



Bild: Wikimedia, Gotanero, Minefield at East-West Germany Border in 1965

International Workshop:

“New Transnational and Global Approaches to the GDR Border”

July 10–11, 2019 | Erfurt

This workshop seeks to connect the GDR to wider debates about borders in the contemporary world through a focus on this much-contested border from a transnational and global perspective. The East German border was always more than just the product of German-German or Cold War superpower competition, and each of these presentations shows how it was also created by neighboring states, international organizations and global phenomena. The presentations consider the border from multiple perspectives: the role of law enforcement and state bureaucrats, but also the role of those smuggling, trafficking, polluting, and illicitly crossing borders.

The workshop will be held in English, German and “Denglish”. All participants are encouraged to speak in whichever language they prefer.

PROGRAM

Wednesday, 10 July

University of Erfurt, LG 4, Room E01

- 13:15–13:30 | Welcoming Remarks**
Ned Richardson-Little (Erfurt)
- 13:30–14:15 | Iris Schröder (Erfurt/Gotha)**
Borders and Boundaries

Panel 1: Epidemics

- 14:30–15:15 | Johanna Folland (Michigan)**
“Not Even the Highest Wall Can Stop HIV”: Sex, the State, and the German-German Border in the Era of AIDS
Comment: Christiane Kuller (Erfurt)

Panel 2: Waterways

- 15:45–17:15 | Julia Ault (Utah)**
Polluted Waters: Crossing Borders and Regulating East German Rivers, 1970–1990

Andrew Tompkins (Sheffield)
Caught in the Net: GDR-Poland Border Conflicts in Everyday Life

Comment: Iris Schröder (Erfurt/Gotha)

Thursday, 11 July

Kleine Synagoge, An der Stadtmünze 4, Erfurt Conference Room

Panel 3: Policing

- 9:30–10:15 | Lauren Stokes (Northwestern)**
Racial Profiling on the U6: The “Berlin Gap” and the Schönefeld Airport Refugee Crisis

Ned Richardson-Little (Erfurt)
The Plague of the Capitalist World: The Evolution of Anti-Narcotics Trafficking in the GDR

Comment: Patrice Poutrus (Erfurt)

11:15–12:15 | Final Discussion

Contact & Registration

ned.richardson-little@uni-erfurt.de