

The 37th International Labour Process Conference 2019

‘Fragmentations and Solidarities’

University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

24-26th April 2019



**Fragmentations
AND Solidarities**

24-26 APRIL 2019

Call for papers and symposia

The 37th International Labour Process Conference (ILPC) will be held in Vienna, Austria, between 24th and 26th April 2019. Each year the ILPC brings together researchers from a variety of countries with the objective of enhancing our understanding of contemporary developments relating to work and employment. The conference organizers welcome papers on any issue concerning the analysis of labour processes, labour markets, labour organising and labour reproduction.

The 2019 conference will additionally focus on ‘Fragmentations and Solidarities’ in contemporary work and employment relations. Recent developments in the economy and society challenge the institutional frameworks of employment, accelerating the ongoing processes of deregulation and flexibilisation. This reiterates segregation along the lines of gender, ethnicity and qualifications and creates new formal and symbolic boundaries within the workforce. Furthermore, transnational forms of work organization and global value chains modify and partly intensify the divisions of labour, deepening the unequal distribution of wealth, ecological hazard, and risk to health and social security among employees in the world. Global inequality, in return, pushes workers to leave their home countries and migrate to adjacent or more distant formal or informal labour markets, raising the issue of solidarity within and between the formally and informally employed workforces. Finally, new technologies appear to increase their impacts in uncertain directions: augmenting the share of knowledge work and improving skill levels, threatening jobs, and/or increasing the pressure on workers and the scope of managerial control. There is considerable risk of new fragmentations of employment according to different skill levels, forms of contract and locations of work.

A key aim of the conference is to use labour process analysis to understand the varied mechanisms that produce fragmentations in work and employment relations, and to explore the foundations of solidarity on the level of individuals, of collective action, and on the level of national and supra-national policies. This also includes a focus on how changes in the labour process and in employment relations impact on wider societal and political developments.

We encourage papers that seek to develop inter-disciplinary linkages through their empirical, conceptual or theoretical content. We particularly welcome submissions on topics such as:

- Power, subordination and degradation in the contemporary global economy
- The politics of production, productivity and performance management
- Structural imbalances in the global economy and the consequences for labour
- Work and Employment in the Global South
- Global value chains and ‘dimensions’ of labour (e.g. unfree/forced labour, informal work)
- Finance capital and ‘financialisation’
- Forms of employment and cleavages and solidarities between groups of workers
- New forms of trade union organizing and collective action
- Commodification and the role of markets
- Austerity, welfare regimes and the workplace
- Migrant labour, labour markets and the organization of production
- Productive and reproductive labour in the global economy
- Technology, ‘robotisation’ and the digital economy
- Time, space, place and the labour process
- Labour process dynamics and their wider political implications

We also welcome papers related to traditional labour process territories and concerns. Examples include:

- Labour process theory and other critical perspectives of work relations
- Industrial relations, representation and trade union strategies
- New forms of workforce flexibility, insecurity and intensification
- Inequality at work: gender, ethnicity, and class
- Changing skills, knowledge and occupations
- Labour agency and changing forms of resistance
- Voice and participation
- Gender and identities at work

Call for streams

ILPC is not a fully streamed conference and most proposals for papers are submitted to the general conference and are only themed by the organisers for the final programme at a later stage to ensure that sessions have some coherence. However, in the past decade the conference has incorporated streams into the program. Acceptance of stream proposals is based on a review process in which streams are evaluated based on two main criteria (in addition to the substantive focus of the proposed stream):

- The focus of the stream is on issues or topics not normally covered in detail in the conference; or treats traditional topics in a novel way.

- The stream will broaden the audience for the conference and attract scholars who may be new to the event.

Stream proposals should include:

- Detailed description of the proposed stream (including title and key conveners)
- A discussion of how the stream will address the criteria for inclusion listed above

Stream organisers will be asked to circulate the call for papers to their special communities as well as to select the abstracts and to programme the stream in cooperation with the conference organisers.

If you are interested in organising a stream for the 2019 conference, please send a proposal to the organisers (ilpc.admin@ilpc.org.uk) no later than **June 22nd 2018**. This email address can also be used for informal queries and advice. The conference organisers will consult with the ILPC Steering Group and a decision will be made in time for the second, amended Call for Papers. Decisions of acceptance will be communicated by July 13th 2018.

Conference Submissions and Deadlines

Abstracts

All abstracts are externally reviewed. Papers must not have been previously published or presented elsewhere. The abstract should contain clear information about the topic, how it is being investigated and the intended contribution to knowledge.

Abstracts relating to new empirical research should contain information about theoretical orientation, findings, methodology and the stage of the research (if appropriate). Abstracts of papers that are concerned solely with theoretical or conceptual matters will need to provide clear information on how they address and advance relevant debates. Abstracts should be between 350-500 words.

Key words should be given that indicate the focus of research and the methods used.

Abstract submission through the ILPC website (www.ilpc.org.uk) will open at the start of June 2018 with a deadline of **October 26th 2018**. Decisions of acceptance will be made by early December 2018.

PhD workshop

Doctoral students and early career researchers are especially welcome at the ILPC. The 2019 conference will include a pre-Conference workshop and dinner, which will provide an opportunity to learn more about the scope and development of labour process research. It will also provide an informal environment in which to share experiences and develop

relationships. Doctoral papers are not streamed separately at the conference. You will be asked to identify whether you are a doctoral student on registration and whether you wish to attend the doctoral workshop.

The 2019 Organising Team

Jörg Flecker, Myriam Gaitsch, Dominik Klaus, Saskja Schindler, Irene Rieder,
University of Vienna
Johanna Hofbauer, Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU Vienna)
Bettina Haidinger, Conny Prentner, Annika Schönauer, Working Life Research
Centre (FORBA)
Ursula Holtgrewe, ZSI - Centre for Social innovation GmbH