

Undoing the terra obscura: IPE scholarship, post-Soviet space, and theory without history

Thursday 4 June 2026 10:45 (1h 30m)

This roundtable brings together editors, authors, and critics to explore the subject matter of the homonymous SI published in Globalisations. It addresses the rather non-homogenous “post-Soviet space”, its makeup, political, economic, and intellectual object and subject in (G/I)/(C)/PE so violently exposed by the “debates” around Russo-Ukrainian war and of Russia(n) Federation itself as an object and a subject in politico-economic sense. The terra obscura is “produced” through scholar(ship) superiority biases, evidential and analytical gaps, deliberate selective evidence bricolage for the sake of dogmatic pleading, methodological straightjackets that preclude honest and ethical scholarly engagement with the object of study or the carriers of local and indigenous knowledge (research ethics protocols are too a problem), historical ignorance and ignorance of old and new history(-ies) by the producers of knowledge in and outside academia, and more. How spatio-temporally unique intersectional social make-up and division of labour in production and socio-ecological reproduction, racism and othering, (de)coloniality, trade, mobility, migration, and displacement are made and experienced in each case is the question that needs answering if fitting theoretical frames are to be developed off and for them, not imposed on them, if the aim to understand the loci and the agency of concrete persons, groups, institutions, their foreign and (inter)state relations, including trade, security, and military aggression.

Track Classification: International Political Economy Working Group