

9 January 2020

Greetings!

Welcome to the mailing list of Working Group 3, (im)mobilizations of the workforce, of the COST Action project *Worlds of Related Coercions in Work* (WORCK). This is the first newsletter to be sent out to all registered members of the mailing list and serves as a short introduction and a reminder for upcoming events.

First of all, introductions. My name is Vilhelm Vilhelmsson and I am a historian at the University of Iceland. At the start-up meeting of WORCK in Brussels in September 2019 I was elected as leader of WG3 and Biljana Stojić at the Institute of History in Belgrade, Serbia, as co-leader. Our task is to coordinate and manage the activities of WG3, whose focus is the spatial dimension of related coercions in regards to work and workers, such as forced migration or processes of immobilization or displacement to name a few examples. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding WG3 feel free to contact us at any time.

Upcoming events

1st working meeting

On February 27th to 29th the first WORCK meeting will take place in Lyon, France, at the ENS de Lyon. This is where all working groups meet for the first time for conceptual and methodological exchange. The Working Group Leaders will present first ideas to the whole network and the working group members will start their collaborative work on joint publications and activities. At this first meeting we will focus on open and free discussions about the future role of our working group and discuss topical questions about conceptual, methodological and theoretical issues related to the (im)mobilization of workers and the workforce as a historical subject, exchange ideas for collaborative activities such as joint publications, workshops, training schools and so on. We encourage you to attend and participate in the discussions. The program can be viewed online. Registration is open until January 15th on the website <https://www.worck.eu/activities/meetings/>

1st WORCK Conference – Reconceptualising wage labour

The first WORCK conference will take place at the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, on 16–20 September 2020. The theme of the conference is “Reconceptualising wage labour”. The deadline for paper proposals is 15 February and you can find the call for papers in an attachment to this newsletter. WG3 will also have time to organize discussion meetings and a writing workshop is planned for the working group where we can work on collaborative projects or share and discuss drafts of individual papers in progress.

Online discussion forum - Slack

The so-called Core Group of WORCK (WG leaders, think tank co-ordinators etc) has been using an online platform called Slack (www.slack.com) for informal discussions related to our project. Since we are quite satisfied with this tool for facilitating discussions and sharing information it has been suggested to extend the platform to include all participants in WORCK. You can expect an invitation to join the platform and our discussions sometime in the coming weeks or months. We encourage you to join us and participate. We believe this might prove a very helpful tool for continuing online the discussions which we will have during our regular meetings such as in Lyon. The mailing list will rather be reserved for major notifications and official messages such as calls for papers, although you are of course welcome to continue using the mailing list to send questions, comments, information or engage in discussions.

We look forward to (hopefully) seeing you in Lyon,

Vilhelm Vilhelmsson and Biljana Stojić