
Abstracts

Christoph Gollasch, „Menschen, laßt die Toten ruhn“ – Das KZ Sonnenburg als Prisma der Frühphase des Nationalsozialismus

The history of the former concentration camp in Sonnenburg has not yet been sufficiently explored. However, the camp played a major role in the process of establishing and consolidating the Nazi regime. As it was subject to Prussian police authorities from April 1933 on, the transition from the constitutional state to German fascism crystallizes in the concentration camp's history. Apart from looking at the institutionalization of the camp, its character is explored by assessing former inmates' testimonies. A sociographic analysis of the camps' prisoners adds to a better understanding of the societal dimension of the transition. By rediscovering the particular history of the Sonnenburg concentration camp and approaching its role for the establishment of the Nazi "dual state" (Ernst Fraenkel), this article contributes to the field of research of the so-called early concentration camps. It concludes with a discussion on the politics of memory which have recently unfolded alongside the establishment of a museum at the site of the former concentration camp.

Sylvia Wagner, Ein unterdrücktes und verdrängtes Kapitel der Heimgeschichte: Arzneimittelstudien an Heimkindern

In the Federal Republic of Germany sedating drugs were administered to children in institutional care during the period from 1950

to about 1975. The article shows that effects and side effects of drugs not yet available on the market were tested on those children. So far there is evidence for about fifty medication studies undertaken, and it can be assumed that the actual number is much higher. In none of the cases the children or their legal representatives were advised about the medication tests or had given their approval. The tested drugs belong to the groups of vaccines, psychotropics, and libido suppressors. Involved were pharmaceutical companies, the medics of child care institutions as well as the Federal Health Office and the Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs. The article shows the continuity of persons involved and responsibilities since the time of German National Socialism.

Ralf Ruckus, Chinese Capitalism in Crisis. Part 2: Li Minqi on the forthcoming collapse of China's economy and the capitalist world system

In the second part of this mini-series on Chinese capitalism in crisis, Ralf Ruckus discusses Li Minqi's recent book *China and the 21st Century Crisis* (2016) followed by a lively discussion with the book's author. Li presents the economic, social, and ecological limits not just of Chinese capitalism but of the current capitalist world-system as a whole, predicting the latter's collapse within the next fifteen years. While Li's argument on systemic limits is in large parts convincing, his views on a possible political solution are not. Ralf Ruckus writes: "If there is a chance to bring about the end of capitalism in China and globally, we have to learn from the experience of historical socialism—beyond the *demonization* of attempts to create a society without capitalist exploitation, and beyond the *mystification* of historical 'socialism,' which was meant to accomplish that but didn't."

Mario Becksteiner, Rancière lesen

During the last few years, interest in the thought of French post-structuralist philosophers has grown. Jacques Rancière, a representative of this tradition, has attracted considerable attention, leading to the translation of two important books by him in German: *Die Nacht der Proletarier* and *Die Lektion Althusser's*. The article uses these two new publications and the book *Das Unvernehmen* to describe important milestones in the development of Rancière's political philosophy. Tracing Rancière's shift away from Althusser and his theory of political subjectivity, the text proposes a reading of Rancière that highlights the constitution of a subjectivity that challenges existing orders in our society.

Gerhard Hanloser, Der Holocaust und seine geschichtspolitischen Lehren in der Darstellung von Timothy Snyder

In his works on terror and the politics of annihilation during the Second World War, U.S. historian Timothy Snyder claims to overcome the narrow perspective of a historiography focused on nation states by examining the space of terror and the intersecting interests and dynamics within. However, his broadly received books *Bloodlands* and *Black Earth* show that Snyder's account is also informed by historico-political interests; this is evident, for example, in his consistently positive depiction of Polish society, which goes hand in hand with a consistently negative depiction of Soviet partisans. Snyder's work is also characterized by his understatement of the state's and bureaucracies' role in terror, and, at the same time, his view that the destruction of the state is the essential prerequisite of the Holocaust: a diagnosis that leads him to present Hitler as an "anarchist." In real-political terms, Snyder's historico-political conclusions are leading to the affirmation of nation-state structures.

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