

Work in Transition – Transition in Work

A comparative perspective on dynamics of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Cuba

This conference will focus on Cuba as a laboratory of social change. In particular, work and labour, cultural and gender-specific processes of the current crisis are under scrutiny. The small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) created in the course of state reforms play a decisive role in Cuba's social and economic transformation. They touch on essential aspects of the way of life, individuals' relationship with the Cuban state and the revolution, and also on fundamental questions of alternative social concepts, including climate change, combating hunger, access to education and health systems and gender equality. From a comparative perspective, the sociality of the labour process and the experience of work, including forms of ownership, are of particular importance. What are the possibilities and limits of collective forms of work organisation? What experiences, contradictions and challenges arise in private companies within state socialist economies? And in comparison, in co-operative enterprises in capitalist economies?

Based on these questions, the conference aims at promoting an in-depth understanding of these transformations and their impact on the work and lives of people in Cuba. We hope to develop new perspectives on the emerging social and ecological transformation processes worldwide through exchange and comparative analyses. The focus lays on subjects' experiences and processes of social change and how individual agency and state policy and planning relate to each other.

Presentations and discussion take place in English and Spanish with translations.

For participation please register at:
➤ <https://tud.link/dq9yvg>

Organization

Prof. Dr Antonia Kupfer
Professor of Macrosociology
Institute of Sociology
TU Dresden
email: antonia.kupfer@tu-dresden.de

Dr Franz Heilgendorff
Senior Lecturer (Macrosociology)
Institute of Sociology
TU Dresden
email: franz.heilgendorff@tu-dresden.de

Location

📍 TUD Dresden University of Technology
Institute of Sociology
Falkenbrunnen
Chemnitzer Str. 46a
01187 Dresden

Website & Registration



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work in transition franz in work

14.-15. of november 2024
tu dresden

a comparative perspective on dynamics
of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Cuba

international conference



Thursday, 14. November 2024, 9:00-18:00

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening**
Prof. Dr Antonia Kupfer and
Prof. Dr Alexander Abreu Pupo

Session 1 Principles and Political-Economic Background of SMEs in Cuba

09:30 – 10:15 **Social, political and economic frame works for the establishment of SMEs for life care in Cuba: between progress and challenges**
Prof. Dr Magela Romero Almodóvar,
University of Havana, Cuba

10:15 – 10:45 break

10:45 – 11:30 **What influence do the SMEs have on the socialist model? Do they contribute to a strengthening of grassroots democratic initiatives?**
Prof. Dr Seida Barrera Rodríguez and
M.Sc. Melina Johanna Iturriaga Bartuste,
both University of Havana, Cuba

11:30 – 13:00 lunch break

13:00 – 13:45 **SMEs in a global comparison within similar models**
Dr Mark Hubrec, Academy of Science,
Prague, Czech Republic

13:45 – 14:15 **Discussion Session 1**
Moderation Dr Franz Heilgendorff,
TU Dresden, Germany

Session 2 Agri-Cultural Issues and Human-Nature Relationship as Foundation of Society

14:15 – 15:00 **The agrarian process in Cuba within the framework of the transformations of the economic model**
Prof. Dr Alexander Abreu Pupo,
University of Holguín, Cuba

15:00 – 15:45 **Alli Kawsay (Buen Vivir) in indigenous movements: political-economic practices as a global model from the global south**
virtual presentation
Vanessa Arteaga and Eduardo Erazo Acosta, both University of Nariño,
Columbia

15:45 – 16:15 break

16:15 – 17:00 **Cooperatives, agriculture and technological innovation: creating economic opportunities for the rural poor through SMEs**
virtual presentation
Ass. Prof. Dr Atrayee Saha, Jawaharlal
Nehru University, India

17:00 – 17:30 **Discussion Session 2**
Moderation Prof. Dr Antonia Kupfer,
TU Dresden, Germany

Friday, 15. November 2024, 9:00-18:00

Session 3 Labour Sociological, Psychological and Cultural Investigations

09:00 – 09:45 **Micro, small and medium-sized business as new forms of organization. An analysis of its impact on Cuba's world of work**
Prof. Dr Idalsis Fabrè Machado, University
"Marta Abreu" of Las Villas, Cuba

09:45 – 10:30 **The role of work in the subjective transformations of private entrepreneurs in Cuba**
Prof. Dr Daybel Pañellas Alvarez, University
of Havana, Cuba

10:30 – 11:00 break

11:00 – 11:45 **Working with humor: new work modalities through the lens of popular culture**
M.Sc. Jackie Cannon, University of
Nottingham, UK and José Aristides
Rodríguez Chacón

11:45 – 12:15 **Discussion Session 3**
Moderation Dr Franz Heilgendorff,
TU Dresden

12:15 – 13:45 lunch break

Session 4 Critical Perspectives

13:45 – 14:30 **Living the original accumulation**
virtual presentation
M.A. Ariel Pierucci Pérez, EAFIT University
Medellín, Columbia

14:30 – 15:15 **Contextualizing the 1968 revolutionary offensive**
M.Sc. Albert Gil Gil, University of Glasgow, UK

15:15 – 15:45 break

15:45 – 16:30 **Human development in the Cuban context of non-state management of the economy. An intersectional analysis**
Prof. Dr Marybexy Calcerrada Gutiérrez,
University of Holguín, Cuba

16:30 – 17:15 **Navigating Challenges and Opportunities: a comparative study of SMEs in Cuba and India**
virtual presentation
Ass. Prof. Dr Bijayani Mishra, University
of Delhi, India

17:15 – 17:45 **Discussion Session 4**
Moderation Prof. Dr Antonia Kupfer,
TU Dresden, Germany

17:45 – 18:00 **Closing and Outlook of Workshops 18.-22. November 2024 at TU Dresden**