29 - 30 January 2020 | When “Adjusted” People Rebel. Economic liberalization and social revolts in Africa and the Middle East (1980s to present) 
International Institute of Social History (IISH), Amsterdam

29 January

9:00-10:00 Welcome and Introduction by Vincent Bonnecase, Leyla Dakhli and Aad Blok

10:00-12:30 Adjustment in the work-place: moral economies and political resistances

Bettina Engels, “Adjusted People Rebel. The double paradox of liberalization and peasant resistance in Burkina Faso’s cotton sector” (discussion: Sabine Planel)

Sidy Cissokho, « Défendre la norme salariale en dehors des sociétés salariales : Les mandataires syndicaux et la mise en forme juridique du sentiment d’injustice au travail » (discussion : Robin Frisch)

Matthew Lacouture, “Beyond the political (and the economic): Anti-neoliberal discourse and the Arab uprisings in Jordan” (discussion: Mélanie Henry)

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-18:00 Beyond the plurality of actors, practices, and motives: what makes « a » revolt?


Leyla Dakhli, 1983-1984, “Bread riots in Tunisia, a matter of scales” (discussion: Sabine Planel)

Coffee breake

Nayera Abdelrahman Soliman, “Remembering Bread Riots in Suez: Fragments and Ghosts of Resistance” (discussion: Matthew Lacouture)


Concluding comments of Stefano Bellucci.
30 January

9:30-12:30 Adjustments, political antagonisms and building of democracy

Robin Frisch, « “Fraudonomics of the Structural Adjustment: Political and Economic Iconoclasm in Togolese Cartoons during the 1990s » (discussion: Hélène Baillot)

Vincent Bonnecase, « Démocratie et ajustement au Niger » (discussion: Sidi Cissokho)


Benhaz Khozravi, « “Adjusted” Iranian political elites: How former Islamic leftist militants shifted to right? » (discussion: Nayera Abdeirahman Soliman)

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-17:00 General discussion on “Adjustment Revolts” from the 1980s to present.
Discussion on the common and different approaches Perspectives for the publications at International Review of Social History.

Concluding comments of Marcel van der Linden.