

SUMMER SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

TECHNOLOGY, POWER AND CULTURAL CHANGE

LIBEREC / 24–29 MAY 2026

ORGANISED BY

- Technical University of Liberec (TUL)
- Institute of Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague (ÚSD)
- Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam (ZZF)
- GWZO Prague FLÚ

PROGRAMME

Sunday, May 24

Introduction

- 17.00 Adéla Gjuričová (ÚSD):
Technology between power
and cultural change
- 18.00 MUZA Severočeské museum:
FAST & FURIOUS | Filip and
Lukáš Houdek – Design,
Glass, Sports

Monday, May 25

The politics of industrial growth and ethnicity

- 8.30 Student presentations
- 9.45 Vítězslav Sommer (ÚSD): Is
there deindustrialisation in
state socialism?
- 11.00 Liberec City Hall with Ivan
Langr, Deputy Mayor for
Culture, Education, and
Tourism
- 14.30 The House of Reconciliation:
library that preserves the
synagogue and (not only)
Germany's literary heritage
- 17.00 Kateřina Portmann (KHI FP
TUL): Memory lost: Liberec in
the 20th and 21st century

Tuesday, May 26

Glass impulse: When art and craft meet the periphery (field trip)

- 10.00 Pačinek Glass: Guided tour
of the glassworks, the gallery,
the Crystal Cathedral, and the
Glass Garden
- 14.30 Nový Bor: Lasvit Glass House

Wednesday, May 27

The history of the digital transformation

- 8.30 Student presentations
- 9.45 Johannes Kleinmann (ZZF):
Digital inequalities from the
1970s until today
- Lenka Krátká (ÚSD): The
birth of the Czechoslovak
IT community – oral history
research
- Workshop with students
(Johannes Kleinmann)
- 11.00 TUL Laboratory tour and
nanofibers (Guide Eva
Kuželová Košťáková, FP TUL)
- 14.30 The story of (not just) one
brewery – Can the past be
reconciled with the present
in the fields of business and
technology? (tour by Jan
Havelka)

Thursday, May 28

City, war and industry

- 8.30 Student presentations
- 11.00 Workshop: Forced labor and
European Holocaust Research
Infrastructure (EHRI):
possibilities, inspiration, and
limitations
- 14.30 Between Luxury and Shadow:
The Story of the Stross Villa"
(Luděk Lukůvka, MUZA)
- 15.00 Forced labour in the Liberec
region – a forgotten story
(Ivan Rous, MUZA)

Friday, May 29

Summary

- 9.00-11.00 What did the summer
school give us, and
what did it take away?

