Call For Papers

International Conference on Structural Domination
TU Dresden, Germany

Conference Date: 18-19 September 2023
Submission Deadline: 1st May 2023
Organizers: Tamara Jugov, Lisa Hecht, Konstanze Möller-Jansen

On September 18-19, 2023 the group in practical philosophy at TU Dresden will organize an international conference on Structural Domination. Confirmed speakers include Rainer Forst, Dorothea Gädeke, Philip Pettit and Lea Ypi.

Over the last few decades, proponents of neo-republican theories of non-domination and freedom have developed sophisticated accounts of the nature of unfreedom and domination. Neo-republican theories have also proved influential in shaping a number of related debates in political philosophy, such as the debate on relational equality, economic unfreedom, global justice, migration, education, and civic virtues. More recently, some neo-republicans have started to examine in what ways the neo-republican paradigm could also prove helpful in capturing structural wrongs. After all, agents seem to be unfree not only because they are dominated by particular husbands, bosses, and political leaders, but also because they are subject to sexist or racist norms, capitalist relations of production, or novel forms of automated influence and algorithmic rule. For this reason, there have been a number of attempts to extend the agential or bilateral paradigm of domination in order to account for more “structural” variants of domination. However, many theoretical and practical challenges remain.

The international conference at TU Dresden invites abstracts for papers addressing (but not limited to) the following questions: How is the relationship between the domination-paradigm and other paradigms addressing structural wrongs such as oppression, structural injustice or ideology critique to be conceptualized? How is structural domination manifest in relations of racism, sexism, capitalism, the
workplace, labour & class, global justice & migration, automated influence & algorithmic rule (or others)?

Can impersonal rules and social practices dominate? Are they the types of entities that possess agency, a will or power? Or are instances of seemingly structural domination reducible to agential domination after all? And if structures do play an important role in creating or maintaining domination, what precisely is the contribution of individuals? Who should be held responsible for structural domination?

To submit a paper, please send an anonymized abstract (no longer than 500 words) to: konstanze.moeller-jansen@tu-dresden.de by May 1, 2023. Please include your full name and institutional affiliation in the text of the email, and use the subject line “Submission: Conference Structural Domination”. We will notify you by May 20, 2023 about whether your paper has been accepted for presentation at the conference.

The conference will be held at TU Dresden (Germany) on 18-19 September 2023. Please find further information here: https://tu-dresden.de/gsw/phil/iphil/prak/die-professur/termine/internationale-konferenz-structural-domination-1