

POST-SOCIALIST BAZAARS: MARKETS AND DIVERSITIES IN EX-COMECON COUNTRIES

- by invitation only -

International Conference, 23-24 February 2012

MPI zur Erforschung multireligiöser und multiethnischer Gesellschaften

Hermann-Föge-Weg 11, HFW 12 • Göttingen

organized by

Gertrud Hüwelmeier (Humboldt Univ. Berlin) and Steven Vertovec (MPI-MMG)

Prior to the collapse of Communism, hundreds of thousands of migrants arrived in various localities throughout COMECON countries by way of programmes of mutual cooperation and 'socialist solidarity'. Since then, many have not returned to their countries of origin, but have become entrepreneurs mostly engaged in wholesaling and retailing. Women and men from various, previously Communist countries now commonly work as street vendors and sellers in open air markets and bazaars across other former Communist territories. Further, after the fall of the Berlin Wall a new wave of people with various ethnic, linguistic, religious and class backgrounds have engaged in petty trading, suitcase and market trading within ex-COMECON countries. Local markets, increasingly comprised of diverse peoples, play key roles in post-socialist economic development while they transnationally link a variety of geographical and socio-cultural spaces around the world.

Key themes in the conference include:

1. ***processes of diversification and social transformation***
2. ***mobility and transnational social and economic practices***
3. ***bazaars as public places and sites of cultural exchange***



Green Market, Skopje (Macedonia)



Arizona black market, Brčko District, Bosnia and Herzegovina



Dong Xuan Market, Hanoi



Kontakt

Jutta Esser

Tel.: +49 (551) 4956-126

E-Mail: esser@mmg.mpg.de

Post-socialist bazaars: Markets and Diversities in ex-COMECON countries

International Conference, Göttingen, 23-24 February 2012

Conference Timetable

THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2012

- 9.00-9.30 Welcome and Opening, **Steven Vertovec** (Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen) & **Gertrud Hüwelmeier** (Humboldt-University Berlin)
- 9.30-10.15 **Chris Hann** (Max-Planck-Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)
Postsocialist Peddlers: perspectives from economic anthropology
- 10.15-11.00 **Guido Sprenger** (University of Heidelberg)
Goods and ethnic difference
- 11.15-12.00 **Emil Nasritdinov** (American University of Central Asia)
Bazaars, Ethnicity and Migration: Endangered Egalitarian Spaces of the
"Post-Soviet"
- 12.00-12.45 **Lale Yalçın-Heckmann** (Max-Planck-Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)
A nation of petty-traders? Azerbaijani traders in global markets
- 14.00-14.45 **Gabriela Coman** (University of Montreal)
Selling in the street: Illegal vendors in a Bucharest neighbourhood
- 14.45-15.30 **Svetlana Milutinovic** (Forum for Ethnic Relations, Belgrade)
Multicultural Grey Economy at the Pančevo Open Air Market: Strategies for
Surviving an Endless Transition
- 15.45-16.30 **Larisa Jasarevic** (University of Chicago)
Love Magic Market
- 16.30-17.15 **Goran Janev** (Ss Cyril and Methodius, Skopje)
Beyond market relationships: pluralism and diversity in the Skopje Old Bazaar

FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2012

- 9.00-9.45 **Kirsten W. Endres** (Max-Planck-Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)
Trade, traders, and markets at the Vietnam-China border: Formal regulations
and informal practices
- 9.45-10.30 **Pál Nyíri** (Free University Amsterdam)
The "Chinese market": from postsocialist to global
- 10.30-11.15 **Gertrud Hüwelmeier** (Humboldt University Berlin)
Asiatown - Socio-cultural diversity in a multi-ethnic market in East Berlin
- 11.30-12.30 **General Discussion**