



SEMINAR 2025/26

WOMEN, WORK AND ACTIVISM IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Eastern European Perspectives

DECEMBER 2, 2025, 16:30-18:30

AULA C, Complesso Didattico Piovego
via Ugo Bassi 2, Padova

Women's Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Beyond

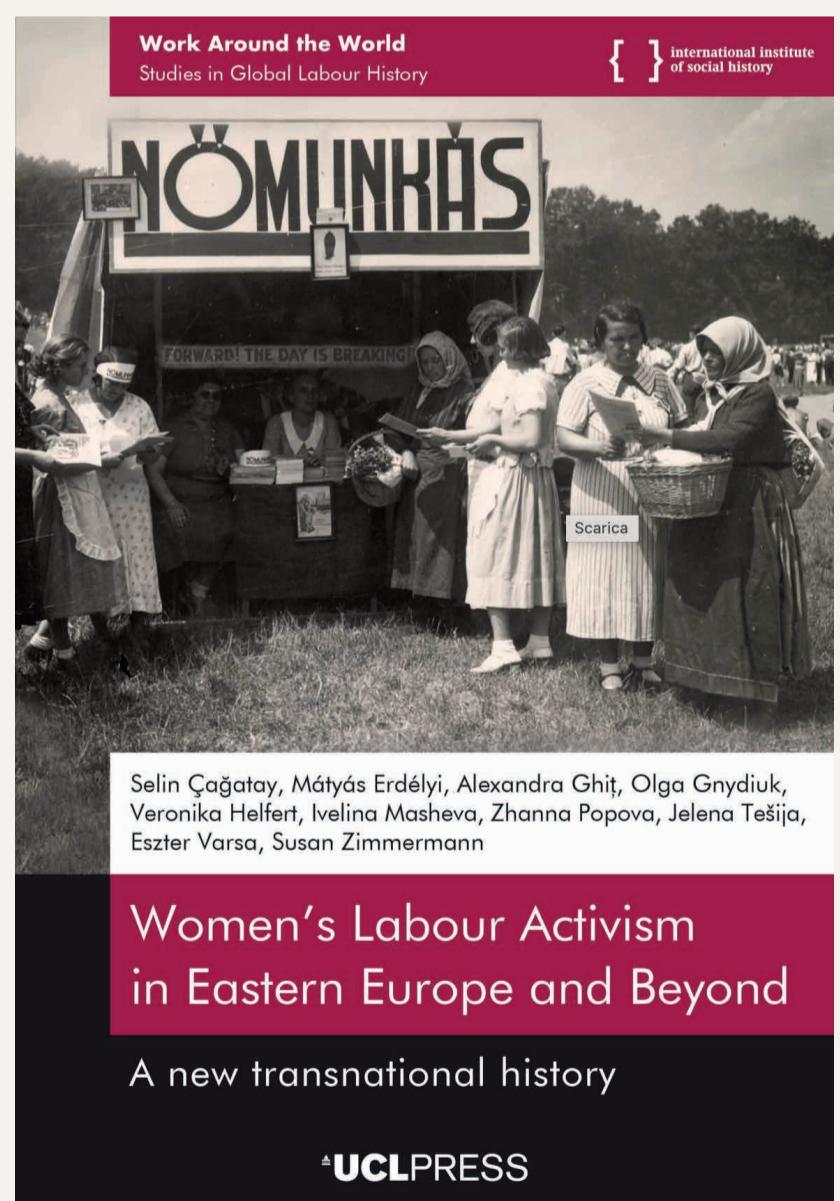
Eszter Varsa and Susan Zimmermann

Central European University, Vienna

The presentation introduces *Women's Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Beyond* (UCL Press, 2025) – a groundbreaking, open access, collectively-written monograph that traces women's struggles for better working and living conditions across Eastern Europe, Austria, Turkey, and internationally, from the late 19th century to the late 20th century. The volume is the outcome of the ERC-funded project ZARAH: Women's labour activism in Eastern Europe and transnationally, from the age of empires to the late 20th century, based at Central European University in Vienna.

ESZTER VARSA, social historian with a Ph.D. in Comparative Gender Studies is a research affiliate in the ERC project ZARAH. Her research interests include the history of agrarian women's labour activism, the history of child protection, eugenics and reproductive politics, and the history of the Roma in twentieth century Eastern Europe. She received the Emma Goldman Award in 2023.

SUSAN ZIMMERMANN is a historian of labour, gender, and internationalism in the 19th and 20th centuries. She served as the Principal Investigator of the ERC project ZARAH. In 2021, she published the monograph (in German) *Women's Politics and Men's Trade Unions – International Gender Politics, IFTU Women Trade Unionists, and the Labor and Women's Movements of the Interwar Period*.



SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION:

Eloisa Betti, Giovanni Cadioli



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