Since the 1970s Critical Realism has been developed as a theoretical framework that opens up new directions within the social sciences and social theory. Against the alternatives of positivism and hermeneutics as well as their current ramifications, Critical Realism offers a combination of ontological realism and constructionist epistemology, a non-reductive naturalism that situates the social within the natural realm, a social theory that emphasizes the importance of social structures and human agency without neglecting the role of culture, and finally an ethics that is both emancipatory and close to everyday concerns.

The goal of the conference is to introduce this primarily Anglo-Saxon approach to German speaking social scientists, set it into communication with local perspectives, and, in doing so, initiate a dialogue between different traditions of critical thinking.

LOCATION
Rosensäle, großer Saal
Fürstengraben 27
07743 Jena
Germany

KRITISCHE SOZIOLOGIE MEETS CRITICAL REALISM
A Dialogue between Social Research, Social Theory and Philosophy of Science

Conference in Jena, Germany,
February 1st to 3rd 2013

Organised by the DFG-Research Group
"Postwachstumsgesellschaften"
Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena

Please register at
kolleg-postwachstum@uni-jena.de

www.kolleg-postwachstum.de
17th - 18th INTRODUCTION
PROMOTING CRITICAL REALISM IN THE GERMAN SPEAKING ACADEMIA – BASIC INTERVENTIONS, DEVELOPMENTS AND THE IDEA OF THE CONFERENCE

Urs Lindner (Zurich), Dimitri Mader (Jena) and Hans Pühretmayer (Vienna)

18th - 19th DIALOUGE
SOCIAL MORPHOGENESIS AND ACCELERATION

Margaret S. Archer (Lausanne): Why Realism needs Reflexivity; Hartmut Rosa (Jena): The Speed of Social Change and the Forms of Human Reflexivity: A Three-Stage-Model

09th - 11th DIALOUGE
PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AND ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS

Oliver Spash (Vienna): New Foundations for Ecological Economics; Barbara Muraca (Jena): Whitehead’s Philosophy as a Foundation for Ecological Economics?

11th - 11th COFFEE BREAK

11th - 13th DIALOUGE
SOCIAL ONTOLOGY, GENDER AND INTERSECTIONALITY

Isabella Crespi (Macerata): Contributions of the Morphogenetic Approach to the Perspective of Intersectionality; Ina Kerner (Berlin): Differences and Power. A Foucauldian Perspective on Intersectionality

13th - 14th LUNCH

14th - 17th INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS


17th - 17th COFFEE BREAK

17th - 19th DIALOUGE
SOCIAL SCIENCE, ETHICS AND CRITIQUE

Andrew Sayer (Lancaster): Normativity and the Importance of Naturalism; Robin Celliates (Amsterdam): Immanent Critique and the Normative Foundations of Critical Theory

09th - 11th DIALOUGE
CRITICAL REALISM, POLITICAL ECONOMY AND THE CURRENT CRISIS OF CAPITALISM

Steve Fleetwood (Lancaster): Ontology and the Current Crisis; Frieder Otto Wolf (Berlin): How can Marx’s Critique of Political Economy and Critical Realism help us to understand the Present Crisis?

11th - 11th COFFEE BREAK

11th - 13th DIALOUGE
THE EMERGENCE OF SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND AGENCIES

Dave Elder-Vass (Loughborough): Critical Realism and the Causal Power of Social Structures; Uwe Schimank (Bremen): How can Social Structures cause Something?