

before
ruins

**The 2026
conference
of stsing e.v.**

**25. – 27.
March
2026**

**Ruhr
University
Bochum**

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Welcome to stsing's 2nd conference at Ruhr University Bochum. We are over the moon to have you! *Before Ruins* – the theme of 2026 – asks how Science and Technology Studies can speak to the futures of post-industrial societies. Taking the Ruhr Valley (Ruhrgebiet) as our site, we will explore the social, ecological and technological transformations that follow industrial decline, which concern us all. Discover the evocative potential of *Before Ruins* for STS in worlds ending and beginning.

The Ruhr Valley grounds *Before Ruins* in its extractivist past. It invites you to stand before ruins that have not yet fully deteriorated; before moments we can still shape, alongside actors from whom we have much to learn. Participants will engage with local histories, infrastructures, and knowledge practices, to reflect on transitions playing out on a planetary scale – climate change, (de)growth struggles, decolonisation, and war.

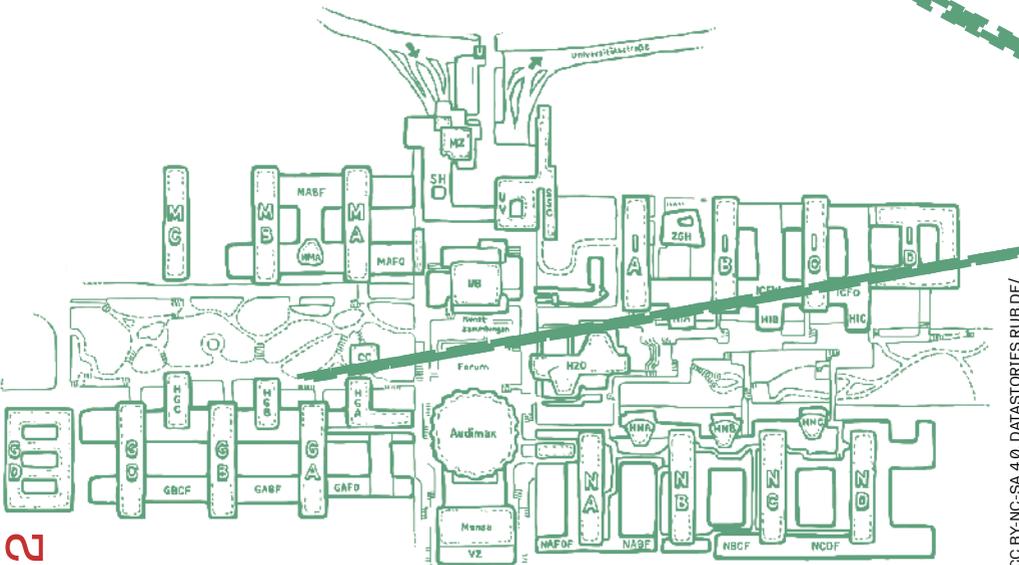
Together, we will explore how STS can contribute to just responses to change. The conference locates STS research within practical contexts in the Ruhr Valley. Our concept centres on engaging with concrete, situated cases. While these cases are the heart of the conference, there is also space for papers, keynotes, a panel, and social events.

RUSTlab

The stsing 2026 conference is organised by the RUSTlab – an STS lab of scholars and students located at the Ruhr University in Bochum. It is closely connected with the Chair of Cultural Psychology and Anthropology of Knowledge, but it includes a wide variety of engaged scholars and students. The organising team includes: Sandra Abels, Leman Çelik, Ruth Eggel, Laura Kocksch, Stefan Laser, Mace Ojala, Kerstin Parasidis, Fabian Pittroff, David Schupp and Estrid Sørensen.

stsing e.V.

stsing e.V. is an association (»Verein«) doing Science and Technology Studies (STS) in and through Germany, established in 2020. STS is an interdisciplinary field of research and activity interested in how science and technology are practically done and socially embedded. The association brings together senior and early career researchers, and is informed by international discussions.



Conference locations

Rotunde

Am Kulturgleis 3 – 5
44787 Bochum

Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum

Leibniz-Forschungsmuseum
für Georessourcen
Am Bergbaumuseum 28
44791 Bochum

Ruhr University Bochum

Buildings HGB and GABF
Universitätsstraße 150
44801 Bochum
North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW)

Ruhr Valley

A polycentric urban area in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. With over 5 million inhabitants, it is the largest urban area in Germany and the third-largest in the European Union. It consists of several large cities bordered by the rivers Ruhr, Rhine, and Lippe. The Ruhr Valley is part of the larger Rhine-Ruhr metropolitan region of more than 10 million people, the third-largest in Western Europe after London and Paris.

Wednesday

12:30	HGB 10	Welcome
13:00	HGB 10	Opening keynote – Anne Pasek (Trent University)
14:00	HGB 10	Introduction to the Ruhr Valley – Uli Paetzel (Emscher-genossenschaft and Lippeverband)
14:30		Break
15:00	HGB 10	Panel <i>Planetary entanglements of science and technology</i> – Sandra Maß and Tina Asmussen (Ruhr University Bochum)
17:00		Break
17:30	HGB 10	stsing e.V. General Assembly
19:30		Reception with food and drinks

Opening keynote & introduction to the ruhr valley

The opening keynote of *Before Ruins* will be given by Anne Pasek from Trent University. Anne is an Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Media, Culture, and the Environment at Trent University. She studies the political ecology of the tech industry, the cultural politics of climate change, and low-tech experiments in sustainable networks. Following the address, Prof Dr Uli Paetzel, Chairman of the Executive Board at Emscher-genossenschaft and Lippeverband, will present on socio-ecological transitions in the Ruhr Valley

Planetary entanglements of science and technology

In this interdisciplinary panel, Sandra Maß (International History at Ruhr University Bochum) meets Tina Asmussen (Early Modern Mining History at Ruhr University Bochum, and head of the mining history research department at the German Mining Museum). Together, we turn to the lively troubles of the Anthropocene and ask how standing before the ruins can inform engaged STS research. The panel is moderated by Laura Kocksch and Stefan Laser, co-organisers of the conference. We discuss empirical, conceptual, and institutional challenges, and weave in questions about hope. Every panelist brings a particular perspective and signature examples. The discussion will open to integrate reflections, challenges, and hopes from the audience. This will help us close the discussion and frame the case work and presentations that are to follow.

09:00

Case work

17:00

German Mining Museum

STS meets archaeology

18:00

German Mining Museum

Documentary *Isabelle Stengers: Building hope on the edge of the abyss*

20:00

Rotunde

Food, drinks and music to stand/dance before ruins

Case work

The second day focuses on cases working in parallel. While participants usually meet in pre-organised sessions or panels, the second day is dedicated to situated matters of concern, enabling participants to demonstrate the relevance of their research by putting it into action and engaging with real-world issues. More than a dozen cases take place during the conference, all of which are presented in this booklet. Members of the community have interpreted the format in many inspiring ways.

Fabrizio Terranova's Isabelle Stengers: Building hope on the edge of the abyss

LECTURE HALL AT HAUS DER ARCHÄOLOGIEN,
AM BERGBAUMUSEUM 31, 44791 BOCHUM

The German premiere screening of Fabrizio Terranova's 2023 film on Isabelle Stengers. Well known in the STS community for his documentary on Donna Haraway, Terranova has made a thought provoking film about Isabelle Stengers: Where a mysterious house and a magical forest intertwine, the turbulent philosopher unfolds the threads of her thought – filled with resistance to established orders, a stubbornness to restore democracy's vigour, and narratives that recompose a common world.

Food, drinks and music to stand/dance before ruins

ROTUNDE, AM KULTURGLEIS 3 – 5, 44787 BOCHUM

The day concludes with a festive social event featuring food and drinks at Rotunde in Bochum's city center, near Bermuda3eck. Music to stand/dance before ruins by N7zza and neuezukunft.

STS meets archaeology

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKSHOPS
IN HAUS DER ARCHÄOLOGIEN,
AM BERGBAUMUSEUM 31,
44791 BOCHUM

In this demonstration of the archaeological workshops at the Haus der Archäologien, participants visit a practice-oriented research space, where archaeologists use specialised equipment to investigate the processing of materials. Here, students learn to work with stone, metals and pigments, gaining understanding of techniques that contribute to the review of archaeological knowledge. Together with the students that work here, the event provides insights into archaeology's experimental work practices.

Thursday

Friday

09:00	HGB Hallway	Case and student presentations
10:30		Paper session 01 & working group meeting
12:00	GB 03	Lunch break STS in times of crisis and war Book launch & Wunderkammer Up to date in STS working group
13:00		Paper session 02 & working group meeting
14:30		Break
15:00	HGB 20	The vintage, the mouldy and the tarnished: Valuing STS cases in the aftermath – Closing keynote by Endre Dányi (University of the Bundeswehr Munich)
16:00	HGB 20	Closing remarks

Case and student presentations

On the third day, the cases will present their work, mixed with student presentations. The papers are presented in two sessions before and after the lunch. All papers and their panels are listed in this booklet.

Lunch events

Lunch events include *STS in times of crisis and war*, book launch of Ute Eickelkamp's and Stefan Berger's *Nach der Kohle. Naturgeschichten aus dem Emschertal*, and the stsing working group *Up do date in STS*.

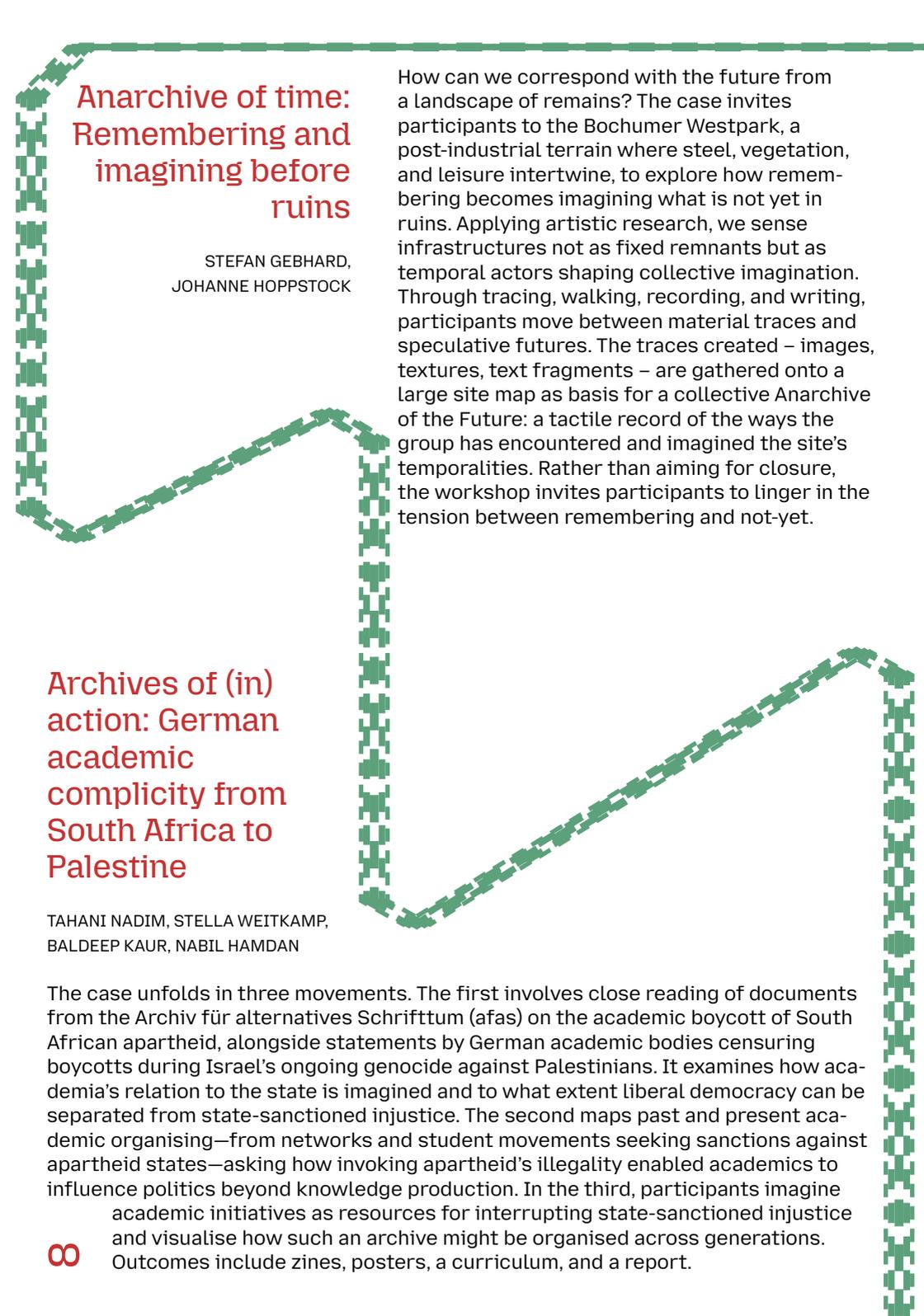
The vintage, the mouldy and the tarnished: Valuing STS cases in the aftermath

CLOSING KEYNOTE BY ENDRE DÁNYI (UNIVERSITY OF THE BUNDESWEHR MUNICH)

STS, as an interdisciplinary field, has been centered around empirically rich and conceptually generative case studies. For some time, such cases seemed ageless: accounts of bicycles, scallops, photocopy machines, the Zimbabwe bush pump, the garden of Versailles, genetically modified mice, matsutake mushrooms – to name just a few – have served as reliable orientation points for STS scholars across the globe. What would happen to our accounts if we developed a sensitivity to the ways cases age? What STS-world would we inhabit, in what Hannah Landecker calls ›the aftermath‹? This closing talk will engage with these questions, with the help of specific cases at the *Before Ruins* conference.



The cases



Anarchive of time: Remembering and imagining before ruins

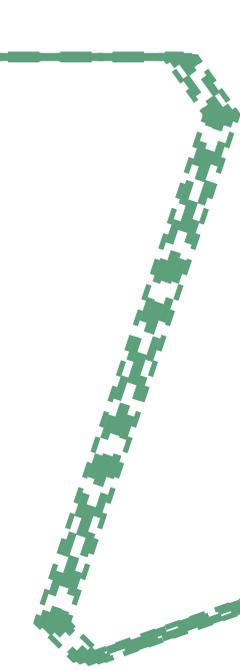
STEFAN GEBHARD,
JOHANNE HOPPSTOCK

How can we correspond with the future from a landscape of remains? The case invites participants to the Bochumer Westpark, a post-industrial terrain where steel, vegetation, and leisure intertwine, to explore how remembering becomes imagining what is not yet in ruins. Applying artistic research, we sense infrastructures not as fixed remnants but as temporal actors shaping collective imagination. Through tracing, walking, recording, and writing, participants move between material traces and speculative futures. The traces created – images, textures, text fragments – are gathered onto a large site map as basis for a collective Anarchive of the Future: a tactile record of the ways the group has encountered and imagined the site's temporalities. Rather than aiming for closure, the workshop invites participants to linger in the tension between remembering and not-yet.

Archives of (in) action: German academic complicity from South Africa to Palestine

TAHANI NADIM, STELLA WEITKAMP,
BALDEEP KAUR, NABIL HAMDAN

The case unfolds in three movements. The first involves close reading of documents from the Archiv für alternatives Schrifttum (afas) on the academic boycott of South African apartheid, alongside statements by German academic bodies censuring boycotts during Israel's ongoing genocide against Palestinians. It examines how academia's relation to the state is imagined and to what extent liberal democracy can be separated from state-sanctioned injustice. The second maps past and present academic organising—from networks and student movements seeking sanctions against apartheid states—asking how invoking apartheid's illegality enabled academics to influence politics beyond knowledge production. In the third, participants imagine academic initiatives as resources for interrupting state-sanctioned injustice and visualise how such an archive might be organised across generations. Outcomes include zines, posters, a curriculum, and a report.



Artistic approaches to aluminium extraction in the Ruhr Valley

RUBY REDING

Join this workshop mapping globalised aluminium supply chains as they relate to the Ruhr region, with propositions on aluminium waste, energy use, and global dependency. We position the Ruhr at the centre of a transition where refining, assembly, and computational robotics converge, asking what role artistic research can play in approaching aluminium's shadow histories. Situated in the Ruhr Valley, where Voerde and Essen are focal points for EU smelting and energy efficiency, we counter stratal thinking shaped by colonial extractive metallurgies, attending instead to the attachments and agencies formed through the dispersed five-step aluminium process. 75% of over 1.4 billion tonnes ever produced remains in use. Only 0.3% of primary and 1.9% of refined production occurs in the EU, making exporters like Guinea, Australia, and Indonesia essential to understanding global circulations. The outcome is a field guide incorporating STS and artistic methods.

Before the ruins of speed: The Transrapid as an abandonment of a sociotechnical future

JURI NITZLING, PATRICK MACKENS

The Transrapid stands as an emblem of a technological future that never materialised. The magnetic levitation train of the 1990s intertwined technological visions, political ambitions, and societal expectations. After the fatal accident in 2006 and the closure of the Emsland test facility, what remained were ruins—material, institutional, imaginary. This case explores the Transrapid from three angles: magnetic levitation's feasibility and ecological ambivalence; the social and political processes that doomed the project; and the afterlives of lost future technologies contrasted with hypercapitalist hype-cycles. What can be salvaged from such a sociotechnical project? It includes a visit to the Bochum Railway Museum to see the TR07 prototype and a conversation with Transrapid Emsland e.V. about caring for the ruin. We aim to create a reader or zine on the contingent history and future of the Transrapid for scientific and public audiences.

Digital twins before ruins

RANDI HEINRICHS, ARMIN BEVERUNGEN

We explore how digital twins are entangled with ruins: how they produce specific perspectives on the future, relate to decay in the present, and seem to circumvent the past. Digital twins – virtual representations of physical objects with real-time data connections – are marketed as catalysts of sustainability, resilience, and efficiency. Yet, these narratives obscure how they are embedded in historical and material conditions that cannot be rescued through technical fixes. This becomes visible when digital twins confront ruins rather than serve a long-term future. Our cases include: the Köhlbrand Bridge in Hamburg, optimising the just-in-time decay of a to-be-demolished structure; the control room at Pluto in Herne, managing pit water in post-coal Ruhr landscapes; the yet-to-be-built digital twin of Tuvalu, a Pacific island condemned to underwater ruin; and Rescue-Mate in Hamburg, a crisis management tool for floods and disasters. The case group aims to map how digital twins relate to ruins and what it means to think with and rethink digital twins before ruins.

Doing feminist and anti-colonial science: Art and stories at the kitchen table as intervention

FREYJA WANG, ASLI ATASOY, JOHANNA KRETSCHMER, PAULA KASKEL,
SARVIN JEBREILZADEHKAREGAR, NARA HAGH

To quote Audre Lorde, the master's tools can never dismantle the master's house. This one-day case explores how storytelling, body-mapping, and arts and crafts around the kitchen table – informed by feminist and anti-colonial science studies – can gather joy, care, relationships, and imagination as building blocks for practicing anti-colonial science. The case is structured in three phases for 5 – 10 participants. Phase 1 begins with theatre exercises to attune to our bodies, each other, and the space, followed by body-mapping and free writing to surface embodied knowledge of research experiences. Phase 2 uses a talk circle format around the kitchen table, where participants share bodymaps, stories, and photos of relationships that ground their research, drawing on relationality as key to knowledge creation. Phase 3 returns to theatre exercises to build collective performances connecting joy, care, and relationality in research. Storytelling and body-mapping are rooted in Indigenous, Black, feminist, and disability justice epistemologies that resist colonial standards of disembodied knowledge.

Duisburg Ruhrort – From an industrial to a sustainable and just neighborhood

SONJA KNOBBE

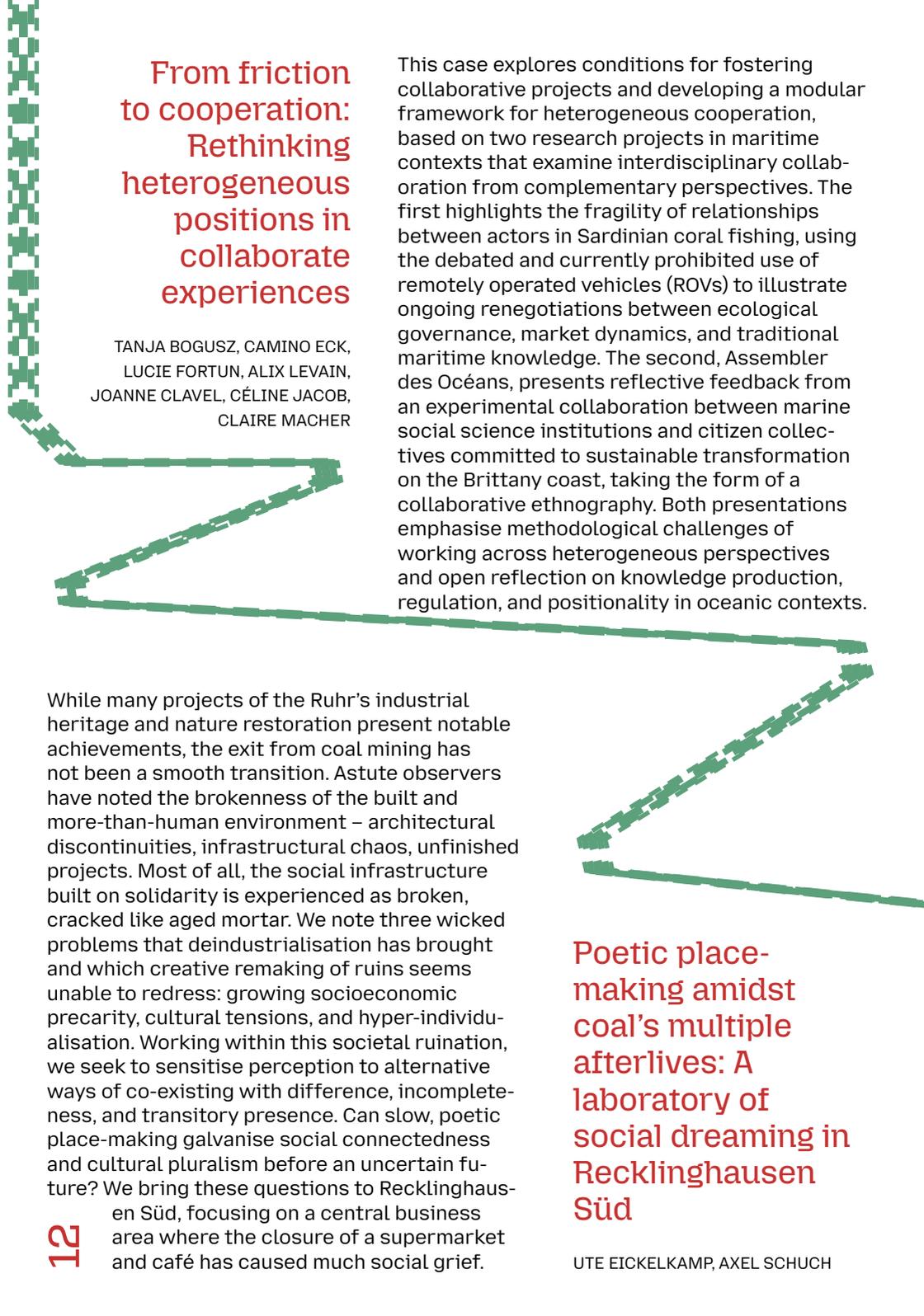
The Urban Zero project aimed to transform Duisburg-Ruhrort into a pioneer of sustainable urban development, targeting full environmental neutrality by 2029—including particulate matter, water consumption, and land use. Following significant obstacles, it was discontinued in 2025 and relaunched as Ruhrort Plus, shifting from technical environmental neutrality toward environmental justice and from top-down mandates toward participatory goal definition. The workshop uses the failure of Urban Zero as a productive resource, treating the ruins of old planning as a foundation for new strategy. It employs Destructive Prototyping to identify blind spots in the new approach early on. Phase 1 presents identified barriers and compares them with participants' experiences. In Phase 2, participants adopt the perspective of critics: if Ruhrort Plus were to fail again in two years, what would be the reason? Phase 3 reconstructs project goals based on these insights, focusing on translating ecological metrics into quality of life and defining necessary participation rights.

The case centres on the digital preservation and analysis of approximately 1,500 historical maps of the Ruhr Valley, with a focus on mining structures in the Bochum region. The collection includes geological, tectonic, topographic, coal seam, and mining maps, digitised and enriched with structured metadata and spatial annotations to highlight mining regions and extraction sites. Using tools such as eScriptorium and MapReader, we make both textual and visual information accessible through a digital map portal, enabling a deeper understanding of the scale and dynamics of industrial interventions and their social, ecological, and demographic consequences. We propose a hands-on, one-day workshop in two parts. In the first, participants use eScriptorium to collaboratively transcribe and extract structured metadata from map margins and content, supporting efficient cataloguing and data integration. In the second, participants use MapReader to create spatial annotations of map sections, particularly mining-related content, producing heat maps of historical mining activity across the Ruhr area.

Empowering map collection research with digital tools

DIEGO SIQUEIRA, NINA STRAUB,
SELINA LUEDECKE





From friction to cooperation: Rethinking heterogeneous positions in collaborate experiences

TANJA BOGUSZ, CAMINO ECK,
LUCIE FORTUN, ALIX LEVAIN,
JOANNE CLAVEL, CÉLINE JACOB,
CLAIRE MACHER

This case explores conditions for fostering collaborative projects and developing a modular framework for heterogeneous cooperation, based on two research projects in maritime contexts that examine interdisciplinary collaboration from complementary perspectives. The first highlights the fragility of relationships between actors in Sardinian coral fishing, using the debated and currently prohibited use of remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) to illustrate ongoing renegotiations between ecological governance, market dynamics, and traditional maritime knowledge. The second, *Assembler des Océans*, presents reflective feedback from an experimental collaboration between marine social science institutions and citizen collectives committed to sustainable transformation on the Brittany coast, taking the form of a collaborative ethnography. Both presentations emphasise methodological challenges of working across heterogeneous perspectives and open reflection on knowledge production, regulation, and positionality in oceanic contexts.

While many projects of the Ruhr's industrial heritage and nature restoration present notable achievements, the exit from coal mining has not been a smooth transition. Astute observers have noted the brokenness of the built and more-than-human environment – architectural discontinuities, infrastructural chaos, unfinished projects. Most of all, the social infrastructure built on solidarity is experienced as broken, cracked like aged mortar. We note three wicked problems that deindustrialisation has brought and which creative remaking of ruins seems unable to redress: growing socioeconomic precarity, cultural tensions, and hyper-individualisation. Working within this societal ruination, we seek to sensitise perception to alternative ways of co-existing with difference, incompleteness, and transitory presence. Can slow, poetic place-making galvanise social connectedness and cultural pluralism before an uncertain future? We bring these questions to Recklinghausen Süd, focusing on a central business area where the closure of a supermarket and café has caused much social grief.

Poetic place-making amidst coal's multiple afterlives: A laboratory of social dreaming in Recklinghausen Süd

UTE EICKELKAMP, AXEL SCHUCH

Post-coal futures in Lusatia: Mobility and communication infrastructures as sites of structural transformation

HELENA CERMEÑO, MAX LANGNER

Mobility and communication infrastructures are central to how regions navigate structural transformation. In Lusatia, Germany's most lignite-dependent region, the end of coal raises questions about how transport and digital infrastructures can support new regional life. This case examines Lusatia and other lignite areas as post-coal transformation sites from the Ruhr—offering lessons from decades of decline, including fragmented transport planning, uneven digital rollout, and re-branding infrastructures as future-oriented. Phase 1 introduces the focus through short inputs and participatory mapping, where participants share cases and experiences to surface structural disparities. In Phase 2, small groups explore examples from the Ruhr, Lusatia, and other regions, tracing how socio-technical practices and material constraints shape infrastructural futures. Phase 3 drafts shared guiding questions and principles, identifying challenges for planners, opportunities for regional actors, and next steps such as shared tools or research agendas.



Sorting biographies
in ruins and
fragments:
Computational
methods as a
promising approach
for STS?

LINA FRANKEN, DENNIS MÖBUS

The LUSIR corpus (Lebensgeschichte und Sozialkultur im Ruhrgebiet) contains over 300 oral history interviews conducted between 1981 and 1988, researching experiences of fascism and the post-war period in the Ruhr Area. Within this case, we experiment with co-laborative approaches to computational methods, unfolding them in human-machine interactions. Building on previous workshops, we propose an open format where collaborators can work with their thematic and technical focus. The aim is twofold: diving deep into meaning-making in the ruins of the area, and understanding epistemological changes that come with computational approaches within STS research. We explore topic modeling, an unsupervised machine learning approach that provides thematic overviews, indexes, and graphical representations of life story interviews. Generative AI extends the possibilities further: summarisation and short-biography creation already touch on the realm of interpretation.

Toxic heritage ruhr

TINA ASMUSSEN, FREDERIKE LANGE,
CARLINA ROSSÉE, PETER OAKLEY

This case lays the groundwork for knowledge exchange, networking, and cooperation on participatory STS and its increasing diversity. It provides space for joint reflection on how participation is discussed and enacted across various methods – participatory design, citizen science, experimental and interventive methods, collaborative research, and technology assessment. The workshop consists of four sessions. Session 1 jointly maps different strands of participatory STS research used in Germany, including uncommon and marginalised approaches. Session 2 involves facilitated methodographic analysis in smaller teams, based on research data collected from participants before the conference. Methodography describes approaches that challenge us to understand our methods of enquiry ethnographically. Session 3 brings together team analyses for collective reflection on method practice and its impact on performing participation and research quality. Session 4 compiles these reflections toward a future joint discussion paper, also considering efforts by relevant scholarship and networks.

The Ruhr Valley is one of Germany's key sites of industrial heritage. Following Zeche Zollverein's UNESCO inscription (2001) and the closure of the last coal mine (2018), the region has intensified efforts to memorialise its extractive past through heritage tourism and museums celebrating narratives of labour and technological achievement. Yet while waste heaps are slowly repopulated by humans and more-than-humans, soils remain heavily contaminated with lead, zinc, cadmium, copper, and arsenic. Industrial heritage frameworks treat these residues as something to manage, remediate, or exclude from their narratives, while ecological ruins are reframed as biodiversity reservoirs. Such erasures have material consequences for affected communities, environmental justice, and intergenerational responsibility. This case reconceptualises mining heritage through an ecological lens, challenging nature-culture divides by positioning toxic legacies as integral to heritage. Through a visit to Zeche Zollverein participants will engage in situated, empirical, and conceptual discussions on toxic heritage.

What is participation in your case? A workshop to methodographically analyse and jointly reflect on the opportunities and challenges of participatory research approaches as a case in and for STS

JULIE SASCIA MEWES, DANA MAHR, HOAI TRUONG,
BRITTA ACKSEL, CLAUDIA GÖBEL

Who and what tells the future? Re-storying deindustrialised places across europe through everyday objects

FIONA SCHRADING, ANDREI MIHAIL, HANNAH SPRUCE,
ROZEMARIJN DE KWAASTENIET, ANAMARIA DEPNER

This case explores intergenerational dynamics of loss, transformation, and renewal in deindustrialised environments through a more-than-human lens. It draws on ethnographic research from Saarland, Glasgow, and the Danube Delta—sites that, like the Ruhr Valley, share histories of deindustrialisation, extractivism, and disinvestment. What today are ruins once were promises for a predictable future; communities now re-imagine futures in collateral afterworlds while dealing with never-fulfilled futures they took for granted before ruins. How do narratives of progress, decline, and renewal circulate through generations confronted with worlds that are both ruins and memorials? From an object-centred approach, we engage with objects as tangled entities to which generational emotions adhere—material agents in processes of remembering, transforming, and imagining place. We seek neomaterialist perspectives and a re-storying of intergenerational dynamics. Outcomes include an object-based installation and short object vignettes.





The papers

Paper session 01

18 10:30 – 12:00

Before repair

ROOM: GABF 509

Sensing socialist ruins underground: Everyday encounters and ecologies of perception in Bitterfeld-Wolfen

DANIEL WOLTER, JÜRGEN VIET ANH HÖPFEL

Ruins of crises: Historicity, temporality and landscape of crises in Ethiopia and Kiribati

YOUNG SU PARK

The haunting presence of waste in a digitalised society

ANTTI KURKO

Ocean energy wrecks: Community archiving technological ruins as a response to environmental justice issues

JEANNE FÉAUX DE LA CROIX

Knowing and being

ROOM: GABF 514

From ethical principles to policy infrastructure: Elsi and the governance of automated driving

TAKASHI HIKASA

Searching for bias in and with topic modeling: An analysis of Swedish AI news

FRAUKE ROHDEN

Ambient anthropology: Towards a gooey practice

JUSTIN ARMSTRONG

Modeling the critical zone: Neurosurgery and the limits of the digital twin

MAXIME LE CALVÉ

Artful conviviality

ROOM: GABF 511

Post-industrial wastelands in the Ruhr Valley and the narrative of a new environment: Storytelling for a new form of coexistence from the perspective of the new wild ones?

JANA KERIMA STOLZER

Accomplices before ruins: Figures of giving after the end of the future

SELIN ERDOGAN

Collapsing impossible future

CLAIRE WAFFEL

Knowledge as a relation: Diverse economies of knowledge-making in art production

ÖNDER ÖZENGI

Working group meeting

ROOM: GABF 516

Capacious Relations (CaRe)

HOSTED BY JANNIS STEINKE, MITCH PFEIFFER,
KRISTIANE FEHRS, MELPOMENI ANTONAKAKI

Architecture time

ROOM: GABF 509

The walled garden and the surround: Socio-technic imaginaries of the Zeitenwende

PETER HERMANS

Haunted high-tech: The Robotron cafeteria and the Making of Ruins in Dresden's microchip boom

ALEXANDER WENTLAND

From stress to strategy: conceptualising urban infrastructure transformation under climate pressure

DIRK SCHEER, LAURA MÜLLER

Destruction, decay, demolition: Three modes of ruination

FRANK ROCHOW

Tinkering with futures

ROOM: GABF 511

Prefigurative play

RUTH SCHMIDT

In the middle of tropical plants

MARCO PALADINES

Thriving in the ruins of digital interactivity: Bottom-up digital infrastructuring and analog revivals

THOMAS BERKER

Post-industrial hopes

ROOM: GABF 514

From future-takings to future-makings: Rethinking failure and infrastructural legacies in a coal-mining region of the Catalan Pyrenees

ANNA CLOT-GARRELL

In defense of techno-optimism: Ruinous hope for humans, robots, and the environment through innovation and STS critique

LORA KOYCHEVA

Reading the signage infrastructure in a post-mining landscape: Remembered, transitory, and vulnerable spaces

CHRISTINE RICHTER

Inherited ruins and the politics of holding on

OLIVIA FRIGO-CHARLES

Working group meeting

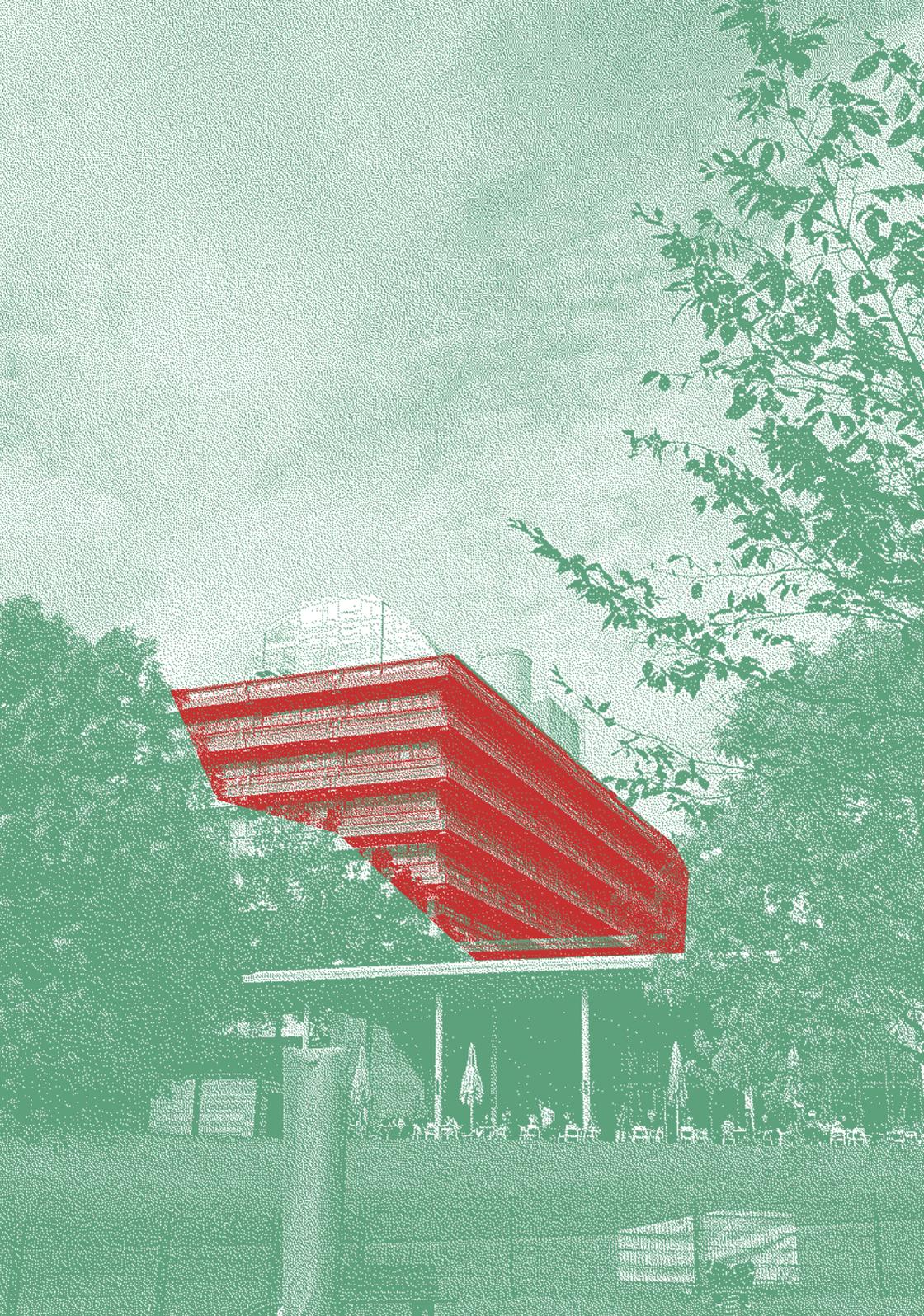
ROOM: GABF 516

Multiplying Data

HOSTED BY FABIAN PITTRUFF

Paper session 02

19 13:00 – 14:30



On campus

Q-West – Restaurant / Mo – Fr: 11:15 – 22:00

Cafeteria *GB Snack* / Mo – Fr: 09:00 – 13:30

Mensa / Mo – Fr: 11:00 – 14:30

Rote Bete (all vegan) / Mo – Do: 11:00 – 14:30 / Fr: 11:00 – 14:00

More about the on-campus locations:

<https://www.akafoe.de/gastronomie>

Snacks

Bratwursthaus / Kortumstraße
18, 44787 Bochum

Get a Ruhr Vally classic:
Currywurst. There are
vegan option as well.

Wie Du Willst / Massenbergs-
straße 20, 44787 Bochum
Best shawarma in the city.
They have falafel as well.

Falafel Star / Hellweg 28–30,
44787 Bochum
Best falafel in the city.

Pizza Pizza / Hans-Ehrenberg-
platz 5, 44789 Bochum

Restaurants

Has Urfa Holzkohlegrill Ocakbasi / Al-
leestraße 26, 44793 Bochum

Genki Bao & Burger / Brüderstraße 10,
44787 Bochum

Brauhaus Rietkötter / Große Beck-
straße 7, 44787 Bochum

Kims Kimchi / Hugo-Schultz-
Straße 23, 44789 Bochum

Pizzeria Teatro / Oskar-Hoffmann-
Straße 31–33, 44789 Bochum

Begopa / Nordring 100, 44787 Bochum

Masala-Project / Viktoriastraße 71, 44787 Bochum

Coffee

Café Barbera / Bleichstraße
2A, 44787 Bochum

Oktober Café / Willy-Brandt-
Platz 5–7, 44787 Bochum

Tante Yurgan's Café
/ Castroper Str. 79,
44791 Bochum

Fräulein Coffea / Oskar-
Hoffmann-Straße 34,
44879 Bochum

Bar

Trinkhalle / Herner Str.
8, 44787 Bochum

Goldkante / Alte Hattinger
Straße 22, 44789 Bochum

Café Konkret / Kortumstraße
19–21, 44787 Bochum

Bar Narodowa / Brüder-
straße 6, 44787 Bochum

Intershop / Viktoriastraße 53A,
44787 Bochum
If everything else is closed,
this is the place to go to.

Oval Office Bar / Königs-
allee 15, 44789 Bochum

Accessibility & awareness

This conference attempts a new format and whenever doing things like that, nothing is fail-safe. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the student assistants or conference organisers. You can identify them by their lanyards.

The idea for this format was born from debates about conferencing in a time of climate and political crisis. Some good can emerge from this: new ideas, new entry points, new connections to colleagues, or even finding friends. However, it is also a response to the current unease: it is difficult to host a conference, to bring together empirical work and theory, and to bring together people from different organisations and thought traditions.

We are aware, however, that such gatherings can also lead to conflicts arising, both within academic discourse and in the wider world. Standing before ruins is also a way of engaging with unease, conflict, and disturbance. We therefore hope that this conference will provide a space for conversation across differences, for finding hope in small similarities, and for coming together in good faith.

stsing e.V. is an association that has committed to fostering research in STS that is experimental, collaborative, planetary, and international. Read more on stsing e.V.'s vision and strategy: <https://stsing.org/visions-and-strategic-activities-of-stsing-e-v>

In 2024, stsing e.V. has decided upon a code of conduct for its members and events: <https://stsing.org/about/code-of-conduct>.

Accessibility

- All rooms at RUB are wheelchair accessible.
- The toilets around the conference venue are designated as either standing or sitting
- Microphones will be used in the auditorium
- English will not be translated into German and vice versa

Awareness / we try our best

- Making good academic conferences is a shared responsibility. We explain rather than blame and shame
- Constructive criticism lies at the heart of academic conversations.
- We make a collective attempt to give everyone time and space to talk during sessions
- Collectively care for your surroundings
- Be mindful of yourself: eat, drink and rest
- Environmental care: consider litter, take care of your reusable cups and use low-energy apps and websites

On campus

RUB Control Room: +49 234 32 23333

Depending on the nature of the emergency, the RUB Control Room will either contact the fire department or the police, or direct you to the relevant authority. The RUB Control Room is staffed 24 hours a day.

You can also make emergency calls on the RUB campus by pressing the alarm buttons in the lifts.

Please note that you should not call the usual emergency numbers (110 or 112) on the RUB campus. All emergencies are managed through the RUB Control Room.

Off campus

Ambulance, fire, and rescue: 112

Police: 110

Inform the RUB Control Room about the emergency afterward, if possible.

Emergency contacts

Supporters & imprint

Supporters



- Chair of Cultural Psychology and Anthropology of Knowledge at Ruhr University Bochum
- Chair of Curating Digital Objects of Cultural Knowledge and Memory at the College for Social Science and Humanities of the University Alliance Ruhr
- Chair of Kriminologie, Strafrecht und Sicherheitsforschung im digitalen Zeitalter at Ruhr University Bochum

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