

# Tensions of Europe

RESEARCH NETWORK ON HISTORY,  
TECHNOLOGY AND EUROPE

## ToE Newsletter September 2024

### EDITO

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

We are thrilled that this new academic year brings us the opportunity to gather in just a few days for the 11th Tensions of Europe Conference, preceded by the ToE Early Career Scholars Summer School 2024. We are deeply thankful to everyone involved in the organization of this event, especially our organizing committee at the European University Viadrina. With more than 150 participants from across Europe and beyond, we anticipate enriching and exciting scientific and human exchanges!

We also warmly invite you to meet with the Tensions of Europe Management Committee on Friday 20/09 from 17.15 to 17.45 and to share your suggestions, ideas, and projects with us (location: GD102, European University Viadrina Frankfurt/Oder).

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Best regards,

Valérie Schafer (C<sup>2</sup>DH, University of Luxembourg), chair of the Tensions of Europe Management Committee (2022-2024)

*If you want to share information in the next edition of the Newsletter, contact us at [tensionsofeurope\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:tensionsofeurope[at]gmail.com).*

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# TOE 24

## The 11th Tensions of Europe Conference 2024

11th Tensions of Europe Conference (ToE24)  
September 19-21, 2024, European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)

Next week the 11<sup>th</sup> Tensions of Europe Conference “Transformations. Fundamental Change and Technology” (September 19-21) will begin in Frankfurt (Oder). There will be more than 150 active participants and guests from all over Europe and overseas. The ToE Early Career Scholars Summer School 2024 “Transformations in/of the History of Technology” will precede it, September 16-19.

- Take a look at the programme, [here](#).
- For those who cannot join us in person, the **Keynote Speech “Writing Transformative Envirotech History in the Anthropocene: Provocations and Opportunities”** by [Prof. Dr. Helmuth Trischler](#) (Deutsches Museum Munich), taking place on Saturday 21/09/2024, at 16-17:00, will be **live streamed** (follow this [link](#)). All ToE members and friends are welcome to attend online.

[Read more](#)

### ToE institutional partnerships

Tensions of Europe has always been an open, inclusive network, supporting early career researchers and allowing scholars to participate and join as an individual. The management committee remains convinced that this is a path to be pursued and that it is one of the strengths of our network.

In order to develop its activities and to further support the organization of pre-conferences for early career researchers, intermediate networking events or to cover modest but real operating costs, we are introducing institutional partnerships that will allow us to continue our development.

The partnership rate for 2024 is 500 euros.

As an institutional partner you will support the missions and goals of the network:

- To develop our transnational scholarly network as a hub for transnational research, education and outreach initiatives on history, technology and Europe.
- To foster discussion and cooperation among historians, through the ToE conferences, building collaborative research agendas, and activities, such as the remote day, summer schools, mentorships, etc.
- To encourage and support early scholars’ participation to our activities.
- To disseminate news of interest in the topics at the core of the ToE network.

As an institutional Tensions of Europe partner, you would be associated with the institutions supporting the ToE conference (with your logo on the programme) and mentioned on our website. We sincerely thank you in advance for supporting our activities.

[You can join as an institutional ToE partner here.](#)

Administratively the Foundation for the History of Technology (SHT) will manage the institutional partnerships. SHT is a non-profit organization and is one of the founders of Tensions of Europe Network.

[Read more](#)

### CfPs

**Call for Contributions - "The Datafied Web" 6th RESAW Conference, June 5-6, 2025, Siegen University, Germany**

Scholars, researchers, web archivists are invited to contribute to the 6th RESAW conference on the topic of “The Datafied Web”, through a historical lens. The Conference would like to explore the historical roots, trends, and trajectories that shaped the data-driven paradigm in web development and to examine the genealogies of the datafied and metrified web. Pre-conferences, demos, hands-on will take place on June 4, 2025.  
Deadline for submissions: October 15th, 2024

[Read more](#)

### Call for Papers - "Testing under crisis / Testing the crises" International Workshop, December 12-13, 2024, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

The aim of the CrisisTesting International Workshop is to bring together novel perspectives with regards to the study of public health crises by attending to the role of the development and use of diagnostic tests, to the emergence of a multitude of testing practices and to the materialities associated with testing infrastructure. By bringing into dialogue interdisciplinary perspectives from the history of science, technology and medicine, the social sciences, the medical/health humanities, Science and Technology Studies, Media Studies and other relevant fields, we would like to explore the significance and crucial role of testing for medical practice and public health policy-making.  
Deadline for submissions: September 20th, 2024

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## Jobs/Fellowships/Grants

### Committee for the History of Electricity and Energy - Grants for 2024/2025

The [Comité d'histoire de l'électricité et de l'énergie](#) (Committee for the History of Electricity and Energy) of the Fondation EDF is offering several research grants to scholars studying history of electricity and of energy at large. Applications are accepted in French and English.  
Deadline for applications: October 23rd, 2024.

[Read more](#)

### Lemelson Center Fellowship Program, 2025-2026

The Lemelson Center Fellowship Program supports projects that present creative approaches to the study of invention and innovation in American society. These include, but are not limited to, historical research and documentation projects resulting in dissertations, publications, exhibitions, educational initiatives, documentary films, or other multimedia products. The Center annually awards two to three fellowships to pre-doctoral graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and other professionals (e.g. authors, journalists, attorneys) who have completed some advanced training (e.g. usually an MA or JD, but please inquire if you have questions).  
Deadline for applications: October 15th, 2024.

[Read more](#)

### PhD Fellowship in Environmental History, University of Stavanger

The University of Stavanger invites applicants for a PhD Fellowship in Environmental History at the Faculty of Arts and Education, Department of Cultural Studies and Languages. The position is vacant from 1 November 2024 (with a negotiable start date). This is a trainee position that will give promising researchers an opportunity for academic development through a PhD education leading to a doctoral degree. The hired candidate will be admitted to the PhD program in Educational Sciences and Humanities. The appointment is for three years with research duties exclusively, or four years with both research and other career-promoting work. Research topic: a PhD position in environmental history to research relations between humans, environments, and energy in an independently developed project. The project must be positioned at the intersection of environmental and energy history.  
Deadline for applications: September 15th, 2024.

[Read more](#)

### 2 PhD Positions, Division of Science, Technology and Society, Chalmers University of Technology

**1. PhD position in Energy and Environmental History:** The PhD candidate will work in a cross-disciplinary setting to consider the possible future role of hydrogen in the Swedish energy system from a historical perspective. The position is funded by the Swedish Energy Agency through the programme Research School Energy Systems and within the framework of the position you participate in the Research School Energy Systems' activities (read more at [foes.se](#)). The project also aligns with the division's new research program on infrastructures in the modern and contemporary world. The research will take place in close collaboration with a PhD student and supervision team with engineering backgrounds at Linköping University, including co-writing articles and participating in common supervision meetings and workshops. Applicants are invited to propose their own research project within this framework focusing on hydrogen. Possible topics to be studied could include: historical infrastructure development and use, historical attempts to introduce new energy technologies into an existing system, visions and expectations of a future energy system, user acceptance and resistance

to new energy technology, social, spacial, sustainability and justice aspects of new energy technology introduction. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their choice topics with Anna Åberg, the project's main supervisor.

**2. PhD position in History of Technology:** The PhD project will be part of the Division's new research program on infrastructures in the modern and contemporary world. Infrastructure is broadly understood as the material and immaterial systems needed to operate a society or enterprise. Applicants are invited to propose their own research project within this openly defined program. Possible topics include: historical case studies of transport, urban or digital infrastructures, critical infrastructures, dismantling of infrastructures, infrastructural transitions, maintenance of infrastructures, or political economy of infrastructures. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the choice topics with Professor Per Lundin, the project's main supervisor.

Deadline for applications: October 18th, 2024.

[Read more](#)

### Postdoctoral position in the history of energy infrastructures, Chalmers University of Technology

The Division of Science, Technology and Society (STS) at Chalmers University of Technology is seeking a postdoctoral scholar in energy history to research relations between humans, infrastructures, and energy in an independently developed project. The project is positioned at the intersection of history of technology and energy history. The person employed will be working closely with an international research project funded NORDFORSK that aims to analyse how people and communities have lived with, through and shaped energy transitions throughout history. Applicants are invited to propose their own research project within this framework focusing on large energy infrastructures, such as oil refineries, district heating, energy buildings and infrastructure afterlives. The Postdoctoral project will benefit from synergies with the division's new research program on infrastructures in the modern and contemporary world.

Deadline for applications: October 18th, 2024.

[Read more](#)

### PhD Fellowship "Energy Lives! Infrastructural Citizenship in Nordic Energy Transitions", Aarhus University

Applications are invited for a PhD fellowship/scholarship at Graduate School of Natural Sciences, Aarhus University, Denmark, within the mathematics programme (science studies programme). The position is available from February 2025 or later. Research area and project description (Title: Energy Lives! Infrastructural Citizenship in Nordic Energy Transitions, Subproject: Citizens for District Heating in Denmark): The project Energy Lives! scrutinizes the conjoined lives of energy and people in the Nordic countries. It seeks to understand how publics and communities emerge around ways of living with and through energy transitions and how such publics shape and constrain energy transitions over long time periods. The project applies the concept of infrastructural citizenship to uncover mechanisms of agency, appropriation, and resistance in energy transitions, distributed among people, politics, and infrastructures.

Deadline for applications: November 1st, 2024.

[Read more](#)

## Other news

### Call for donations: CD-ROMs

The CD-ROM is a very first clear materialisation of media convergence, a key step in digital storage and a path towards digitalisation. Despite a plethora of sources and born-digital heritage, CD-ROMs, as both a storage tool and an entire branch of digital culture, are still lacking a comprehensive history encompassing technical, economic, cultural, artistic, and social dimensions. The [CD-Hist project](#) at C<sup>2</sup>DH, University of Luxembourg, intends to write this history. Our historical approach is complemented by media archaeology and an exhibition is planned in 2026 in Luxembourg, with «Hands-On» and interactive experience with CD-ROMs. Therefore, we launch a **call for donation: Do you have old CD-ROMs, sharewares, magazines, or documentation and CD-ROMs guides gathering dust in your attic or basement? If so, we would greatly appreciate your donation!** These are valuable resources that can help us preserve, explore and showcase this history. If you are willing to contribute, please bring your CD-ROMs in Frankfurt(Oder) to give them to Valérie Schafer during the 11th ToE Conference (if it's not a whole suitcase that won't fit on the plane home :), or get in touch with the team at C<sup>2</sup>DH. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

[Read more](#)

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