

## Conference Programme

# *Towards a Social History of European Integration*

17-19 October 2021, Muntgebouw Utrecht

This conference aims to offer a bottom-up perspective by looking at the historical development of public contestation, mobilisation, and participation in the history of European integration. It will connect these topics to the question of institutional legitimacy, the legitimacy of the creation of the common market, and the evolving nature of the public sphere. In what ways have 'ordinary Europeans' and social groups sought to influence European policies and to what effect?

This conference aims to lay the basis of a new social history of European integration. Our concern is to move beyond a narrative that portrays the EU as a transnational elite or technocratic domain, which only belatedly became politicised in the 1990s. Instead, we wish to embed the history of European integration in the social history of Europe in the second half of the twentieth century.

### **Convenors:**

Liesbeth van de Grift

Koen van Zon

Martin Conway

Brigitte Leucht



## Monday, 18 October

<b>9.00 – 9.45</b>	Word of welcome by organisers <b>Introduction: How to write the social history of European integration?</b> Chair: Liesbeth van de Grift
<b>9.45 – 11.15</b>	<b>Panel 1: 1950s – 1970s</b>  <i><u>Juliane Czierpka (Ruhr University Bochum)</u></i> <i>How the Ruhr's coal mining industry forged anti-European opinions in the 1950s and 1960s</i>  <i><u>Roslyn Dubler (Columbia University)</u></i> <i>Feminism, Sociology, and Equal Treatment: The Post-War Foundations of European Gender Equality Policy</i>  <i><u>Thomas Rohringer (Ludwig-Maximilians University München)</u></i> <i>European voices. Possibilities and limitations of petitioning in the process of European integration, 1958-1979</i>
<b>11.30 – 13.00</b>	<b>Panel 2: 1960s &amp; 1970s</b>  <i><u>Kalliopi Geronymaki (European University Institute)</u></i> <i>Farmers and crops at the Delta of the river Po, Italy: Narrating the European legal integration, 1961-1973</i>  <i><u>Ada Alvaro (University of Tuscia, Viterbo)</u></i> <i>Migrant associations in the European integration process during the 1970s</i>  <i><u>Andrew Waterman (University of Portsmouth)</u></i> <i>Protecting jobs in the shadow of globalisation: European textile unions and international trade negotiations as a site of contestation in the long 1970s</i>

**14.00 – 14.45**

**Roundtable 1: Turning points and chronologies in contemporary European history**

Chair: Brigitte Leucht

**15.00 – 16.30**

**Panel 3: 1970s & 1980s (I)**

Melina Antonia Buns (University of Oslo)

*Nature's hangovers: plastic packaging, beer bottles and littered beaches. Between European integration and environmental activism*

Alessandra Schimmel (Utrecht University)

*The hormone scandals: food safety, agricultural politics, and European consumer power in the late 1970s and early 1980s*

Eline van Ommen (University of Leeds)

*Sister cities, European integration, and the Nicaraguan Revolution, 1979-1990*

**16.30 – 17.00**

**Discussion/concluding remarks day 1**

## Tuesday, 19 October

<b>9.00 – 10.30</b>	<b>Panel 4: 1970s &amp; 1980s (II)</b>  <i><u>Aurélie Andry (Université d'Évry, Paris)</u></i> <i>The forgotten struggle of the trade union movement for a reduction in working time in Europe</i>  <i><u>Marta Alorda (European University Institute)</u></i> <i>The Spanish fishermen and the origins of the Common Fisheries Policy</i>  <i><u>Koen van Zon (Utrecht University)</u></i> <i>Confronting Europe's toxics trade. The global legacy of the Seveso disaster, 1976-1990</i>
<b>10.45 – 12.15</b>	<b>Panel 5: 1980s &amp; 1990s</b>  <i><u>Martin Rempe (University of Konstanz)</u></i> <i>Whose Culture? Creative Workers and Early European Copyright Legislation</i>  <i><u>Brigitte Leucht (University of Portsmouth)</u></i> <i>Consumers and the creation of the EC common market, 1979-1992</i>  <i><u>Maria Buck (University of Innsbruck)</u></i> <i>Voices of the Alps: anti-transit traffic protests and EU criticism in Austria</i>
<b>12.15 – 13.00</b>	<b>Roundtable 2: How does the social history of European integration change the social and political history of contemporary Europe?</b>  Chair: Martin Conway