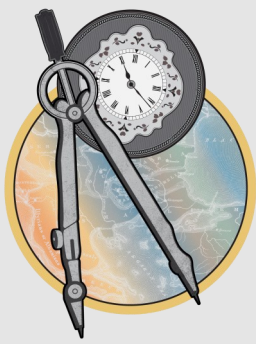


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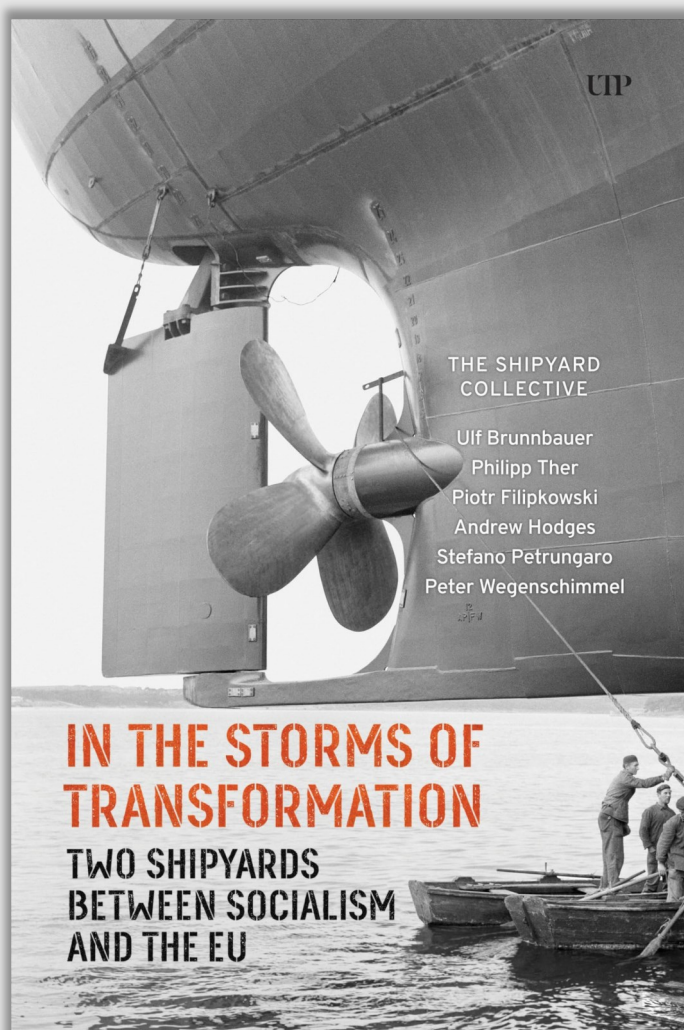
The long Transformation in East Central Europe: What the Fate of Shipbuilding Can Tell Us

By Prof. Dr. Ulf Brunnbauer

Academic director of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies
Chair of History of Southeast and Eastern Europe at the University of Regensburg

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka, Sveučilišna avenija 4

Tuesday, 8 April 2025, from 14:15 h to 16:00 h in classroom F - 401



The lecture will be based on the book „In the Storms of Transformation: Two Shipyards between Socialism and the EU“ by Ulf Brunnbauer, Philipp Ther, Piotr Filipkowski, Andrew Hodges, Stefano Petrunaro and Peter Wegenschimmel.

This book presents the fate of two shipyards, Uljanik in Pula and the Gdynia Shipyard during East Central Europe's political and economic transformation since the 1970s. In his talk, Prof. Brunnbauer will suggest a new time-line for transformation arguing that it started already in the 1970s with the oil price shock and lasted until EU accession. He will highlight the role of globalization for the trajectory of transformation, evident here in the eventually fatal competition with producers in East Asia. How did national governments respond to the travails of their shipyards? He will argue that long into the period of so-called "neoliberal reforms", national governments in Poland and Croatia were ready to spend billions on a loss-making industry. Which leads us to the more general question of the conditions for successful industrial policy, and the possible afterlives after ship-building.



Ulf Brunnbauer, Academic Director of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg, holds a PhD in history from the University of Graz, Austria (1999). In 2006, he was awarded a habilitation by the Free University of Berlin, and since 2008 he is Chair of Southeast and East European History at the University of Regensburg. His most recent books include "In den Stürmen der Transformation" (2022, with Philipp Ther and others) and "The Routledge Handbook of Balkan and Southeastern European History" (2021, ed. with John Lampe). He is also author of "Globalizing Southeastern Europe. Emigrants, America and the State since the 19th Century" (2016).