

## Contributor biographies

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**Monika Arnez** is Extraordinary Professor of Asian Studies at Palacký University Olomouc and Head of the Anthropology Cluster in the Department of Asian Studies. Her research interests are in gender and Islam, social inequalities and ethnicity, and human–environment relations, with a focus on maritime Southeast Asia. Recent publications are *Gender, Islam and Sexuality in Contemporary Indonesia* (Springer Nature, 2024), co-edited with Melani Budianta, and “Ethnic Politics and Ambivalent Imaginaries of the Future at the Melaka Straits” in the *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* (2023).

**Anna Baumann** is a PhD candidate in history at the University of Bern, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. In her dissertation, she examines the history of homeworking by investigating debates on telework and its early development in Switzerland in the 1980s and 1990s. Her research focuses on how technology, gender, and space were negotiated through the new form of working and how this related to the reorganization of work at the beginning of the so-called digital age. She has published on the history of institutions for public gender equality (master’s thesis revised in *Traverse* 2/2023) and on the gendered impact of new technologies using the example of a feminist CD-ROM (intercom Verlag 2021). Together with Monika Dommann and Anne-Christine Schindler, she co-edited the volume *Was ist neu an der New Economy? Eine Spurensuche* (2021).

**Christiane Berth** is a Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Graz. Her research interests include the global history of communication and technology, food and consumption, trade and migration, as well as the history of Mexico and Central America. She is currently working on a global history of office work. Christiane Berth earned her doctorate from the University of Hamburg and has held academic positions at the Universities of St. Gallen, Basel, Bern, and Costa Rica.

**Helen Glew** is Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Westminster, UK. She has published widely on women's white-collar work in twentieth-century Britain, including the monograph *Gender, Rhetoric and Regulation: Women's Work in the Civil Service and the London County Council, 1900–55* (2016) and articles on women telephonists and women's occupational associations and trade unions. She is particularly interested in the intersections between employment and feminist campaigning and is currently completing a book on the marriage bar and married women's paid work, 1870–1960.

**Martina Heßler** has been a Professor of the History of Technology at the Technical University of Darmstadt since February 2019. Her research interests include the history of technological errors and failures, the man–machine relationship since early modern times, and the history of emotions. Recently, she published the book *Sisyphos im Maschinenraum. Zur Fehlbarkeit von Mensch und Technologie* (2025). Currently, she is preparing a new book on the history of technological errors.

**Nina Jahrbacher** is a historian trained at the University of Graz, where she was a doctoral candidate in contemporary, economic, and social history (2022–2025). As a junior fellow in the Elisabeth-List Fellowship for Gender Research (“Global Workplaces in Transition: The History of Technology, Gender and Emotions since the 1960s”), she examined how computerization reshaped the administration of the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB) between 1969 and 1991. She was the organizational lead of the 15th Austrian Contemporary History Day (Graz, 2024). Her master's thesis, “Die Anfänge der Südbahn im Herzogtum Steiermark, Räume und Menschen,” investigated the Southern Railway's beginnings in the Duchy of Styria, analyzing spatial transformations and demographic impacts of railway construction. Her work links technological innovation, labor, corporate and state administration, gender, and the history of railways.

**Michael M. Prentice** is a Senior Lecturer in Korean Studies at the University of Sheffield. Trained as a linguistic and cultural anthropologist of Korea, his research broadly focuses on genres and technologies of communication in contemporary South Korean organizations. His monograph *Supercorporate: Distinction and Participation in Post-Hierarchy South Korea*, was published 2022. He earned his PhD at the University of Michigan and previously held a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University.

**Heidi Schweickert** is a PhD candidate in the Department of History of Technology at the Technical University of Darmstadt and works on the significance of emotions in the digitalization of work from the 1970s to the mid-1990s. With a strong background in the international IT business, she focuses on the co-construction of emotions and

digital work technology and on the relevance of emotions for man–machine interaction from a historical perspective. One focus of her work is the historical research of end-user experiences using SAP as an example. She completed a research fellowship in the Area of Contemporary History at the University of Graz with an article on the impact of real-time technology on the man–machine relationship (2023).