The Moral Dimensions of Economic Life in Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia

20th and 21st of March, 2019
St Antony’s College, Oxford

Organizers: Dr Nicolette Makovicky (University of Oxford), Dr Jörg Wiegratz (University of Leeds), and Dr Dimitra Kofti (Panteion University)

Wednesday, 20th of March

9:00 – 9:30 Registration
Pavilion Room

9:30 - 10:00 Welcome address
Dr Nicolette Makovicky, Dr Jörg Wiegratz, and Dr Dimitra Kofti
Pavilion Room

10:00 - 12:30 Panel I: Being Good and Doing Good
Chair: Dr Nicolette Makovicky
Pavilion Room

Session 1
Dr Čarna Brković (University of Göttingen)
Developing Philanthropy: Reshaping the Moral Imagination in Contemporary Montenegro
Dr Veronica Siegl (University of Bern)
Secret Conceptions – Anonymous Exchanges. The Moral Economy of Commercial Surrogacy in Russia and Ukraine

Coffee break 11:00-11:30

Session 2
Dr Daniel Sosna (Czech Academy of Sciences)
Making the Ethical Person: Informal Practices amongst Czech Landfill Workers
Dr Neda Deneva (Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj)
Reclaiming Social Citizenship: Precarity and Welfare ‘Fraud’ amongst Bulgarian Roma Migrants

12:45 – 13:30 Lunch
St Antony’s Dining Hall
Warm lunch with vegetarian options, tea/coffee

13:30 – 15:00 Panel II: Religion, Ethics, and Capital(ism)
Chair: Dr Jörg Wiegratz
Pavilion Room
Session 1
Dr Detelina Tocheva (CNRS)
Orthodox Christians and Economic Ethics in South-Eastern Europe
Dr Zuzana Buríkova-Sekeráková (Masaryk University Brno)
‘Christian’ Shops: Moral Economy of Retail in Rural Northern Slovakia
Dr Agata Ladykowska (University of Warsaw)
Religion, economy, and morality on the Estonian-Russian Borderland in a Historical Perspective

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break
Pavilion Room

15:30 – 17:00 Panel III: The Ethics of Work and Employment
Chair: Dr Dimitra Kofti
Pavilion Room
Dr Hedwig Waters (University College London)
The Cosmoeconomics of Commodity Chains in the Mongolian Borderlands
Dr Olena Fedyuk & Dr Tibor Meszmann (Central European University)
In Search of Dexterous Workers: Third Country Nationals Employment through Temporary Work Agencies in Hungary
Dr Rossista Bolgurova (Sofia University)
Post-socialist Economic Morality in Employment Relations: An exploration of Company Celebrations in Bulgaria

18:00 – 19:00 Drinks Reception Pavilion Room

19:00 Conference Dinner for Speakers St Antony’s Dining Hall

Thursday, 21st of March

10:00 – 12:30 Panel IV: Morals of Business and Trade Pavilion Room
Chair: Dr Jörg Wiegratz
Dr Chris Swader (Lund University)
Preconceptions of Capitalism Amongst Socialist Populations as catalysts for Moral Change
Dr Vera Svirskaja (University of Copenhagen)
‘The Russian Merchant’ – a new exemplar in the Post-Soviet Moral Economy

Coffee break 11:00-11:30

Session 2 Dr Ana Chiritoiu (Central European University)
What Does it take to Strike a Bargain? The Politics of Idiosyncratic Transactions in a Second-hand Roma Market in Southern Romania
Dr Gergő Pulay (MPI for Social Anthropology)
’If You Don’t Run, You Don’t Eat’. The Morality of Trade and the Management of Precarity at the Margins of Bucharest.

12:45 – 13:30 Lunch St Antony’s Dining Hall
Warm lunch with vegetarian options, tea/coffee

13:30 – 15:00 Panel V: (Im)Morals of Debt Pavilion Room
Chair: Dr Dimitra Kofti
Dr Balihar Sanghera & Dr Elmira Satybaldieva (University of Kent)
Selling Debt: Interrogating the Moral Claims of Fincial Elites in Central Asia
Dr Robin Smith (Leiden University)
The (Im)Morality of Business: Informal Financial Practices in Croatia’s Wine Industry
Dr Marek Mikuš (Trinity College Dublin)
The moral economies of housing in post–credit boom Croatia (and Hungary): disentangling core-periphery relations, national trajectories, and class

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break Pavilion Room

16:00 Closing Statement Pavilion Room
Dr Dimitra Kofti (Panteion University); Dr Nicolette Makovicky (University of Oxford)
Dr Jörg Wiegratz (University of Leeds)

This workshop has been made possible through generous funding by the Oxford School for Global and Area Studies at the University of Oxford, the School of Politics and International Studies at the University of Leeds, and the Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre at St Antony’s College, Oxford.