

# Beyond (Private) Property

International Annual Conference  
of the Collaborative Research Center 294  
*Structural Change of Property*



November 6 to 9, 2024  
Volkshaus Jena

As a basic institution of capitalist societies, private property plays a crucial role in the social, ecological, infrastructural, and political crises of the present day. At the same time, the strong orientation towards continually expanding private sector dynamics has itself entered into crisis. But what might social relations or a whole society beyond (private) property look like? Where, in the present, can we observe developments and new arrangements that point in this direction? What challenges and difficulties do these efforts face? And what can be learned from the successes and failures of similar attempts in the past, as well as from utopian and dystopian visions?

The focus of the conference is not solely on private property but also on other forms of property, as well as on critical engagements with the concept of property itself. Even where private property is the dominant social form of property, it always exists alongside and in conjunction with other forms—most notably state and common property—or within arrangements that regulate the control over things but have not (yet) taken the form of property. Moreover, private property serves different functions, depending on whether it pertains to personal property, which is primarily intended for consumption or livelihood, or to private ownership of societal means of production and infrastructure. Alternative forms of property, in turn, can perpetuate the problems associated with private property. It is reasonable to assume that the distinction fundamental to modern conceptions of property—between the (property) subject and the (property) object—is generally linked with a logic of control and possession. When this logic governs social relationships, interactions with non-human nature, or our own self- and world-relations, more horizontal ways of relating to the world are curtailed.

The conference is organized around three interconnected thematic streams: **(A) Making the diversity of property visible**, **(B) Are there alternatives to property?** and **(C) Societies beyond private property**. Central topics include: (global) commons, sharing economies, property relations in digital capitalism, indigenous and multi-species perspectives on property, provisioning infrastructures and infrastructural socialism, genetic resources and resistances to propertization, as well as the challenges of socio-ecological transformation.

The conference is aimed at scholars, practitioners, activists and students with an interest in property-related issues.



STRUCTURAL CHANGE  
OF PROPERTY

The conference is organized by the Collaborative Research Centre (Sonderforschungsbereich) 294 *Structural Change of Property*.

## Registration

You can register for the conference at:  
[anmeldung.sfb-eigentum@uni-jena.de](mailto:anmeldung.sfb-eigentum@uni-jena.de)

## Venue

Volkshaus Jena  
Carl-Zeiss-Platz 15  
07743 Jena

## Information

More information about the conference and the Collaborative Research Centre can be found at:  
[www.sfb294-eigentum.de](http://www.sfb294-eigentum.de).



**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

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## November 6

**3:30 - 4:30 pm** Welcome address and Registration

**4:30 - 7:30 pm** **Plenary Session 1**  
**Commons and/against Property**

**Keynote** 

**Revolution of Common, Property and Right of Use**  
**Christian Laval**


Université Paris Nanterre

**Keynote** 

**Decolonising Common Property: Toward a Just Ecological Political Economy?**  
**Franklin Obeng-Odoom**

University of Helsinki

## November 7

**9:30 - 11 am** **Plenary Session 2**   
**Discussion of the working paper »Beyond (private) property/ Jenseits des (privaten) Eigentums«**  
**Susanne Lettow, Sebastian Sevignani, Stefanie Graefe, Mike Laufenberg, Marco Sonnberger**  
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**11 - 11:30 am** **Break**


**11:30 -1 pm** **Plenary Session 3**   
**Keynote: Infrastructures of Care**  
**Daniel Loick** University of Amsterdam

**1 -2 pm** **Lunch Break**

**2 -3:30 pm** **(A) Panel**   
**Materielle Versorgungsinfrastrukturen im Wandel: Wem gehören Wind und Wasser?**  
**Robert Wade**  
Eindhoven University of Technology  
**Stefan Brachat, Laura Künzel, Stephan Lorenz, Roberta Wetzel**  
Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena  
**Marco Sonnberger, Maria Pfeiffer, Matthias Groß**  
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**(C) Panel**   
**Societies Beyond Private Property: Anticolonial Visions**  
**Hakim Adi**  
University of Chichester  
**Simon Barber**  
University of Otago, Aotearoa, New Zealand

**3:30-4 pm** **Break**

**4 -6 pm** **(C) Plenary Session 4**   
**Beyond (Private) Property: Learning from Social Theory**  
**Ève Chiapello** École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris  
**Armin Nassehi** Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München  
**Hartmut Rosa** SFB Structural Change of Property


**8 pm** **Party im Theatercafé Jena (Schillergässchen 1)**

## November 8


**10 - 11:30 am** **(B) Panel**   
**Funktionale Äquivalente zum geistigen Eigentum im digitalen Kapitalismus**  
**Christoph Sorg**  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
**Jan-Felix Schrape**  
Universität Stuttgart  
**Doris Schweitzer**  
Universität Stuttgart

**(A) Panel**   
**The Ocean and the Atmosphere: Global Commons or National Property?**  
**Isabel Feichtner**  
Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg  
**Petra Gümplová**  
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**11:30-12 am** **Break**

**12 -1:30 pm** **(C) Plenary Session 5**   
**Society beyond Property – Von sozialen Bewegungen lernen**  
**Marlene Engelhorn** taxmenow, Wien  
**Justus Henze** communia, Berlin  
**Christopher Schmidt** Klimagerechtigkeitsaktivist, Köln

**1:30 - 2:30 pm** **Lunch Break**

**2:30 - 4 pm** **(B) Panel**   
**Collective Entanglements as Challenges or Alternatives to Individual Property**  
**Graham Dutfield**  
University of Leeds  
**Veit Braun**  
Goethe-Universität Frankfurt  
**Eduardo Relly, Anne Tittor**  
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**(A) Panel**   
**More-than-human property and the multi-species community – philosophy meets practice (a dialogue between philosopher and tribal lawyer-activist)**  
**Tilo Wesche**  
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**Samantha Skenandore**  
Madison

**4 - 4:30 pm** **Break**

**4:30 - 6:30 pm** **(A) Plenary Session 6**   
**Das Öffentliche neu denken: Über Infrastruktursozialismus, Fundamentalökonomie und Vergesellschaftung**  
**Oliver Prausmüller**  
Arbeiterkammer Wien, Abteilung EU & Internationales  
**Klaus Dörre, Silke van Dyk**  
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**8 pm** **Kulturveranstaltung**   
**Was lernen wir aus Science Fiction über alternative Gesellschaften?**  
**Lesung und Diskussion mit Dietmar Dath**

## November 9

**9:30-11:30 am** **(C) Panel**   
**Vergangenheit und Zukunft des Sozialismus**  
**Hauke Neddermann**  
Berliner Institut für kritische Theorie  
**Heide Lutosch**  
Autorin/Übersetzerin, Leipzig  
**Magnus Neubert**  
Leibniz-Institut für Agrarentwicklung in Transformationsökonomien, Halle

**(B) Panel**   
**Sharing as an Alternative: Ambivalent Developments in the Sharing Economy**  
**Christina Hecht**  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
**Patrick Vonderau**  
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg  
**Malte Janzing, Jörg Oberthür**  
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**11:30-12 am** **Break**

**12 - 1:30 pm** **Closing Plenary Session 7**   
**Gesellschaften jenseits des Privateigentums in Science-Fiction-Romanen**  
**Isabella Hermann** Politikwissenschaftlerin, Berlin  
**Annette Schlemm** Philosophin und Autorin, Jena  
**Simon Sutterlütti** Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn  
**Dietmar Dath** Schriftsteller, Berlin

**1:30 pm** **Departure**

**(A)** Making the diversity of property visible

**(B)** Are there alternatives to property?

**(C)** Societies beyond private property

 virtual presentation

 in German

 in English