

ILPC 2021, 12th to 14th April London

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ILPC Conference Venues and Plenary Speakers

In the early years the conference was known as the Aston-UMIST Labour Process Conference and not surprisingly the event rotated between the two. It began to change when new organisers came on the scene in the 1990s. Paul Thompson and Chris Warhurst, then at the University of Central Lancashire, held two conferences in Blackpool. It then followed Paul to Edinburgh, Paul and Chris to Strathclyde and Chris Smith to Royal Holloway. In the new century a more open process, focused on an Organising Group constituted by a collection of previously-host institutions, has led to more varied and adventurous locations. More information about the ILPC can be found in "[*The short overview of the labour process perspective and history of the International Labour Process Conference*](#)" by Chris Smith School of Management, Royal Holloway, University of London.

As for plenary speakers, in the first decade, that wasn't the way that the organisers wanted to run the conference. Even after that, it was patchy, but we've had some good ones!

Year	Venue	Links
2019	Vienna	Papers
2018	Buenos Aires	Papers
2017	Sheffield	Papers
2016	Berlin	Papers Call for Papers
2015	Athens	Papers Call for Papers
2014	London	Papers Call for Papers
2013	Rutgers	Papers Call for Papers
2012	Stockholm	Papers Call for Papers
2011	Leeds	Papers Call for Papers
2010	Rutgers, New York	Papers Call for Papers
2009	Edinburgh	Papers Call for Papers
2008	Dublin	Michael Burawoy, David Coats
2007	Amsterdam	Panel: Chris Smith, Paul Edwards, Hugh Willmott, Irena Grugulis, Paul Thompson
2006	London (RH & Birbeck)	Gideon Kunda, Saskia Sassen
2005	Strathclyde	
2004	Amsterdam	
2003	Bristol	Charlotte Yates, Paul Thompson
2002	Strathclyde	Paul Adler (video), Danielle Linhart (video)
2001	Royal Holloway	Richard Reeves
2000	Strathclyde	Richard Sennett

Year	Venue	Links
1999	Royal Holloway	Craig Littler / Paul Thompson
1998	Manchester	
1997	Edinburgh	
1996	Aston	
1995	Blackpool	George Ritzer
1994	Aston	
1993	Blackpool	
1992	Aston	Theo Nichols, Chris Smith / Paul Thompson
1991	Manchester	
1990	Aston	Michael Burawoy
1989	Manchester	
1988	Aston	
1987	Manchester	
1986	Aston	
1985	Manchester	
1984	Aston	
1983	Manchester	John MacInnes, David Knights, David Collinson

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View Abstract

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Tracing the Class Relations in Turkey's New Cooperativism: A Potential Alternative to Market Relations?

The economic and social atmosphere of Turkey started to change in favour of capital with emergence of neoliberal paradigm in the 1980s. Even though there are a number of dimensions of this process, some prominent dynamics are resembling other developing countries: rising unemployment led by privatizations, de-unionization, sub-contracted working, informal employment, and semi-proletarianization.

Turkey's agricultural policy was also affected by the neoliberal paradigm, and the number of people in agricultural activities has decreased year by year with agenda of EU Common Agricultural Policy. By the year 2016, the GDP share of agricultural activities was 6.2%, and the people employed in agriculture sector decreased to 18% of total employment (from 35% in 2003). If we consider these basic statistics with the entities of huge monopolies like Lipton Co. (tea), Ferrero Co. (hazelnut), Phillip Morris Co. (tobacco) which shape the agricultural sector in all means, both producers and workers in agriculture are sharing poverty. Indeed, most of the agricultural producers in today's Turkey (tea, hazelnut, tobacco, and dairy producers) are disadvantaged suppliers of multinational or local monopolies, and these producers are about to lose complete control on production process. In fact, this situation leads to serious social unrests in late years.

In this study, we will focus on new cooperativism wave, and also organizing practices in agricultural sector, throughout different regions of Turkey. In most of the cases these cooperative practices seen as the last opportunity in resistance against proletarianization. The working class' organizing practices in agricultural cooperatives are another important dimension of the question. These workers are part of production process in every phase: in the field, in the factory, or in the sales. Thus, the relationship between cooperative (producers) and workers is one of the most important axis of this study. In this study, we used qualitative research methods (a number of semi-structured in-depth interviews with producers and also workers, some of them completed/recorded in 2017 and some of the interviews will be completed until February 2018). Fundamental question of the paper is as follows: Are these agricultural cooperatives have a potential to be an alternative to market relations? Can we assess these cooperatives as prominent practices of a new model?

To answer these questions, firstly the paper is focusing on the organizing of production process of these cooperatives. There are two sides in the production process: villagers/farmers and workers (packing, transportation, and sales). Does the production process create a win-win situation for both sides? Because, the reasons and the economic atmosphere which push the producers to establish cooperatives is the same with the reasons which push workers to unionize. Therefore, whether the new cooperativism practices create a new way for workers or not is crucial. Otherwise these cooperatives will focus on protecting only producers' interests against market relations, in the meantime they will also establish relationships based on exploitation like ordinary companies with their workers. If this is the case, we cannot argue that these practices have a potential to be an alternative.

One another important point is the cooperatives positions' in their surrounding economic atmosphere. The following questions are extremely important as to whether we can argue that there is a potential to discuss about a model: Are these cooperatives trying to establish a network with each other? (There are some supporting facts on this issue at different levels) Are these cooperatives buying necessary inputs for production (fertilizer etc.) from other cooperatives or companies, and finally, are the products/outputs of cooperatives reach consumers via other cooperatives or companies? We will discuss the possibilities and limitations of the current agricultural cooperative practices in Turkey, with an attempt to find answers to these questions.