

You are cordially invited to attend the Science Tuesday on Wednesday, **January 24, 2024 at 1 p.m.** when Professor **Peter Wright** will present the paper

The Market for Yugoslav Healthcare: Commodifying International Public Health in Non-Aligned Networks During Late Socialism

Please join the ZOOM presentation using the link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89703403298?pwd=Vl0Bfj3AwuwRLiqnda3Q7EDCUuEqBv.1>

The working language of the presentation is English.

Abstract:

This presentation explores the role of socialist Yugoslav public health experts, economists, and biomedical industry representatives in international public health in the late socialist period. While most studies of Yugoslav international healthcare expertise have focused on the figure of Andrija Štampar and the early socialist period, this talk examines Yugoslavia's prominent role in the World Health Organization's campaign "Health for All by 2000" during the 1970s and 1980s. In particular, it traces the efforts of Yugoslav healthcare policymakers to position Yugoslavia as a dispensary for biomedical products and healthcare expertise for "developing" countries. By the late 1970s, Yugoslav policymakers approached collaboration with the WHO as a means to both achieve the WHO and Non-Aligned Movement goals of improving access to and quality of healthcare in the Global South and to help solve domestic Yugoslav economic and healthcare crises. This presentation thus attends to the overlap between Yugoslav efforts to reform and "rationalize" domestic healthcare through commercializing healthcare services and the state's project of promoting its healthcare model and expertise on the international level.

About the speaker:

Peter Wright is an Assistant Professor in the Slavic Languages and Literature Department at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His research interests include the labor history of non-aligned Yugoslavia and the state economic and cultural relations with the Global South. He also writes about the topics of race and the environment in the modern Balkans. His monograph manuscript is titled *The Business of Solidarity: Socialist Yugoslavia, Postcolonial Development, and International Commerce in the Non-Aligned World*.