Property, particularly private property, is an essential feature of modern societies, shaping today's society, economy, and culture. While private property is often viewed from a liberal standpoint as a guarantee of individual freedom and economic prosperity, critical perspectives emphasize its contribution to social inequalities and the diffusion of responsibility. However, the ongoing commodification of commons and public goods and emerging dynamics in the knowledge and bioeconomy (e.g. the open access to digital goods) have repeatedly led to conflicts over (private) property. Whether it is the privatization of public housing, the appropriation and commercial use of personal data, or the unequal distribution of wealth, various conflicts are waged today that characterize modern societies. To understand conflicts over property, it is crucial to examine the property orders that encompass formal and informal elements such as codified laws, customs, traditions, and cultural values.

In this context, diverging social logics and dynamics emerge, especially when property conflicts are publicly and politically debated: Recent examples include disputes over the distribution of rents (Deutsche Wohnen & Co. Enteignen, the campaign to expropriate big landlords in Berlin), the role of strategic infrastructure (debates over Chinese investment in European port infrastructure), or the damages caused by climate change (lawsuits against the German transnational energy company RWE). In other contexts, property conflicts are not articulated as political conflicts and remain concealed, such as gendered wealth inequality or issues of generativity.

The conference will explore the development of conflicts over property by analyzing property orders, key social actors, claims, and dynamics. It will bring scholars from different disciplines and countries together to assess the current state of conflicts over property. The conference is organized by the Collaborative Research Center 294 "Structural Change of Property" at the University of Erfurt and the Friedrich Schiller University Jena, with funding provided by the German Research Foundation.

STRUCTURAL CHANGE OF PROPERTY

The conference is organized by the Collaborative Research Centre (Sonderforschungsbereich) 294 *Structural Change of Property*.

**Registration**
You can register for the conference at:
**anmeldung.sfb-eigentum@uni-jena.de**

**Venue**
**Augustinerkloster**
Augustinerstraße 10
99084 Erfurt
**Town Hall**
Fischmarkt 1
99084 Erfurt

**Information**
More information about the conference and the Collaborative Research Centre can be found at:
**www.sfb294-eigentum.de.**

FRIEDRICH-SCHILLER-UNIVERSITÄT JENA

UNIVERSITÄT ERFURT

DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

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# Conflicts Over Property

## Annual Conference of the Collaborative Research Centre Structural Change of Property · SFB 294

October 4–6, 2023
University of Erfurt

## October 4, 2023

**12:00–5:00 pm** Event for Early Career Researchers
**Closed event, with registration only**

**6:00–6:15 pm** Welcome address at Town Hall (Ceremonial Hall)

**6:15–8:00 pm** **Keynotes and Discussion** (O)
Conflicts over Property: Inflation, Profit and Wealth

Money or Life – How Our Irrational Relationship to Money Divides Our Society
**Marcel Fratzscher** German Institute for Economic Research, Germany

Inflation in Times of Overlapping Emergencies: Profits, Social Conflict and Why Not All Prices Are Created Equal
**Isabella Weber** University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA (online)

**8:15 pm** Reception

## October 5, 2023

**9:00 am** Registration

**9:30–10:30 am** **Discussion**
A Typology of Conflicts over Property
**Florian Peters, Jonathan Rinne, Robin K. Saalfeld, Stefan Schmalz, Amelie Stuart, Lydia von der Weth** SFB
Comments by **Johanna Hoerning** Technische Universität Berlin and **Markus Wissen** Berlin School of Economics and Law

**10:30–11:00 am** Break

**11:00–12:30 pm** Capital and Labor: Ownership of Companies – **Part I**

**Panel 1.1** (G)
Property and Socio-ecological Transformation Conflicts. The Automotive Industry Between Conservation, Crisis, and Conversion
**Nora Räthzel** Umeå Universitet
**Markus Wissen** Berlin School of Economics and Law
**Steffen Liebig, Kim Lucht** SFB

**11:00–12:30 pm** Property and Political Conflicts – **Part I**

**Panel 2.1**
The Role of Property for Political (In)Equality and Representation
**Mads Elkjær** University of Copenhagen
**Lea Elsässer** Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
**Marion Reiser, Jonathan Rinne, Lars Vogel** SFB

**12:30–2:00 pm** Lunch Break

**2:00–3:45 pm** **Plenary Session**
Commodification – (New) Spheres of Property
**Ravi Ahuja** University of Göttingen
**Timo Seidl** University of Vienna
**Eva von Redecker** Author and philosopher, Berlin
**Mariana Walter** Autonomous University of Barcelona

**3:45–4:15 pm** Break

**4:15–5:45 pm** Capital and Labor: Ownership of Companies – **Part II**

**Panel 1.2. (ONLINE)**
Paths to Worker Participation in the Decision-making of Companies – the opposed Approaches of German and US Labor Law
**Wilma Liebman** New York University, Former chairman, National Labor Relations Board; Adjunct Professor NYU Law School
**Helene Langbein, Achim Seifert** SFB

Property and Political Conflicts – **Part II**

**Panel 2.2**
Conflicts over Privatisation and Restitution of Property after 1989
**Kerstin Brückweh** Berliner Hochschule für Technik
**Beata Siemieniako** Lawyer and activist, Warsaw
**Florian Peters, Joachim von Puttkamer** SFB

**5:45–7:00 pm** Break

**7:00–8:30 pm** **Keynote and Discussion** (O)
Rethinking Property Relations in Climate Coloniality
**Farhana Sultana** Syracuse University, USA (online)
Comments by **Kim Lucht, Verena Wolf** SFB

## October 6, 2023

**9:00–10:30 am** Property Conflicts around Generativity – **Part I**

**Panel 3.1** (G)
Conflicts over Property in Intimate Relationships
**Sarah Speck** Goethe University Frankfurt
**Agnieszka Althaber, Robin K. Saalfeld, Sylka Scholz** SFB

Public Goods and Infrastructures of Property – **Part I**

**Panel 4.1**
The Role of and the Conflict over Private Property in Professional Football – Germany and England Compared
**Christoph Breuer** German Sport University Cologne
**David Webber** Solent University
**Andrea Dietl, Mike Geppert** SFB

**10:30–11:00 am** Break

**11:00–12:30 pm** Property Conflicts around Generativity – **Part II**

**Panel 3.2**
Property in the Body? Conflicts around the Political Economy of Generativity
**Caroline Arni** University of Basel
**Susanne Schultz** Goethe University Frankfurt
**Stefanie Graefe, Irina Herb, Sophie Jossi-Silverstein, Susanne Lettow** SFB

Public Goods and Infrastructures of Property – **Part II**

**Panel 4.2**
Conflicts over Chinese Infrastructure Investments in the EU: Transportation and Data
**Giles Mohan, Samuel Rogers** The Open University
**Stefan Schmalz, Lea Schneidemesser** SFB

**12:30–1:00 pm** Break

**1:00–2:30 pm** Brown Bag Discussion: Beyond Private Property
**Silke van Dyk, Tilman Reitz, Hartmut Rosa** SFB

(O) virtual presentation (G) in german