

Alternative Futures and Popular Protest

15-17th June, 2026 | Manchester



Supported by the Department of Sociology at the
University of Manchester

Welcome to AFPP 2026

We are delighted to welcome you to this edition of Alternative Futures and Popular Protest. We have over 130 delegates this year, and a programme crammed with thought-provoking panels, plenaries, roundtables and workshops.

Organising Committee

This year's AFPP Organising Committee are: Josie Bunting, Gemma Edwards, Simin Fadaee, Kevin Gillan, Gyeon Kang, Lidia Yanez Lagos, Wangshu Liu, Steven Speed, Meghan Tinsley, Daniela Fazio Vargas and Luke Yates.

If you have any questions during the conference, please come along to the registration desk in the Hanson Room (Mon) or HBS Foyer (Tues, Weds) where you'll be sure to find some of the organising committee around during breaks. You can also contact us via afpp@manchester.ac.uk

WiFi

There are two options for WiFi while on the UoM campus:

- Eduroam: if you have an Eduroam account and your device is already set up this should be the easiest option to connect without any further login details.
- UoM_Guest: for anyone else, you should be able to connect to the UoM_Guest network. You'll be asked to authenticate using an existing Facebook or LinkedIn account, or by a simple text message code.

Abstracts and Working Papers Collection

A full Abstract Book has been circulated by email and is available at <https://bit.ly/4v0vGHI>

Thanks to those delegates who have shared working papers in advance; these can be found at <https://bit.ly/4etCcl0>

Programme Overview

Monday	12:00	Registration, Hanson Room
	13:00	Sessions 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D
	14:45	Comfort Break and Refreshments, Hanson Room
	15:15	Plenary: The streets and the workplace: social movements and workers' struggle, Samuel Alexander Building, Room SLG.12
	17:00	Socials
Tuesday	09:00	Sessions 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D
	10:45	Comfort Break and Refreshments, HBS Foyer
	11:00	Sessions 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D
	12:30	Lunch Break, HBS Foyer
	13:30	Sessions 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E
	15:15	Comfort Break and Refreshments, HBS Foyer
	15:40	Plenary: Social movement scholarship and the study of the far-right, Cordingley Lecture Theatre
	17:30	Socials
Wednesday	09:00	Sessions 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D
	10:45	Comfort Break and Refreshments
	11:00	Sessions 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D
	13:00	End of conference social

Notes:

- Unless otherwise specified, conference sessions take place in the Humanities Bridgeford Street Building, set just off Oxford Road.
- Details for socials can be found towards the end of this programme.

Monday, 13:00–14:45

Session 1A | Room G6 | Chair: Hala Marshood

Troubling 'Authoritarianism': Rethinking the Concept from the Grassroots
Ada Wang (University of Oxford)

The perception of opportunity and threat in the Egyptian and Moroccan social movements: A CDA perspective
Hamid Bouyahi (Mohammed First University)

Beyond the Streets: Structural Causes of Protests in Morocco [remote presentation]
Ibrahim El Hatimi (MENAFem; The Movement for Economic, development and Ecological Justice in the Middle East and North Africa)

What makes a protest goer? Between everyday activism and lifelong social engagement in today's Serbia
Piotr Goldstein (Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS), Berlin), Ivaylo Dinev (Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS), Berlin)

Trust, Risk, and Mobilisation: Russian Anti-War Activism in the Diaspora [remote presentation]
Tatiana Lysova (University of Milan-Bicocca)

Anti-Imperial Class Consciousness in the Security State: Trade Union Organising Against Israeli Apartheid among UK Civil Servants
Hannah Wright (University of Manchester)

Session 1B | Room G7 | Chair: Guiseppe Michele Padricelli

Prefigurative Politics and Abolitionist Praxis in Community Music

Erika Severyns (Ghent University, Belgium and York St John, UK), Rory Wells (York St John, Centre for Social Justice and the International Centre of Community Music in the UK).

Objects of protest – on the role of material objects in social resistance

Magdalena Krzemień (Doctoral School of Social Sciences Jagiellonian University)

Dancing the Border: Norteño vs. Cumbia as an Experiment in Everyday Politics and Alternative Living

Oscar Bueno (The University of Texas at El Paso)

Protest Music and Resistance in Communist Romania's Underground Scene (1970s–1989): Club A

Raluca Dascalu (University of Bucharest)

We are rebelling because of you! Uproar and silence as acoustic rhetoric in the Storm Warning Campaign of Extinction Rebellion Finland

Sini Mononen (University of Helsinki)

Symbols, memory and anti-mafia mobilisation. The "lenzuoli" committee in Sicily in the 1990s

Giuseppe Lipari (Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence)

Session 1C | Room G32 | Chair: Harry Weaver

Staging climate justice in South Africa: Rehearsing for alternative futures

Ally Walsh (University of Leeds), Paul Routledge (Emeritus, Uni of Leeds)

Understanding the criminalisation of climate activism: securing capital accumulation, democratic backsliding, and/or anti-woke authoritarianism?

David Bailey (University of Birmingham), Jacob Dawson (University of Birmingham), Jacob Hamlin (University of Warwick)

“A Duty to Disrupt? Climate Activists’ Legitimising Claims for the Use of Disruptive Protest Tactics”

Janneke Drent (University of Antwerp)

From public disruption to transfigurative politics: understanding the radical techniques of post-2023 Extinction Rebellion

Kexin Qiu (King's College London)

Session 1D | Room G33 | Chair: Laya Hooshyari

Panel: Grassroots Activism in Manchester

This panel critically examines the current state of grassroots activism in Manchester, situating it within a broader global crisis of leftist organising. Moving beyond celebratory narratives, it explores political failures, strategic weaknesses, and internal contradictions shaping contemporary activism, including fragmentation, burnout, cycles of mobilisation and collapse, and difficulties in sustaining collective power. Particular attention is given to persistent patriarchal dynamics, informal hierarchies, and the lack of strong connections between activists, working-class communities, and academia. The panel draws on the organiser’s ongoing research based on interviews with grassroots organisers, as well as the lived experience of activists across feminist, anti-racist, and community organising spaces. It aims to open a critical and honest discussion about leadership, strategy, and organisational forms, and to reflect on how more sustainable and politically effective movements can be built.

Speakers:

Bob Myers; Zara Manoochchhari; Milo Tanna; Laya Hooshyari (panel organiser)

Monday, 15:15–17:00



The streets and the workplace: social movements and workers' struggle

Plenary | Samuel Alexander Building, SLG.12

Social movements and workplace conflict are frequently discussed in starkly different terms. Two distinct disciplines – social movement studies and industrial relations – have emerged around the study of each, occasionally borrowing concepts from one another but with little attempt to identify points of divergence, convergence and any potential for deeper synthesis.

This panel aims to move towards a more thorough cross-pollination of ideas regarding social movements and workers' struggle, understanding how these relate to one another respectively. Where have we witnessed instances of workers' struggles intersecting with mobilisation outside of the workplace? What has that relationship looked like? Why does this seem to be something rare?

The panel will bring together researchers from both academic fields and activists with experience of both street- and workplace-based organising.

Panellists

Chair: Morgan Rhys Powell is currently a Research Fellow in Employment Relations at Leeds University Business School. His primary motivations are the merger of theory and practice in political activity, and closing the epistemological gap that has emerged between the theorisation of social movement struggles and workplace conflict. He has organised this plenary based on those interests.

Liv O is an activist based in South Manchester. She is a member of the organisation rs21, has been an active member of Unite branch NW389 for Youth, Community and Not-for-Profit workers ever since 2020, and is currently a paid antifascist organiser for the rank-and-file organisation, GM Worker and Tenants Association (GMWTA).

Kate Hardy is a Professor in Global Labour with expertise in non- and under-waged work, feminism and labour. She is a feminist activist and has been in and around sex worker rights movements for two decades. She was a founder of Partisan Collective, a co-operative centre for social movements and progressive culture in Manchester.

Simin Fadaee teaches Sociology at the University of Manchester and is the President of the International Sociological Association Research Committee on Social Classes and Social Movements. She is the author or editor of several books including *Global Marxism: Decolonisation and Revolutionary Politics*.

Toby McKenzie-Barnes is an organiser based in Sheffield. He is a member of Unite, rs21, and is on the elected committee of the Worker-Climate Project. He is currently working as a construction labourer in domestic retrofitting.

Details for talks in this plenary are available in the downloadable abstract book here: <https://bit.ly/4v0vGHI>

Tuesday, 09:00–10:45

Session 3A | Room G6 | Chair: Josie Bunting

"I'm Angry at Everyone and Everything": Taxonomy of Anger in Climate Activism

Alzbeta Ludmova (Masaryk University)

How can future generations participate in the debate on climate change if there is no way to ask them?

Marcin Mielewczyk (Institute of Sociology, Jagiellonian University in Krakow)

Interrogating "Green" Energy Transitions: Territorialization, Resistance, and the Politics of Sustainability in Sardinia (Italy)

Nicholas Atzei (Sapienza University of Rome)

Session 3B | Room G7 | Chair: Jose Estevez

Channar Revolt, Stone Necklace Protest and ASHA Workers Protest: Caste and Gender in Kerala's Social Movements, Then and Now

Bhavani Kunjulakshmi (Maynooth University)

"Gays and girls": battling through discourse

Idoia Romero Goñi (University of Miami)

Not Work: Can Rights Exist in the Play Society?

Max Morris (Oxford Brookes University)

Understandings and practices of justice and transformative justice: A comparison between Spanish and Italian transfeminist groups

Olivia (Olli) Burchietti (Scuola Normale Superiore)

Session 3C | Room G32 | Chair: Benjamin Abrams

Imagination Activation: Social Imaginaries as Precursors to Collective Action

Eleanor Shao (University of Melbourne), Professor Iain Walker (University of Melbourne); Dr. Samantha Stanley (University of New South Wales); Dr. Julian Fernando (Deakin University).

Revolutionary Utopias

George Lawson (Australian National University)

Self-work after epochal failure: prefigurative anti-individualism in the dying days of the Greek 2010s

Judy Thorne (University of Manchester)

Alternative Public Safety Programs: Examples from the 2020 Movement for Alternatives (in the United States)

Stephanie Guirand-Arhin (Goldsmiths, University of London), Vicky Steinitz (UMass Boston - emiritus), Spencer Piston (Boston University) & Daanika Gordon (Tufts University)

Afrofuturist imaginaries and strategies of collective action for racial justice

Temidayo Eseonu (Lancaster University)

Session 3D | Room G33 | Chair: Wangshu Liu

The Affective Republic: A Prefiguration of Southern Citizenship

Kusumika Ghosh (Dublin City University)

Between Protest Camps and Squats: Rethinking Spatial Autonomy through Temporality and Durability

Kyoko Tominaga (Ritsumeikan University / University of Vienna)

When Living Becomes Politics: The Conceptual Limits of Social Non-Movements

Laya Hooshyari (The University of Manchester)

Radical Hope and Imagination in Resistance Movements

Lehaz Aldarf (FU Berlin and Refugee Advisory Board Germany)

Everyday Compliance, Civilian Resistance, and Survival Politics in Northwest Syria: Rethinking Collective Action Under Conditions of Extreme Violence

Marie Kortam (War child)

Session 3E | Samuel Alexander Building, Room A201

Workshop: Building an Intentional Educational Community: AIBIA and the Collective Design of Parallel Infrastructures

This interactive workshop presents AIBIA as an ongoing project aimed at building alternative educational and social infrastructures through “living laboratories” in marginalised regions such as rural Italy and Sierra Leone. Grounded in a critique of neoliberal academia and capitalist systems, the project seeks to develop parallel structures for collective learning, community life, and knowledge production. The session offers a transparent and critical engagement with the project’s development, tensions, and contradictions, inviting participants to collectively reflect on the challenges of building sustainable and autonomous alternatives. It is designed as both an academic and practical space, appealing to researchers, activists, and practitioners interested in prefigurative politics and alternative institutions.

Organiser: Tim Weldon (AIBIA)

Session 4A | Room G6 | Chair: Hamid Bouyahi

Just Transitioning? Challenging Green Futures in Chilean Sacrifice Zones
Edward Lindholm (University of Manchester)

Prefigurative politics in the animal rights movement: how the institutionalisation of protest and professionalisation are shaping the development of political alternatives
Irene Courtin (Sociology, University of Geneva)

Borough-wide advocacy for community food growing: co-producing support measures, shifting power relations
Les Levidow (Open University)

Activating Contention: Environmental Networks, Interactional Infrastructures and the 20-A Mobilisation in the Canary Islands
Pau Orihuela Sánchez and Gomer Betancor Nuez (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia)

Framing climate change for action: lay understandings and grassroots mobilisation to nonviolent direct activism in Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil social movements.
Dorota Kordecka (University of Leeds)

Session 4B | Room G7 | Chair: Janneke Drent

Economic futures beyond growth imperative: amplifying young people's voices in public discourse
Anniina Salomäki (Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC), University of Turku), Kaisa-Maria Suomalainen (FFRC, University of Turku), Hanna Heino (FFRC, University of Turku)

Political Generations in Tunisian Protests

Cyrus Roedel (University of Durham), Cyrus Roedel

Grassroots party activism: the case of the “Tisza-islands” in Hungary

Márton Gerő (ELTE Centre for Social Sciences), Dániel Mikecz (ELTE Centre for Social Sciences)

Challenging the Trend of Partisan Disengagement in Europe: The Case of the Labour Party of Belgium

Thomas Goffard (Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Liège)

Session 4C | Room G32 | Chair: Marie Kortam

Connective identity of unaffiliated demonstrators: mobilizing Russia's protest movement.

Ernest Reid (Aston University)

Power from Below during and beyond the October 17 Uprising in Lebanon: Collective Strategies from Widened Imaginaries to Abeyance

Jimmy Matar (Scuola Normale Superiore)

Political Activism in a Trust-Based Democracy: The Case of Norway

Kristin Strømsnes (Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, Norway)

Session 4D | Room G33 | Chair: Jorinde Vanderhorst

The Afterlives of Intense Times: Archiving Social Movements for Imagined Future in Central and Eastern Europe

Maciej Kowalewski (University of Szczecin), Izabela Kujawa (University of Szczecin), Dorota Jaskiewicz (University of Szczecin), Katarzyna Kordas (University of Szczecin), Kornelia Witkowska (University of Szczecin)

Memorialising the Anticolonial Struggle

Meghan Tinsley (University of Manchester)

Historical and Biographical Resonances. A Conceptual Proposal for the Study of Alternative Futures and Popular Protest.

Sergio Tamayo, (Metropolitan Autonomous University, Mexico),

Guadalupe Olivier (National Pedagogical University Mexico)

Commemorating democracy movements across borders: collective memory and transnational solidarities in East and Southeast Asia

Wichuta Teeratanabodee (University of Cambridge)

Tuesday, 13:30–15:15

Session 5A | Room G6 | Chair: Les Levidow

From Disruption to Routine: Understanding Boycotts as Everyday Resistance

Wangshu Liu (University of Manchester)

Quiet Quitting – A Popular Trend or a Form of Resistance to the Spirit of Capitalism?

Karin-Ulrike Nennstiel (Hokuseigakuen University Sapporo)

Why Denmark? Christiania as a Product of Danish Exceptionalism and Countercultural Resistance

Raluca Dascalu (University of Bucharest)

When Nobody Wants to Be in Charge: Hierarchy, Expertise, and Authority in Facilitating Abolitionist Community Workshops

Jacob Carson (University of Manitoba), Joe Curnow (University of Manitoba)

Constructing Real Utopias: The Cases of Interstitial Strategies in Russia

Nikita Matrosoff (Higher School of Economics, Moscow)

Human Rights Education and Activism in Southeast Asia in Challenging Political Times: Reflections on a Writing-for-Publication Project for Scholar-Activists

Helen Hanna (University of Manchester), Wannaporn Hutakowit (Chiang Mai University, Thailand), Pisith Nasee (Chiang Mai University, Thailand), Chris Millora (Goldsmiths University of London, UK)

Session 5B | Room G7 | Chair: Amy Todd

Back to the Future of Revolution Studies? Natural History as a method for the analysis of Revolutions

Benjamin Abrams (University College London)

Relational Strategies of Resilience: Underground Journals in the Soviet Union (1956-1990)

José Luis Estévez (University of Helsinki), Stoyan V. Sgourev (Audencia Business School)

Beyond Defeat and Victory: Possibility and Politics in the Aftermath of Turkey's Gezi Uprisings

Kaan Ağartan (Framingham State University) and Derya Özkaya (University of Graz)

'I am a 20th century escaped slave': Assata Shakur's Revolutionary Visions from Imprisonment and Exile

Precious Kennedy-Hamilton (University of Manchester)

Session 5C | Room G32 | Chair: Martin Greenwood

Four Thousand Holes: The Politics of Time in Blackburn, Lancashire

Adam Dinsmore (Manchester Metropolitan University)

From Hegemony to Rearticulation: Indigenous-Peasant Movements, Temporality, and Popular Protest in Bolivia

Maria Fernanda Córdova Suño (University of Kassel)

Insurgent Temporalities: Strategic Temporality in the Socialist Movement and Futuro Vegetal

Nerea Nerea Montejo-López (Scuola Normale Superiore)

(Pre)Figuring the catastrophe: Visual culture of antinuclear activism

Odessa Mourier (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa)

Session 5D | Room G33 | Chair: Lucía Guerrero Rivièrè

Roundtable: Confronting Police Violence in Protest Policing: Bridging Academic Research, Civil Society Practice, and Survivor-Led Advocacy

This roundtable brings together academic researchers, civil society practitioners, and survivor-led organisations to examine the escalation, documentation, and memorialisation of state violence in protest policing, particularly over the past five years. It focuses on the militarisation of crowd control, the transnational circulation of repressive practices and technologies, and the role of memory in holding states accountable. Juan Pablo Fonseca will present findings from CIIVO's forthcoming report on ocular mutilation and its long-term impacts, while Neil Corney will discuss the development and global trade of less-lethal weapons and their relationship to evolving definitions of torture. Camilo Tamayo and Lucía Guerrero will provide conceptual reflections on how police violence is remembered and contested through bodies, spaces, and material artefacts. The session aims to foster dialogue across different knowledge-producing communities and strengthen transnational networks.

Organiser: Lucía Guerrero Rivièrè

Speakers: Camilo Tamayo (University of Huddersfield); Andrés Juan Guerrero (CIIVO, Colombia); Neil Corney (Omega Research Foundation, Manchester)

Tuesday, 15:40–17:30

Understanding and Resisting the Contemporary Far Right: Scholarly and Activist Perspectives

Plenary | HBS, Cordingly Lecture Theatre

This plenary brings together activists, activist-scholars, and researchers working on different dimensions of the contemporary far right and the forms of resistance emerging against it. The session aims to create a space for dialogue between academic research and political organising, exploring both the conditions behind the rise of far-right movements and the collective responses being built to confront them.

The speakers are not only researching these dynamics, but are also actively involved in organising and counter-mobilising against the far right in Manchester. By bringing together different perspectives and experiences, the plenary seeks to reflect on the challenges, strategies, and possibilities of resisting the far right in the current political moment.

Speakers

Scarlet Harris is a lecturer in the department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology at the University of Liverpool. Her first book, *Islamophobia, Anti-racism and the British Left*, was published last year with Manchester University Press, and her ongoing research focuses on the intersection between theories of abolition and racial capitalism. Alongside teaching and research, Scarlet has been involved in left politics and grassroots organising for a number of years and is a member of Northern Police Monitoring Project (NPMP), a Greater-Manchester based abolitionist organisation working to build community resistance to police violence and racism.

Josie Bunting is a lecturer in sociology at the University of Manchester, her work focusses on social movements and social change, with a particular focus on activist praxis, historical process and emancipatory theory.

Jade Macdonald is an Anti-Fascist, feminist, and working class organiser in Manchester. With a past history of community organising and tenant's rights activism in South Manchester, Jade's focus in her organising work is on building community care for each other with intent, not words.

Gavin Hart is a Senior Lecturer in Criminology at Liverpool Hope University, where he has worked since 2021. He was awarded a PhD from University of Huddersfield in 2018 for doctoral research examining racism and hate crime in Northern Ireland during a period of increased immigration into the region. Since completing his doctorate, Gavin has conducted research on the reintegration of former paramilitary combatants. More recently, his work has shifted towards the spread of extremist misogyny online and the relationship between extreme-right ideologies and the subordination of women. Across these diverse areas, his research is united by a broader interest in extremism and its manifestations across different social and political contexts.

Details for talks in this plenary are available in the downloadable abstract book here: <https://bit.ly/4v0vGHI>

Wednesday, 09:00–10:45

Session 7A | Room G6 | Chair: Birgân Gökmenoğlu

Who are 'peace people'? Boundaries, belonging, and identity in the peace movement

Harry Weaver (University of Warwick)

Building solidarity in and through the occupied radio soundscape of ERT Zakynthos (2013-2015)

Krini Kafirisi (<https://www.sym-poesis.org/>)

Transnational Solidarity: Palestine and Marxist-Leninist Print Culture in South Africa

Mridula Sharma (The University of Manchester)

Reconfiguring Solidarity: Identity and Pro-Palestinian Activism in Post-Conflict Northern Ireland

Stefano Filippini (Scuola Normale Superiore)

Session 7B | Room G7 | Chair: Meghan Tinsley

Identity, State, and Protest: From the European to the Arab Spring

Anas Muhammed (Scholitekt), Anas Muhammed

Navigating Political Visibility in Diaspora Activism: Iranian Activists in Italy and Sweden

Farzad Ghotaslou (University of Trento, Department of Sociology and Social Research (Italy))

From the Streets to the Tribunal: Social Protests in International Investment Law

Jure Zrilc (The City Law School, City St George's, University of London)

Sociography of Genocide: A review of the repertoire of social movements of Resistance and the Palestinian Struggle

Maria Nefeli Siozou (National Technical University of Athens)

Discursive Delegitimation and Collective Identity Formation in Poland's Anti-Containment Movement

Anna Radiukiewicz (Institute of Political Studies, the PAS), Joshua Dubrow (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, the PAS)

Session 7C | Room G32 | Chair: Ciro Propero

A Multi-Platform Analysis of Online Discourse Regarding the 2025 Romanian Anti-Corruption Protests

Diana Lordache (University of Bucharest, Faculty of Sociology), Ana Nastasa (National Scientific Research Institute for Labour and Social Protection)

Hesitations in the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Local Activism: The Case of Moviment Graffiti

Seyma Esin Erben (University of Malta)

Civil Disobedience as Movement Strategy in Climate Conflicts - A Process-Tracing Analysis of Lützerath

Eva-Lotte Schwarz (Scuola Normale Superiore)

Framing Violence in Emergency Care: Digital Activism and Professional Vulnerability in the Italian Case

Giuseppe Michele Padricelli (University of Naples Federico II)

Modelling How Activist Knowledge Production Adapts to Structural Conditions: The Case of Anti-Caste Online Activism in India

Tereza Mensikova (Masaryk University)

Session 7D | Room G33 | Chair: Kevin Gillan

Panel: Community Power and the Next System I: Theorizing Next System Design and Community Power

Winning Madrid, Constituting the Future: Prefigurative Constitutionality and the Municipalist Movement-Party

Simon Thorpe (Westminster Law School, University of Westminster)

Investigation Public Ecologies of Possibility: Sociological speculative knowledge for the Next System

Martin Greenwood (University of Manchester), University of Manchester

Enterprise, Counter-hegemonic Politics, and Community Economies

Claudia Firth (University of Bristol)

Towards a 'left governmentality': Learning from Venezuela

Carys Hughes (University of East London)

Wednesday, 11:00–12:45

Session 8A | Room G6 | Chair: Tereza Mensikova

(Re)building Worker Power to Resist Authoritarian Control: Lessons from the “Save NREGA” Campaign in India

Jorinde Vanderhorst (Scuola Normale Superiore)

The Risk of the Universal: Absolute Ethical Life as Movement Horizon

Josie Bunting (University of Manchester)

Organising for epistemic power: critical participatory action research and the development of organic leadership

Tim Head (University of Essex)

Disrupting the “Wrong” Target: Climate Protest Tactics Affecting Entities Deemed Undeserving Are Perceived as Immoral, Unjust, and Reduce Activist Support [remote presentation]

Jarren Nylund (The University of Queensland), Matthew J. Hornsey (The University of Queensland), Michael Thai (The University of Queensland), and Maja Kutlaca (Durham University)

From Armed Struggle to Non-violence and to ‘Development’: A Critical Analysis of Strategic Shifts and Tactics in the Gorkhaland Movement in the Darjeeling Hills.

Niki Rai (Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi)

Session 8B | Room G7 | Chair: Ada Wang

Prestige, Honour, and Self-Respect: Understanding Dalits' Reception of Arya Samaj and Other Socio-cultural Movements in Jammu, India

Ameet Kumar (Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India)

African youth and urban social movements: possible becomings of a time-for-itself

Daniela Cocco Beltrame (University of Manchester)

Tracing how narratives and practices of radical imagination emerge at the 2024 UGent occupation struggling in solidarity with Palestine and for climate justice.

Eva Vandenberghe (Ghent University)

To change the world: learning from historic activism

Peter Cox (University of Chester)

From the Squares to the Hills: Democratic Voice, Degrees of Caring, Parallel Practices, and the Evolution of Democracy.

Tim Weldon (AIBIA Institute)

Session 8C | Room G32 | Chair: Steve Speed

Class through a social movement lens

Jean Bridgeman (Maynooth University)

They Are Not Invisible: Belonging, Identity, and Collective Resistance Among Black Male Adoptees

Adam Anthony (Trevecca Nazarene University), Dr. Adam Anthony

The 2021 Dignity Uprising in Palestine: New Developments in Class Formation, Settler-Colonialism and Resistance

Hala Marshood (University of Manchester)

Brazil's solidarity economy networks as a decolonial agenda

Les Levidow (Open University)

Session 8D | Room G33 | Chair: Carys Hughes

Panel: Community Power and the Next System II: Cities in Struggle: Resistance and System Change

Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances all presenters in this panel will be presenting remotely.

Reclaim the City

Hilary Wainwright (The Transnational Institute)

What's Happening in the USA: Community Power Against Fascism

Ben Manski (George Mason University)

Participation as a Site of Struggle: Participatory Budgeting and the Paradox of Community Power

Nara Roberta Silva (Brooklyn Institute for Social Research)

Session 8E | Room G34 | Chair: Gemma Edwards

The 'Hidden Roots' of Neoliberal Fascism: Race, Gender, and the Intensification of neoliberal hegemony

John Duncan (University of London), Kian Aspinall

Cruising for Queer Utopias: Homonational Aspirations Beyond the Neoliberal Empire

John Andrew Evangelista (University of the Philippines Diliman)

Rooting Resistance: Agro-Queer Activism and Ecological Justice in Agro Nocerino-Sarnese (Southern Italy)

Ciro Prospero (University of Naples Federico II)

Geography of economic struggles: Making of protest coalitions in post-socialist localities

Jiri Navratil (Masaryk University), Jiri Navratil (Masaryk University), Tereza Mensikova (Masaryk University)

Prefigurative Politics under Conditions of Right-Wing Hegemony: Progressive Youth Cultures and Civil Society Practice

Nils Zimmer (University of Potsdam)

A Labour of Love - Social Reproduction and Red Rag (1972-1980): a magazine of liberation.

Amy Todd (University of Manchester)

Colin Barker Memorial Prize

In 2023 we inaugurated the Colin Barker Memorial Prize for the best paper by an early career scholar or research student. We are delighted to announce our 2025 winners below.

2025 Winners

Judith Pape (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) for 'Soulèvements de la terre: broad antagonistic alliances and a wide spectrum of tactics show the way for Europe's radical climate movement'.

Through a deep exploration of movement strategies, this paper presented an explanation for the breadth and depth of engagement of a radical environmental organization across multiple targets, themes and geographical scales. Full of movement-relevant insights, the paper offers a great demonstration of the potential for fully engaged research projects.

Mathis Ebbinghaus (Oxford University) for 'Theorising Initial and Sustained Protest Participation: From Emotional Energy to Fictive Kinship'

Using qualitative data from research on the 2020 George Floyd protests this paper described a range of ways in which affective connections explain participation. These differ over time, with distinct drivers for initial engagement compared with sustained participation. The paper was particularly tightly argued and offers a set of ideas that might be profitably tested across a range of movements and locations.

Past winners of the prize can be found at: <https://bit.ly/4aD5n28>

We will be on the look out for prize-worthy papers throughout the conference. Please feel free to nominate a paper by emailing afpp@manchester.ac.uk

Socials

For those who are joining us in the evening, we'll be looking forward to continuing discussions at the following locations.

Monday, 5 pm: Drinks at Kro Bar, 325 Oxford Road, M13 9PG

Kro is on Oxford Road, on the opposite side from HBS and Samuel Alexander – 2 minutes walk.

Monday, 7 pm: Dinner at Jafra*, 34-36 Wilmslow Road, M14 5TQ.

Jafra is in Rusholme, 10-15 minutes walk SSE from Kro Bar. Alternatively, any buses running in that direction will take you there for a £2 single ticket.

Tuesday, 5.30pm: Drinks at Lass O'Gowrie, 36 Charles Street, M1 7DB

The Lass O'Gowrie is 10-15 minutes walk; follow Oxford Road NNW in the direction of the city centre and look out for Charles Street on the right. (If you get to Oxford Road train station you've gone a little too far.)

Tuesday, 7 pm: Dinner at Little Yang Sing*, 17 George Street, M1 4HE

From the Lass O'Gowrie Chinatown is a further 10 minutes walk or less. Head left out of the pub, then left on Princess Street. After crossing Portland Street look out for a right turn onto George Street.

Wednesday, 1pm: Kim's Kitchen, 49 Old Birley St, Manchester. M15 5RF

Kim's is in Hulme, to the West of the university campus. From HBS turn right onto Higher Cambridge Street, which runs behind the building, then turn left onto Booth St West, follow the road, then the pedestrian footprint, all the way to the end. Kim's is round the other side of the student buildings and big yellow cooperative housing project. (13 minute walk)

*Pre-payments required for Jafra and Little Yang Sing – you'll have received details by email from afpp@manchester.ac.uk

