



DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
In collaboration with 

**KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION
IN/ON CENTRAL ASIA**
FORMS,
PURPOSES,
PRACTICES

25-26 August 2022

- 09:00-09:25 Welcome coffee
- 09:30-09:45 Opening remarks (Christine Bichsel)

Session 1 - Ethics and positionality:

Questions and new directions in the social sciences

- 09:45-10:15 Keynote: Jeanne Féaux de la Croix (Universität Tübingen, DE): “Lessons in Humility: From an Archive of Experiments in Re-Cognizing Central Asia” (Online)
- 10:15-10:30 Gulzhanat Gafu (Nazarbaev University, KZ): “Decolonizing Social Science Research Ethics in Central Asia”
- 10:30-10:45 Verena La Mela, Indira Alibayeva, Bakhytzhan Yakupov (Fribourg, CH/Almaty, KZ): “Working together in the field in Kazakhstan” (Online)
- 10:45-11:00 Dilafruz Nazarova (Rutgers, USA), Shahnoza Nozimova (George Mason University, USA): “Fieldwork in Tajikistan: Legal Risks and Insiders’ Perspective” (Online)
- 11:00-11:15 Barbara Meier (University of Jena, DE): “Challenges in Applying an Emancipatory Feminist Approach to Fieldwork in Kyrgyzstan as a Western Perceived Researcher and (Possible) Coping Strategies.”
- 11:15-11:45 Discussion (Jeanne Féaux de la Croix)
- 11:45-13:15 Lunch break

Session 2 - In Focus:

Kazakhstan in the global system

- 13:15-13:30 Theme introduction
- 13:30-13:45 Kuat B. Akizhanov (Kazakh State Law University, KZ): “The political economy of knowledge creation in Central Asia: Neoliberalisation of knowledge and its production in Kazakhstan”
- 13:45-14:00 Alexander Ten (Deutsch-Kasachischen Universität, KZ): “On language gifts: Public discourses on Kazakh and Russian in Kazakhstan”
- 14:00-14:15 Serik Orazgaliyev (Nazarbaev University, KZ): “Spaces and places: can social media platforms substitute public sphere in Kazakhstan?” (Online)
- 14:15-14:30 Discussion (Matthias Schmidt, University of Augsburg, DE)
- 15:00-15:20 Coffee break

Session 3 - Complex legacies:

Central Asian geographies

15:20-15:30	Theme introduction
15:30-16:00	Film screening - Gulzat Egemberdieva (Humboldt University, DE): “Neither on the Mountain, nor in the Plain: Kyrgyz Nomadism and Time Compression”
16:00-16:15	Davlatbegim Mamadshoeva (University of Amsterdam, NL): “Soviet Central Asian specialists in Afghanistan, 1970-1991”
16:15-16:30	Zulfiya Tursunova (Guilford University, USA): “Museums as Truthtelling Force against State-led Soviet State Repressions in Uzbekistan” (Online)
16:30-16:45	Mariana Peixoto Irby (University of Pennsylvania, USA): “Race, Place, and Space among Tajiks in Urban Russia”
16:45-17:15	Discussion (Botakoz Kassymbekova, TU Berlin, DE) (Online)
17:15-17:30	Closing remarks - Friday outline

Session 4 - Environmental knowledge production:

Fieldwork practices and epistemologies

09:00-09:30	Coffee reception and program outline
09:30-09:45	Philippe Forêt (University of Basel): “Climate Reconstruction in Central Asia: Innovation and Sustainability in Fieldwork Practices”
09:45-10:00	Kate Shields (University of Oregon, USA): “Xudo xohlasa bo'ladi” (“God willing it will happen”): The balancing act of conducting research in the Aral Sea region of Uzbekistan” (Online)
10:00-10:15	Nadira Mukhamejan (Glasgow, UK), Irene Sánchez, Zuzana Boháčová, Jan Balaš (Charles University, CZ): “How the World Bank frames human security discourse: the Aral Sea basin case”
10:15-10:45	Discussion (Christine Bichsel, University of Fribourg)
10:45-11:00	Coffee break

Session 5 - Environmental legacies:

Adaptations and agency

11:00-11:15	Nina Pimankina (Institute of Geography, KZ): “Stages of studying the cryosphere of the Zailiiskiy Alatau mountains (historical essay)” (Online)
11:15-11:30	Tommaso Trevisani (L’Orientale, IT): “Shifting knowledge practices about soil salinization in Central Asia’s irrigated agricultural systems”
11:30-11:45	Baialieva, Gulzat (Universität Tübingen, DE): “Living alongside 80 Tons of Secret Toxicity: environmentalism of the poor in Kyrgyzstan”
11:45-12:00	Tabea Rohner (University of Zurich, CH): “Beyond mastery: alternative forms of knowing the environment in (post)industrial Kazakhstan”
12:00-12:30	Discussion (Michael Spies, HNEE, DE)
12:30-13:00	Closing reflections and remarks (Botakoz Kassymbekova)
13:00-14:15	Lunch
13:00-13:30	Informal CASNiG-meeting

Afternoon Workshop Program (Pre-registered attendees only)

14:15-14:30	Program introduction
14:30-16:15	I: Ethics and positionality (Jasmin Dall’Agnola, OSCE Academy in Bishkek)
16:15-16:25	Break
16:30-18:15	II: Peer support, networking and outreach (Paulina Simkin, University of Augsburg, DE)
18:30-22:00	Drinks (Pavillon Vert)