduction and Precarity

The contribution focuses on the history of working from home and its development in industrial and post-industrial societies, trying to understand continuities and changes occurred in homeworkers' experiences thanks to a gender perspective. Empirical research on the pervasive role of home-based industrial work in Western countries, such as 1960s-1970s Italy, have contributed to understand the dark sides of working from home for women workers, unveiling their struggles to be recognized as workers and to obtain adequate social rights. The voices of homeworkers are particularly interesting to understand how production and reproduction intersects within the household, unveil the

impact on working hours, family life as well as women's health. The lack of labour rights and a proper contract increased the level of exploitation along with the perception of precarity, pushing homeworkers to mobilize in the 1970s for a new regulation and its implementation. The history of Italian homeworkers is an interesting term of comparison to better understand contemporary debates on digital forms of working from home, especially telework which has increased enormously in the shadow of Covid-19 global pandemic.

Stefano Agnoletto (Fondazione ISEC, Milano – BI Norwegian Business School, Oslo)
Disseminating Industrial Labour History Outside Academia. An Experience with Italian Schools

This presentation deals with the teaching of labour history in schools and with the significance of including this subject in school curricula. It also aims to propose some strategies by which the subjects can be profitably taught to students and shared with teachers.

It focuses on an activity proposed for the Italian schools between 2015 and 2018 at the ISEC Foundation (Institute for the history of the contemporary age) in Italy. It was an experience of workshops, lectures, laboratories and courses on industrial labour history planned with modular paths and structured according to a blended learning perspective. It consisted of both activities for students on one side and schoolteachers' training experiences on the other. This experience involved thousands of students from elementary school to high school. Emphasis is on educational strategies based on collaborations between schools, the heritage sector, some protagonists/key-informants and labour historians. These strategies at ISEC Foundation have taken the form of practice-based teaching and 'hands-on' learning experiences. The educational experience described in the presentation was also aimed at aggregating a new collaborative public, in particular young students, around the historical industrial patrimony. It is meant to overcome a conservative vision of industrial heritage and labour history, in favour of a dynamic, open-culture vision that is a vision of historical culture and historical heritage as a public good. The aim is the transformation of industrial heritage into a 'community' in order to build a space for social aggregation and for younger generations that are growing up in times and spaces of post-industrialisation.

3rd SESSION MICRO & MACRO - GENDERED & UNGENDERED

Chiara Bonfiglioli (University of Cork)
'Some went on holiday, but not us from the sewing department': Gender and Labour History in Socialist Yugoslavia From an Intersectional Perspective

The presentation will reflect on the possibility to apply an intersectional perspective to gender and labour history. Intersectionality is both a theoretical concept and a method in feminist research – mostly used in the social sciences – and its application to historical research has been recently discussed but not fully explored (Shaffner, Mills and Mills 2019; Boris 2012; Tschurennev 2013). The presentation will apply an intersectional perspective to socialist Yugoslavia (1945-1991), arguing that education, urban/rural background, geographical location, political affiliation, and social class are to be considered major axes of power alongside gender when it comes to working women's lives in the socialist era.

Against the homogenising idea of women's lack of agency under socialist "state patriarchy", intersectionality can be used to highlight the complexity and diversity of women's lived experiences. Even in the textile sector, which presented a similar "industrial structure of feeling" for several generations of female workers across ethnic and republican borders, different factors of social differentiation led to very different outcomes when it came to accessing labour, social mobility, and welfare services, as highlighted by both archival sources and oral history interviews.

Christian G. De Vito (University of Bonn)

Micro-spatial Perspectives on Labour History and Intersectionality

The tumultuous changes experienced by the fields of labour and gender history during the last decades call for new theoretical and methodological approaches. These should allow us to deal with the complexities that labour and gender scholars have highlighted, without losing ourselves in the sea of empiricism. How can we make sense of the multiplicity of entangled labour relations that has been the standard across human history? How can we study the continuous intersection among gender, class, ethnicity/race and age that is at work in the historical fabric? And how can we connect the study of labour and gender with the global-historical imperatives to move beyond eurocentrism and methodological nationalism?

This presentation suggests that these questions can be fruitfully addressed from a micro-spatial perspective that brings together two approaches: on the one hand, it foregrounds the micro-historical idea of the necessity to avoid predefining the categories and the temporal and geographical units of research; on the other hand, it connects to those strands within global history that highlight the importance of spatiality – the construction of place; connections and disconnections; mobility and immobility. At the cross-roads of these two approaches, the micro-spatial perspective permits to view labour and gender as processes, rather than fixed entities: "relations of labour" made of the practices of several individual and collective actors, rather than static labour relations based on predefined sets of characteristics; the construction of discourses and practices at the crossroads of gender, class and race, rather than prefabricated juxtapositions of clear-cut categories.

Erica Mezzoli (WeCanIt – University of Ljubljana)

'In this Woman's Praises'. The (Un)Gendered Dimensions of the Upper Adriatic Shipping Industry, 1879-1923

*In this Woman's Praises i'l [here end my Song,
Whose Heart was approved [in valour most strong;]
Let all sorts of People whate[ver they be,]
'Sing forth the brave Valours [of Mary Ambree.]*

**THE / Valorous Acts performed at Gaunt, /
By the Brave Bonny Lass Mary Ambree, / Who in Revenge
of her Love's Death, did play her part most gallantly**

Albeit the maritime world is traditionally considered as a solely male – and extremely virile – domain, starting from the second half of the Nineteenth century several women as ship-owners boldly "rode the waves" of the Upper and Eastern Adriatic. The aim of the paper is to present and analyze the main characteristics of female ownership of offshore navigation ships in the *Österreichisches Küstenland* (in particular Trieste-Trst and

Kvarnar-Quarnaro) from 1879 – year of the reorganization of the Austro-Hungarian maritime law – to 1923, date that marked the beginning of Kingdom of Italy's official sovereignty on those territories. This active role of the women in the shipping industry was crucial in framing the social and economic environment where the religious, national, and economic stakeholders' groups of the Upper Adriatic interacted. Moreover, their presence in the Imperial maritime enterprise allow us to address the issue of the variations in the distribution of power between genders – in family and socio-economic contexts – in maritime environments, that of the inclusion-exclusion paradox of women as seafarers and, finally, that of the dichotomy sea-“Iron men” vs. shore-“Wooden women” (Creighton & Norling, 1996) that still largely characterize maritime scholarship. As for the sources, the paper will be based on the maritime logs of the *Central-Seebehörde in Triest*.

Sonja Bezjak and **Sergeja Masten** (Slovenian Social Science Data Archives)
Data on Gender and Labour in Social Science Data Archives

The beginnings of archiving social science data date back to the 1940s. In Europe, social science data archives have been collaborating as an international network, specialized for research data services already since 1976. Today the European Consortium of Social Science data Archives brings together 22 member and 14 partner states. The common Cessda Data Catalogue (CDC) includes more than 30.000 studies from various countries and represents a source of quality research data. In this presentation we aim to show, how to discover and use the relevant quantitative and qualitative studies on gender and labour from trustworthy repositories and how to archive and publish research data. In the conclusion we will draw attention to the role of researchers in the era of big data and discuss challenges related to datafication and data justice in relation to gender, minorities and migrants.

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Speakers Bio Profiles

Stefano Agnoletto (PhD, Kingston University, London) is visiting research fellow at BI Norwegian Business School in Oslo (Norway). Until August, 31 2018 he was the Head of the Department “Didactics ” at Fondazione ISEC (Institute for the History of the Contemporary Age) in Milan (Italy). Over the last two decades he has collaborated with Bocconi University, the University of Milan, the University of Venice, the European School of Economics, and the Italian Catholic University. Furthermore, he was visiting scholar at Novosibirsk State University in Russian Federation, at the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Mexico, at the University of Toronto and at York University in Canada. He has carried out many research projects as a junior and senior researcher in Europe and North America. His research topics concern economic and social history, labour and business history, migration history and history education. Testifying to this research activity is a large body of publications edited in Italy, the United Kingdom, the United States, Spain, Canada, Switzerland, Russian Federation and Poland.

Alina Bartscher is a PhD candidate at the University of Bonn. Her research fields are applied economics and macroeconomics, with a particular focus on questions of socioeconomic inequality and household finances. In her work, she combines the econometric analysis of historical and modern microdata with economic theory to study how households make their financial decisions, and how this relates to and affects the macroeconomy. An important part of her work focuses on homeownership and indebtedness, including their effects on distributional questions and inequality. She completed her master’s degree at the University of Mannheim.

Eloisa Betti holds a PhD in European History from the University of Bologna, where she is currently Adjunct Professor of Labor History. In 2014-2015 she has been Fellow at the School of Advanced Study of the University of London and in 2015-2016 EURIAS Fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences of Vienna. In 2020, she obtained the Italian National Scientific Habilitation as Associate Professor of Modern History. She has been part of several international projects including Cliohres.net, Precarious work and social rights, Incavalc, and the ILO Century project. She has served as external expert for the Italian Office of the ILO, is member of the Directing Committee of the Italian Society of Labor History (SISLAV) and scientific advisor for the Emilia-Romagna Network of Archives of the Union of Italian Women (UDI). She has published extensively on labor, gender and women’s history, with a specific focus on the history of precarious work in Italy as well as

globally. She published two monographs in Italian titled *Precari e precarie* (Carocci, 2019) and *Le ombre del fordismo* (Bononia University Press, 2020). Among her recent publication in English: *Equalpay and social justice: women's agency, trade union action and international regulations. Italy, the ILO and the EEC in the global context (1951-1977)*, «The International History Review», 2021; *Generations of Italian Communist Women and the Making of a Women's Rights Agenda in the Cold War (1945–68)* in A. Artwinska, A. Mozrik (eds.), *Gender, Generations and Communism in Central and Eastern Europe and Beyond*, Routledge, 2020.

Sonja Bezjak holds a PhD in Sociology and is currently working at the Slovenian Social Science Data Archives, where one of her major focuses is the topic of open science. In her spare time, she is actively engaged in activities for social and environmental justice.

Chiara Bonfiglioli is a Lecturer in Gender & Women's Studies at University College Cork, Ireland, where she coordinates the Masters programme in Women's Studies. After obtaining a PhD from the Graduate Gender Programme at the University of Utrecht, she held post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Edinburgh, the University of Pula, and the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM) in Vienna. Her research addresses transnational gender and women's history with a specific focus on the former Yugoslavia and Italy. She is the author of *Women and Industry in the Balkans: The Rise and Fall of the Yugoslav Textile Sector* (London: I. B. Tauris/Bloomsbury, 2019).

Christian G. De Vito is researcher at the Bonn Centre for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS), University of Bonn, where he also coordinate the research group "Punishment, Labour, Dependency". Christian has published extensively on the social history of labour and punishment, on the history of the Spanish empire and on modern Italy. His research interests include methodological and theoretical questions, and in particular the possibility to combine the global- and micro-historical perspectives.

Sergeja Masten holds a Master's degree in Sociology and is currently working at the Slovenian Social Science Data Archives, where her primary role is digital curation of social science research data, training of data depositors and data users. She is an active open science promotor, her professional interests lie in topics such as gender and economic inequalities, and ecologic/environmental issues.

Erica Mezzoli holds a PhD in East European History from the Università degli Studi di Trieste (2011). Her research interests include economic, social and labour history from Early Modern to Modern times. Currently she is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at the Department of History-Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana with the project "We Can Do It! Women's labour market participation in the maritime sector in the Upper Adriatic after the two World Wars in an intersectional perspective" (acronym: WeCanIt; grant agreement: 894257).

Tanja Petrović is research advisor at the Institute of Culture and Memory Studies ZRC SAZU and professor at the ZRC SAZU Graduate school in Ljubljana. She is interested in uses and meanings of socialist and Yugoslav legacies in post-Yugoslav societies, as well as in cultural, linguistic, political, and social processes that shape reality of these societies. She explores a plethora of issues, encompassing the role of language in forming ideologies, memory and identity, labor and gender histories in post-Yugoslav spaces, the relationship between memory, heritage, and historiographic narratives on Yugoslav socialism. She published numerous articles and monographs in the fields of anthropology of post-socialism, memory studies, masculinity, gender history, heritage studies, linguistic

anthropology, and labor history. Among her recent publications are: “Fish canning industry and the rhythm of social life in the North-eastern Adriatic” *Narodna umjetnost* (2020); “Agency, biography, and temporality: (un)making women's biographies in the wake of the loss of the socialist project in Yugoslavia”, *Wagadu: a journal of transnational women's & gender studies* (2020); “Political parody and the politics of ambivalence,” *Annual review of anthropology* (2018).

Sabine Rutar, Ph.D., is a Senior Research Associate at the Leibniz-Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg. She is Editor-in-Chief of *Comparative Southeast European Studies*. Recent publications include the chapter “Massengewalt östlich von Triest. Vom Grenzlandfaschismus zum Kalten Krieg (1920er bis 1950er Jahre)”, in: Meinolf Arens / Martina Bitunjac, eds, *Massengewalt in Südosteuropa im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert. Motive, Abläufe und Auswirkungen* (2021); “Symbolic Geographies, Borderlands, and the Global Condition of Scholars”, *Südosteuropa. Journal of Politics and Society* 68/3 (2020); and “Labor Protest in the Italian-Yugoslav Border Region During the Cold War. Action, Control, Legitimacy, Self-Management”, in: Marsha Siefert, ed., *Labour in State Socialist Europe, 1945-1989. Contributions to a History of Work* (2020). She edited, in recent years, “The Second World War in Historiography and Public Debate”, thematic issue *Südosteuropa. Journal of Politics and Society* 65/2 (2017); “The Wars of Yesterday. The Balkan Wars and the Emergence of Modern Military Conflict, 1912-13” (2018), and “The Balkan Wars from Contemporary Perception to Historic Memory” (2016, both with Katrin Boeckh); and “Violence in Late Socialist Public Spheres”, thematic issue *European History Quarterly* 45/2 (2015).

Urška Strle graduated in History at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana in 2004. Between 2006 and 2010 she worked as a young research fellow at the Slovenian Migration Institute at the Science Research Centre of Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana. In 2010 she completed her PhD thesis entitled *Slovenians in Canada: Emigration through the Prism of Oral Testimony* in 2010. Two years later she was selected for a postdoc fellowship to research Slovenians in Canada, funded by the International Committee for Canadian Studies in Ottawa. Since 2013 she has worked as a research fellow Department of History in Ljubljana and has executed lectures on Epistemology of History which embraces also a seminar on oral history since 2018. Her fields of interest are modern migration history, oral history, and gender history.

Susan Zimmermann is a historian of labor and gender politics and movements in international contexts and in the Habsburg Monarchy and Hungary. In recent years her research has focused on the politics of women's work as pursued by: the ILO and some of the women's networks in its orbit in the interwar period, foregrounding issues of gender, class and unequal global development; the women's international of the International Federation of Trade Unions; and female trade unionists in state-socialist Hungary. In 2018 she co-edited, together with Eileen Boris and Dorothea Hoehtker, the volume *Women's ILO. Transnational Networks, Global Labour Standards and Gender Equity, 1919 to Present* (Leiden: Brill). Her most recent monograph (in German) is *Women's politics and men's trade unionism. International gender politics, female IFTU-trade unionists and the labor and women's movements of the interwar period* (Löcker Verlag, Vienna, 2021). Zimmermann holds the European Research Council Grant “Women's labour activism in Eastern Europe and transnationally, from the age of empires to the late 20th century” (Acronym: ZARAH, 2020–2025, <https://zarah-ceu.org/>). Since 2014 she has served as President of the International Conference of Labour and Social History ITH, and since 2015 as Board Member of the International Federation for Research in Women's History.