

📅 THURSDAY (30 November)

09:00–10:30

Labour and Labour Movement

Chair: Marcel Van der Linden IISG Amsterdam

Christian Frings

The Historical Separation of Abolitionism and the Labor Movement.

Claudia Roesch GHI Washington/University of Konstanz
Early Socialism and Slavery. Abolitionists and Owen's Social Reform in the Americas.

Ole Merkel University of Bochum

Fighting Against All Oppressions? Socialism and Slavery within the British and German Socialist Labour Movement, 1830–1890.

10:30–11:00 Coffee break

11:00–12:30

Revolutionary Thought and Abolitionism

Chair: Michael Zeuske University of Bonn

Matteo Rossi University of Turin

U.S. Political Economy, Abolitionism and the Conflict over Emancipation before the Civil War.

Birgit Bublies-Godau University of Bochum

German Democrats and Emigrants (Forty-Eighters), their Transnational Struggle for Freedom, Emancipation and Human Rights and their Relationship to the Anti-Slavery Movement (c. 1830–c. 1880).

Julius Wilm University of Leipzig

The Democratic Revolutionary in the Imperial Nation-State. Carl Schurz and Negotiation of Popular Sovereignty in the Civil War Era U.S.

12:30–13:30 Lunch

13:30–15:00

Doing Race: Theory and Practice of Oppression

Chair: Julius Wilm University of Leipzig

Mischa Honeck University of Kassel

Revolutionists No More? Antislavery 48ers and the Problem of Settler Colonialism.

Michael Zeuske University of Bonn

German-Speaking Slaveholders and Slave Traders in Times of Abolition Discourses (Caribbean 1810–1880).

Yannick Giovanni Marshall

California School of the Arts, Los Angeles

The Second Jim. White Abolitionists' Invention of the Suppliant Negro and the Replacing of Black Revolt.

15:00–15:30 Coffee break

15:30–17:00

Challenging Categories and Concepts

Chair: Felix Brahm University of Münster

Matilde Cazzola

Max Plank Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, Frankfurt

Anselm Küsters HU Berlin

Emancipation and British Radical Politics. Reconstructing the Contribution of Spenceanism to the Anti-Slavery Movement through a Text Mining Perspective (1790–1850).

Angela Zimmerman George Washington University, Washington

Martin R. Delany in Abeokuta. Anti-Slavery between Colonialism and Conjure.

Finzsch em. University of Cologne

The Murky Waters of Free Labour. African American Labour and Social Control from Reconstruction Industry Complex, 1862 to 2013.

17:00

Final discussion

19:00

Dinner at Avli

Luisenstr. 14, 44787 Bochum

Organised by:

Lehrgebiet Geschichte der Europäischen Moderne,
Historisches Institut
FernUniversität in Hagen

Institut für soziale Bewegungen
Ruhr-Universität Bochum

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Supported by

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Online via Zoom:

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Meeting-ID: 658 2089 1586

Kenncode: 17591132



Between Economy and Morality

Conference

The Anti-Slavery Movements as a Transnational Network in the "Long 19th Century"

📅 29 & 30 November 2023

📍 Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Institut für soziale Bewegungen,
Clemensstr. 17–19, 44789 Bochum

📺 or online via Zoom

Between Economy and Morality

The Anti-Slavery Movements as a Transnational Network in the "Long 19th Century"

Starting in the United Kingdom, the abolition of slavery quickly became one of the most pressing social issues of the 19th century. Contrary to the commonly held perception that the anti-slavery movements were a teleological success story, slavery underwent a number of phases of abolition and reintroduction, while the informal exploitative structures of 'slavery' never completely disappeared. This was exacerbated by the fact that the various systems of slavery spanned several eras, continents, and ideological histories. In line with recent research on the history of human rights, the conference takes up a critical, cultural-historical history of capitalism with the aim of first analysing it and then linking it to the phenomenon of morally motivated movements in the 19th century.

The final conference of the research project Between Economy and Morality – The Anti-Slavery Movements as a Transnational Network in the "Long 19th Century", funded by the Gerda-Henkel Foundation, provides a platform for a discussion of various aspects that were relevant to the differently motivated anti-slavery movements. Among other things, this will consider the more recent research in historiography, which proves that, for example, the German states and the German Empire in the 19th century were not as uninvolved in profits from the slave trade as had been long assumed. In addition to this purely 'German' perspective, however, similar structures, discourses, and practices can and will be dealt with from an international or transnational perspective.



TUESDAY (28 November) – Arrival

19:00

Informal Welcome + Dinner

(everyone to pay for themselves)

WEDNESDAY (29 November)

9:00–9:10

Welcome

Stefan Berger University of Bochum

Alexandra Przyrembel University of Hagen

9:10–10:35

Anti-Slavery and the British Empire

Chair: Stefan Berger University of Bochum

Martin Deuerlein University of Tübingen

The Legacy of Abolitionism? "Aboriginal Protection" in the British Empire, 1833 to 1866.

Pia Wiegink University of Bonn

Anti-Slavery Rhetoric and Agricultural Visions. 19th-Century German Literature Promoting Emigration to Colonial Queensland, Australia.

Nayanjyoti Kalita Central European University, Vienna

From "Slavery" to "Semi-Slavery" in Colonial Northeast India's Lushai Hills: Measures of Abolition or Re-configuration of Labour in Empire's Frontier?

10.35–11:00 Coffee break

11:00–12:30

Discourses and Practices of Abolitionism and Anti-Abolitionism in the Age of Imperialism

Chair: Alexandra Przyrembel University of Hagen

Annika Bärwald University of Bremen

Anti-Slavery and Alien Laws in Hamburg in the 19th Century: Conditions and Hurdles of an Early Black German Diaspora.

Temitope Fagunwa Osun State University, Osogbo

The Abolition Era and the Surge of Domestic Slavery in the African-Brazilian Community in Mid-19th century Lagos.

Felix Brahm University of Münster

Abolitionism and Anti-Abolitionism in East Africa. Local and Global Effects, 1860s–1900s.

12:30–13:30 Lunch

13:30–14:55

Slavery, Abolitionism, and Activism

Chair: Finzsch em. University of Cologne

Lilli Fortmeier University of Freiburg

Creating Transatlantic Collectivities. Robert Wedderburn's Radical Bricolage.

Fatima Essadek Bahrain University

A Nineteenth-century African View of the Abolishment of Slavery.

Markus Ressel University of Frankfurt

Abolitionism and Crusade Thought. „Chevaliers libérateurs des esclaves blancs et noirs en Afrique“ of Admiral Sidney Smith (1764–1840).

14:55–15:20 Coffee break

15:20–16:45

Humanitarianism, Morality, and Anti-Slavery

Chair: Birgit Bublies-Godau University of Bochum

Carsten Gräbel University of Tübingen

A Humanitarian Intervention Against Arab Slave Traders? The First German Colonial War (1888–1890).

Oriol Luján University of Barcelona

Entanglements Between Economic Progress and Morality. The Roots of the Spanish Metropolitan Anti-Slavery Movement (c. 1830–1870).

Lisa Weber University of Hagen

Imperialism, Capitalism, and Morality. Cologne Elites and the Anti-Slavery Movement, c. 1870–1900.

16:45–17:45

Keynote

Catherine Hall em. University College London

Racial capitalism across the C18 White/Black Atlantic.

19:00

Dinner at Café Tucholsky

Viktoriastr. 73, 44787 Bochum

