

## Dr. Rory Archer

---

Rory Archer  
Centre for Southeast European Studies  
Schubertstrasse 21/1  
8010 Graz, Austria

Phone: +43 (0)316 380 - 6697  
[rory.archer@uni-graz.at](mailto:rory.archer@uni-graz.at)



---

I am a social historian of 20<sup>th</sup> century Southeast Europe. My research has focused on labour history and gender history in socialism, housing, everyday life and popular culture. Methodologically, I have experience in working through oral history, grounded theory and other qualitative, interpretive methods which link social science approaches to social history research. My current research project explores the history of intra-Yugoslav Albanian migration, during late-socialism.

### EMPLOYMENT

**University of Graz, Austria** (Centre for Southeast European Studies)  
Assistant (2010-2013), Researcher (2014-2016), Principal Investigator (2020-2024).

**University of Konstanz, Germany** (Chair of History of Eastern Europe)  
Lecturer/Post-Doctoral Researcher (2019-).

**University College London, United Kingdom** (School of Slavonic and East European Studies)  
Mellon Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (2016-2018).

**Central European University, Budapest, Hungary** (Nationalism Studies Program)  
Visiting lecturer (2019-).

**University of Belgrade, Serbia** (Faculty for Political Sciences)  
Visiting lecturer (2017-).

### EDUCATION

**University of Graz, Austria**  
Ph.D. in History (2011-2015)  
Dissertation: *Housing, social inequalities and discontent among working class Belgraders in late Yugoslav socialism (1974-1991)*.

**Central European University, Budapest, Hungary**  
MA in Nationalism Studies (2008–2009).

**Dublin City University, Ireland**  
BA in International Relations (2004-2008).

### LANGUAGES

English (native speaker); Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (fluent, C1); German (advanced, B2)

## PROJECTS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS RECEIVED

### **FWF Austrian Science Fund, Vienna, Austria**

- *To the Northwest! Intra-Yugoslav Albanian migration* (Principal Investigator €282,245.25, University of Graz, 2020-2024).
- *Between class and nation: Working class communities in 1980s Serbia and Montenegro* (project co-author and researcher, led by Prof. Florian Bieber, University of Graz, 2014-2018).

### **Institute for Advanced Studies, Kőszeg, Hungary**

Postdoctoral researcher (October 2018- January 2019).

### **Centre for Advanced Studies, University of Rijeka, Croatia**

Fellowship on theme of “Risky Thinking: Engagement and Action for Social Change” (February 2019).

### **Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria**

H2020 Incoming Fellowship (June-September 2018).

### **WTZ OeAD mobility exchange (Austria/Macedonia)**

Shifts in class and national identities in Macedonia since 1980. Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities – Skopje (Project Leader, 2016-2018).

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
- Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)
- British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)
- European Labour History Network (ELHN) Coordinator of working group “Labour Migration History”

## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & PUBLIC EVENTS ORGANISED (SELECTION)

- *Welfare State and Violence: Comparative Perspectives on Western and Eastern Europe since the 1950s* (University of Konstanz, 23-25 January 2020)
- *Labour history of socialist globalisation: The view from the shop-floor* (University of Konstanz, 10-11 October 2019).
- *Workers beyond Socialist Glorification and Post-Socialist Disavowal: New Perspectives on Eastern European Labour History* (University of Vienna, 24-27 May 2018).  
<https://yulabour.wordpress.com/2018/05/02/eastlabourconf/>
- *Atlantic to Adriatic: Contact points and historical parallels between Ireland and Southeast Europe* (University of Rijeka, Croatia, 26-27 April 2018).
- *Excavating Yugoslav Socialism: Archives, Social History and Research Methodology* (in discussion with Vladan Vukliš, University of Graz, 4 April 2017).
- *After empires: Mapping the state-of-the-art in contemporary Vojvodina* (Palić, Serbia, 20-22 May 2016).
- *The history of labour in Yugoslav late socialism* (University of Pula, Croatia, 2 October 2015).
- *Balkan Precariat. Mediating the global economic crisis in SEE* (Marija Bistrica, Croatia, 8-10 November 2013).
- *Bringing class back in. The dynamics of social change in (post) Yugoslavia* (Marija Bistrica, Croatia, 7-9 December 2012).
- *Debating the End of Yugoslavia* (University of Graz, 4-6 November 2011).

## INVITED TALKS (SELECTION)

- *Doing Yugoslav labour history: From the factory shop-floor case study to comparative approaches* (Industrial Societies of Late Socialism: European Comparisons, doctoral workshop. University of Pula, 29 August 2019).
- *From Class to Nation. Working Class Communities in Late Socialist Yugoslavia* (Colloquium of Modern History, University of Konstanz, 16 April 2019).
- *Approaching the socialist factory and its workforce from below in a Yugoslav context* (Shipyards as transforming workplaces: methods of grasping shop-floor experiences 'from below'. Gdynia, 29 June 2018).
- *From Socially Owned Flats to Self-built Houses: Housing Provision in Yugoslav Socialism and its Post-socialist Privatization* (CZKD, Belgrade, 1 December 2017).
- Invited discussant, *Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Narratives about Illicit/Black/Second Markets in the Black Sea Region and Southeastern Europe* (Centre for Advanced Study Sofia, 19-21 October 2017).
- *Social inequalities and working class grievances in late Yugoslav socialism* (Southeast European Seminar Series, SSEES University College London, 18 October 2016).
- *Between Class and Nation: Working Class Communities in 1980s Serbia and Montenegro* (Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory of the University in Belgrade, 10 March 2016 & University of Regensburg, 4 May 2016).

## TEACHING & SUPERVISION (SELECTION)

### University of Konstanz

- Gender and Race in Socialist and Postsocialist Eastern Europe (Undergrad proseminar, 2020)
- Post-Socialist Transformation in Eastern Europe after 1989 (MA seminar course 2019-2020).
- The breakup of Yugoslavia and the wars of the 1990s (Undergrad course, 2019-2020).
- Comparative Nationalism (Undergrad proseminar, 2019)
- Oral History (Undergrad course, 2019)

### University of Belgrade

- Social Transformation in Contemporary Southeastern Europe (MA seminar, 2017-).
- MA thesis supervision (2019-2020)

### Central European University, Budapest/Vienna

- Interpreting Contemporary Nationalism in Southeastern Europe (MA seminar, 2019-)

### University College London

- "All Quiet on the Eastern Front" (MA seminar, co-taught, 2016-2017, 2017-2018).
- Dissertation Supervision (BA and MA levels, co-taught, 2016-2017, 2017-2018).
- Political Sociology (MA lecture and seminar, co-taught, 2016-2017, 2017-2018).
- Qualitative Methods (MA lecture course, co-taught, 2016-2017, 2017-2018).

### University of Graz

- Cultures and societies of Southeast Europe (MA seminar, co-taught, 2011-2018).
- Political History of Southeast Europe (MA seminar, co-taught, 2011-2012).
- Civil Society and Political Culture in Southeast Europe (MA seminar co-taught, 2011-2012, 2012-2013).
- Academic writing and thesis workshop (MA seminar, co-taught, 2011-2012, 2012-2013).

## SERVICE & ADMINISTRATION (SELECTION)

- Coordinator of Working Group 'Migration History', European Labour History Network (ELHN)
- Balkan Academic News listserv (Moderator, 2011-2016).
- Joint Master's Programme in Southeast European Studies, University of Graz & University of Belgrade, (Consortium Coordinator, 2011-2013).

## PEER REVIEWS (SELECTION)

- *ACME; Aspasia; Bulletin of the Institute of Ethnography SASA; Business History; East European Politics and Societies; Ethnomusicology Forum; Current Sociology: Hurst & Co: IB Tauris; Journal of World History; Labor History; Nationalities Papers; Problems of Post-Communism; Spiegelungen; Südosteuropa; Südost-Forschungen.*

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal articles

- "New perspectives on East European Labor History: an Introduction", *Labor: Studies in Working Class History* (co-authored with Goran Musić) 17, 3 (2020): 19-29. <https://doi.org/10.1215/15476715-8349332>.
- "'Antibureaucratism' as a Yugoslav Phenomenon: The View from northwest Croatia", *Nationalities Papers* 47:4 (2019): 562-580. <https://doi.org/10.1017/nps.2018.40>
- "The Belgrade Working Class from Tito to Milošević: New geographies of poverty and evolving expressions of grievances in an era of crisis, 1979–1986", (co-authored with Goran Musić) *Revue d'études comparatives Est-Ouest (RECEO)* 1:5 (2019): 53-79. <https://doi.org/10.3917/receo1.501.0053>
- "Nationalism and the agency of musical performers in Serbia in the 1990s: A discussion with Dragana Mirković", *Contemporary Southeastern Europe* 6: 2 (2019), 13-21. [10.25364/02.6:2019.2.2](https://doi.org/10.25364/02.6:2019.2.2)
- 'It was better when it was worse': Blue-collar narratives of the recent past in Belgrade" *Social History*, 43, 1 (2018): 30-55. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03071022.2018.1393997>
- "The Moral Economy of Home Construction in Late Socialist Yugoslavia", *History and Anthropology* 29, 2 (2018): 141-162. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02757206.2017.1340279>
- "Approaching the Socialist Factory and its Workforce: Considerations from Fieldwork in (former) Yugoslavia", (co-authored with Goran Musić) *Labor History*, 58, 1 (2017): 44-66. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0023656X.2017.1244331>
- "Imaš kuću – vrati stan". Housing inequalities, socialist morality and discontent 1980s Yugoslavia", *Godišnjak za društvenu istoriju/Annual of Social History* 20, 3 (2015): 119-139.
- "Assessing turbofolk controversies: popular music between the nation and the Balkans", *Southeastern Europe* 36, 2 (2012): 178–207. [10.1163/187633312X642103](https://doi.org/10.1163/187633312X642103)

### Editorship

- *Labor: Studies in Working Class History*, 17, 3 (2020). Section on the state-of-the-art in East European labour history (co-edited with Goran Musić).

### Edited volumes

- *Social Inequalities and Discontent in Yugoslav Socialism*. Abingdon: Routledge, 2016. 204 pp. (co-edited with Igor Duda and Paul Stubbs).
- *Debating the End of Yugoslavia*. Farnham: Ashgate, 2014. 262 pp. (co-edited with Florian Bieber and Armina Galijaš).

### Book chapters

- “Inside the factory, outside the party-state. The agency of Yugoslav women workers in late socialism (1976-1989)” in Eloisa Betti, Silke Neunsinger, Leda Papastefanaki, Marica Tolomelli, Susan Zimmermann (eds.), *Women, Work and Agency. Organizing and activism around the world in the long 20<sup>th</sup> century*. Budapest: CEU Press (under peer review)
- “Croatian migrants to Ireland – late capitalist wandering critics” in Wendy Bracewell, Tim Beasley-Murray, and Michał Murawski (eds.) *Anti-atlas: Towards a critical area studies*. London: UCL Press (under peer review).
- “(Not) remembering a populist event: The Serbian Antibureaucratic Revolution (1988-1989)”, in Jody Jensen (ed.) *At the Intersection of Memory and Populism in South and Eastern Europe*. Routledge (under peer review).
- “‘Not all canteens are created equal’: Food provision for Yugoslav blue-collar workers in late socialism” (co-authored with Goran Musić), in Ruža Fotiadis, Vladimir Ivanović, Radina Vučetić (eds.) *Brotherhood and Unity at the Kitchen Table? Cooking, Cuisine and Food Culture in Socialist Yugoslavia*. Zagreb: Srednja Europa, 2020, 75-95.
- “When Workers’ Self-Management met Neoliberalism: Positive Perceptions of Market Reforms among Blue-Collar Workers in Late Yugoslav Socialism” (co-authored with Goran Musić) in Martha Siefert (ed.) *Labor in State Socialist Europe after 1945*. Budapest: CEU Press, 2020, 395-418.
- “Bringing Class back in. An Introduction” (co-authored with Igor Duda and Paul Stubbs), in Rory Archer, Igor Duda and Paul Stubbs (eds.) *Social Inequalities and Discontent in Yugoslav Socialism*. Abingdon: Routledge, 2016, 1-20.
- “‘Paid for by the Workers, Occupied by the Bureaucrats’: Housing Inequalities in 1980s Belgrade” in Rory Archer, Igor Duda and Paul Stubbs (eds.) *Social Inequalities and Discontent in Yugoslav Socialism*. Abingdon: Routledge, 2016, 58-76.
- “Social Inequalities and the Study of Yugoslavia’s Dissolution”, in Florian Bieber, Armina Galijaš and Rory Archer (eds.) *Debating the End of Yugoslavia*. Farnham: Ashgate, 2014, 135-151.
- “Western, eastern and modern: Balkan pop-folk music and (trans)nationalism” Carmen Feixa et al (eds.), *Young People and Social Change after the Fall of the Berlin Wall*. Strasbourg: The Council of Europe Publishing, 2012, 187-204.
- “Šverc and the Šinobus: Small-scale Smuggling in Vojvodina” (co-authored with Krisztina Racz) Bettina Bruns Judith Miggelbrink (eds.), *Subverting Borders: Doing Research on Smuggling and Small-Scale Trade*. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 2012, 59-83.