

Prof. Dr. Christiane Berth

Chair of Contemporary History, University of Graz

Areas of Research Interest

- Global communication and technology history
- The history of food and consumption
- The history of world trade
- Migration history
- History of Mexico and Central America (nineteenth and twentieth century)

Education

2016	“Food, politics, and consumption in Nicaragua, 1960–1993” [Habilitation, Venia docendi in Modern History, Faculty of Humanities, Bern University, Switzerland]
2010	PhD (magna cum laude), Faculty of Philosophy and History, Hamburg University, Germany
2004	MA (Honors), Department of History, Hamburg University, Germany

Professional Appointments

8/2020 –Present	Chair of Contemporary History, University of Graz, Austria
10/2019–7/2020	Wilhelm and Alexander von Humboldt Chair for Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Costa Rica
9/2018–7/2019	Lecturer at the Universities of Bern and St. Gallen, Switzerland
9/2015–8/2018	Director of the research project “Telecommunication, modernity, and social change. A social and cultural history of the telephone in Mexico, 1930–1996.” Funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF), Ambizione Fellowship, Historical Institute/Center for Global Studies, Bern University, Switzerland
9/2013–8/2015	Postdoc, Institute of European Global Studies, Basel University, Switzerland
8/2010–8/2013	Postdoc, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland
9/2006–10/2009	Researcher, Institute of Contemporary History, Hamburg University, Germany

Grants

9/2015-8/2018	Ambizione project, “Telecommunication, modernity, and social change. A social and cultural history of the telephone in Mexico, 1930–1996,” SNF
11/2013	Conference funding, “Development and Culture in Central America – Models, Debates, Practices, and Visions,” November 15–16, 2013, SNF
3/2008–4/2008	Short-term doctoral fellowship, German Historical Institute, Washington DC
9/2005–8/2006	Research fellow, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Costa Rica.

Conferences and Workshops

- 6/2018 Workshop “The Role of Users in Global Technological History”, Bern University (with Yovanna Pineda, University of Central Florida)
- 7/2017 Workshop, “Food: revolutionary consumers and agricultural change,” Conference “Sandinista Cultures in Nicaragua – Theories and Testimonials,” Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany
- 11/2013 Workshop, “Development and Culture in Central America.” Research Colloquium RedISCA (Network for European Research on Central America), Center for Global Studies, Bern University
- 8/2012 Panel organizer and presenter, “Food and Consumption in Central America,” Congress of Central American History, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Mexico
- 7/2008 Panel organizer and presenter, “Economic History and Consumer History,” Congress of Central American History, San José, Costa Rica

Selected Publications

Books

Christiane Berth: *Food and Revolution. Fighting Hunger in Nicaragua, 1960-1993*. Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press 2021.

Christiane Berth: *Biographien und Netzwerke im Kaffeehandel zwischen Deutschland und Zentralamerika, 1920–1959* [*Biographies and Networks in the Coffee Trade Between Germany and Central America, 1920–1959*]. Hamburg, Hamburg University Press 2014 (Hamburger Historische Forschungen 6). http://hup.sub.uni-hamburg.de/purl/HamburgUP_HHF6_Berth.

Spanish Translation: *Biografías y redes en el comercio del café entre Alemania y Centroamérica, 1920–1959*. San Cristóbal de las Casas, Mexico: CIMSUR-UNAM, Nueva Historiografía de Chiapas y Centroamerica 2018.
http://cimsur.unam.mx/public/2019/publicacion/0214_16_Biografias_y_redes.pdf

Christiane Berth: *Die Kindertransporte nach Großbritannien 1938/39. Exilerfahrungen im Spiegel lebensgeschichtlicher Interviews* [*The Kindertransports to Britain 1938/39. Experiences of Exile in Oral History Interviews*]. Hamburg, Dölling und Galitz Verlag 2005 (Hamburger Zeitspuren 3).

Edited Volumes

Gabriele Balbi, Christiane Berth (Eds.): *Towards a Telephonic History of Technology*, History and Technology 35.2 (2019).

Friederike Apelt; Christiane Berth; Matei Chihaiia; Christine Hatzky und Barbara Potthast (Eds.): *La cultura del sandinismo en Nicaragua: pasado y presente* [The Culture of Sandinismo in Nicaragua: Past and Present]. Dossier Revista Monograma 2.1 (2018).
<http://www.revistamonograma.com/index.php/mngrm/issue/view/2>

Christiane Berth, Corinne Pernet (Eds.): *Desarrollo en Centroamérica – modelos, debates, prácticas e imaginarios* [Development and Culture in Central America – Models, Debates, Practices, and Visions]. Dossier Revista Mesoamérica 57 (2015).

Christiane Berth, Dorothee Wierling and Volker Wunderich (Eds.): *Kaffeewelten. Historische Perspektiven auf eine globale Ware im 20. Jahrhundert* [Worlds of Coffee. Historical Perspectives on a Global Merchandise during the Twentieth Century]. Göttingen, V & R unipress 2015.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Christiane Berth: ITU, the Development Debate, and Technical Cooperation in the Global South, 1950–1992. In: Gabriele Balbi/Andreas Fickers (eds.): *History of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Transnational Techno-diplomacy from the Telegraph to the Internet*, Berlin: De Gruyter 2020 (Innovation and Diplomacy in Modern Europe 1), pp. 77-106.

Christiane Berth: Bringing Communication to the Countryside: Rural Telephony in Latin America, 1900–1985. In: *History of Technology* 34 (2019), Special Issue: Technology in Latin American History, pp. 65-88.

Christiane Berth: “Actores de desarrollo y conflictos geopolíticos en Nicaragua: El caso de las donaciones de alimentos en Nicaragua, 1960–1990” [“Actors of Development and Geopolitical Conflicts: The Case of Food Aid to Nicaragua, 1960–1990”] In: *Mesoamérica* 57 (2015), pp. 117-49.

Christiane Berth: “Comics in a Revolutionary Context: Educational Campaigns and Collective Memory in Sandinista Nicaragua.” In: Jorge Catalá-Carrasco, Paulo Drinot, James Scorer (eds.): *Comics and Memory in Latin America*. Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press 2017, pp. 108-37.

Christiane Berth, Corinne Pernet: “Wissenstransfer, Experten und ihre Handlungsspielräume am Instituto de Nutrición de Centroamérica y Panamá (INCAP), 1961–1982” [“Knowledge Transfer, Experts and Their Room for Maneuver at the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama, 1961–1982”]. In: *Geschichte und Gesellschaft* 41 (2015), pp. 613–48.