

EUTOPIA Activities, EUTOPIA Week in Ljubljana

November 21st-November 25th, 2022

Registration for the events available [here](#).

ROUND TABLE: MIGRATIONS, REINTEGRATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE POST-YUGOSLAV CONTEXT

Tuesday, 22. 11. 2022, 14:30-16:00

Kardeljeva ploščad 5, Faculty of Social Sciences, Room 7

Description:

The EUTOPIA consortium connects universities, organizational models, cultures, and countries, where people's lives, careers, priorities, and expectations are very diverse. This round table explores EUTOPIA's diversity as an opportunity for reflection, comparison, and mutual inspiration. What does it mean to strive for research excellence in the South-East-European and post-Yugoslav space, marked by significant political, economic, and sociocultural transformations over the past two centuries? How do local collective memories feed into imaginations of the future, and are these reflections on the past, present, and future of any broader, transnational significance? To discuss these and related questions, this round table brings together four internationally distinguished scholars in the humanities and social sciences, all of whom have experience with different academic and cultural contexts. Drawing on their personal and professional experience, Katja Kobolt, Tamara Pavasović Trošt, Aljoša Pužar, all based in Slovenia, and Colin Rittberg, currently based in the Netherlands, will reflect on trendy academic buzzwords such as international mobility, interdisciplinarity, and sustainability, together sketching out their specificities in the South-East-European context. They will not only provide insights into the logic of research project calls, but also unpack the significance of post-Yugoslav collective memory and post-socialist infrastructures, outlining major research challenges, opportunities, and bottlenecks. The round table will be moderated by Natalija Majsova (University of Ljubljana).

Speakers' Bios:

Katja Kobolt is a comparatist and researcher in cultural studies. Since her studies in Comparative Literature and Journalism at the University of Ljubljana and her PhD in Literary Studies at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Katja Kobolt has focused her research interests on gender and art, pursuing questions of broader cultural interest. Dr. Kobolt has realised research, educational, artistic and publishing projects with international institutions and self-organised groups. She taught at Humboldt-Universität and Universität der Künste Berlin, LMU Munich, and is currently teaching at the Academy of Arts, University of Nova Gorica. As a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow at ZRC SAZU Ljubljana, Dr Kobolt is researching women illustrators and models of childhood, gender and sociality in Yugoslav socialist publishing for children and youth, with the aim of a more complex understanding of socialist history and subjectivation.

Tamara Pavasović Trošt is an associate professor at the School of Economics and Business, University Ljubljana. She holds a PhD in Sociology from Harvard University and a MA in Political Science from Syracuse University, and has previously worked at the University of Graz and Princeton University. In 2018, she was the recipient of the London School of Economics award for the best article in nationalism studies. At SEB, she teaches courses relating to the sociology of business and methods, while she has also taught social change and social development indicators at the Faculty of Social Science. Her research work focuses on identity politics, populism, nationalism, and the effect of schools on identity and values.

Aljoša Pužar is a cultural-studies scholar and writer. He received his doctorate in 2006 from University of Rijeka on the topic of cultural theory of liminality, and in 2015 from Cardiff university on the topic in Korean gender and youth studies. He was a lecturer at the University of Trieste, University of Rijeka, and Berlin University of Arts. From 2006 to 2016, he taught cultural studies, cultural anthropology, cultural geography, women's studies, etc. at South Korean universities (Yonsei, HUFs), and, since 2017, at the University of Ljubljana. He published books on literary history, border studies, and Korean culture. He also publishes literary essays, short stories, and poetry.

After finishing his master's degree in mathematics (Münster, Germany), **Colin Rittberg** began his PhD in philosophy of mathematical practices in Palermo, Italy. The intellectual environment in Palermo did not enable him to thrive and he moved to the UK to study with Dr. Brendan Larvor. During the last stages of his PhD, Prof. Van Bendegem offered him a position at the Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science (CLPS) in Brussels, Belgium, in 2015. After a successful PhD defence in 2016 he became a postdoctoral researcher in Brussels, working on a virtue epistemology of mathematical practices. In 2019 he joined Prof. Matthew Inglis in the Centre for Mathematical Cognition at Loughborough University, UK, as a research associate. In 2020 he obtained a postdoctoral Marie Skłodowska-Curie individual fellowship to join Prof. Catarina Dutilh Novaes at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands. In December 2022 he will be re-joining the CLPS in Brussels.



**PLENARY LECTURE AND DISCUSSION:
PIPPA NORRIS - IN PRAISE OF SKEPTICISM: TRUST BUT VERIFY**

Wednesday, 23. 11. 2022, 16:00 - 18:00 CET

Kardeljeva ploščad 5, Faculty of Social Sciences, Room 1

Description:

A culture of trust has long shown to have many benefits for organisations, economies, governments, and for facilitating collective action in general. Any signs of distrust are, therefore, a matter of serious concern. However, trusting without maintaining a critical stance toward the same matter of subject, may also signal erroneous judgements reflecting cultural biases, poor cognitive skills, and information echo chambers. These conclusions draw on new evidence from the European Values Survey/World Values Survey conducted among over 650,000 respondents in more than 100 societies over four decades.

This lecture, led by one of the leading global scholars in social/political science today, will address the topic of trust, specifically trusting in institutions of state and science. Amidst the alarming decline in public trust in these institutions, Pippa Norris's visit is timely, and a deeply needed intervention into the debate. The lecture will be followed by a discussion about this same topic. Prof. dr. Norris will be joined by moderators prof. dr. Ksenija Vidmar Horvat and assoc. prof. dr. Mojca Pajnik.

EUTOPIA SCIENCE SLAM

Wednesday, 23. 11. 2022, 19:00 - 21:00 CET

Aškerčeva ulica 5, AGRFT, Theatre Hall

The Science Slam will display ten posters made by young researchers, pursuing a PhD or post-doctoral research from all over EUTOPIA. The main aim was for researchers to find an innovative way of showcasing their research findings to a wider public. The posters will offer insights into many different academic fields, presented in a public-friendly way.

All partner universities were invited to participate in the Science Fair by sending in five research posters, abstracts and video-presentations. From this collection of submissions, ten in total were selected to take part in the Science Slam. The ten selected researchers will present their research posters in a five-minute pitch format to the public during EUTOPIA Week in Ljubljana. The Science Slam will be a fun and innovative way of learning about science and research, bringing it closer to audiences of all ages, knowledge and interests!

Program:

Michela Gargiulo, Technische Universität Dresden, Germany
“Hey you!” Conversing with A.I.

Matevž Dular, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, UL, Slovenia
“Cavitation as a tool for wastewater treatment”

Maximillian Weil, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
“Smart Infrastructure will never stay out of tune”

Luca Versteegen, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
“We Love, They Hate – Emotions in Politics”

Ivan Lo Giudice, Universitat Pompeu Fabra Barcelona, Spain
“Banal nationalism”

Nil Roig Vidal, University of Warwick, Belgium
“Electric fields as reactivity boosters in chemistry”

Rodrigo Cruz, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal
“Trump or Gaga?”

Daniela Constantin, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca Romania
“Come, let’s see the World in a Grain of Sand”

Marco S. Nobile, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, Italy
“Make the box white again: How to achieve Interpretable AI”



YLA FELLOWS' SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE WORK-LIFE BALANCE IN ACADEMIA

Thursday, 24. 11. 2022, 15:30 - 18:00

Miklošičeva cesta 1, Grand Hotel Union, Room 4

Description:

Sustainable work-life balance is increasingly pointed out as an important modern-day challenge across all labour sectors, and academia is no exception. This event, organised within the EUTOPIA Young Leaders Academy activities, interrogates the idea of academic work-life balance with a special emphasis on its relationship to sustainability. The interactive activity consists of two parts. Two invited experts will first contextualize the issue within the latest empirical and theoretical findings, and provide their own insights. A round table will follow, inviting the speakers to engage with practice-based reflections on work-life balance, shared by YLA members from different disciplines.

Programme:

Invited Lectures:

15:30-16:00 Jovana Mihajlović Trbovc, PhD, SRC SASA: **Different perceptions of gender equality in time of projectariat**

16:00-16:30 Andreja Gomboc, PhD, University of Nova Gorica: **Work-Life Balance - Mission Impossible?**

Moderators: dr. Nejc Bezak and dr. Jaka Cepec

16:45-18:00 Round table: **Sustainable Work-Life Balance in Academia: Practical Perspectives**

Speakers: dr. Andreja Gomboc, dr. Jovana Mihajlović Trbovc, and YLA Fellows: dr. Lela Mélon, dr. Birgit Van Puymbroeck, dr. Suhao Wang

Moderators: dr. Anna Dragoš and dr. Natalija Majsova

Speakers' Bios:

Jovana Mihajlović Trbovc is a political scientist dealing with political issues from perspective of culture studies. Her primary research field is the politics of the past and public memory of the crimes which happened during the dissolution of Yugoslavia and during the Second World War. She is especially focused on the impact of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) on the post-Yugoslav states, as well as the reproduction of the historical narratives in the school textbooks. Another line of her work deals with issues of gender equality in academia, position of women scientists from socialism until today and integrating gender dimension into research. She is a member of the Commission for Equal Opportunity in Science, a consultative expert body nominated by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia.

Andreja Gomboc is a Professor of Astronomy at the University of Nova Gorica. She previously worked at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia and at the Astrophysics Research Institute, Liverpool John Moores University, UK. Her main fields of research are tidal disruption of stars in vicinity of massive black holes, gamma ray bursts, electromagnetic counterparts of gravitational wave events, and relativistic navigation satellite systems. She teaches astronomy courses at undergraduate and graduate levels. She is also the editor in charge of the Portal v vesolje, president of the Slovenian national competition in astronomy, and president of the IAU National Committee of Astronomy of Slovenia. Since 2018, she has been the president of the Slovenian Commission for Equal Opportunities in Science and since 2019 president of the Council for Science and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia.

Lela Mélon is an associate professor at ESCI-UPF (Barcelona). Mélon is a former Marie Curie Research Fellow with a legal and economics background. She is currently executive director of the Planetary

Wellbeing Institutional Framework at UPF and teaches Sustainability in Business Law at ESCI-UPF. She specialises in EU law, with a focus on corporate conduct and sustainability, and is currently researching policy coherence for sustainability at EU level, with particular interest in corporate law policies. Besides being active in the academic field, she created and implemented a three-step systemic approach towards sustainability, which entailed the insertion of separate sustainable corporate law courses in academic curricula and a simultaneous sustainable revision of the existing and well-established academic curricula in economics and law. She is currently the executive director of the Planetary Wellbeing Institutional Framework at Pompeu Fabra University and a professor of Sustainability in Business Law at ESCI-UPF.

Birgit Van Puymbroeck is assistant professor in Literature in English and Research Methodology at VUB (tenure-track). She received her PhD in Literary Studies from Ghent University in 2012. She has held postdoctoral fellowships at Yale University, funded by the Belgian American Educational Foundation (2013-2014), and at Ghent University, funded by the special research fund (2013-2015) and the Research Foundation – Flanders (2015-2018; 2018-2021). Van Puymbroeck works on various aspects of late nineteenth- and twentieth-century Anglophone and Francophone literature and culture. Her expertise includes modernism, network theory, transnational relations, periodical studies, print culture, radio studies and sound studies. She is affiliated with the Centre for Literary and Intermedial Crossings (CLIC) at VUB. She is the co-founder of the 20cc research group at Ghent University and a member of the interdisciplinary 'Writing 1900' network.

Suhao Wang, PhD has been a principal investigator at LPPI of CY Cergy Paris Université since 2020. He is currently leading the research of designing conjugated polymers for thermoelectric green energy conversion. During the past decade, his research activities have been cross-disciplinary, spanning polymer chemistry, solid-state physics, organic electronics, organic energy materials, etc. In 2019, he was selected by Synthetic Metals as an “early career research leader” and was invited to contribute a review paper on the role of short-range order in conjugated polymers. Up to date, he has gained extensive experience in conjugated polymers and published 28 papers on highly ranked peer-reviewed journals, such as PNAS, JACS, Advanced Materials, Chemistry of Materials, etc. According to Web of Science, Dr. Wang's papers have been cited >1600 times, with an H-index of 19 (average citations per item > 50).