

**Truth Politics between Science and Society.
Political Epistemologies of the 1990s Science Wars**

July 8-9, 2025, Workshop Program

Workshop Day 1, 07/08/2025

- 12.30-01.00 pm Arrival & Welcome
- 01.00-01.30 pm Bernhard Kleeberg & Meike Katzek (U Erfurt): Introduction
- 01.30-03.00 pm **PANEL 1**
/ **Defending Truth against Relativism in the 1990s Science Wars**
// Chair: Monika Wulz (ETH Zürich)
- Meike Katzek (U Erfurt): Doing 'Truth while Hoaxing. Re-visiting 'Truth Scenes from the Science Wars.
- Natacha Demoule (U Paris-Cité): 'Relativism' in the French-speaking World Before and After the 'Science Wars'. Genesis of a 'Danger'
- 03.00-03.30 pm Coffee Break
- 03.30-04.15 pm Myrna Perez Sheldon (U Ohio):
/ **The Accidental Creationists**
// Chair: Meike Katzek (U Erfurt)
- 04.15-06.15 pm **PANEL 2**
/ **Re-Imagining Society and Human Nature from the 1980s on**
// Chair: Bernhard Kleeberg (U Erfurt)
- Anna Klassen (KIT Karlsruhe): Constructing "the public" in the West German Genetic Engineering Debate of the 1980ies
- Alexej Lochmatow (U Erfurt): Why 'Jewish Intelligence'? The Political Imaginary behind the New-Old Debate
- Yiftach Fehige (U Toronto): The Offense of "New Atheism" in the 1990s Science Wars & the Defense of Scientific Pluralism for Democracy's Sake
- 07.00 pm Dinner @ Nerly

Workshop Day 2, 07/09/2025

09.00-09.30 am Coffee

09.30-11.00 am **PANEL 3**
/ Science Wars Skirmishes Beyond the Iron Curtain
// Chair: Anja Laukötter (FSU Jena)

Friedrich Cain (U Vienna): On Bourgeois Deficits and Marxist Perspective. Science Wars before the End of History

Martin Babička (U Essen): The End of State Socialism as the End of Modern Science. A Transnational History of Czech and US Science Wars

11.00-11.30 am Coffee Break

11.30-12.15 am Jamie Cohen-Cole (George Washington U):
/ Constructivism and the Politics of Human Nature
// Chair: Erik Kaiser (U Erfurt)

12.15-01.45 pm Lunch Break

01.45-03.15 pm **PANEL 4**
/ Epistemological Transformations in the Post-Soviet Era
// Chair: Jan Surman (MUA Prague)

Maksim Denim (U Bochum): The Epidemic of Disbelief in the Philosophy of Science in Post-Soviet Russia

Alexander Kochekovsky (U Bochum): Steven Greenblatt's New Historicism and Leonid Batkin's Post-Bakhtinism. Methodological Discussions on the Renaissance Culture as a Part of Post-Soviet Transformations in Academic Discourses of the 1990s

03.15-04.00 pm Final Discussion

06.00 pm Dinner @ Takumi

