



PRESS RELEASE

Essen, 11.01.2024

Book Presentation: Welfare for Markets

A Global History of Basic Income

Thursday, 18 January 2024, 18:00 (CET)

Online (ZOOM) & Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities Essen (KWI),
Gartensaal, Goethestraße 31, 45128 Essen

This event is part of KWI's annual theme „More or Less“ and was originally planned for 28 November 2023.

The idea of a government paying its citizens to keep them out of poverty – now known as basic income – is hardly new. Often dated as far back as ancient Rome, basic income's modern conception truly emerged in the late nineteenth century. Yet as one of today's most controversial proposals, it draws supporters from across the political spectrum.

In their book *Welfare for Markets* (2023), Jäger and Zamora trace basic income from its rise in American and British policy debates following periods of economic tumult to its modern relationship with techno-populist figures in Silicon Valley. They chronicle how the idea first arose in the United States and Europe as a market-friendly alternative to the post-war welfare state and how interest in the policy has grown in the wake of the 2008 credit crisis and COVID-19 crash.

ANTON JÄGER is a lecturer at University College, Oxford. With Daniel Zamora, he is the co-author of *Welfare for Markets: A Global History of Basic Income* (2023). He writes for outlets such as the *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *Jacobin*, and *New Left Review*.

DANIEL ZAMORA is a professor of sociology at the Free University of Brussels. He is the co-author of *The Last Man Takes LSD: Foucault and the End of Revolution* (Verso, 2021) with Mitchell Dean and *Welfare for Markets* with Anton Jäger (UCP, 2023).

MODERATION

Danilo Scholz, KWI

PARTICIPATION IN PERSON

Participation is free of charge. There is no registration necessary.

PRESS CONTACT

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PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

To participate via Zoom, follow [this link](#).

ORGANISATION

Organized by the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities Essen (KWI) as part of the annual theme „More or Less“.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[Event on the KWI website](#)

We would appreciate the circulation of this press release.

About the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI):

The Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) Essen, Germany, is an interdisciplinary research centre following the tradition of international Institutes for Advanced Study. In its role as an inter-university institution connecting the Ruhr-University Bochum, the Technological University Dortmund and the University of Duisburg-Essen, the institute works together with researchers and scientists from its neighbouring universities as well as other partners from the federal state NRW and places in- and outside of Germany. Within the Ruhr area, the KWI is a place to share and discuss the questions and results of ambitious research with interested parties from the city and the greater region. Currently, work at the KWI focusses on the following areas: “cultural studies of science and science policy making”, “sociology of literature and culture”, “science communication”, “visual literacy” and a “teaching lab”. Projects in the established research field “culture of communication”, as well as individual projects, will be continued.

www.kulturwissenschaften.de

Please note: If you do not wish to receive any further press releases from the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI), please send a short message to presse@kwi-nrw.de. Many thanks.

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