

Prospects for a Post-Capitalist Future: Power, Resistance and Transformation

Alternate Routes: A Journal of Critical Social Research Conference Program

Monday June 12 – Tuesday June 13, 2023

Department of Political Sciences, University of Bari, Piazza Cesare Battisti, 70121 Bari, Italy

Monday June 12, 2023

8:30-9:00am – Registration, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XXI

9:00-9:30am – Opening Remarks: Conference Organizing Committee, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor Aula Starace

- Valeria Cirillo, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy
- Carlo Fanelli, York University, Canada
- Lidia Greco, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy
- Heather Whiteside, University of Waterloo, Canada

9:30-11:00am: Panel 1 – Theory in Action, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Carlo Fanelli, York University

Sevgi Dogan, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, *Luxemburg and Gramsci. The Role of Optimism and Pessimism During Struggle for an Alternative to Capitalism*

Peter Hudis, Oakton College, *Time Matters: Rethinking the Alternative to Capitalism in Light of the New Edition of Marx's Critique of the Gotha Program*

Edward Winslow, York University, *Marx on the Relation of Labour to Socialism*

Ellen Russell, Wilfrid Laurier University, *De/Legitimizing Capitalism and its Alternatives: Economic Discourse and the Economic Imaginaries They Support*

11:00-11:30am – Coffee Break - Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XX

11:30-1:00pm: Panel 2 – Power, Politics and Public Policy, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Audrey Laurin-Lamothe, York University

Anthony C. Masi, McGill University, *Differences in Public Policy Responses and Citizens Reactions to the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Comparative Study of Canada, Sweden, Italy and South Korea*

Stephen McBride, McMaster University; and Joy Schnittker, McMaster University, *Public Ownership Redux*

Davide Ventrone Carleton University, *The Canadian Council for P3s and Canada Infrastructure Bank: A Marxian Analysis of Public-Private Partnership and the Integral State*

Heather Whiteside, University of Waterloo, *Capitalist Public Enterprise*

1:00-2:00 pm – Lunch, Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XX

2:00-3:30pm: Panel 3 – Race, Gender and Migration, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Nalini Persram, York University

Bianca Griffani, Goldsmiths, University of London, *No Job, No Husband: The Gendered Politics of Social Citizenship in Post-Fordist Italy*

Rawan Abdelbaki, York University, *The Racial Geographies of Amazon and the Future of Work in Canada's Greater Toronto Area*

Tania Ruiz-Chapman, University of Toronto, *Migration, Border Making and Disability: The Dialectics of Disablement at the Border*

Sam Teclé, Toronto Metropolitan University, *The Rose That Grew From Concrete: Mutual Aid and Lateral Care During A Pandemic*

3:30-4:00pm – Coffee Break - Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XX

4:00pm-5:15pm: Panel 4, The State, Empire and Alternatives, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Heather Whiteside, University of Waterloo

Olya Murphy, York University, *Debating Alternatives for a Post-Capitalist Future Within the Historical Materialist Framework*

Lidia Greco, University of Bari Aldo Moro, *Industrial Decarbonization and the State: Evidence from Taranto, Italy*

Audrey Laurin-Lamothe, York University, *Fascism and Capital in the Fossil Fuel-Based Economy*

Nalini Persram, York University; and Abdulqadir Al-Emad, Independent Researcher, *Yemen, 2011-2015: What and When Was the Revolution?*

Tuesday June 13, 2023

9:00-10:30am: Panel 5 – Labour, Precarity and Transnationalism, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Lidia Greco, University of Bari Aldo Moro

Carlo Fanelli, York University, *The Four-Day Workweek: Canada in Comparative Perspective*

Tracy Supruniuk, York University, *Athlete Precarity: A Workers' Lens to the NFL Injury Crisis*

Valeria Cirillo, University of Bari Aldo Moro, *Digital Dependency and Labour Conditions: Evidence from Italian Business Census Data*

Katherine Nastovski, York University, *Thinking Critically About Labour Transnationalism*

9:00-10:30am – Documentary Screening: What Must Be Done? Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XXI

Chair: Claudio Cozza, University Naples Parthenope

Garry Potter is a filmmaker and Professor of Sociology at Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada. He has made several feature length documentary films: *Whispers of Revolution*, *Dystopia: What is to be done?* and *Luxury Eco-communism: A Wonderful World*. He is also author of the book *Dystopia*, as well as *The Bet: Truth in Science, Literature and Everyday Knowledges*, and *The Philosophy of Social Science: New Perspectives*, and numerous scholarly articles, as well as a series of educational films on social theory available at <https://socialtheoryfilms.com>

10:30-11:00am – Coffee Break – Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XX

11:00-12:30pm: Panel 6 – Contours of Authoritarian Neoliberalism, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Stephen McBride, McMaster University

Joe Galbo, University of New Brunswick, *Making Sense of Giorgia Meloni: Post-Fascism in Power*

Margherita Ianini, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, *Dismantling Democracies? Class Divides and Abstention in Italy*

Gary Teeple, Simon Fraser University, *Liberal Democracy as Mask for the Warfare State*

Bryn Jones, University of Bath, *A Property-Owning Democracy? Working Class Divisions and Left Electoral Strategies*

12:30-1:30 pm – Lunch, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XX

1:30-3:00pm: Panel 7 – Platform and Digital Labour, Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Rawan Abdelbaki, York University

Marialuisa Divella, University of Bari Aldo, *The Impact on Work of New Technologies in Personal Services*

Claudio Cozza, University of Naples Parthenope, *Digital Platforms, Imperialism and War*

Marco Marrone, University of Salento, *The Infrastructural Power of Digital Platforms (And How to Challenge It)*

Richard Wellen, York University, *Responding to Digital Platform Power: Taking Economic Democracy Beyond Antimonopoly*

3:00-3:30pm – Coffee Break – Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, XX

3:30-5:00pm Panel 8: Concluding Plenary - Resisting Relocation by Demanding a Just Transition: The Case of the Re-Industrialization Plan of the GKN Factory in Florence – Room: Palazzo del Prete, 2nd floor, Aula Starace

Chair: Valeria Cirillo, University of Bari Aldo Moro

GKN Factory Workers' Collective

Solidarity Collective Research Group: Lorenzo Cresti (Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies) and Francesca Gabriellini (University of Bologna)

Since 9 July 2021, the workers of the GKN factory in Florence have been fighting against its closure and relocation. If the internal union organization and the forms of radical workplace democracy built up over the last 15 years by the workers have enabled them to conduct a struggle that has now lasted for over 20 months, their ability to mobilize the surrounding social fabric has also proved to be crucial. By forming alliances with ecological movements and seeking the contribution of a group of university researchers, the GKN workers were able to put forward several proposals to reindustrialize the factory. A first Plan was presented in March 2022 and was based on claiming for public intervention to create a public hub for a just transition in the country by proposing plant conversions towards sustainable mobility and renewable energies, together with the constitution of a knowledge district linking Tuscan universities and labs with the factory. Such proposals have found little space in the discussions at the competent institutions, also because the new private owner of the ex-GKN started proposing his ideas for reindustrializing the plant, although without ever going into details but asking for public financing at the same time. Indeed, after the substantial failure of the reindustrialization projects put forward by the new private players and given the persistent disinterest of the majority of the public actors, a second plan has been put forward based on a workers buy-out solution, thus creating a workers cooperative with business proposals still directed toward a green transition. In March 2023, while the new owner is going through the company liquidation, the multiple plans “from below” of the GKN workers remain the only concrete solutions on the table. For more information, please visit: <https://fondazionefeltrinelli.it/schede/ebook-piano-ex-gkn/>

7:30pm – Social Event: Portineria 21, via B. Cairoli, 137/139, Bari
PLEASE [RSVP](#)



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