

Conference: Human Rights and Technological Change: Conflicts and Convergences since the 1950s

(19-20 Sep 2019 at the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Cologne)

Conveners: Dr. Michael Homberg (Potsdam), Dr. Benjamin Möckel (Cologne), Dr. Daniel Stahl (Jena)

Thursday, Sep 19

Opening, 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.

Dr. Michael Homberg (Potsdam), Dr. Benjamin Möckel (Cologne): Welcome and Introductory Remarks

I. Infrastructure Projects, 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 a.m.

Chair: Dr. Volker Barth (Cologne)

Dr. Birte Förster (Darmstadt): Infrastructure Projects in French Colonial Territories after 1945

Christoph Plath (Berlin): The Right to Development, Technology, and the Quest for Global Justice. A Human Rights-Based Approach to the Transmission of Knowledge

Dr. Bradley Simpson (Connecticut): Development through Armaments in Authoritarian Indonesia

Lunch, 12.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

II. Production, 1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Chair: Prof. em. Dr. Jost Dülffer (Cologne)

Michel Christian (Geneva): The UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Program of “Industrial Redeployment” in the 1970s

Dr. Knud Andresen (Hamburg): Human rights and Labor Rights at the Volkswagen Plant in South Africa

Dr. Simone M. Müller (Munich): Technology Transfer and the Global Waste Economy

Coffee break, 3.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

III. Media Cultures, 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Chair: Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp (Cologne)

Andreas Kahrs (Berlin): Human Rights as a Topic in South African Propaganda during Apartheid

Prof. Dr. Barbara Keys (Melbourne): "Tools for Truth": Human Rights NGOs and Typewriters, Telephones, and Computers

Lia Börsch (Heidelberg): Searching for a Universal Language: Discourse and the Organisation of Images at Amnesty International in the 1980s

Dinner 6.00 p.m. – 7.30. p.m.

7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m: Public screening of the movie "The Cleaners" (Germany, 2018) and discussion with the directors Hans Block and Moritz Rieseewieck (chair: Prof. Dr. Habbo Knoch)

Friday, Sep 20

IV. Computerization, 10 a.m. – 12 a.m.

Chair: Dr. Valeria Wegh Weis (Berlin/Buenos Aires)

Benedikt Neuroth (Berlin): Big Data and Privacy in the USA during the 1960s and 1970s

Prof. Dr. Larry Frohman (Stony Brook): Human Rights and Digital Wrongs: Computers, Personal Information, and the Evolving Discourse of Privacy Rights in West Germany

Julia Gül Erdogan (Potsdam): Computer Power to the People. The West German Hacker's Activism, Online Communication before the Internet Age and its Utilization during the Yugoslav Wars

Lunch, 12 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

V. Reproduction, 1.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Chair: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Lindner (Cologne)

Roman Birke (Jena): Individual Freedom or Responsibility to the Community? Human Rights, Contraceptive Technologies, and Fertility Control in the 1960s and 1970s

Dr. Tehila Sasson (Atlanta): Population Policy and the Production of Baby Milk Powder

Dr. Heinrich Hartmann (Basel): Contested Reproductive Rights. Demographic Technologies and the Quest for Individualism, 1960s to 1970s

3.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Dr. Daniel Stahl (Jena): Summing-up and final discussion