



INŠTITUT INSTITUTE
ZA NOVEJŠO ZGODOVINO OF CONTEMPORARY HISTORY



javna agencija za znanstvenoraziskovalno
in inovacijsko dejavnost Republike Slovenije

WEAST 2025 LJUBLJANA WORKSHOP

19-20 June 2025

Economics, Nationalism and Politics in Central, East and South-East Europe

Day one (19.6.2025)

8.30 – 9.00 morning coffee

9.00 – 9.15 Welcome speech

9.15 – 10.00 Keynote I: **Žarko Lazarević** (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana)

10.00 – 10.15 coffee break

10.15 – 11.05 Panel 1: Economic Nationalism I (Chair: **Ivan Smiljanić**)

- **Katalin Vörös** (University of Pécs) The 1000-year-old Hungarian Vocational Education. The Nation-Building and Identity-Generating Aspirations by the Example of Hungarian Industrial Vocational Education in the Second Half of the 19th century
- **Katalin Shrek** (University of Debrecen) The Issue of Bulgarian Railway Constructions in the 1880s: Foreign Concessions and National Aspirations

11.05 – 11.15 coffee break

11.15 – 12.30 Panel 2: Economic Nationalism II (Chair: **Oliver Pejić**)

- **Veronika Eszik** (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) Economic Nationalism or Clash of Interests Narrated with Nationalism's Vocabulary? Conflicts around the Nascent Hungarian Maritime Navigation
- **Nataša Henig Mišičič** (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana) Financial Institutions in Bács-Bodrog County: Navigating the Challenges of Economic Nationalism
- **Ádám Schwarzwölder** (VERITAS Research Institute for History and Archives) Torn Between Reasons and Emotions – Hungary in the Economic Community of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch break

13.30 – 14.15 Panel 3: Economic Nationalism III (Chair: **Neja Blaj Hribar**)

- **Bianca Sendrea** (University of Bucharest) Facing two forms of economic nationalizing in Romania. Gödemesterháza JSC and its actions towards the agrarian reform of 1921 and the law for the encouragement of national industry
- **Oliver Pejić** (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana) Foreign Businesspeople and Economic Nationalism in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes: Examples from the Maribor Oblast (1924-1929)
- **Ivan Smiljanić** (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana) Slovenian economic nationalism on the example of Anton Kajfež's company in Kočevje

The workshop is held as part of the postdoctoral project *Financial Networks in the Shadow of Economic Nationalism: A Comparative Study of the Territories of Slovenia and Vojvodina from 1867 to 1929* (No. Z6-50192) and the research programme *Economic, Social and Environmental History of Slovenia* (No. P6-0280). It is supported by European Historical Economics Society (EHES) and the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (ARIS).



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14.15 – 14.30 coffee break

14.30 – 15.20 Panel 4: New Data and Initiatives (Chair: Marvin Suesse)

- **Stefan Nikolić** (Loughborough University) The Centre for South-East European Economic History
- **Matthias Morys** (University of York) Evolution of databases in practical use: constructing a Vienna stock market exchange index 1885-1914 based on OCR technology

15.20 – 15.30 coffee break

15.30 – 16.15 Keynote II: Clemens Jobst (University of Vienna)

18.30 Dinner (restaurant Breg)

Day two (20.6.2025)

8.30 – 9.00 morning coffee

9.00 – 10.15 Panel 5: Economic Nationalism IV (Chair: Nataša Henig Miščič)

- **Neja Blaj Hribar** (Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana) Discourses regarding foreigners in a Slovenian newspaper during the 1930s in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia
- **Jelena Rafailović** (The Institute for Recent History of Serbia, Belgrade) Economic nationalism and the industry in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in the 1930s
- **Zachary Mazur** (POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and Historical Institute and Anthropos Doctoral School) The Industrialization problem: cartels and state-owned business

10.15 – 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 – 11.20 Panel 6: Economic Nationalism V (Chair: Jelena Rafailović)

- **Petar Ćurčić** (Institute of European Studies, Belgrade) Narratives of economic subjugation in Croatian politics in Austro-Hungary and Yugoslavia: a comparative case study of Josip Frank and Rudolf Bičanić
- **László Bíró and Gábor Demeter** (HAS Research Centre for the Humanities) HDI, GDP, composite welfare: regional inequalities and development levels in interwar Yugoslavia – the Bičanić-Prica debate reconsidered

11.20 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 12.20 Panel 7: Imperial Legacy (Chair: Stefan Nikolić)

- **Leonard Kukić** (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid) Borderlands and Bloodlands: The Habsburg Military Frontier and Regional Development in Croatia

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The Eastern European Economic History Initiative



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- **Magnus Neubert** (Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies) Leviathan's Shadow: The Imperial Legacy of State Capacity and Economic Development in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia

12.20 – 13.30 Lunch break

13.30 – 14.20 Panel 8: Inequality (Chair: Matthias Morys)

- **Jörg Baten** (University Tuebingen) The dramatic rise and fall of southeastern European gender inequality over the past three millennia
- **Filip Novokmet** (University of Zagreb & World Inequality Lab) Wealth Inequality of Ethnic Conflict

14.20 – 14.30 Coffee break

14.30 – 15.20 Panel 9: Development (Chair: Jörg Baten)

- **Elena Korschmina** (University of Bologna) and **Marvin Suesse** (Trinity College Dublin) Minorities and industrialisation: Evidence from the Russian Empire
- **Róbert Venyige** (Corvinus University of Budapest) The Co-development of Property Rights and Land Use in the Kingdom of Hungary

15.20 – 15.30 Concluding remarks

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