



GUG | GESELLSCHAFT FÜR
UNTERNEHMENSGESCHICHTE e.V.

INVITATION

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

Historical conference

International Maritime Museum
Kaispeicher B | Koreastrasse 1 | 20457 Hamburg

DEA in the era of National Socialism

Take responsibility, share knowledge and learn for the future. This is the motto under which Wintershall Dea AG has been critically examining its company history for several years. We are now taking the next step.

Following the publication of “Expansion at all costs” (2020) with studies on the history of Wintershall AG in the period of National Socialism, we have commissioned the German Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte (GUG, “Business History Society”) to also reappraise the role of our second predecessor company DEA during this time. The reason for this is that DEA was also involved in the German autarky and economic policy between 1933 and 1945 and benefited from National Socialist expansionism.

The renowned economic historians Dr Rainer Karlsch and Professor Manfred Grieger have been researching the extent of that involvement since spring 2022. We want to now present the first research results at a historical conference – and relate the new findings to other current research projects on the oil industry during the Nazi period. We therefore welcome scientists from the Hamburg Foundation for the Promotion of Science and Culture and the Institute for Didactics of Democracy (IDD) at the Leibniz University Hannover. In a research project funded by the Ministry of Science and Culture of the State of Lower Saxony, the IDD team is currently investigating the political, social and economic conditions and effects of crude oil production in the Celle region between 1933 and 1945 and in the post-war era.

We hereby cordially invite you to the very diverse lectures and a subsequent panel discussion.

Please register to attend by 25 October using the QR code or at unternehmensgeschichte.de/public/DEA2023



The planned programme is attached.



During the Nazi period, DEA's actions were shaped by a juxtaposition of mining traditions and Nazi symbols.

Photos: Deutsches Erdölmuseum, Wietze



Programme

- 10:30 am Arrival and welcome coffee
- 11 am Opening and hosting by Dr Andrea Schneider-Braunberger, CEO of the Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte (GUG, „Business History Society“)
Welcoming address by Michael Sasse, Head of Corporate Communications (Wintershall Dea)
- 11:20 am **“Rositz as an example of the decentralised organisation of DEA”**,
Professor Manfred Grieger (Georg-August-University of Göttingen)
- 11:55 am **“Expansion to Austria: DEA in the ‘Ostmark’ region between 1938 and 1945”**,
Dr Rainer Karlsch (Berlin)
- 12:30 pm **“Profit beyond 1945: DEA and Wintershall as beneficiaries of the Reich Drilling Programme”**,
Marvin Brendel (All About Assets agency, for Wintershall Dea)
- 1 pm Lunch break
- 2 p.m. **“It goes without saying that the state cannot leave development in the field of oil solely up to the private sector’. The foundation of the German oil company Kontinentale Öl AG”**,
Dr Karsten Linne (Hamburg Foundation for the Promotion of Science and Culture)
- 2:30 pm **“Crude oil from Celle – a raw material for the National Socialist armament policy and warfare”**,
Dr Christian Hellwig, Dr Rita Seidel, Dr Jana Stoklasa and Dominik Dockter, M.A. (Institute for Didactics of Democracy, Leibniz University Hannover)
- 3:30 pm Coffee break
- 4 pm Panel discussion, introduced and hosted by
Adjunct Professor Ingo Köhler (Hessian Economic Archive, Darmstadt)
- 5 pm Expected end of the event