

The CENTRAL-workshop aims to make a significant contribution to the field of contemporary cultural history by investigating both material and immaterial cultural practices, and exploring how meanings circulate in society. It will use both qualitative and quantitative research methods and draw on concepts and methods from multiple disciplines, including literary science, sociology, anthropology, and geography. The project seeks to synthesize knowledge from various fields to address key disciplinary challenges in the study of contemporary cultural history.

It brings together a team of cultural historians for three main purposes. Firstly, it will provide an opportunity to bring in different expertise on contemporary cultural history from partner universities. By setting master students and doctoral candidates in dialogue with each other and enabling collaborative work, the project encourages the emergence of new projects, in both teaching and in research, with a transnational scope. Secondly, it will address the implications of cultural turn in history and neighboring disciplines in the scholarship on and in Central and Central Eastern Europe. Carrying over research results into tertiary education will make actual use of those practices. Thirdly, it will enable fostering academic publication practices and presentation skills, both crucial ways of dissemination of the scholarly knowledge towards academic peers as well as communication with wider interested public beyond academia.

The workshop in Vienna is the first one of a series of workshops.

#### **CENTRAL partners:**

Dr. Ondřej Daniel (Charles University, Prague)  
Dr. Magdalena Baran-Szoltys (University of Vienna)  
Dr. Imre Tarafás (Eötvös Loránd University – ELTE)  
Dr. hab. Robert Kulmiński (University of Warsaw)

#### **Concept und Organization of the Workshop in Vienna:**

Magdalena Baran-Szoltys, Ondřej Daniel

**Sponsored by** CENTRAL – Central European Network for Teaching and Research in Academic Laison, AKTION Österreich – Tschechien, FWF - Der Wissenschaftsfonds, Forschungsplattform “Transformations and Eastern Europe”, RECET – Research Center for the History of Transformations

**Picture:** Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll, Installation: Embassy Embassy (2009-2018)

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# Contemporary Cultural History 2.0. Nurturing Talents of Central and Central Eastern Europe



## About the Keynote Speakers

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**Dr. Laura Wiesböck** is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Advanced Studies. She holds a doctorate in Sociology from the University of Vienna. Throughout her academic career she has also studied, conducted research, or taught at Oxford University, University of Ghana, and National Taiwan University among others. Her research interests fall in the field of social inequality with a focus on labor market, poverty, gender, and digitalization. The sociologist was granted several prizes in recognition of her academic work. In addition to scientific articles Laura Wiesböck regularly communicates research findings and perspectives to the public through media interviews (e.g. Associated Press, Libération, DIE ZEIT), her personal social media channels (e.g. Instagram) and public lectures (e.g. Diagonale Film Festival, Austrian Parliament).

**Prof. Khadija Zinnenburg Carroll** is an Austrian-Australian artist and historian specializing in colonial history and visual art. She works on colonial histories through contemporary art. Her art practice involves montaging words and images within films and installations that voice alternate histories through texts and performances. Combining historical and speculative research, storytelling is often her method for finding missing narratives. She is currently working on a comparative history of repatriation. She holds a PhD from Harvard University and has curated/co-created various exhibitions internationally including *The Lost World (Part 2)*, *Kranich Museum*, *Vienna Zocolo*, and *Botanical Drift*. She is Professor at the Central European University Vienna and honorary Professor and Chair of Global Art at the University of Birmingham.

## About the Museum Nordwestbahnhof:

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Despite its considerable scale, the Nordwestbahnhof often remains overlooked in the minds of Vienna's residents. Before the area undergoes transformation into a new residential quarter, an on-site exhibition seeks to rekindle awareness of the site's rich historical significance and contemporary relevance as the city's last inner-city logistics hub. Embedded within the social fabric of the logistics landscape, the museum presents a rich tapestry of multimedia displays including photographs, films, objects, plans, and models, tracing the area's evolution over time. Functioning as both a communication nexus and a repository of collective memory, the exhibition highlights the contributions of key enterprises and individuals who have left an indelible mark on the area, shaping its identity. Additionally, visitors can explore an expanding collection of video interviews featuring current and former personnel, as well as local residents, offering firsthand insights into daily logistics operations, noteworthy events in the freight station's history, and personal migration and mobility narratives.

<https://tracingspaces.net/museum/>

# Program

## Thursday 16 May 2024

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**13:00–15:00**

### Opening

Welcoming by Magdalena Baran-Szołtys and Ondřej Daniel  
Introduction by CENTRAL partners Ondřej Daniel, Magdalena Baran-Szołtys, Imre Tarafás and Robert Kulmiński  
Tour de table  
Discussion

**15:00–15:30: Coffee Break**

**15:30–17:00**

### Keynote I

**Laura Wiesböck**

*Sweeping Inequality – Female Domestic Cleaners in the Gig-Economy of Central Eastern Europe*

**18:00–19:00**

### City Exploration

**Tour of the Museum Nordwestbahnhof**

**19:30: Dinner**

## Friday 17 May 2024

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**9:00–10:15**

### Follow-up

Workshopping on Cultural Turn in History and Social Sciences

**10:15–10:30: Coffee Break**

**10:30–12:00**

### Keynote II

**Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll**

*Methods of Making Culture and History Together*

**12:00–12:30**

### Closing Remarks

### Venue:

Marietta-Blau-Saal, Main Building of the University of Vienna  
Street address: Universitätsring 1, 1010 Wien

Museum Nordwestbahnhof: Nordwestbahnstraße 16, 1200 Wien