

STRUGGLE FOR OIL

AN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF WEST SIBERIA, 1961-1978

West Siberian petroleum has been crucial to Soviet Union's economy and politics since its discovery in 1961. However, aside from economic development and substantial leverage in foreign policy, West Siberian oil brought along transformations of the environment and of the ways nature is understood and used, which so far remained out of scope of historical research. This project incorporates various voices and human experiences with transformations nature underwent since the first deposits were found in the region until 1978. It details the collision of different ideas about the functions of West Siberian nature and their compatibility with Moscow's plans to transform the region into the country's powerhouse. How and why did the local communities react to the ecological change caused by petroleum development? By unearthing the hereto uncovered regional and central archives, my dissertation gives voice to actors who endeavored to raise awareness about the environmental drawbacks of socialist construction in the Soviet North. The focus on oil's ecological critique and its underlying cultural values helps me draw a more nuanced picture of the interest articulation in Soviet society and the participation of citizens of various walks of life in the discussions of a softer path Socialist modernity.



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Donnerstag, 06.05.2021

18:15-19:45 Uhr

Die Veranstaltung findet online über Zoom statt. Bitte melden Sie sich für den Zoom-Zugang bei: sekretariat.wsu@geschichte.uni-freiburg.de
(Natascha Kindermann)

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

Historisches Seminar

Forschungskolloquium der Professur für Wirtschafts-, Sozial- und Umweltgeschichte (Prof. Dr. Melanie Arndt)

zusammen mit dem Lehrstuhl für Neuere und Osteuropäische Geschichte (Prof. Dr. Dietmar Neutzat)

