

# International Conference.



## **Agro-Food Change through the Lens of Soy: (Sub-)National Pathways in a Global Perspective.**

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**Date:** 14-15 October 2024

**Time:** 9:00-18:00

**Place:** JKU Linz, Altenberger Straße 69, Linz, Austria, Uni-Center, Festsaal B

**Registration** (for a limited number): [maximilian.martsch@jku.at](mailto:maximilian.martsch@jku.at)

The conference will assess agro-food globalisation and its transformations through the lens of soy from a social science and humanities perspective. Over the last 150 years, soy has risen from a far-eastern curiosity to the largest agricultural commodity.

The conference aims to overcome the 'methodological nationalism' of country-focused agro-food studies as well as the globalist tendency of the food regime concept by emphasising (sub-)national pathways of agro-food change.

Leading international scholars across disciplines will analyse the history of soy in and between Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Asia. They will discuss fundamental changes in this particular agro-food sector, also in light of current challenges of socio-ecological transformation.

Organised by the research project SoyChange and the Department of Economic, Social and Environmental History at JKU Linz

## Programme

Monday, 14 October 2024

8:30-9:00	Get together
9:00-9:30	Welcome by Gerald Pruckner (Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics at the JKU Linz) and information by the organizers
9:30-11:00	<b>Paper Session 1: Early Globalizations</b>
	Maximilian Martsch (JKU Linz): <i>Why Soy Failed: Austria in its Transnational Setting, 1870-1950</i>
	Ernst Langthaler (JKU Linz) & Natalia Ryzhova (Palacký University Olomouc): <i>Capitalist Versus Communist Beans: Soy in the USA and USSR, 1920s-1950s</i>
	Ines Prodöhl (University of Bergen): <i>Soy for the Reich: Nazi Germany's Agricultural Policies in Southeastern Europe</i>
	Discussant: Matilda Baraibar Norberg (Stockholm University)
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<b>Roundtable Discussion 1: Reconceptualizing Food Regimes</b>
	Input: Mark Tilzey (University of Coventry)
	Discussants: Mariano Turzi (Universidad Católica Argentina) & Tomaz Fares (University of York)
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-15:30	<b>Paper Session 2: Late Globalizations</b>
	John Martin (Reading University): <i>Why Soy? The Ascendency of Soy in the Post-Second-World-War Period</i>
	Gabriel Tober (JKU Linz): <i>Why Soy Succeeded: Austria in its Transnational Setting, 1950-2020</i>
	Vimbai Chaumba Kwashirai (University of Zimbabwe): <i>Changing Soy Cultivation and Consumption Trends in Southern African: 2014-2024</i>
	Discussant: Ines Prodöhl (University of Bergen)
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:30	<b>Roundtable Discussion 2: Reconceptualizing Agro-food Change</b>
	Input: Markus Schermer (University of Innsbruck)
17:30-18:00	Coffee Break
18:00-20:00	<b>Kick-Off of the Interdisciplinary Commodity Studies Lab</b>
	Welcome by Stefan Koch (Rector of the JKU Linz) and Thomas Gegenhuber (Head of the Linz Institute of Transformative Change, JKU Linz)
	Presentation of the ICS Lab by Karin Fischer (JKU Linz) and Ernst Langthaler (JKU Linz)
	Keynote Lecture <i>Sugar and the History of Global Capitalism</i> by Ulbe Bosma (Vrije Universiteit/International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam)
20:00-21:00	Evening Reception

## Tuesday, 15 October 2024

9:00-10:30	<p><b>Paper Session 3: Trans-Pacific Encounters</b></p> <p>Leo Chu (University of Cambridge): <i>Multiple Soy: The Transformation of Soybean Science in Taiwan since 1945</i></p> <p>Claiton Marcio da Silva (Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul): <i>Chickens, Pigs, and Soybeans: The Deep History of a Global Ecological Relationship</i></p> <p>Tomaz Fares, Paulina Flores-Martínez &amp; Patricia Prado (University of York): <i>Global Reordering and Sino-Brazilian Commodity Chains for Soybeans</i></p> <p>Discussants: Sjamme Van De Voort (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) &amp; Samira P. Moretto (Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul)</p>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30	<p><b>Roundtable Discussion 3: Reconceptualizing Agro-food Spaces</b></p> <p>Input: Robert Hafner (University of Innsbruck)</p>
12:30-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-15:00	<p><b>Paper Session 4: Trans-Atlantic Encounters</b></p> <p>Sjamme Van De Voort (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) &amp; Samira P. Moretto (Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul): <i>Connections of Soy: Global Colonial Heritages of Monocultures in Brazil</i></p> <p>Matilda Baraibar Norberg (Stockholm University), Cecilia Gelabert (Universidad Nacional de Misiones) &amp; Enrique Mejía (Stockholm University): <i>Beyond Homogenization: A Comparative Exploration of Soy Cultivation Practices at Subnational Levels in Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay</i></p> <p>Mariano Turzi (Universidad Católica Argentina): <i>Soybean Inter-pares? How Argentine Provinces are Reshaping the Soybean Republic</i></p> <p>Discussant: Mark Tilzey (University of Coventry)</p>
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-17:00	<p><b>Roundtable Discussion 4: Reconceptualizing the Soyacene</b></p> <p>Input: Ernst Langthaler (JKU Linz)</p> <p>Discussants: Claiton Marcio da Silva (Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul) &amp; Vimbai Chaumba Kwashirai (University of Zimbabwe)</p>
17:00-18:00	<p><b>Concluding Discussion</b></p> <p>Input: Ulbe Bosma (International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam)</p> <p>General Discussion</p>
18:00-19:00	Farewell Reception

Organising team: Ernst Langthaler, Maximilian Martsch & Gabriel Tober

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