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## Abstracts

### **Simon Duckheim, Von der „Führererziehung“ zur „Sozialisierung des Heilwesens“. Die (gesundheits-)politischen Vorstellungen des Sozialhygienikers, Sexualreformers und Eugenikers Max Hodann (1894–1946) und sein Engagement im Verein Sozialistischer Ärzte (1919–1933)**

The Association of Socialist Physicians (ASP) was the most important left-wing medical association during the Weimar Republic. Its primary goal was the introduction of a free healthcare system, in line with the principles described in the SPD's Erfurt Program of 1891. Max Hodann, whose areas of research focused on social hygiene, sexual reforms and eugenics, was one of the most well-known members of the ASP and was strongly involved in the German youth movement. This article traces Hodann's scientific and political development, especially with regard to the critique of the SPD's policy. Furthermore, the extent to which this development was related to his ideas on health policy and social hygiene, issues for which Hodann was regarded as the most outspoken representative within the ASP, is being discussed.

### **Hartmut Rübner, Kommunistische Bewegung in der Weimarer Republik und im Widerstand gegen den Nationalsozialismus. Neuere Untersuchungen und Forschungsschwerpunkte**

The 1990s saw a boom in historical research on communism in Germany. In order to determine the relationship between utopia and reality in the history of communism, however, it is necessary to distinguish between two phenomena: on the one hand, the social movement which was constituted by a split from social democracy which had

become integrated into the system that reacted to relations of exploitation and oppression in class society, and, on the other hand, the dictatorships in power which constituted “real socialism”. In recent research we find a turning away from conventional party and political history towards methods focusing on social history and an investigation of specific environments. In so doing, however, it has not yet been possible to determine clearly whether a communist subculture is to be considered part of an inter-factional labour movement culture or whether it constituted separate niche communities. Although the communist spectrum includes many side currents and splinter groups, it is usually being reduced to the Communist Party (KPD).

### **Ralf Hoffrogge, Sozialpartnerschaft mit kurzer Tradition. Korporatismus, Voluntarismus und die „Varianten des Kapitalismus“ am Beispiel der Industriegewerkschaft Metall (IGM) und der Amalgamated Engineering Union (AEU)**

Germany is widely regarded as a model case of social partnership, or corporatism, or, according to the theoretical typology of the school of “Varieties of Capitalism”, as a coordinated market economy. Great Britain, on the other hand, is seen as a perfect example of a voluntaristic form of industrial relations. This essay questions these assumptions by comparing the German metal union *Industriegewerkschaft Metall* (IGM) to its British counterpart, the *British Amalgamated Engineering Union* (AEU). From industrialization to the present the metal industry played a leading role in the economy and both unions were the largest in their industry. They faced the same global challenges, at times leading to almost identical responses. While some studies identify distinct national traditions of corporatism or voluntarism way before 1918, the author argues that a definitive bifurcation into two systems of industrial relations happened much later, namely in the period between 1973 and 1979. At this turning point, British unions lost any hope

for a corporatist arrangement, while German corporatism survived as “defensive social partnership” leaving less room for manoeuvre for the trade union side.

### **Johanna Neuhauser / Peter Birke, Migration and Work – Theoretical Perspectives under the Impression of Multiple Crises**

In many countries, including Germany and Austria, the pandemic has both exposed and generated conflicts around migrant labour. *Social.History Online* has published several texts on struggles of migrant workers since March 2020, including analyses of conflicts over mass infections or labour unrest in agriculture or the meat industry. Johanna Neuhauser and Peter Birke discuss theoretical perspectives on how to understand the current cycle of conflicts. Based on empirical research in Germany’s and Austria’s low wage sectors they suggest to link critical research on migration and labour so as to improved the understanding of the perspectives of anti-racist and workplace struggles.

### **Christian Sperneac-Wolfer, Die multiple Prekarität rumänischer Bauarbeiter in Deutschland**

Romanian migrant workers labouring on German construction sites often lack proper health and safety measures and are subjected to exploitative working conditions. Starting off by describing instances of migrant labour unrest, Christian Sperneac-Wolfer sets out to analyse the precarious conditions these workers face in Germany, be that at work, access to decent housing or welfare provisions. The combination of these dimensions increases the negative consequences for workers. Not only does the analysis of these multiple layers of precariousness shed additional light on the extent to which the exploitation and the dynamics of migrant labour is rooted in society, but it also allows to identify new opportunities for political intervention.

**Rudi Friedrich / Connection e. V., Deserteure auf beiden  
Seiten des Krieges: „Die Idee in die Gesellschaft  
tragen, dass es einen anderen Weg gibt“  
(Interview: Peter Birke)**

In this interview with Rudi Friedrich, executive director of the association “Connection e.V”., conducted by our editor Peter Birke, the two discuss the consequences of the war in Ukraine and in particular the role conscientious objectors can play in the struggle against war. They also discuss whether mass desertion on both sides of the front can create the conditions for depriving the warmongers of their power. Flight from conscription and asylum for deserters are major issues being discussed. The interview has been conducted in December 2022 and constitutes the second of three planned texts about perspectives on the current war in Europe “from below”.

**Karmína, On “The Tragedy of the Ukrainian Working Class”  
(Interview: Peter Birke)**

How can the development of socio-economic conditions in Ukraine since the 1990s be explained? What was the role of the labour movement? In what ways have labour struggles been waged, what were their goals and what did they achieve? What kind of changes are occurring as a result of the war? A few months ago the *Karmína* collective has published an in-depth analysis on these questions and issues ([www.karmina.red/posts/tragedy-of-ukrainian-working-class/](http://www.karmina.red/posts/tragedy-of-ukrainian-working-class/)). The interview summarizes important results of this research, but also provides a discussion on working-class perspectives in Ukraine and Eastern Europe, one year on from the start of the Russian war of aggression. The interview has been conducted in December 2022 and constitutes the first of three planned texts about perspectives on the current war in Europe “from below”.

**Gianni Boetto, Ein Leben als operaistischer Aktivist in der italienischen „Provinz“. Vom heißen Herbst 1969 bis zu den Kämpfen in den Lagerhäusern der Logistik heute (Interview: Sergio Bologna; Übersetzung: Lars Stubbe und Karl Heinz Roth)**

In an interview with Sergio Bologna, Gianni Boetto recounts his decades-long experience of labour struggles in the Bassa Padovana, a region near Padua with a high proportion of medium-sized industrial supply companies. Boetto describes the experience of organized autonomy in the factories during the 1960s and 1970s and the impact of the defeat at FIAT in 1980, as well as the migration that intensified from the 1980s onwards, which restructured the labour market in various “waves”, thereby following the recomposition of capital. He describes the intensive collaboration needed which allowed grassroots unions to organise these migrants by way of operaist approaches, thus enabling them to establish themselves alongside the majority unions as equal opponents to capital, in order to counter the exploitative working conditions in the logistics and service industries. Sergio Bologna adds important remarks on the history of Italian cooperatives and their negative instrumentalization that has taken place since the 1990s in these class struggles of a newly constituted proletariat.