

Young Economic Geographers Network in Lindlar: 3. Workshop

Moritz Breul and Thomas Neise organized the 3rd Workshop of the „Young Economic Geographers Network“ (YEGN) in Lindlar from 20th to 22nd July 2018. The aim of the workshop is to network, to exchange ideas and perspectives, to communicate and to build long-lasting relationships – beyond fields and nations. Dissertation projects are presented and discussed in a casual and relaxed atmosphere.

In order to attract more – especially international – attention and participants, the workshop was taking place in the run-up to the Global Conference on Economic Geography (organized as well by the University of Cologne). The plan worked out, as a total of 29 doctoral students from 11 countries (including Germany, USA, Spain, Indonesia, and Taiwan) took part in the workshop.



Participants of the 3rd YENG-Workshop (Foto: C. Hulke)

The workshop covered four main topics: Innovations, foreign direct investment, global production networks and natural hazards. Research projects from different regions of the world (e. g. Argentina, India, and the USA) and various research objects (e.g. multinational companies, small farmers and highly qualified specialists), which were based on qualitative as well as quantitative methodological approaches, were presented in the thematic blocks. This high diversity was regarded as very valuable by the participants, as it promotes the exchange between doctoral students from different schools of thought and enables new approaches to their own research project.

In addition to lectures and subsequent discussions, leisure activities such as a hike in the Oberbergischer Kreis and a barbecue created a pleasant space for getting to know each other. The participants unanimously expressed that the YEGN workshop offered them new stimulating perspectives and valuable discussions, which will support them on their further path to a doctorate. The next workshop is planned to take place outside the German-speaking countries, so that the YEGN will have a clear international character. The methodical and theoretical-conceptual exchange in the form of smaller workshops will also take centre stage.

We are grateful to the Global South Studies Center (University of Cologne), the Graduate School of Geosciences (University of Cologne) and the ABC/J Geoverbund for their support.

Moritz Breul and Thomas Neise (University of Cologne)