

# ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

Nº209 April 2024

[www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)



Editor: Saara Matala, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden.

If you have something to announce, please mail to [newsletter@icohtec.org](mailto:newsletter@icohtec.org).



*Icohtec tour to the Estonian shale oil production site during the annual meeting in Tallinn and Tartu 2023.*

*Photo credit to Jakob Tschandl*

## Table of Content

<b>1</b>	<b><i>Icohtec News</i></b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Icohtec online lecture by Anna Batzeli on Women in Engineering, 25 April 2024	3
1.2	Icohtec lecture by Animesh Chatterjee on Electricity in Colonial Calcutta, 22 May, 2024	4
1.3	ICHST in New Zealand, 2025: Call for individual papers	5
1.4	Icohtec-SHOT 2024 in Chile update: preliminary program and SHOT travel grants	6
1.5	Reminder: Turriano ICOHTEC Prize 2024 - Call for Submissions	7
1.6	Icohtec membership fee: Paypal and the old way	8
<b>2</b>	<b><i>Conferences and Seminars</i></b>	<b>9</b>
2.1	CFP: Confronting Decline (CONDE) in Luxembourg, June 2025	9
2.2	CFP: International Railway History Association (IRHA) - 9th Conference	12
2.3	Mentorship online workshop for Early Career Scholars on Writing articles, June 20	14
<b>3</b>	<b><i>Recent publications</i></b>	<b>14</b>
3.1	New book on Petroleum from Coal by Anthony N. Stranges	14
3.2	Book on Artificial Women and exhibit “Imaging Women in the Space Age” by Julie Wosk	15
3.3	New Book on Global History of Techniques, 19 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> Centuries	16

# 1 Icohtec News

## 1.1 Icohtec online lecture by Anna Batzeli on Women in Engineering, 25 April 2024

**Anna Batzeli** from University of Peloponnese, Tripoli, will give an ICOHTEC Lecture online on 25 April, 17.30 CEST. The participation is free but please register on the homepage of the hosting [Association of German Engineers](#), VDI:

<https://www.vdi.de/veranstaltungen/detail/concise-history-ies-of-women-in-engineering-in-greece-and-bulgaria-during-the-20th-century> (red bottom on the right to open the registration form)

### **Concise History(-ies) of Women in Engineering in Greece and Bulgaria During the 20th Century**

Both in Greece and Bulgaria, women's participation in male-dominated fields, such as engineering, was associated with a number of societal challenges and barriers. Gender roles and stereotypes were deeply ingrained in the society and women were facing barriers in accessing quality education in engineering, as many technical universities and engineering schools either restricted or outright denied admission to them. Maria Luisa Doseva-Georgieva, for example, who was one of the first two women architectural engineers in Bulgaria, was refused admittance at the Technical University of Munich due to her gender. Maria Luisa Doseva-Georgieva was eventually enrolled at the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany, and obtained her degree on December 1917. Five years later, in 1923, the first woman graduated from the Technical University of Athens in Greece. It was Eleni Kanellopoulou Patrikiou, who had then followed a successful career in her field and became an advocate of women's rights and their participation in science and in engineering. The following years, the number of women studying engineering gradually increased in both countries. These women, despite the fewer than men career advancement opportunities and the gender pay gap, contributed significantly in their fields, often acting as pioneers. They also paved the path for more women to follow their lead and study engineering.

This paper aims to present the concise history(-ies) of Maria Luisa Doseva-Georgieva, Eleni Kanellopoulou Patrikiou and other notable women engineers in Greece and Bulgaria. The paper will not only present their contributions in engineering, but will also discuss the obstacles these women had to overcome, including the societal expectations which placed a heavy burden on them. As a result, several women abandoned their careers in engineering to fulfill their social role via undertaking household chores and

childcare responsibilities. Lastly, the paper aims to discuss the challenge of researching the history of women in engineering, with an emphasis on their underrepresentation in the historical archives.

## **1.2 Icohtec lecture by Animesh Chatterjee on Electricity in Colonial Calcutta, 22 May, 2024**

**Animesh Chatterjee** from University of Stavanger in Norway, will give an ICOHTEC Lecture online on 22 May, 17.30 CEST. The participation is free but please register on the homepage of the hosting Association of German Engineers, VDI, using the link: Link: <https://kit-lecture.zoom-x.de/j/6884631281?pwd=R3ZwaXVvQWhEaG5MTmlrdytTUXFPUTog>

### **Electrical Objects and Stories of Change: Everyday Interpretations of Electricity in Colonial Calcutta**

Building on fragmented archives of esoteric sources as applications, bills, literary texts, and the occasional treatise on health and hygiene, this lecture explores the effectual interactions and engagements with electrical technologies in public and domestic spaces of colonial Calcutta. It focuses on the introduction of battery-operated and mains-powered electric supply and technologies in Calcutta and aims to show how the encounter with new means of lighting and power simultaneously enabled hopes and dreams, and introduced new senses of concern. Through the vocabularies of consumption, perception, taste, and the formation of identities, varied historical actors inscribed their own understandings, meanings and interpretations into electricity and electrical objects, accompanied by assumptions, imaginations and scrutiny of their possible uses and futures.

Overall, in braiding strands from the material world with the cultural, and encompassing human actions, affects and electricity's agency in one dynamic tapestry, the lecture will argue for the place of personal and vernacular archives, a shift in focus from "technology" to "material culture", and for approaches that give voice to different actors and perspectives within the history of technology.

The lecture is based on Chatterjee's upcoming article "Everyday Interpretations of Transitions to Electricity in Colonial Calcutta c. 1875-1940s" in *Regeneration*, and research for his upcoming book manuscript *The Social Life of Electricity in Colonial Calcutta, c.1875-1945* with Routledge.

### 1.3 ICHST in New Zealand, 2025: Call for individual papers



Deadline for submissions of Icohtec symposia proposals passed on **1 March 2024**. The Icohtec program committee received 50 paper submissions from five different continents. After the reviewing process, we have submitted the proposal for the Icohtec symposium to the program committee of [International Congress of History of Science and Technology ICHST](#) which will make its decision in June, 2024. The Icohtec program committee will inform the applicants about the acceptance/rejection after that. The registration to the conference will be open from 11 July 2024 until 1 May 2025.

If you missed the Icohtec call for papers, **the ICHST has opened an opportunity to submit a stand-alone paper** directly to the ICHST organisers on **1 April 2024**.

Stand-alone paper submissions will normally be assembled thematically into groups of 4 presentations per 90-minute session. Participants should prepare a presentation of around 15 to 17 minutes duration, to be followed by 5 minutes of audience questions.

Each stand-alone session will be chaired by a Congress participant chosen by the organizing committee. The stand-alone sessions will not normally feature commentaries or group question time.

Please note that each prospective **presenter at the Congress may submit only one abstract** – either a stand-alone abstract or an abstract within a symposium. Therefore, if you have already submitted a paper to the Icohtec Symposium, you are not allowed to submit a stand-alone paper, too.

For more information and the submission system, [visit the conference website](#).



**Key Dates:**

Call for stand-alone papers opens: **1 April 2024**.

Decision on accepted symposia announced: **1 June 2024**

Registration opens: **11 July 2024**

Programme published online: **1 May 2025**

ICHST Congress opens: **29 June 2025**

**Icohtec Programme Committee**

Saara Matala (Sweden), Elena Kochetkova (Norway), Frank Edward (Tanzania)  
Hugo Pereira (Portugal), Jethron Akallah (Kenya), Jan Hadlaw (Canada), Leticia Galuzzi (Brazil), Min Fanxiang (China), Sławomir Łotysz (Poland)

Please direct any queries regarding **Icohtec submission process** to the Chair of the ICOHTEC programme committee, Dr. Saara Matala, via email ([matala@chalmers.se](mailto:matala@chalmers.se)).

For inquiries regarding the submission of **stand-alone papers** to the ICHST, contact directly the organisers: <https://www.ichst2025.org/contact-us>

**1.4 Icohtec-SHOT 2024 in Chile update: preliminary program and SHOT travel grants**

The updated preliminary program for the joint ICOHTEC-SHOT Conference in Viña del Mar (Chile) is available at the [conference website](#).

The Program Committee created an exiting, broad and diverse program. The members of the program committee include: Diana Montaña (Chair), Magdalena Zdrodowska (Associate Chair), Bess Williamson, Itty Abraham, Leticia Galluzzi, José Ragas, and Verónica Ramírez Errázuriz.

Check the conference website also for useful information regarding travelling to Chile and [SHOT travelling grants](#).

## 1.5 Reminder: Turriano ICOHTEC Prize 2024 - Call for Submissions

**DL for submissions:** 31 April 2024

The Turriano ICOHTEC Prize is an Early Career Prize for Books on the history of technology, sponsored by the [Juanelo Turriano Foundation](#) and consists of 2,500 Euro. The prize-winning book will be presented and discussed at a special session of the next ICOHTEC symposium.

ICOHTEC, the International Committee for the History of Technology, is interested in the history of technology, focusing on technological development as well as its relationship to science, society, economy, culture, and the environment. The history of technology covers all periods of human history and all populated areas. There is no limitation as to theoretical or methodological approaches.

Eligible for the prize are **original book-length works** in any of the official ICOHTEC languages (English, French, German, Russian or Spanish) in the history of technology: published or unpublished Ph.D. dissertations or other monographs written by scholars in the early stages of their career. Articles and edited anthologies are not eligible. If the work is a Ph.D. thesis, it should have been accepted by your university in 2022 or 2023; if it is a published work, the year of publication should be 2022 or 2023.

For the ICOHTEC Prize 2024, please send an electronic copy (PDF or Word) of the work you wish to be considered for the prize to each of the four Prize Committee members. (Note: Hard copies are only accepted for published works not available electronically.) Your submission must be emailed no later than 31 April 2024. Please also include an abstract of no more than a half-page in length. If your book is in Spanish or Russian, please also supply a summary in English, French or German of about 4,500 words. In that case, the prize committee will find additional members, who are familiar with the language in which your book is written.

The submission should be accompanied by a CV (indicating also the date of birth) and, if applicable, a list of publications. Applicants are free to add references or reviews of the work submitted.

Any materials sent to the prize committee will not be returned.

Send a complete application by email to each of the following Prize

**Committee members:**

- Dr. Darina Martykánová (Chairperson), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid: [darina.martyskanova@uam.es](mailto:darina.martyskanova@uam.es)
- Dr. Irina Gouzevitch, Centre Maurice Halbwachs: [irina.gouzevitch@ens.fr](mailto:irina.gouzevitch@ens.fr)
- Dr. Klaus Staubermann, German Port Museum: [k.b.staubermann@gmail.com](mailto:k.b.staubermann@gmail.com)
- Dr. Matti La Mela, Uppsala University: [Matti.lamela@abm.uu.se](mailto:Matti.lamela@abm.uu.se)
- Dr. Jacopo Pessina, University of Pisa: [japessina@tiscali.it](mailto:japessina@tiscali.it)

## **1.6 Icohtec membership fee: Paypal and the old way**

We are happy to announce, that it is now possible to pay the Icohtec membership fee also using the Paypal service. The receiver is @icohtectreasury or the email [icohtectreasury@gmail.com](mailto:icohtectreasury@gmail.com).

Annual membership fee is 40 Euro or US Dollars for individuals, 20 Euro or US Dollars for students (billed biannually), 75 Euro or US Dollars for institutions. The membership benefits include:

- a vote at ICOHTEC elections, either online or in person at the meetings
- a paper copy of our journal ICON appearing once a year (plus any special issues)
- access to the online repository of the back issues of ICON
- a monthly Newsletter delivered to member's e-mail address

It is also possible to pay the annual fees to our account at: Commerzbank Bochum, "ICOHTEC" at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany): IBAN: DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX.



Please send in the form on the last page of the Newsletter about your payment and renewed membership to the Treasurer Viktor Pál, [viktor.paal\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:viktor.paal@gmail.com) and Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC, [stefan.poser\(at\)kit.edu](mailto:stefan.poser@kit.edu), in order to update our list of members.

Thank you for your support!

## 2 Conferences and Seminars

### 2.1 CFP: Confronting Decline (CONDE) in Luxembourg, June 2025

**Full title of the conference:** Confronting Decline (CONDE): Challenges of Deindustrialization in European Societies since the 1970s

**Location and Date:** University of Luxembourg, Esch-Belval, 25–27 June 2025

**Deadline:** 30 June 2024

**Organizations:** C2DH / University of Luxembourg; Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History, Munich

Since the 1970s, deindustrialization has fundamentally changed Western industrial societies. In North America and Europe, thousands of jobs have been lost in traditional industrial regions, in particular in the textile industry, coal mining, the iron and steel industry and shipbuilding. Even in the electronic consumer goods sector and the watch and photography industries, many millions of jobs have been eliminated or relocated to other regions of the world. There is no question that deindustrialization is one of the most far-reaching transformation processes in contemporary history, fundamentally changing landscapes, economic structures and socio-cultural environments.

Starting from this observation, the conference, organized by the CONDE research group, will reflect on the impact and wider historical reverberations of deindustrialization in Europe from the 1970s onwards. While deindustrialization was initially addressed mainly by the social sciences, in recent years historians have increasingly turned their attention to the subject, pointing to the complexity of the historical phenomenon. In contrast to economic concepts such as "restructuring" or "downsizing", which do not adequately capture societal and social change, a historical approach to deindustrialization can offer a broader view, encompassing multiple dimensions: first, the economic development of production, turnover and sales; second, the political shaping of the policy field; third, the cultural ramifications; and

fourth, a perspective from below, which takes into account personal memories of workers, the dissolution of traditional social and cultural communities and changes in social spaces.

The conference will focus on the European particularities of deindustrialization since the 1970s – in Western and Eastern Europe, with an East-West comparison over the epochal years 1989/90, and in terms of entanglements among European states and beyond. What distinguished Europe from the US and Canada, from the North American experience of deindustrialization? To what extent did European reactions to deindustrialization differ from one country to the next? Did the Cold War resonate in deindustrialization policies, in the ensuing political mobilization or in personal experiences? In what ways did deindustrialization leave its mark on the co-transformation process after 1989/90, both in the East and in the West? Last but not least: is it possible to conceive of a specifically ‘European’ deindustrialization?

The aim of the conference is to widen our understanding of deindustrialization and its multidimensional impact on European politics and societies in the period of its most recent history. The conference organizers are especially interested in papers addressing the following seven fields of research:

- 1) International politics: What were the strategies implemented by European states faced with the rapid dismantling of industries on an international stage? Was the realm of international politics used by individual nation states, and if so, how did they address the issue of deindustrialization in this context? In what way was the challenge taken up by supranational and international organizations such as the EC/EU or the OECD or by trade unions, employers’ organizations and NGOs? Were there any joint industrial or economic policy measures to save existing industries or to accelerate the transition to a service society?
- 2) Welfare state: Although European welfare states played a key part in the integration of large swathes of European society after 1945, they were challenged by the demands and burdens placed on them by deindustrialization. Were they prepared for the loss of traditional industrial enterprises? What social and educational policy measures were adopted to compensate socially for job losses or to retrain workers within a different type of economic system?
- 3) Gender, migration, race: Men were particularly affected by the loss of hard physical work in mines and steelworks, whereas women were often disproportionately affected by job losses in the textile industry. Migrant workers were an important part of the industrial workforce and were hit hard by the

decline of the manufacturing sector. The ensuing distribution battles laid bare the social and cultural inequalities of European societies. What role did gender, migration and race play in deindustrialization? How did European experiences differ from deindustrialization in the United States? How did gender and racial inequalities show during deindustrialization? And what consequences did disparities in treatment have for social cohesion?

4) Religion and culture: What was the significance of religion and other cultural influences in the context of deindustrialization? The task of the workplace chaplaincy was to help employees with problems, conflicts or other emotional challenges in the workplace. Moreover, as a result of migration, separate communities, some of them Islamic organizations, emerged in Western Europe to engage with the concerns of “their” employees. What role did these organizations, networks and influences play in coping with deindustrialization? Deindustrialization also led to cultural manifestations in the form of images, music, visual art, literature, etc. Taking deindustrialization as a distinct lens through which to make sense of the world, the conference welcomes papers that reflect on Europe’s cultural history.

5) Ideas: From the perspective of the history of ideas, the conference will be an opportunity to reflect on the ideas, theories and approaches that circulated in order to prevent, manage or overcome deindustrialization. Where and from whom did these ideas originate – in the political or academic sphere, in companies or in trade unions? What political discourse was used to describe the fundamental change in industries, work and social life? And what ideational transfer processes took place between different nation states or industrial regions?

6) Economic landscapes: What impact did deindustrialization have on the European economic landscape? How did certain regions react in order to develop into successful clusters of future industries? Why did other European regions slip into crisis? What factors favoured or prevented the successful transformation of regions? Were there (supra-)national models – such as Anglo-American liberalism or Rhenish capitalism – whose specific characteristics helped to overcome deindustrialization?

7) Environment: Last but not least, the conference organizers invite participants to consider the effects of deindustrialization on the environment. As early as 1961, Willy Brandt called for the sky over the Ruhr area to become blue again. The book "Silent Spring" (1962) by Rachel Carson is often seen as the starting point of the global environmental movement. Many workers looked wistfully at the loss of

their traditional jobs, but there is no doubt that the industrial age was also accompanied by enormous damage to the environment. The limits to growth had become apparent by the 1970s with the Club of Rome study. Particularly in view of current calls for the decarbonization of the economy, i.e. the conversion of the economy to carbon-free production, a historicization of the relationship between deindustrialization and environmental history is essential.

We welcome submissions for 20-minutes papers across these fields of deindustrialization research. Please submit your abstract (around 250 words) and a brief CV in English to Stefan Krebs ([stefan.krebs@uni.lu](mailto:stefan.krebs@uni.lu)) and Christian Marx ([marx@ifz-muenchen.de](mailto:marx@ifz-muenchen.de)) by 30 June 2024.

The conference will take place at the University of Luxembourg in Esch-Belval (Luxembourg) from 25 to 27 June 2025 and will be hosted by the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C<sup>2</sup>DH), which is well known for organizing international academic conferences at the highest level. The conference venue on Esch-Belval campus – a former location for iron and steel production – is the result of an industrial wasteland that has been converted into a new hub for science and education. It is one of the largest urban repurposing projects in Europe and offers a relaxed but exclusive atmosphere for discussion. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered; publication of the lectures in an English-language edited volume is planned.

b: 30 June 2024, at 23:59 (CEST)

**Decisions by:** end of August

**Contact:** Stefan Krebs ([stefan.krebs@uni.lu](mailto:stefan.krebs@uni.lu)) and Christian Marx ([marx@ifz-muenchen.de](mailto:marx@ifz-muenchen.de))

## 2.2 CFP: International Railway History Association (IRHA) - 9th Conference

**Date and location:** Siena (Italy), 7-10 November 2024

**DL for applications:** 31 May 2024

The [International Railway History Association \(IRHA\)](#), together with the University of Siena, will hold a scientific conference in Siena (Italy) in November. The title of the conference is Railways and Environmental Sustainability. A long-term view on a global scale from the origins of railways to the present. This is the first IRHA conference to be held in Italy since its foundation in 2002; the choice of

Siena is primarily a scientific and intellectual one, but it is also an excellent location from a tourist and logistical point of view (accessible from Florence, Pisa and Rome airports). In accordance with the customs and convictions of the Association, as laid down in its Statutes, the Conference will be open to anyone who wishes to attend and to anyone who wishes to present a proposal, without any exclusion or prejudice against anyone. No distinction will be made between academics, researchers working in museums, archives and other cultural institutions, professionals and scholars of railway history in general from all over the world. There are no restrictions on the historical periods studied nor to the areas of the world investigated. On the contrary, we emphasise maximum opening up to inclusiveness and interdisciplinarity, thus promoting exchanges and collaborations with all kinds of scholars even with different methodological opinions and tools, but interested in this field and eager to establish a scientific dialogue.

The conference will be held **from 7 to 10 November 2024**. It will include three days of scientific work and a day dedicated to participation in a Sunday excursion on the Treno Natura, a historic steam train, in the province of Siena, to look at sustainable railway tourism in practice. The conference will include a session in Italian, freely open to all IRHA conference participants, entitled Un treno per Siena. Passato, presente e sostenibilità delle ferrovie nella Toscana meridionale ((A train to Siena. A train to Siena. Past, present and sustainability of the railways in southern Tuscany)), which will take place on 7 November at 17.00. The conference language is English, no translations and interpreting will be provided. There is no registration fee, but IRHA membership is encouraged (50 Euros) for participation in the conference. Travel and accommodation expenses are the responsibility of the participants; the local organisation will offer cocktails, coffee breaks and light lunches on Friday and Saturday; and side events at the conference.

**Paper proposals** (an abstract of 2,000-3,000 characters and a one page curriculum vitae) should be sent by 31 May 2024 to the following address: [andrea.giuntini@unimore.it](mailto:andrea.giuntini@unimore.it). The decisions of the Scientific Committee will be announced by 30 June 2024. Presenters of accepted papers must send a long abstract of 10,000 characters by 30 September 2024.

For more information, [follow the link](#).



## 2.3 Mentorship online workshop for Early Career Scholars on Writing articles, June 20

**Date and location:** online on Thursday, June 20, 2024, from 13.00 to 14.30 (CET)

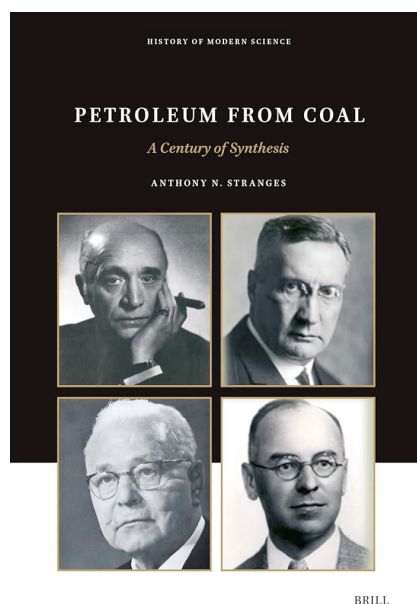
**DL for registrations:** June 10, 2024

[The Tensions of Europe Early Career Network network](#) is organizing mentoring sessions (online) that aim at supporting early career researchers (PhD students and post-doctoral researchers) in the field of history of technology.

The sixth session, and the last for this academic year, focused on the topic of 'Writing academic articles', will take place online on Thursday, June 20, 2024, from 13.00 to 14.30 (CET). To participate in this meeting, please register by sending an email to [tirza@kth.se](mailto:tirza@kth.se) until the 10th of June in order to get access to the link of the session.

## 3 Recent publications

### 3.1 New book on Petroleum from Coal by Anthony N. Stranges



Anthony N. Stranges: *Petroleum from Coal: a Century of Synthesis*. Brill: Leiden, Boston, 2024, xii, 408 pp.

Petroleum from Coal shows why and how Friedrich Bergius and Franz Fischer and Hans Tropsch in 1913-26 invented and developed synthetic fuel processes; explains why and how Matthias Pier at BASF- IG Farben and Otto Roelen at Ruhrchemie successfully industrialized the syntheses during the Nazi-World War II years; and analyzes the pre- and post-World War II vicissitudes of the synthetic fuel industry. The research of Germany's scientists in the 1920s-40s made them world leaders in synthetic fuel studies. Information on the synthetic fuel processes has come from the Allied teams who went to Germany and Japan during World War II's closing months and from British, American, and Canadian synthetic fuel investigations.

### 3.2 Book on Artificial Women and exhibit “Imaging Women in the Space Age” by Julie Wosk

**Julie Wosk**, professor emerita State University of New York, Maritime College, is happy to announce the publication on April 2 of her new book **Artificial Women: Sex Dolls, Robot Caregivers, and More Facsimile Females** (Indiana University Press). The book highlights how new AI technologies are creating ever more lifelike artificial females, and the controversies swirling around these simulations which give the illusion they are real human beings.



As technologies have shifted from the mechanical to the digital, these artificial women which are enhanced by AI and new versions of silicone and TPE blur the boundaries between the virtual and the real, and are having a dramatic impact on social relationships and our ideas about what makes us human. They also often continue to mirror cultural stereotypes about women but subvert these stereotypes as well.

The book explores a wide range of examples from robotics, films and television, plays and novels, and art. Its chapters include discussions of sex dolls and robo-prostitutes, female-voiced

caregivers for the elderly and infirm, conversational dolls, and virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa as well as the female voices of aircraft warning systems.

Julie Wosk has also written about gender and technology in her previous books including *My Fair Ladies: Female Robots, Androids, and Other Artificial Eves* and *Women and the Machine: Representations From the Spinning Wheel to the Electronic Age*, and she is also the author of *Breaking Frame: Technology and the Visual Arts in the Nineteenth Century* which has a discussion of mechanized humans.

**For more information**, contact her at [jwosk@sunymaritime.edu](mailto:jwosk@sunymaritime.edu)

She is also the curator of the exhibit [“Imaging Women in the Space Age”](#) on view at the New York Hall of Science in Queens until May 27, 2024. The exhibit features images of female astronauts and space-age films, television, advertising, and fashions.

### 3.3 New Book on Global History of Techniques, 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Centuries

*Global History of Techniques, 19th-21st Centuries*. Edited by Guillaume Carnino, Liliane Hilaire-Perez and Jérôme Lamy, Brepols, 2024. 780p.



#### Global History of Techniques 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Centuries

EDITED BY GUILLAUME CARNINO,  
LILIANE HILAIRE-PÉREZ AND  
JÉRÔME LAMY



BREPOLS

It is impossible to understand societies without looking at their technological underpinnings. Technology constitutes the very fabric of societies' political, economic, cultural, and everyday realities. Building on recent historiography, this book offers the first overview of the global history of contemporary technology.

Gathering more than fifty specialists of the history of technology, the collection of essays presents an overview of technical evolutions on a global scale. The book challenges both teleological approaches on progress and eurocentric perspectives. It explores the complex socio-economic implications of techniques as well as the systems of representation and power structures that led to the emergence of today's world.

The purpose of the collected essays is to offer a new history of technology. In this perspective, a central question concerns the very category of the history of technology, i.e. the term « technology » itself. Refusing both the limitations of 'technology' and of 'useful knowledge', the book stresses the necessity to study techniques as embodying human activity as a whole. In that sense, history of technology is intrinsically linked to anthropology and ethnology.

This book is divided into three sections. The first section opens with a world tour of techniques, restoring the complexity of regional historiographies and of the meanings given to technical activities in different societies. The second part focuses on sectors of activity, processes, and products with a strong emphasis on means of production and communication, the exploitation of natural resources, major technical systems, infrastructures and networks. The final section provides access to major cross-related issues. It pays particular attention to the role played by technology/techniques in the process of globalization, particularly through colonization, imperialism, and the development of large technical systems.

## **Form for annual membership renewals / registration of new members**



Annual membership includes subscription to ICOHTEC's refereed annual journal ICON, access to all back issues of ICON in electronic form via the ICOHTEC website, a monthly Newsletter, and special registration rates at the annual ICOHTEC symposium.

*I wish to ☐ renew my membership/☐ to become a new member in ICOHTEC. (Tick below the appropriate description/rate):*

- ☐ *An individual. Rate: (40€ or 40 \$ or equivalent) per year*
- ☐ *A student. Rate: (40 € or 40 \$ or equivalent for two years)*
- ☐ *An institution. Rate: (75 € or 100 \$ or equivalent) per year*
- ☐ *A library. Rate: (Europe: 36 €,Oversees 39 € or 52 \$) per year*

*Tick the years of membership to be paid: ☐ **2023** ☐ **2024** ☐ **2025***

I submit the total amount: \_\_\_\_\_  
Your first name and surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_

*Tick the method of your payment:*

☐ Through international money transfer: Make international money transfer to:  
"ICOHTEC" at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany):  
IBAN:DE44 4304003603902590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX

☐ Through a cheque. Send the check with the appropriate sum made out to "ICOHTEC" and send to:  
Stefan Poser, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT), Department für Geschichte, Neuer Zirkel 3, D-76131 Karlsruhe,  
GERMANY

After filling the form, please send by email to Viktor Pál, ICOHTEC Treasurer at [viktor.paal\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:viktor.paal(at)gmail.com) and to Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC at [stefan.poser\(at\)kit.edu](mailto:stefan.poser(at)kit.edu)