Summaries

Samir Amin, Radhika Desai and Manuela Boatcă: Where is Global Capitalism Leading and What are the Alternatives?

According to Samir Amin, the process of capitalist globalization leaves no chance for societies in the periphery to decrease disparities vis-à-vis societies of the center. As a result, this disconnection can only be achieved through a process of disconnection such as through various revolutionary advances. Rhadika Desai disagrees, arguing that globalization should be seen not as a >natural< process, but as the result of a series of politics developed in the United States in the 1990s by the Clinton Administration. The latter did not result in collective imperialism, but in a type of corporative capitalism with different centers on the one hand and >subcontractors< on the other. Nevertheless, argues Manuela Boatcă, the concept of globalization helps us understand growing global inequalities as well as the different efforts to overcome them.

Klaus Weber: »to write as if everything depended on it... « (W.F. Haug). Notes on the Question of Faszisation

Growing processes of faczisation in Germany cannot be addressed by simply analyzing ethno-nationalistic (>völkisch<) movements or their fractions within political parties. For establishing racist and nationalistic ideologemes, the positioning of the conservative bloc, itself divided, is crucial: Does it appropriate fascist demands for tactical reasons, does it reject them, or does it prefer a dual strategy? Informed by a theory of ideology, a material analysis of the political field during the last months is carried out. Weber focusses on the tendencies towards fascism but also on countertendencies, recognizing also the contributions of W.F. Haug on analyzing historic German fascism.

Robert Cohen: The United States on the Path to Donald Trump (August 2016)

A series of observations and reflections on the root causes of the deterioration of the political process in the United States and on the resistible decline of democracy; as well as on the ascendancy of Donald Trump and the concomitant loss of control over the Republican party by the Republican establishment.

Ruth May: Appropriation and Production of the City by Migrants. On Urbanization, Migration, and the Struggle for a »Right to the City«

The process of urbanization and migration movements, as they are historically connected with the development of capitalism, are analysed in their relationship. The conditions for migrants' agency in cities and how they claim their place there are discussed along with the question how they (co-)produce the city through their active appropriation of urban life. This is shown i.a. by the results of a case study on migrant women as entrepreneurs and their life in a quarter of the town Hanover. The article refers to Henri Lefebvre's thesis of "complete urbanization" and connects it with the oppositional demand for a "Right to the City" as inspired by Lefebvre and created by political and social practices and actions.

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Les Back and Shamser Sinha: Multicultural Conviviality in the midst of Racism's Ruins

The authors argue that the concept of multicultural tools is the best way to understand conviviality. First, the authors critically review how aspects of urban life and diversity have been theorized by focusing on recent debates about >cultural loss< and >super-diversity<. Such a discussion elides historical and current racism in the making and re-making of urban diversity in cities like London. The authors then develop a notion of conviviality by identifying how young adult migrants in London create convivial worlds by emphasizing the idea of tools – in the sense of Ivan IIIich's early formulation of the term – and the creation of a multi-culture. The article concludes that understanding urban multi-culture requires equal weight given to the paradoxical co-existence of both racism and conviviality in city life.

Stephan Lanz: Berlin or the Contested Terrain of an Immigration City

The author discusses historical transformations in governance as concerns immigration to Berlin. Three periods of migration and city-dispositives are examined since 1871. Today, in a context of quickly growing migration flows, the current dispositive of a cosmopolitan-diverse metropolis is contested: What appeared as outdated elements of earlier dispositives – such as a paternalistic approach to integration or the imagination of foreigness as dangerous – are finding their way back. At the same time, new political actions are taking shape that are led by immigrants and cut across national identities. They demand recognition of all who live in Berlin as equals, as >urban citizens<. The author asks whether these movements could point the way towards a cosmopolitan metropolis.

Thomas Geisen: Life Strategies of Migrant Families in Switzerland. On Everyday Human Action in Marginalized Districts

The article deals with the agency of migrant families in two marginalized districts of a medium-sized city in Switzerland. How life is organized depends on the families' legal status and resources, but also on how exactly these are accessed and the challenges involved, in particular as concerns migration, education and employment. Specific social resources such as an affordable living space, spaces for socializing, schools or playgrounds highlight the relevance of the neighborhood. The strategies of migrant families show how the resources they have access to are important for improving their everyday life and for providing their children with access to a »better future«.

Gerhard Hetfleisch: Transnational Migration Strategies. Places, Borders, and Transitions

Transnational aspects of institutional and informal religious networks have been neglected in research on migration. The article deals with two examples to show their significance: First, it relates how in the early 1970s the Order of the Mill Hill Missionaries played a central role in the recruitment of Filipino women to work as nurses in Austria. Second, the article highlights two churches in the Pentecostal movement in Halle/Sachsen-Anhalt to illustrate the role of religious communities in the lives of men and women migrants. In this way the relevance of transnational social spaces and the agency of migrant communities and groups in urban contexts is shown.

Buchhandlungen, die das Argument-Verlagsprogramm führen

Augsburg Probuch, Gögginger Straße 34 (0821/579173)

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