
Abstracts

Ahlrich Meyer / Insa Meinen, Jüdische Immigranten in der belgischen Ökonomie (1918 bis 1942). Zweiter Teil

The “Aryanization” of the Belgian economy ordered by the German occupants aimed at the liquidation of virtually all small and medium-sized businesses owned by Jews. Most of these business owners had immigrated to Belgium from eastern Europe. The article deals with the genesis of this immigrant economy, presenting new findings on Jewish immigration to Belgium and examining the structure of Jewish businesses, as well as their distribution in Antwerp and Brussels. Statistically processed mass data serve as the basis for this, though individual case histories are also presented. The businesses of Jewish immigrants were mostly small family businesses and of an artisanal or proto-industrial nature, specializing on a few branches of trade and unable to secure for their owners more than a precarious existence. The article, which is being published in two parts, concludes with quotations from petitions business owners addressed to the German military administration in an effort to ward off the elimination of their livelihoods.

Hartmut Rübner, Antikommunismus in Aktion.

Alfred Weiland, die *Gruppe Neues Beginnen* und die Nachrichtendienste im Systemkonflikt nach 1945

During the Cold War system conflict, both sides operated not only with their respective intelligence services, but also through intermediate associations. The Western intelligence services mobilized a wide range of anti-Communist “front organizations” from the right wing of the political spectrum, but also radical leftist fringe groups. For example, the *Group of International Socialists* (GIS), which reemerged its their council-communist origins in the Weimar Republic, operated

across the sector border of West Berlin and within the GDR in order to destabilize the totalitarian regime. This occurred with the support of US agencies. However, due to the abduction of GIS' most important activist, Alfred Weiland, the Eastern intelligence services were able to infiltrate the GIS' cross-zonal connections, which led to the destruction of the oppositional networks within the GDR. The article highlights the special role that Weiland played as a confidant of the US intelligence agencies.

Rüdiger Hachtmann, Blick zurück und in die Zukunft. Die Sicht auf die „Novemberrevolution“ 1919 bis 2018 und mögliche Perspektiven einer kritischen Revolutionshistoriographie

This essay was inspired by Mark Jones' monograph *Founding Weimar. Violence and the German Revolution of 1918–1919* (2016). The first section of the essay highlights the relevance of this book for historical research on the revolution of 1918/19. Its second section discusses relevant reviews of the monograph. The third and fourth sections focus on how different political movements, as well as the views of historians on the revolution of 1918/19, have changed within the past hundred years. Nowadays, critical historical research on the revolution has to focus on new questions. Since the outbreak of the present global economic crisis, the capitalist order has been in question. Alternative left-wing economic orders as they were developed by the German *Rätebewegung* (worker's council movement) in 1918/19 should be discussed from a new perspective. Due to the global economic crisis, right-wing movements have gained more influence over the last decade. Parliamentary democracies are progressively eroding. Jones' book is in contrast to the current academic discourse. This last can be considered to be in crisis, as it displays a limited understanding of the revolution of 1918/19 by merely regarding it as part of the success story of the Weimar Republic. Jones highlights the escalation of violence and the role proto-fascist *Freikorps* played as the initiators of this escalation. He also considers

the political responsibility of the Social Democratic Party. Jones concludes that counter-revolutionary violence caused the founding as well the end of the Weimar Republic.

Wolfgang Hien, Gesundheit als politische Kategorie. Wechselwirkungen zwischen Umwelt-, Gesundheits- und Arbeiterbewegung in der BRD der 1970er und 1980er Jahre

The protection of health has always been a stepchild of the working culture. Only since the 1970s has this tradition changed, in response to the environmental movement, Italian struggles for better working conditions and efforts to develop a critical medicine. These topics were introduced to the world of work by left-wing groups, often in open conflict with unions and works councils. The article examines cases related to chemical toxins, asbestos and other health risks and asks to what extent the struggle for better health at the workplace has been successful. Health protection and health promotion have been bureaucratized and made to conform with managerial notions of performance enhancement. Thus the core aim of the health movement – creating decent working and living conditions – remains unachieved.

Slave Cubela, Parallelgesellschaftliche Kohäsion. Über einige Bedingungen der Möglichkeit radikaler Subversion

This essay argues that left-wing efforts to bring about changes within and against capitalism can only succeed if they involve the development of autonomous structures. Following this argument, the author sketches a multidimensional process of dissociation from the current social order. The essay aims not only to define the concepts of “parallel society” and “cohesion” more precisely, but also to point to historical examples of the relevance of such concepts within the (German) workers’ movement.

Lisa Carstensen, Lisa-Marie Heimeshoff, Lisa Riedner, Der Zwang zur Arbeit. Verwertungslogiken in den umkämpften Regimen der Anwerbe-, Flucht- und EU-Migration

In current debates on the transformation of the German border and migration regime, the idea of labour market integration is increasingly popular. Migrants' rights are increasingly bound to their perceived ability to integrate into the labour market, i. e. to migrants' economic utility. In this article, we discuss the development of discourses on the economic utility of migrants and labour market policies concerning migrants, starting with the 'Gastarbeiter' regime (1955–1973). We also analyse contemporary discourses on migration and migrants, policies that (attempt to) regulate migration, and the struggles and forms of resistance against these policies in the current regimes of EU migration and refugee migration. We show that the role economic utility plays within migration policies has changed repeatedly over the last fifty years; today, the concept of economic utility is re-articulated within a neoliberal logic of workfare and activation. Our analysis is based on current research, selected media reports from daily newspapers, and policy documents. When examining discourses associated with a given migration regime, we distinguish between various *topoi* (patterns of argumentation that form narratives). These include migration as a security issue (the control of borders and conditions of access, terror threats or threats to social peace), migration as a humanitarian issue (asylum, family reunification, protection), and migration as a question of economic utility with respect to the migrant workforce (a shortage of skilled labour, seasonal work, demographic change). At first sight, these *topoi* seem to exclude and contradict one another, but we show that the economic dimension is gaining weight without displacing the others. Instead, it intersects with humanitarian and security concerns.

Autorinnen und Autoren / Contributors

Lisa Carstensen, Dipl.-Soz., researcher at the Institut für Kulturanthropologie, Universität Göttingen.

Slave Cubela, co-editor of the journal *Express. Zeitung für eine sozialistische Betriebsarbeit*.

Rüdiger Hachtmann, research fellow at the Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung in Potsdam, associate professor at the Technische Universität Berlin.

Lisa-Marie Heimeshoff, M. A., researcher at the Institut für Migrationsforschung und Interkulturelle Studien, Universität Osnabrück.

Wolfgang Hien, Dr. rer. pol., independent ergonomist, healthcare professional and senior researcher at Humboldt University Berlin.

Insa Meinen, Dr. phil., historian, researches the German occupation of Western Europe during the Second World War.

Abbrich Meyer, Dr. phil., political scientist; main areas of interest: political philosophy, research on National Socialism.

Lisa Riedner, Dr., researcher at the Institut für Migrationsforschung und Interkulturelle Studien, Universität Osnabrück.

Hartmut Rübner, Dr. phil., political scientist, research fellow of the Stiftung für Sozialgeschichte des 20. und 21. Jahrhundert, Bremen.