

Global Labour Research Centre | GLRC

Newsletter. October 2026.

MESSAGE FROM ADRIAN A. SMITH, DIRECTOR

September was a busy month in labour relations. In Canada, the month ended with much talk about 'the right to strike' being threatened in federal labour relations following the introduction of omnibus legislation, Bill C39, *Building Canada Strong Act*. While omnibus bills have a long parliamentary history in Canada, dating back at least to the 1880s and perhaps earlier to Parliament's first session, there is a sense that governments are increasingly legislating in these ways to overwhelm opposition and defy certain democratic checks. This, coupled with an accelerating trend toward concentrating power into the hands of ministerial offices, federally and provincially, is indicative of a commitment to openly reasserting modes of authoritarian rule.

Bill C39 arrives in this context. It is said to be a time of rising geopolitical uncertainty, most notably destabilization of the 'rules-based order' of liberal internationalism including a 'trade war' that, seemingly unfathomable less than a decade ago, has Canada imposing retaliatory tariffs on the United States, while making concerted gestures toward reorienting trading partnerships, most notably with the European Union.

Never mind that the neoliberal trade agenda – what has only been the most recent iteration of centuries-long colonial endeavours of extraction, displacement and dispossession – never served poor peoples' needs and interests. It only deepened the entrenchment of racialization and gendering of working classes while reproducing and extending profoundly unequal social relations on a global scale.

Bill C39 is held out as something of a necessary response in these times of uncertainty. The legislative intervention, designed to accelerate major development projects, includes notable changes to Part I of the Canada Labour Code, the basis of the general collective bargaining framework covering the federally-regulated private sector – a workforce just shy of one million workers. Under the guise of bolstering collective bargaining, the Bill strives to reduce disruptions in international

trade and cross-border transportation infrastructure, particularly shipping, railway and air transport.

Why so many insist on characterizing the fight against C39 in terms of the 'the right to strike' defies sound logic. It made little sense even before this latest intervention to call striking a right, given, in the best of cases, the heavily circumscribed nature of strikes across all jurisdictions in Canada. The myriad inbuilt intrusions into workers' strike action, from certification obstacles to timeliness requirements and onto the normalizing of back-to-work interventions, are coupled with the revised provision to grant ministerial authority to intervene to halt a strike out of 'national interest' and to appoint a special mediator to further extend the pre-strike period.

It makes even less sense to call it a right if unions are not willing to defend it. As one trade unionist recently put it, *'what good is a strike if you can't fight for it?'*

Others rightly point out that our characterizations of striking should abide by the distinction between a right and a freedom. What is on offer is not a 'right' as such. Rather, it is a 'freedom to strike', emanating from the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom and its framing of freedom of association. I take the point – and a sound critique of state law ought to be a key feature of workers' education. And we should see that the very threat issued through Bill C39 gives the lie to the idea that striking is in fact a right. But even 'freedom' does not seem to go far enough in conveying what is essential here.

Capitalist law's proffering of the strike is not in service of workers' needs and interests in anything but superficial and regressive terms. It is a legal technique of containment of collective action, one designed to dull workers' militancy as a meaningful force asserted in and against the vagaries of capitalist relations. The notion of a freedom, even if technically sound, still retains something of an unhelpful abstraction from what is at stake.

Given the Carney Liberal government's ponying up to the European Union, we might look across the Atlantic at current labour struggles for an example. A particularly acute conflict occurring around Tesla, the zombie-child of Canada's technofascist overlord, has strived to suck the life out of industrial union efforts in Sweden and Germany. There, too, rumours of a 'right to strike' would be greatly exaggerated if not mistaken. Tesla opens the lane for what the auto sector strives to be, not just a

purveyor of battery electric vehicles but a *battering* ram against workers and their collective assertions and aspirations. Less dependence on wage labour only means one thing to these kinds of people, *and it ain't good*.

The Carney Liberals intend to wield the force of their majority to uphold the state's role in smoothing the way for capitalist accumulation. Against this prevailing force, workers can act through forceful means too. That counter-force amounts to the collective assertion of economic power, specifically the capacity of workers to collectively withdraw their labour power *on their own terms*. The concerted efforts of CUPE flight attendants at Air Canada, who I wrote about here a year ago, ought to have reminded us of this. After all, it was they who ultimately broke this key mechanism of power federal governments had increasingly resorted to, section 107, which the Carney Liberals now strive to repair. It is that same collective self-assuredness, and only that, which can make a difference now. And, to the main point, it is going to take mass, collective assertions of power for workers to divert the agenda.

GLRC EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



A collaboration between the Global Labour
Research Center and Infrastructure Beyond
Extractivism

1. The GLRC announces its [*Up in Flames: Anticolonial Impulses for a Radically-Just Transition*](#) series exploring the connections between climate justice, labour environmentalism, colonialism, and the urgent need for a socially and ecologically just transition. Throughout the 2026–2027 academic year, the series will bring together researchers, workers, organizers, and community members through public events, workshops, film screenings, and conversations.

The series is organized by the **Global Labour Research Centre (GLRC)** in partnership with the [Infrastructure Beyond Extractivism \(IBE\) project](#) and the [Trade Unions and Labour Environmentalism Network \(TULE\)](#).

1. Holding Ground: Indigenous Jurisdiction as Critical Infrastructure

Online Webinar | [Infrastructure Beyond Extractivism](#) (IBE) and [RAVEN Trust](#)

Join the Infrastructure Beyond Extractivism (IBE) project and RAVEN Trust for the launch of their new report, *Holding Ground: Indigenous Jurisdiction as Critical Infrastructure*. Challenging government efforts to fast-track extractive projects under the banner of critical infrastructure, the report argues that Indigenous jurisdiction is itself critical infrastructure. The discussion will explore how existing roads, railways and abandoned mine sites could be reclaimed and repurposed under Indigenous authority rather than reopened for extraction.

Report authors and collaborators Dayna Nadine Scott, Heidi Kiiwetinepinesik Stark, Sophia Jaworski, Lucas Magill and Zachary Mandamin will present key findings, followed by a discussion moderated by Shane Moffatt and Meghan Robinson.

Register [HERE](#)

Tuesday, October 20, 2026 | 3:00 pm ET / 12:00 pm PT

2. Up in Flames: Workshop | [From vision to action, mobilizing unions, workers and students for a radically-just transition](#)

With Garance Malivel, Education Sector Coordinator at Montreal-based Workers for Climate Justice / Travailleuses et travailleurs pour la justice climatique (TJC), we'll explore the origins, principles and practical applications of a just transition, with attention to popular education and organizing through TJC's Transformations en cours campaign with Quebec unions.

October 28, 2026 | 12:30–2:00 p.m.

York University, HNES Building, Room 140

Participation is free. [Register HERE](#).



A collaboration between the Global Labour
Research Center and Infrastructure Beyond
Extractivism

FROM VISION TO ACTION:

MOBILIZING UNIONS, WORKERS AND STUDENTS FOR A RADICALLY-JUST TRANSITION



 Wednesday, October 28, 12:30–2 p.m.

 York University – HNES Building, room 140

The concept of just transition emerged from the labour movement as a framework to reconcile the protection of workers' rights with the protection of the environment. While the need to bring the economy back within ecological boundaries has never been more urgent, workers and communities are organizing to build socially and ecologically just alternatives.

Drawing on the work of Montreal-based **Workers for Climate Justice/Travailleuses et travailleurs pour la justice climatique (TJC)**, this workshop will explore how popular education, participatory research and collective organizing can strengthen democratic power in the workplace. It will highlight Transformations en cours, a pilot campaign led with teachers' unions and student associations to develop a shared vision and strategy for transforming Québec's higher education system.

The workshop will be led by **Garance Malivel, Education Sector Coordinator at TJC.**



TULE
Trade Unions
and Labour
Environmentalism
Network

GLRC
Global Labour
Research Centre



Infrastructure Beyond
Extractivism

Registration



3. GLRC Book Launch| [Paul Kellogg's *Austerity and Resistance: The Ontario Days of Action, 1995-1998*](#)

Celebrate the book launch of Paul Kellogg's *Austerity and Resistance: The Ontario Days of Action, 1995-1998* with us!

From December 1995 to summer 1998, eleven mass strikes and Days of Action swept across major cities in Ontario, provoked by Conservative Premier Mike Harris and his so-called Common Sense Revolution. Published 30 years after the biggest event of that movement – the Toronto general strike of October 1996, *Austerity and Resistance* aims to tell its story of the social movement and how it reshaped public consciousness and Ontario's political landscape. Crucially, Kellogg distills organizing lessons we can carry forward today, as Conservative Premier Doug Ford furthers Harris's offensive of privatization, attacks on unions, and austerity.

Join the GLRC to celebrate the launch of Paul Kellogg's new book, followed by a panel discussion and author remarks

Panel Discussion

- Judy Rebick, author of *Heroes in My Head* (House of Anansi Press, 2018)
- Ester Reiter, author of *A Future Without Hate or Need* (Between the Lines, 2016)
- Herman Rosenfeld, retired national staff, Canadian Auto Workers (Unifor)
- Moderated by Phil Henderson, Banting Postdoctoral Fellow at GLRC

Event co-sponsored by the Department of Politics, York University

October 29, 2026 | 4–6:00 p.m.

York University, Hybrid

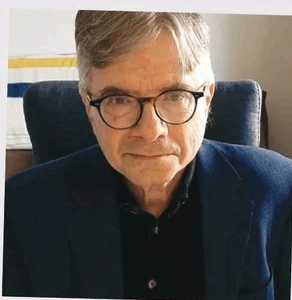
Register for the event [HERE](#)

BOOK LAUNCH

AUSTERITY AND RESISTANCE

THE ONTARIO DAYS OF ACTION, 1995-1998

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29
4-6 PM | HYBRID EVENT
519 KANEFF TOWER + ON ZOOM*



WITH AUTHOR
PAUL KELLOGG
IN ATTENDANCE

PANEL DISCUSSION

Judy Rebick, writer & activist
Esther Reiter, writer &
academic
Herman Rosenfeld, retired
CAW national staff

Moderated by **Phil
Henderson**, Banting
Postdoc Fellow at GLRC



**SCAN TO
REGISTER**

*Zoom link
provided in
registration
form

Contact:
glrc@yorku.ca

**SOCIETY FOR
SOCIALIST STUDIES**

liberal arts &
professional studies
YORK U

GLRC

Global Labour
Research Centre

RECENT PUBLICATIONS | [Perspectives Series](#)

- [Broken Futures and Expendable Labour: Administrative breakdown, Student dissent, and Youth Precarity in India](#), by Oleena Chaudhuri , *Perspectives No. 11*, August 2026

CALL FOR PAPERS | GLRC Submissions

We welcome submissions throughout the year for:

1. [Perspectives series](#) – concise opinion pieces meant to spark public dialogue and encourage new ways of thinking on a range of work and labour related issues. These articles are meant to inform and promote labour perspectives in a manner that challenges the current state of knowledge in a particular field;
2. [Snapshot series](#) – plain-language reports and summaries meant to connect labour, community and academic research in the public interest. It considers “what the research found” and “how it can be used” to identify and communicate real-world impacts from academic research.

Note: Those interested in submitting to either initiative in **video or audio format** can contact us by email at: glrc@yorku.ca.

OUR COMMUNITY EVENTS

1. Beyond the Page: An Indigenous Book and Film Club – *Taaqtumi*

Online | Hosted by Cora Coady and Megan Brush

Join *Beyond the Page*, a relaxed discussion space open to York University faculty, students, and staff. This month, participants will explore ***Taaqtumi: An Anthology of Arctic Horror Stories***, a collection of nine Indigenous horror stories that delve into the darker side of Arctic storytelling. *Taaqtumi* is an Inuktitut word meaning “in the dark.”

Access the book [HERE](#)

When: Wednesday, October 14

Time: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Please note that the collection contains themes that some readers may find disturbing.



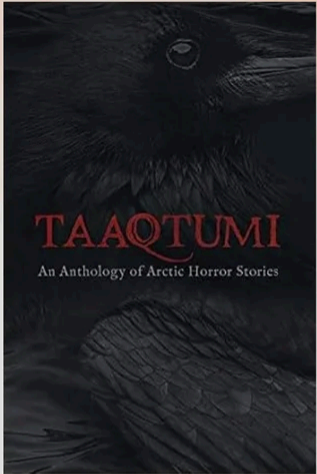
Beyond the Page

Join us in conversation

A relaxed gathering open to all York community members.

Throughout this series we will be discussing a variety of Indigenous materials such as novels, short stories, letters and films.

This month, we are reading Taaqtumi: An Anthology of Arctic Horror Stories



An Indigenous book and film club

Beyond the Page

Wednesday, October 14, 2026
3:30pm - 4:30pm
Scan the code to register!

libraries | YORK 

2. Adelman Lecture Series: Audrey Macklin

October 19, 2026 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. (ET)

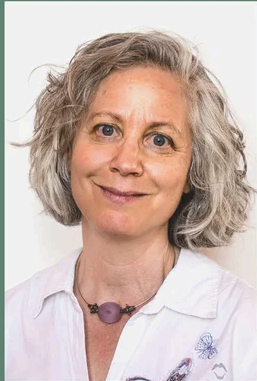
Helliwell Centre, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University

Refreshments will be served.

The **Centre for Refugee Studies** invites you to the next **Adelman Lecture Series** event featuring **Audrey Macklin**, Professor of Law and Chair in Human Rights at the University of Toronto.

Drawing on Ernst Fraenkel's theory of the *Dual State*, Professor Macklin will examine how immigration exceptionalism enables the erosion of non-citizens' rights and contributes to contemporary authoritarian governance. The lecture will be followed by remarks from **Deepa Nagari** (York University) and **Kushan Azadah** (Toronto Metropolitan University).

Register [HERE](#)

2026 Howard Adelman Lecture 	The Centre for Refugee Studies presents Immigration Exceptionalism and the Dual State Audrey Macklin Professor of Law and Chair in Human Rights University of Toronto Discussants: Deepa Nagari, MA (York University) Kushan Azadah, PhD (Toronto Metropolitan University) October 19, 2026 4:00 - 6:00PM (ET) Helliwell Centre, 1014 Osgoode Hall Law School York University <i>Thank you to the Adelman family for their continued support of the lecture series</i>
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3. **ASSEMBLIA: Gatherings, Hysterics and Rapture**

Thursday, October 22, 2026

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

519 Kaneff Tower, York University

Keynote: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Centre for Feminist Research invites you to *ASSEMBLIA: Gatherings, Hysterics and Rapture*. This inaugural conference, organized by CFR graduate students and members, brings together emerging and independent artists and scholars working across studio practice, criticism and theory, gender studies, and art history.

Graduate student panels will explore themes including collective resistance and care, ritual and embodied experience, queer affect and more-than-human relations, memory and identity, and fat studies.

The keynote speaker is Kerem Güman, Visiting Assistant Professor at York University. Their talk, *Glitch, Endure, Assemble: Queer Digital Bodies at the Threshold*, considers digital bodies and the “glitch” as ways of understanding queer survival, resistance, collective knowledge, and the creation of liveable alternatives within systems that were not designed for everyone.

Registration is free. [Register by October 8, 2026](#).

For questions, contact cfrfeministfestival@gmail.com.

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ASSEMBLIA

PRESENTED BY THE CENTRE FOR FEMINIST RESEARCH
OCTOBER 22ND 2026
10AM - 3PM
519 Kaneff Tower

Keynote:
11:30AM
**Kerem
Güman**
Glitch, Endure,
Assemble: Queer
Digital Bodies at
the Threshold

PANEL TOPICS:
Hysteria as Care: Collective Resistance
and Gathering
Rapture, Ritual and the Embodied
Experience
Beyond the Normative Body: Queer
Affect, Monstrosity, and More-than-
Human Relations
Memory, Language, and the Making
of Self
The Fat Studies Research Cluster



register by October 8th 2026

Funded by:
Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI), the Faculty of Liberal Arts and
Professional Studies (LA&PS) and YCAR Funding Committee

ARTWORK BY FEHN FOSS

5. Inuit Wellbeing, Tuberculosis Prevention, and Climate Resilience in the Circumpolar Region

*Hybrid (Room 519, Kaneff Tower & Zoom) | Organized by the Dahdaleh Institute for
Global Health Research*

The Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research presents a discussion on tuberculosis prevention, Inuit wellbeing and climate resilience across the circumpolar North. As efforts to eliminate tuberculosis in Inuit Nunangat by 2030 fall behind and Arctic warming intensifies existing challenges, researchers and practitioners will explore community-based responses, ongoing health and food security concerns and gaps in current approaches.

The event is co-sponsored by Social Science & Health Innovation for Tuberculosis (SSHIFTB).

Register [HERE](#)

When: Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

6. Trade Terror” and the Right to Development: Some Reflections

In person (Room 2027, Osgoode Hall Law School) | Speaker: Professor Surya Deva

Join Professor Surya Deva, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to development and Professor at Macquarie Law School, for a discussion on the Trump administration's use of tariffs and trade restrictions to pressure trading partners. The talk will examine the implications of these policies for the right to development and explore how a decolonial approach to international trade, grounded in fair distribution, cooperation and global solidarity, could challenge existing inequalities in global economic governance.

Register [HERE](#)

When: Thursday, October 22, 2026

Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Light lunch will be served.

7. Talk Treaty to Me: Understanding the Basics of Treaties and Land in Canada

In person (George Spragge Classroom, Archives of Ontario, 134 Ian MacDonald Blvd) | Book Talk

Join authors Crystal Gail Fraser and Sara Komarnisky for a discussion of their national bestseller, *Talk Treaty to Me: Understanding the Basics of Treaties and Land in Canada*. The event will explore the history and significance of treaties and land in Canada, followed by a Q&A with the authors. The Archives of Ontario will also display Treaty 9, and copies of the book will be available for purchase.

RSVP [HERE](#) by November 14, 2026.

When: Tuesday, November 24, 2026

Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

8. Transforming the Global Health Architecture: From Crisis to Opportunity?

Hybrid | Speaker: Professor Kelley Lee | Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research

Join Professor Kelley Lee for a discussion on the future of global health governance amid geopolitical shifts, declining funding and growing institutional fragmentation. Drawing on her 2025 Wellcome Trust-commissioned paper, *A Proposal for Transforming the Global Health Architecture*, Lee will examine the historical development and limitations of the current global health system and explore opportunities to rethink its institutions, financing and governance structures. The event is organized by the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research in collaboration with the Global Strategy Lab and York University's Graduate Program in Global Health.

Register [HERE](#)

When: Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

9. Get it DONE

Come join the Institute for Research on Digital Literacies (IRDL) and let's...

Get it Done Together!

Supported by Connected Minds, CAIS, CITY, CFR, ITS, CJS, Robarts, GLRC and Sensorium

What?

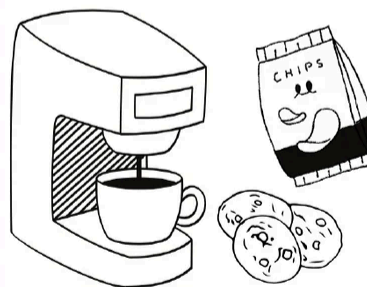
- **Get it Done Together is a drop in co-working group for graduate students, staff, and faculty members here at York.**
- **Sessions use the Pomodoro Method: work for 30 minutes, break for 10, repeat!**
- **Writing, marking, research: bring whatever you need to get done!**

When?

- **We meet every other Thursday from 1-4 PM.**
Dates for Fall 2026 are:
 - **September 17th**
 - **October 1st**
 - **October 22nd**
 - **November 5th**
 - **November 19th**
 - **December 3rd**

Where?

- **We host sessions in the IRDL Lounge on the 7th floor of Kaneff Tower, located at 4700 Keele St., Ian McDonald Blvd, just across from the subway station and next to York lanes.**



- **Free coffee and yummy snacks provided!**

Questions? Contact

jaw24@yorku.ca

or go to

irdl.info.yorku.ca/events



EXTERNAL EVENTS

1. [Amazon Workers in India Fighting for Heat Safety and Justice on the Job](#)

Online Forum | Hosted by the Amazon India Workers Union (AIWU) and international labour organizations

Join Amazon workers and supporters from around the world for a discussion on workplace conditions, organizing and international solidarity. Members of the Amazon India Workers Union (AIWU) will share how workers have used direct action and social media to challenge extreme heat, unsafe working conditions and inadequate access to basic facilities. The forum will also provide an opportunity for participants to exchange organizing strategies and strengthen connections across the global Amazon worker movement.

Register [HERE](#)

When: Sunday, November 1, 2026

Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am EST

Open only to Amazon workers and their supporters. Professional interpretation will be available according to participants' language needs, where possible.

2. New Book: Revolution on the Move: An Oral History of Latin American Feminisms and the Making of Toronto

By R. Magaly San Martin | Fernwood Publishing | October 2026

In her new book, *Revolution on the Move*, R. Magaly San Martin recovers the often-overlooked contributions of Latin American feminist activists to Toronto's political and social movements. Drawing on oral histories and decades of grassroots organizing, the book explores how racialized immigrant women challenged racism, sexism and other forms of oppression while building solidarity across communities and borders. It highlights the central role of Latina feminisms in shaping the city's struggles for social justice.

Learn more and order the book [HERE](#).

3. The Human Cost of Food

The Human Cost of Food documents the long history of unsafe working and living conditions faced by migrant farm workers in Canada. It places the heightened risks

workers experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic within more than a century of illness, injury, and preventable deaths on Canadian farms. The project also centres migrant workers' organizing and resistance to exploitative and unsafe conditions. The bilingual digital exhibit, available in English and French, can be used as a classroom resource or as a starting point for further research. [Explore the digital exhibit.](#)

A new travelling version will be available for loan across Canada beginning in October 2026. Through seven banners featuring workers' experiences and testimonies, the exhibit offers a powerful companion to the digital project. It is suitable for conferences, museums, academic libraries, educational programs, and community events.

For information about the project or to reserve the travelling exhibit, contact curator Prof. Edward Dunsworth at edward.dunsworth@mcgill.ca.

[4. *New book: Carry Your Heart*](#)

In *Carry Your Heart*, Cree psychotherapist **Louis Busch** draws on Indigenous teachings, the wisdom of Knowledge Holders from across Turtle Island, and more than two decades of clinical experience to explore healing, resilience, and personal growth. Blending Indigenous perspectives with Western psychology, the book offers practical tools for navigating trauma, cultivating well-being, and embracing life with compassion and openness.

All author royalties will be donated to support the important work of the **Thunderbird Partnership Foundation** and the **Legacy of Hope Foundation**.

Interested in reading it? Find it [HERE](#).

[5. *The Future of Revolution with Jasper Bernes*](#)

Saturday, October 17, 2026

2:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET | Virtual

Join Jasper Bernes for a conversation about *The Future of Revolution: Communist Prospects from the Paris Commune to the George Floyd Uprising*. Bernes examines how a twenty-first-century revolution against class society might succeed. Drawing

on the history of workers' councils and communes, he explores revolutionary thought and practice from Karl Marx to Paul Mattick and C.L.R. James.

6. [*Beneath the Wage with Annie McClanahan*](#)

Sunday, October 25, 2026

2:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET | Virtual

Join Annie McClanahan for a conversation about her book *Beneath the Wage: Tips, Tasks, and Gigs in the Age of Service Work*. The discussion will explore the conditions shared by workers across the service economy, from delivery and cleaning to teaching. It will also consider who performs this work and what forms of labour politics emerge from an economy increasingly organized around services, tasks, tips, and gigs.

7. [*When Reproduction Becomes a Labor Problem: The Gendered Labor Regime Under Industrial Transplantation*](#)

Friday, October 23, 2026

9:00 to 10:00 a.m. ET | Virtual

The Center for Global Workers' Rights at Penn State University will host a webinar with Prof. Ya-Wen Lei (Harvard University) exploring the relationship between reproductive labour, gender and industrial transformation. [Register here](#).

8. [*Shaping the Regulation of Domestic Work: A Conversation on Freedom of Association and Supranational Legislation*](#)

Friday, October 30, 2026

5:00 a.m. ET | Hybrid (Strasbourg, France and Virtual)

The European Birds of Passage research team will host a seminar featuring Adelle Blackett (McGill University) and Vera Pavlou (University of Glasgow). The discussion will examine domestic workers' freedom of association and gaps in EU legislation covering migrant domestic workers. [More information and registration](#).

9. [*Subscribe to the Historical Materialism Newsletter*](#)

Historical Materialism invites readers to subscribe to its monthly newsletter, featuring the latest journal articles, books, reviews, podcasts and calls for papers. The newsletter also highlights upcoming conferences, events and publications relevant to Marxist scholarship and critical debates on capitalism, labour and social transformation.

Interested in staying connected? [Subscribe to the newsletter here.](#)

CALL FOR PAPERS

1. **FINAL call: Abstracts for ISA World Congress of Sociology due 14 October (plus special note on Palestine)**

[Transforming Workers' Education for Social Justice in Turbulent Times](#)

XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology

This message is **final reminder** that abstracts for next year's XXI World Congress of Sociology in Gwangju, South Korea (4-7 July 2027) are due on **14 October 2026**, i.e., next week. As mentioned previously, this is a **strict deadline** controlled by the ISA Exec, not by us: the ISA does not offer extensions under any circumstances. Researchers, educators, labour activists, practitioners, and graduate students are invited to submit abstracts to this session at the XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology, taking place from July 4 to 10, 2027.

Our session examines the challenges and possibilities of workers' education amid ongoing social, economic, and political crises. It focuses particularly on precarious work, workers' knowledge production, and education for social justice. Contributions from labour, community, and academic contexts are welcome.

For more information, contact Prof. Evelyn Encalada Grez at
evelyn_encalada_grez@sfu.ca.

Sessions and links:

[Against Solidarity and Unions](#)

[Beyond Employment: Safe Rates and Trade Union Rights In Global Road Transport](#)

[Disruption and Mobilization In Turbulent Times: Future Imagination](#)

[Geopolitics and Labor In Asia](#)

[Grounding Labour Governance In Global Production Networks](#)

[Labour In Digital Capitalism](#)

[Labour, Power, and Politics](#)

[Migrant Worker Unionization and Inequalities](#)

[Migration and Labor In the Age of Enhanced Surveillance](#)

[Resisting Authoritarianism: What Can be Done By the Labor Movement?](#)

[Roundtable 1](#)

[Roundtable 2](#)

[Solidarity Forever: The Role of Art and Music In Building Labor Movements](#)

[Technology and Labour In the New Digital Era](#)

[The Persistence of Protest: Labor and Social Movements In South Korea](#)

[Transforming Workers' Education for Social Justice In Turbulent Times](#)

[With Palestine In Mind: Imperialism and Social Movements In the Twenty First Century](#)

[With Palestine In Mind: Popular Resistances to the American- Israeli Wars on West Asia](#)

2. [Dirty Laundry: Architecture, Labour, and the Spatial Politics of Washing](#)

Call for Chapters | Peer-Reviewed Edited Volume

Edited by Chloé Darmon, Marianna Janowicz and Elke Krasny, *Dirty Laundry* invites contributions examining washing as a form of labour and a spatial practice. The volume explores how laundry infrastructures, from domestic spaces to industrial facilities, shape relations of gender, class, care and environmental justice.

Researchers, architects and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts of up to 1,000 words to dirtylaundry.arch@gmail.com. Selected chapters will be due in Fall 2027.

Abstract submission deadline: October 15, 2026

3. [Workers and Technological Change](#)

Oxford, United Kingdom

The Labour Network invites historians, economists, sociologists and labour scholars to submit papers examining how workers have experienced and responded to technological change. The conference explores the historical and contemporary impacts of automation, mechanisation and artificial intelligence on employment, working conditions and labour relations.

Contributions may address technological unemployment, worker resistance, trade unions, deskilling, migration, inequality and the politics of technological adoption. Researchers are invited to submit an abstract of approximately 300 words and a short biographical note to labournetwork@torch.ox.ac.uk. There are no conference fees, and travel and accommodation support may be available upon request.

Submission deadline: October 16, 2026

4. [Socialism and Adult Education: Historical Perspectives for a Revived Lifelong Learning](#)

Special issue of Socialist History, the journal of the Socialist History Society

Submit an abstract with your affiliation, a short biography, and contact information to john.holford@nottingham.ac.uk and p.kumbhat@staff.newman.ac.uk.

Abstract submission deadline: October 30, 2026

5. Contested Countrysides: Conflicts, Claims and the Making of the Modern World

8th Conference of the International Association of Strikes and Social Conflicts

Co-organized by the Commodity Frontiers Initiative and hosted by the Amsab Institute of Social History and Ghent University.

The conference will take place in person in Ghent, Belgium, on June 11 and 12, 2027. Hybrid participation will not be available. The registration fee is €50, and participants are responsible for their travel and accommodation expenses.

Proposals should include a short abstract and biographical note. Submit proposals to info@iassc-net.org. Applicants will be notified by December 1, 2026.

Following the conference, the journals *Workers of the World* and *Commodity Frontiers* may invite participants to submit proposals for journal articles.

Proposal submission deadline: October 31, 2026

6. Working Across Divisions

Labor and Working-Class History Association Conference 2027

The conference will take place at the University of Massachusetts Boston from June 24 to 26, 2027. Proposals for papers, panels, and roundtables may address labour history, working-class studies, migration, race, gender, organizing, and social movements across historical and contemporary contexts.

For questions, contact LAWCHA2027@gmail.com.

Proposal submission deadline: November 1, 2026

7. The New World: Imperialism, Fascism, and Class Struggle

Historical Materialism Paris invites academics and activists to submit proposals examining imperialism, fascism, authoritarianism, class struggle, and the changing conditions of global capitalism. Proposals may respond to the conference's central theme or one of its thematic streams.

Panel proposals of up to 1,500 words and individual presentation proposals of up to 300 words may be submitted in French or English. The conference will take place in Paris from July 1 to 3, 2027.

Proposal submission deadline: November 2, 2026

8. The Great Transition: Building a Shared World with the Living

International Conference | Tiohtià/Montréal, May 27–30, 2027

The Great Transition Collective invites researchers, activists, artists, community organizers and labour organizations to submit proposals for its 2027 international conference. The event will explore feminist, decolonial and anticapitalist approaches to building a postcapitalist future grounded in social and ecological justice.

Proposals may address labour and just transitions, Indigenous sovereignty, democratic alternatives, antifascist organizing, migration and collective resistance. Papers, workshops, debates, artistic contributions and activist-led activities are welcome.

Proposals of up to 250 words can be submitted [here](#).

Submission deadline: November 2, 2026

9. [Historical Materialism Paris 2027: The New World: Imperialism, Fascism, and Class Struggle](#)

International Conference | Paris, France, July 1–3, 2027

Historical Materialism Paris invites academics and activists to submit proposals examining the connections between imperialism, fascism, authoritarianism and contemporary class struggle. The conference welcomes Marxist analyses of labour, migration, racial capitalism, feminist and antiracist movements, ecological crises and collective resistance.

Proposals may be submitted in English or French, including individual presentations (up to 300 words) and panels (up to 1,500 words). [View the full call for papers and submission information.](#)

Submission deadline: November 2, 2026

10. [Inaugural West Asia Symposium at York University](#)

West Asia Research Cluster (WARC), York University

The West Asia Research Cluster invites abstracts from graduate students and emerging scholars for its inaugural symposium, to be held at York University on **February 15-16, 2027**. Topics include law, conflict, memory, culture, political economy, development, mobility, and solidarity in West Asia and its diasporas.

Registration is free. Submit [HERE](#).

Abstract submission deadline: November 7, 2026.

11. [Seeking Labor Studies Scholars for *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Transecology*](#)

The Bloomsbury Handbook of Transecology, edited by Douglas Vakoch, invites contributions examining the intersections of transgender studies and ecology. The volume will feature 38 topics exploring relationships between embodiment, environmental justice, racial capitalism, labour and ecological transformation. Of particular interest to labour scholars are chapters on food systems, agricultural labour, Black transecologies and racial capitalism. The handbook also welcomes contributions on decolonial ecofeminism, Indigenous knowledge, migration and environmental inequalities.

Applicants must hold a PhD. Proposals must include a 300-word abstract, a 200-word biography, five scholarly references and a sample of previously published work. Abstracts must identify one of the handbook's 38 topics. Only previously unpublished chapters will be considered.

Selected authors will be notified by December 15, 2026. Partial drafts are due March 1, 2027, full drafts May 1, 2027 and final chapters July 15, 2027.

[Submit your proposal here](#). Submissions by email will not be accepted.

Submission deadline: November 15, 2026

12. [Racial Uplift and Political Struggles in Slave and Post-Slave Societies](#)

Special issue of Slavery & Post-Slavery

The journal invites original interdisciplinary articles examining ideologies of racial uplift in slave and post-slave societies from the late eighteenth century onward. Contributions from history, sociology, political science, anthropology, and related fields are encouraged.

The issue welcomes submissions in English and French that explore race, emancipation, political struggle, and post-slavery societies from comparative and transnational perspectives.

Article submission deadline: December 1, 2026

13. [Making History: Workers, Conflict, and Collective Action](#)

13th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Work & Labour Studies

The conference will take place at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, from June 2 to 4, 2027. Established scholars, graduate students, and union and community researchers are invited to submit proposals addressing all aspects of work and labour studies. The conference is particularly interested in workers' struggles, organizing, labour conflict, collective action, and social justice.

For submissions and inquiries, contact CAWLS2027@gmail.com.

Panels, roundtables, and workshops deadline: December 11, 2026

Individual papers deadline: January 10, 2027

14. [Marx Conference 2027: The Current Conjuncture and the Making of Possible Futures](#)

The Marx Centre at York University invites paper, panel, and roundtable proposals for the Marx Conference 2027, taking place in Toronto from August 3 to 5, 2027.

The conference examines the contradictions of the current capitalist conjuncture and strategies for rebuilding socialist politics amid intersecting crises of inequality, militarism, ecological destruction, authoritarianism, and democratic erosion.

Suggested topics include political economy, labour, ecology, imperialism, artificial intelligence, social movements, feminism, decolonization, anti-racism, socialist strategy, trade unions, education, and popular struggles.

Individual proposals should include a title, an abstract of up to 400 words, up to five keywords, and author information. Panel proposals are also welcome.

Abstract submission deadline: December 15, 2026

15. [The \(Re\)Turn to Marx: New Readings of Marx and the Future of Organization](#)

Special Issue | Organization

The journal *Organization* invites contributions offering new readings of Marx to examine contemporary capitalism, organizational practices and possibilities for social transformation. The special issue welcomes feminist, decolonial, antiracist, ecological and Indigenous perspectives, with topics including racial capitalism, imperialism, labour relations, digital platforms, democratic economic planning and postcapitalist alternatives.

A **paper development workshop** will take place in November 2026, with options for online and in-person participation. Interested authors were invited to submit abstracts of up to 1,000 words to returntomarxSI@gmail.com by **July 30, 2026**. Participation in the workshop is not required to submit a paper to the special issue.

Full papers of up to 11,000 words (excluding references) can be submitted through the [journal's submission portal](#) beginning March 1, 2027.

Paper submission deadline: April 1, 2027

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Laß, I., & Wooden, M. (2026). [Who worked from home after the pandemic](#). *Journal of Industrial Relations*.

Retamal, P. D., & Pérez-Ahumada, P. (2026). [The gender-equalizing effects of labor unions: Union membership and gender gaps in political participation in Latin America](#). *Journal of Industrial Relations*.

Shahadat, K., & Uddin, S. (2026). [Exclusion and labour control regimes: A tale of two tea plantations](#). *Sociology*.

Wang, J., & Chan, J. (2026). [Practising gender subjectivities in platform work: Food delivery workers and house cleaning workers in China](#). *Work, Employment and Society*.

Winton, A., Umney, C., & Alberti, G. (2026). [Technological frames of reference and conceptions of workers' agency: A new framework from UK warehousing](#). *New Technology, Work and Employment*.

Newsletter Announcements

We encourage submission of items for the newsletter, including calls for abstracts and papers, published articles and other relevant announcements. *Items received by the 25th day of each month will be published in the upcoming newsletter*. Items received after that date will be included in a future month. From time to time, we will circulate a mid-month list of events, typically around the 15th day. Please fill out this [form](#) or send all items to glrc@yorku.ca.

Collaborate with the GLRC!

Have an idea for a workshop, panel, conference, public talk, film screening, community event, or other labour-related activity? The GLRC is now accepting

collaboration requests through a new online [form](#). York University units, community organizations, labour organizations, researchers, and other partners are invited to submit proposals for events and activities that align with the GLRC's mandate.

Complete the [form](#) to tell us about your event and the type of support you are seeking—from co-organization and promotion to venue, speaker, or funding support. Requests are reviewed based on alignment with the GLRC's mission, available resources, and scheduling capacity. For questions, contact glrc@yorku.ca.



Global Labour Research Centre, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, York University,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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