
COPING WITH UNEVEN DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RESPONSES TO
REGIONAL POLARISATION



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

27 - 29 September 2017
Leipzig / Germany

Welcome



Dear participants,

On behalf of the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography and the consortium of the project “Socio-economic and Political Responses to Regional Polarisation in Central and Eastern Europe” (RegPol²) I would like to welcome all participants to our conference “Coping with uneven development in Europe: Socio-economic and Political Responses to Regional Polarisation”.

Increasing socio-spatial disparities over the past years in Europe make this conference timely. On the one hand, metropolitan areas are growing economically as well as demographically, whereas ‘peripheralised’ regions are facing decline and challenges such as out-migration, loss of enterprises and jobs, and a reduction of social services. Furthermore, these regions are often confronted with highly stigmatising images which are assigned to both ‘peripheralised’ regions as well as its residents.

Scientists, PhD students and policy consultants, together with policy makers and practitioners from regional, national, and European levels are invited to discuss current issues of socio-spatial polarisation and peripheralisation, as well as the limitations and negative impacts of current regional, social and economic policies across Europe.

This conference also marks the end of the RegPol² project. From 2014 to 2017, 16 young researchers have been trained on issues of regional development and polarisation for a career in academic and non academic fields. This conference gives them the unique opportunity to disseminate their research results in various ways.

We planned for several discussion rounds where policy makers, regional development experts, and researchers can meet and exchange their ideas. A limited number of participants are invited to develop new solutions for current problems in regional development within the design thinking workshop. We also hope to hear innovative ideas during the policy shift elevator pitch. Early career researchers are invited to join the World Café on “Questions on identity and peripheralisation”.

Last but not least, we are delighted to welcome a number of internationally renowned researchers, namely Andreas Faludi (TU Delft), Costis Hadjimichalis (Harokopio University, Athens), Ray Hudson (University of Durham), Merje Kuus (University of British Columbia), John Pickles (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) and Dina Vaiou (National Technical University of Athens). Together with other excellent researchers from more than 15 countries they will give an insight in the current scientific debates on uneven development. The lectures and presentations will be complemented by several video and poster presentations.

I hope we can initiate a continuing exchange between research, policy making and regional development and wish you an inspiring time in Leipzig.

Thilo Lang

Head of Department Regional Geography of Europe at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography and Scientific Coordinator of the project RegPol²

Field trip - Wednesday, 27 September 2017

FIELD TRIP 1:

“FROM INDUSTRY TO WORLD HERITAGE – ECONOMY AND CULTURE IN A POST-INDUSTRIAL REGION” (MANSFELDER LAND)

Start 12:30 pm at the main train station (Hauptbahnhof) – parking space at the East side of the station

Fee: 30 €

The landscape of the “Mansfelder Land” is characterized by relicts of a former copper mining industry like mining waste piles. The German reunification brought all mines to a close, and since then, only a few enterprises have been working in the copper industry. Struggling to find a new development path, confronted with outmigration, high unemployment, and stigmatised as a shrinking, economically unsuccessful region have led to ongoing peripheralisation.

But there have been attempts to cope with this development. Recently, the new A38 and A71 highways were built, connecting the Mansfelder Land with the cities of Leipzig and Halle in the East, Göttingen and Hannover in the West and Erfurt in the South. The Saxony-Anhalt federal state is funding a number of successful projects intended to tackle demographic change. The Reformation sites in Eisleben are acknowledged to be of UNESCO World Heritage significance, and Martin Luther's persona is a key factor in the region's marketing strategy.

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|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Stop: Sangerhausen | Economic development of the region and the town – problems and potentials
Discussion with Brigitte Franke (Economic Development Department, Town of Sangerhausen, and Uta Ullrich (Standortmarketing Mansfeld-Südharz GmbH) |
| 2. Stop: Helbra | Former copper mine Schmid Schacht Helbra – short stop and overview of the copper mining industry in the region |
| 3. Stop: Eisleben | City tour (UNESCO World Heritage sites of the Reformation and impact of the 500 th anniversary of the Reformation on the town) |

Dinner in the region



FIELD TRIP 2:

“LEIPZIG EAST – A QUARTER BETWEEN MARGINALISATION AND GENTRIFICATION”

Start 02:00 pm at Torgauer Platz

Tram stop: Torgauer Platz (Tram 3, 8)

Fee: 30 €

Dr. Frank Feuerbach, economic geographer at the University of Leipzig and member of the board of Geowerkstatt e.V., will guide you through the East of Leipzig.

The quarter is characterized by very diverse and sometimes contradictory developments. One of the main roads, Eisenbahnstraße, has been labeled by mass media as “the most dangerous street in Germany”. Many people associate the quarter with drugs and crime. On the other hand, there are a high number of social, cultural and housing projects which have been leading to an upgrading of the quarter, and already started to generate the first signs of gentrification.

After the tour you will visit the local Sternburg brewery where you will have dinner in the restaurant “Hopfenspeicher”.



Conference Programme

The lectures, seminars and discussions which are primarily intended for **researchers** are highlighted with **orange colour** and those which are primarily intended for **practitioners** with **blue colour**.

Multimedia exhibition - Foyer GWZ:

During the whole conference we will display posters and photos and show video clips of the research projects as well as video presentations.

Posters with presentations:

Bradley Loewen: Towards territorial cohesion? Path dependence and institutions of regional policy in Central and Eastern Europe

Sebastian Schulz: European regional and innovation policies reproducing peripheries? – A critical analysis

Serhat Ay, Ali Yiğit, Levent Uncu: The Socio-spatial Polarization in the light of Heterotopia: The case of Kadıköy-Üsküdar districts in Istanbul

Nadav Penn: Local labor market, non-local workers: The effects of TNC-based regional development on local young adults

➔ More posters can be shown if the organisers are informed at least two weeks in advance.

Video presentations:

Zsuzsanna Pósfai:

Tracing uneven patterns of capital investment on the Hungarian housing market

Márton Lendvai: Redistributed power: performing agency within the rural community assemblage

Olga Sarapulova: Strategy in a human scale (video presentation in absence of author)

Short video clips of the RegPol² fellows Alexandru Brad, Sorin Cebotari, Martin Graffenberger, Martiene Grootens, Ilgvars Jansons, Bradley Loewen, Melinda Mihály, Aura Moldovan, Bianka Plüschke-Altof, Zsuzsanna Pósfai, Sebastian Schulz, Martin Špaček, Stefan Telle

➔ More videos can be shown if the organisers are informed at least two weeks in advance.

Photos:

All participants are invited to send us one or two photos illustrating their research and showing peripheralised regions, the contrast of metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas or symbols of EU cohesion policy. For more information, please contact Franziska Görmär (see last page).

Thursday, 28 September 2017

Bibliotheca Albertina – Main lecture hall

09:30 – 10:00 Opening ceremony and Welcome speeches

- Thilo Lang (Coordinator of the project RegPol²)
- Ute Wardenga (Member of the Board of the Graduate School Global and Area Studies)
Welcome speech
- Stefan Heinig (Head of the Department of Urban Development of the City of Leipzig)

10:00 – 11:00 Plenary speech I

Costis Hadjimichalis: The new question of peripherality in Europe

Since the beginning of the 21st century, EU regional policies follow the Lisbon Strategy and are part of the so-called “cohesion policies” without a particular spatial dimension. Problems of peripheral regions, we are told, will find a solution if member-states and regional authorities apply the triple-axis priorities decided in Lisbon: “regional competitiveness”, “knowledge economy” and “growth and jobs”. All regions are now eligible for funding following the established Lisbon Indices. It is clear that these policies are moving away from the old “weak welfare regionalism” focusing on convergence and applied in the 1980s and 1990s towards the “entrepreneurial regionalism” model. The latter is part of the neoliberal dogma dictating the everyday life and future of EU citizens, in which every peripheral region should compete to survive. The dogma ignores the path dependence development of each region, promotes as “best practice” few successful star-regions, ignores convergence and questions of redistribution and, finally, promotes large cities at the expense of smaller ones and agricultural regions. The crisis since 2009-2010 in the Eurozone and in the EU has replaced hastily the Lisbon Strategy with the so-called “smart specialisation” which is, however, more of the same. It is urgent for all progressive forces in Europe first, to show the inadequacies of dominant models; and second, to design and propose an alternative radical policy that deals with the specific socio-spatial questions of peripheral regions.

Followed by questions and answers with Costis Hadjimichalis

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

Bibliotheca Albertina – Small lecture hall

11:00 – 11:45 Press conference (Moderator: Sebastian Lentz)

Various rooms in GWZ – see session description

11:30 – 13:00 Parallel sessions

<p>Paper session I: Narratives of peripheralisation</p> <p>Chair: Garri Raagmaa Room: GWZ Lecture hall</p>	<p>Stories from the peripheries I</p> <p>Chair: N.N. Room: GWZ 5.015</p>	<p>Roundtable discussion: The production and reproduction of peripherality in Europe - A CEE perspective</p> <p>Moderators: Erika Nagy / Judit Timár Room: GWZ 5.116</p>	<p>Design thinking workshop: Responding to issues of peripheralised regions</p> <p>Jennifer Pauli / Marcus Bittner Room: GWZ 2.215</p>
<p>Nadir Kinossian: The 'production' of centrality and peripherality: who 'produces' whom?</p> <p>Péter Balogh: The protest of the periphery: Is the tail frisking the dog, or are European peripheries transforming the core?</p> <p>Alena Pfoser: Narratives of peripheralisation: place, agency and generational cohorts in post-industrial Estonia</p>	<p>Bianka-Plüschke-Altof / Martiene Grootens: Image-making as the solution?</p> <p>Katarina Zatkova: The Salt Story. The importance of the Salt Works in Solivar in shaping the place and its identity</p> <p>Sorin Cebotari: Renewable energy technology and peripheralisation</p>	<p>Building upon the experiences of academics from CEE, the discussion will focus on the reproduction of inequalities, covering the various aspects of peripheralisation such as flows of people and capital, institutional practices as well as policy and everyday discourses.</p>	<p>Applying the innovative design thinking method participants will seek for solutions for current problems in the fields of regional development and strategy building.</p> <p>The course is restricted to 20 persons.</p>

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch break



14.00 - 15.30 Parallel sessions

<p>Paper session II: Perspectives and challenges for local and regional development</p> <p>Chair: Hana Silovska - tbc</p> <p>Room: GWZ 5.116</p>	<p>Paper session III: Innovation activities and knowledge intensive business in peripheral regions</p> <p>Chair: Lukas Vonnahme</p> <p>Room: GWZ Lecture hall</p>	<p>Stories from the peripheries II</p> <p>Chair: N.N.</p> <p>Room: GWZ 5.015</p>	<p>Design thinking workshop II: Responding to issues of peripheralised regions</p> <p>Jennifer Pauli /Marcus Bittner</p> <p>Room: GWZ 2.215</p>
<p>Gabriella Ludescher: Facilities for the endogenous development of rural territories</p> <p>Ondřej Konecny: Bottom-up approach as a tool of spatial polarization? Case study of local action groups in Czechia</p> <p>Ralph Richter: Social enterprises in peripheralised rural regions: the blessing and curse of subsidies</p>	<p>Ondřej Slach / Jan Ženka / Vendula Reichová / Alexandr Nováček / Vojtěch Bosák: Post-crisis spatial development of knowledge-intensive business services in Czechia</p> <p>Martin Graffenberger: Towards better understanding firm innovation in peripheral regions</p> <p>Lea Kvarantan / Sebastian Henn: International migrants and corporative innovation processes in peripheral areas</p> <p>Pedro Miguel Ferreira Marques: Path renewal of three wine regions in Portugal: endogenous and exogenous processes"</p>	<p>Dina Vaiou: Opening Space for feminism in academia</p> <p>Marta Koziej: Bottom-up, top-down or something in between? Building "civil society" – a case study of 3 groups from Warsaw, Poland</p> <p>Ilgvars Jansons: Sidenotes</p>	<p>Continuation of workshop – both parts have to be attended together</p>

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

Merje Kuus: Transnational Policy?: Places and Networks in European Decision-Making

In Europe, the varied and sometimes contentious discussions around issues as diverse as the euro crisis, Brexit, or the United States presidential election all illustrate a set of tensions between national and transnational decision-making. To some, these developments indicate the need to nationalize decision-making and reduce the influence of trans-national institutions and expert networks in our daily lives. To others, the lesson is the opposite: that Europe's nation-states cannot effectively respond to external and internal shocks on their own and must strengthen the trans-national dimension of policy-making. But what do the national and the transnational mean in these debates? European Union (EU) institutions can hardly be said to be anywhere close in clout to what they were a decade ago, and national institutions are under severe strain too.

This presentation explores the fundamental questions around state power, spatial inequality, and geographical expertise that arise from these tensions. Where and how, I ask, is expert knowledge about places created in today's Europe? How do ideas circulate among places, how are they modified in the process, and how does the knowledge thus produced change center-periphery relations in the continent? My effort is not to assess whether policy-making and spatial planning is, or should be, more national or supranational; my goal is rather to bring into view the specific ways in which different levels of decision-making are entangled and co-constituted in today's Europe. This gives us a more dynamic and textured view of how power and authority operate on a continental scale. I draw my primary empirical material not from policy documents, but from over 150 one-to-one interviews with policy professionals in Brussels and eight other nodes of EU and national decision-making in Europe. In so doing, I offer a 'peopled' and high-resolution view of how geographical expertise about places and spatial relations is generated, modified, and put into practice in today's Europe. Most of my interviewees are diplomats, but my argument about the flows of knowledge and power applies much beyond inter-governmental or EU diplomacy.

Followed by questions and answers with Merje Kuus

John Pickles and Ray Hudson will engage in a conversation on socio-spatial polarisation, neoliberal policies and the prospects of peripheralised regions. They raise questions which theories will best help to understand the current crisis of uneven development in Europe, why policy makers seem somehow powerless to counter the combination of a deep economic malaise and intensifying uneven development in the EU and which consequences should be drawn for peripheralised regions from the current crisis. In doing so they tackle issues of geographical and social change, particularly in regions that are undergoing or underwent major ruptures in socio-economic life and under conditions of economic — and often physical — violence.

Social programme

CONFERENCE DINNER WITH IMPROVISATION THEATRE

The conference dinner will start at 19.00 h in the restaurant Kaiserbad in Leipzig-Plagwitz. Participants who will take part in the conference dinner have to pay a conference fee of 50 €.

Restaurant: **Kaiserbad**
Karl-Heine-Straße 93
04229 Leipzig

Tram station: Tram 14 Merseburger Straße

S-Bahn: S1 to Plagwitzer S-Bahnhof, walk of 5 minutes along Karl-Heine-Straße

Improvisation theatre: **All Inclusive - Improvisationstheater Leipzig**



Friday, 29 September 2017

Bibliotheca Albertina – Main lecture hall

09:30 – 10:30 Plenary speech III

Andreas Faludi: "The failures of EU Cohesion Policy as a clash of conflicting territorialities"

EU Cohesion policy is witness to tensions inherent to the European construct, tensions which are presently only too manifest. This is because it affects the territoriality of member states, territoriality standing for the assertion by any organization that an area of space is under its influence. (Sack 1984, Page 34) As sovereign states, EU members must even assert that their influence over their territories is supreme, and the more so since they may consider themselves the exclusive depositories of democratic legitimacy. But under its, albeit delegated powers the EU, too, holds itself responsible for Cohesion policy and its effects on the territory of the EU and of each of its members. So in effect two forms of territoriality clash with each other.

Followed by questions and answers with Andreas Faludi

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

Various rooms in GWZ – see session description

11:00 – 12:00 Parallel sessions

Paper session IV: Conceptualising peripheralisation

Chair: Frank Meyer
Room: GWZ 5.015

Manfred Kühn:
Periphery and
Peripheralisation – Two
Spatial Concepts and
Implications for Regional
Policies

Rhys Jones, Sami Moio,
Michael Woods:
Re-conceptualising Regional
Inequalities and the Prism of
Social Justice: Critical
perspective on Academic and
Policy Discourses

Roundtable discussion: Local development from below – Challenges and opportunities

Moderator: Melinda Mihály
Room: GWZ 5.116

Participants: Tobias
Federwisch, 2 members of
community enterprises in
Germany and Hungary, N.N.

Local initiatives and social
enterprises can be a chance to
overcome peripheralisation
processes. However, they face
specific challenges regarding
the recruitment of legal and
financial issues

Video presentations

Chair: N.N.
Room: Foyer GWZ

12:00 – 13:00 Parallel sessions

Paper session V: European policies between territorial cohesion and growing spatial disparities

Chair: Tatiana Kluvankova - tbc

Room: GWZ 5.116

Roundtable Discussion: "Expertise in Action: The whereabouts of Regional Development"

Moderator:

Alexandru Brad

Room: GWZ 2.215

Poster presentations

Chair: N.N.

Room: Foyer GWZ

Jozsef Benedek, Stefana Varvari, Cristian Litan:
Urban growth pole policy and regional development: old wine in new bottles?

Stefan Telle, Martin Spacek, Daniela Craciun:
Experimentalist Governance or Command-and-Control in European Territorial Cooperation?

Practitioners from Germany and Romania - tbc

Practitioners have an in-depth picture of the workings of regional development policies. This discussion will seek to grasp the matter of rising regional disparities through their knowledge and insights.

Lecture Hall, Ground floor GWZ

11:00 – 13:00 World Café for Early Stage Researchers: "Identity and Peripherality"

- Stigmatisation and the discourse on local identity (Host: Thomas Bürk)
- Memory and Peripheralisation (Host: Catherine Perron)
- Regional development as a Complex Adaptive System: The importance of Local Culture in Development policy (Hosts: Joanie Willett)
- Identity and peripherality discourses: a border thinking (Host: Cyril Blondel)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

Various rooms in GWZ – see session description

14:00 – 15:00 Parallel sessions

<p>Paper session VI: Uneven development in numbers Chair: Zoltán Kovacs Room: GWZ 5.116</p>	<p>“Research meets practice”: Communication between science and policy – Tips and traps from regional development projects Room: GWZ 5.015 Note: the workshop starts at 13:45 and ends at 15:15</p>	<p>Roundtable discussion: More mobile but less engaged? – The effects of territorial mobility on communities Moderator: Tim Leibert Room: GWZ 5.015</p>	<p>Policy shift elevator pitch: How can we contribute to a just and balanced development? Moderator: Ulrich Ermann – tbc Room: GWZ Lecture hall</p>
<p>Karin Sakowski, Maaja Vadi, Jaanika Meriküll: Patterns of Organisational Innovation: Comparison of Western and Eastern Countries in Europe</p> <p>György Kocziszky, Mariann Somosi Veresné, Dóra Szendi, József Benedek: Socio-spatial differences in the wealth recovery of households following the financial crisis from 2008</p> <p>Márton Czirfusz: Uneven development and the Hungarian workfare state</p>	<p>Workshop with Robert Nadler (researcher), Tomas Hanell (consultant for the European Commission – tbc)</p> <p>Successful communication between researchers and practitioners requires a translation of content into the languages of each other. In this workshop, researchers and practitioners will have the opportunity to train their own way of translating.</p>	<p>Participants: Marco Bontje, Aura Moldovan, Frank Othengrafen</p> <p>The roundtable discussion will be organised around questions on mobility flows between core and peripheralised regions and the impacts of out-migration or commuting on the regions.</p>	<p>Participants will have the opportunity to present their ideas for shifts and re-adjustments in regional policies in two minutes. A high-level jury of researchers and regional policy experts will elect the most convincing suggestion whose proponent is then invited to participate in the final Plenary Debate.</p>

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

Bibliotheca Albertina – Main lecture hall

15:30 – 17:30 Plenary and Closing

15:30 – 16:15 In the spotlight: Marc Lemaître (DG Regio) - tbc

16:15 – 17:15 Plenary debate

Moderator: Thilo Lang, Leipzig, Germany

Participants: winner of elevator pitch, Jávör Benedek - tbc, Maroš Finka – tbc, N.N., N.N.

17:15 – 17:30 Closing

Guest researchers:



Andreas Faludi (Delft University of Technology)

Andreas Faludi is a guest researcher at the Delft University of Technology, where he had a chair in Spatial Policy Systems in Europe (2005-2012). In 2009 he was appointed Honorary Member of the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP).

Andreas Faludi is one of the leading researchers in the field of European Planning and Territorial Cohesion.



Costis Hadjimichalis (Harokopio University Athens)

Costis Hadjimichalis is professor Emeritus of Economic Geography and Regional Development at the Department of Geography, Harokopio University Athens.

His current research and publications concern uneven geographical development and socio-spatial justice in the Eurozone, the social and spatial effects of the economic crisis in Southern Europe, the role of small firms in local development and land dispossession in times of economic crisis.



Ray Hudson (Durham University)

Ray Hudson is professor in the Department of Geography at Durham University and served as deputy vice chancellor of the university from 2014 to 2015. His research addresses economic geographies, processes of combined and uneven development, relations between corporate and state policies, and issues of territorial development



Merje Kuus (University of British Columbia)

Merje Kuus is Professor of Geography at the University of British Columbia. She is a political geographer whose work concentrates on geopolitics and policy processes in national and transnational institutions. She investigates the production of expert knowledge in bureaucratic settings: processes that might be called political geographies of policy expertise.



John Pickles (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

John Pickles is an economic geographer trained in political economy and development studies, cultural and social theory, and continental philosophy. His research focuses on global production networks, European economic and social spaces in Central Europe, border and migration geographies in Southern Europe, and the cultural economies of maps and mapping, counter-mapping, and the use of maps in social movements.



Dina Vaiou (National Technical University of Athens)

Dina Vaiou is Professor of urban analysis and gender studies in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) and coordinator of the post-graduate programme on Urban and Regional Planning.

Her research interests, publications in Greece and abroad and papers presented in Conferences include: the feminist critique of urban analysis, the changing features of local labour markets, with special emphasis on women's work and informalisation processes, gender and everyday life in cities with an emphasis on the differential uses and meanings of "public" space, the impact of mass migration on Southern European cities and women's migration in particular.



Venue:

The plenary lectures and debates will take place in the lecture hall of the university library Leipzig. All other sessions and workshops will take place in the GWZ; the respective room numbers are indicated in the programme.

Bibliotheca Albertina – University library Leipzig

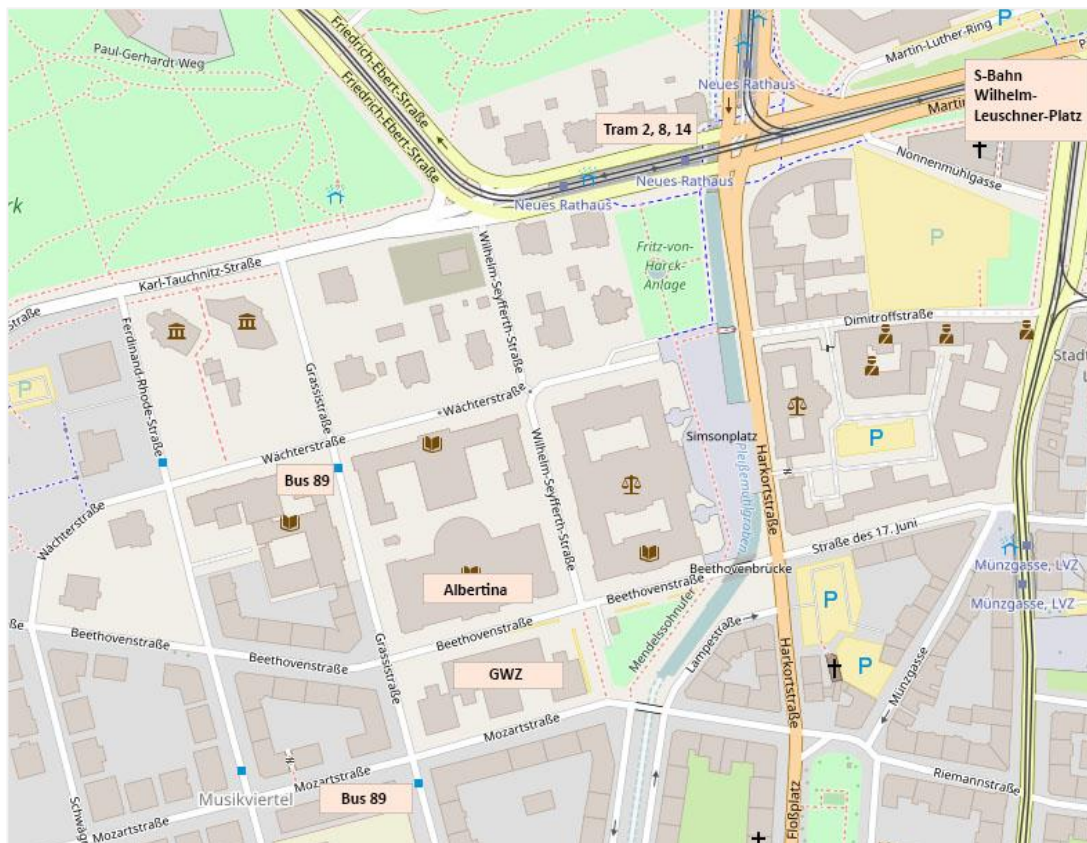
Beethovenstraße 6
04107 Leipzig

Geisteswissenschaftliches Zentrum - GWZ

Beethovenstraße 15
04107 Leipzig

How to get there:

- Tram:** Tram 2, 8, 14 to tram stop Neues Rathaus
5 minutes walk
- Bus:** Bus 89 to bus stop Wächterstraße or Mozartstraße (Albertina is between both stops)
2 minutes walk
- S-Bahn:** all interurban trains stop at Wilhelm-Leuschner-Platz from which you can walk (7 minutes) or take the tram for one stop



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Pictures:

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