

INTERNATIONAL KARL POLANYI SOCIETY



Institute for Multi-Level Governance
and Development | WU, Vienna

Polanyi-Lecture

April/May 2019



Monday, April 29, 2019, 6 p.m.

Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, Room D4.0.022

Jamie Peck: Whatever happened to uneven development?

Comments by Jürgen Essletzbichler, WU Vienna, and Karin Fischer, JKU Linz (tbc)

Uneven development has long been part of the lexicon in political economy and heterodox economic studies, a signifier of a cluster of received (if often loosely specified) understandings relating to geographical inequality, core-periphery relations, unequal exchange, and global interdependency. The terminology of uneven development enjoyed its widest currency during the 1970s and 1980s, a time when the tectonic plates of globalizing capitalism seemed to be moving underfoot. In the decades since, the question of uneven development—as a locus for active theorization—has waned somewhat, even as geographical transformations in the world economy have, if anything, intensified. It has receded, one might say, into the background. The presentation will outline a conjunctural approach to the analysis of capitalist transformations and recombinant development models, drawing particularly on insights from the work of Karl Polanyi and Doreen Massey.

Jamie Peck is Canada Research Chair in Urban & Regional Political Economy, Distinguished University Scholar, and Professor of Geography at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. His recent publications include *Doreen Massey: critical dialogues*, edited with Marion Werner, Rebecca Lave and Brett Christophers (Agenda, 2018) and *Offshore: exploring the worlds of global outsourcing* (Oxford, 2017).

Karl Polanyi (1886-1964) was a Hungarian-Austrian intellectual, journalist, scholar and academic, dedicated to understanding contemporary capitalism. 75 years ago, in 1944, he published “The Great Transformation – The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time”. His approach has inspired inter- and transdisciplinary research for a broader understanding of the economy. It has proven especially relevant due to current hyperglobalisation and the commodification of ever more spheres of social life and nature.



Friday, May 3, 2019 – 6.30 p.m.
Radiokulturhaus, Argentinierstraße 30A, 1040 Vienna
IWM Lecture in Human Sciences
Dani Rodrik: Karl Polanyi and Globalization's Wrong Turn

Comments by Kari Polanyi Levitt, Mc Gill University, Montreal and Ayse Bugra, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul

Globalization took a wrong turn when it overlooked Polanyi's central insight that markets need to be embedded in institutions, both for effectiveness and legitimacy. The brief period of Bretton Woods-style globalization in the decades following World War II was more Polanyiesque in so far it did not question the centrality of national economic management and regulation. Constructing a viable globalization will require going back to that central insight, though the results are unlikely to look much like the Bretton Woods regime.

Dani Rodrik is an economist whose research covers globalization, economic growth and development, and political economy. He is the Ford Foundation Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He was previously the Albert O. Hirschman Professor in the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton (2013-2015). Professor Rodrik is currently President-Elect of the [International Economic Association](http://www.international-economic-association.org/). His newest book is [Straight Talk on Trade: Ideas for a Sane World Economy](http://www.straight-talk-on-trade.com/) (2017).

Please register by April 17, 2019 via: <http://www.karlpolanysociety.com/2019/02/19/registration-conference2019/>



Contact: International Karl Polanyi-Society, WU Vienna University of Economics and Business
Welthandelsplatz 1, 1020 Vienna, Austria
Web: <http://www.karlpolanysociety.com/> E-Mail: ikps@wu.ac.at



Monday, May 6, 2019, 6 p.m.

Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, Room D4.0.019

Marguerite Mendell: The Social and Solidarity Economy. A citizen based countermovement?

Comments by Richard Lang, JKU Linz

Karl Polanyi did not live long enough to witness the return of unbridled market liberalism and the discrediting of the post-war compromise, the role of the state and organized labour in many parts of the world. Over the last decades, neoliberal globalization has spread commodification and marketization to diverse spheres of social life and social ecology. Is the social and solidarity economy a forceful countermovement or is it only accommodating the dominant paradigm? The lectures describes recent developments in the sector and reflects on strategies of strengthening agency, institutions and structures that foster social justice, equity and living in harmony with nature, best achieved through working collectively.

Marguerite Mendell is the Director of the Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy Montreal which hosts the Karl Polanyi archive. She is a key protagonist of research and discussions referring to Karl Polanyi's work and a renowned scholar in the field of the social and solidarity economy. Many awards show the extraordinary relevance of her work: Member, Order of Canada; Officer, Order of Québec; laureate Prix Québec, Marie-Andrée Bertrand and Prix ACFAS, Pierre Dansereaux. Her latest/most important contributions include "Commoning and the Commons - Alternatives to a Market Society" in Michael Brie and Thomas Clausberger, (eds.), *Karl Polanyi's Vision of Socialist Transformation*. Montreal, Black Rose Books, 2018; "Democratizing Capital: Social and Solidarity Finance in Quebec" in Ngai Pun, Ben Hok-bun Ku, Hairong Yan, Anita Koo (eds.), *Social Economy in China and the World*. London, Routledge, 2015.

The **Institute for Multi-Level Governance and Development (MLGD)** hosts the International Karl Polanyi Society (IKPS). Together with the Karl Polanyi Research Center for Global Studies at Corvinus University in Hungary it organizes a transnational conference on "Karl Polanyi in the 21st century", taking place in Budapest and Vienna from May 1st to May 5th.

The **three Polanyi Lectures** in April and May will be part of the framework program of the conference. Two events will be Department Lecture Series organized by the Institute of Economic Geography and GIScience and the Institute for Multi-Level Governance and Development, one event will be the official opening of the Vienna part of the transnational conference.

The **Department of Socioeconomics at Vienna University of Economics and Business** is inspired by Karl Polanyi's approach. Its mission statement opens with: "Socioeconomics reflects the embeddedness of the economy into the society and the biophysical nature".