

**The 8th Tensions of Europe Conference**  
**Athens, 7-10 September 2017**  
**Conference Theme: Borders and Technology**

**Technology, natural resources and crises in the past and present of Europe and beyond**

Session series of the Tensions of Europe Research Group on Technologies, Environment and Resources, 9-10 Sept.

Session organizers: Elena Kochetkova (Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg), Matthias Heymann (Aarhus University)

***Panel I (Knowledge/Resource Circulation)***

Alexandra Bekasova (Higher School of Economics, St.Petersburg) The International Network of Testing Materials Experts and “The Cement Question”: Negotiating Methods, Instruments and Technical Protocols, 1880-1915 (Seen from Imperial Russia Perspective)

Matthias Heymann (Aarhus University) Climatic challenges and water scarcity: International cooperation in the UNESCO Arid Zone Programme

Sławomir Łotysz, Institute for the History of Science, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland  
*Engineering for social order? Ethnical and societal aspects of planned draining of the Polesie Marshes in interwar Poland*

***Panel II (Colonizing Resources)***

Karl Bruno (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden) Whose Business? Swedish Foreign Policy and Commercial Natural Resource Interests in Liberia, 1955–80

Per Högselius (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden) and Dag Avango (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden) Small countries and European resource colonialism during the short 20<sup>th</sup> century

Ihediwa Nkemjika Chimee (University of Nigeria) The transformative power of European technology in resource exploitation and use: Reflections on the oil presses and rail lines of colonial Nigeria

Roberto Cantoni (Sciences Po Paris) Tool of fear, tool for hope: the ambiguous ontology of Europe’s shale gas

### ***Panel III (Management of Natural Resources)***

Margarita Dadykina (Higher School of Economics, St.Petersburg) and Alexei Kraikovski (Higher School of Economics, St.Petersburg) The 18th century whaling companies and the imagination of natural resources of the European Arctic

Timo Myllyntaus (University of Turku) From wooded wilderness to the brink of an ecological crisis: The Finnish debate on forestry and the rational use of timber in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century

Julia Lajus (National Research University Higher School of Economics) First World War food crisis, inventory of fish resources and discussions on new fishing technologies in Russia

Jiří Janáč (the Czech Academy of Sciences) The Complex Water Management and Soil Improvement Scheme for Southern Moravia

### ***Panel IV (Crisis and Resource Management)***

Hanna Vikström (KTH Royal Institute of Technology) Is there a Supply Crisis? Swedish Strategic metals, 1917-2015

Elena Kochetkova (National Research University Higher School of Economics-Saint-Petersburg) Soviet Natural Resources and Technological Development, 1940s-1980s

Frank Veraart (Eindhoven University of Technology) Gravel and space, from a vital resource to the offshoring of an abundant material: Gravel excavations policies in the Netherlands, 1945-2015

Ole Sparenberg (University of the Saarland) Technology, natural resources and crises in the past and present of Europe and beyond