

## Martin Meiske

### Statement

Ten years after being warmly welcomed at my first ESEH conference in Versailles, I am excited about the opportunity to serve our community as treasurer in the coming years, if elected. While I have not previously held the position of treasurer, I bring valuable experience from a variety of roles in professional associations. I currently serve on the program committee of the German Society for the History of Technology (GTG) and lead its Envirotech Working Group (AKUT). I am also a member of the “D-A-CH Arbeitsgruppe Umweltgeschichte,” an initiative within the ESEH’s German-Speaking Regions that fosters exchange and networking, particularly among early-career scholars in environmental history. In addition, I have worked with several civil society organizations in Germany with a strong international outlook, including the Berlin-Brandenburg section of the Young European Federalists and balkaNet e.V., a Munich-based organization with which I recently co-organized the public event series *Greening the Balkans: The Fight for Environmental Justice in Southeastern Europe*.

I have great respect for the responsibilities of the treasurer role and am optimistic that my experience – including familiarity with German association law (“Vereinsrecht”) – will enable me to contribute effectively to the ESEH’s ongoing work. Inspired by the excellent leadership of Ulrich Koppitz and Agnes Limmer, I would strive to carry out the duties of treasurer with transparency and efficiency, while ensuring compliance with our status as a tax-exempt, registered scholarly society. If elected, I would be honored to support the new ESEH Board in developing fresh initiatives alongside our proven strategies to advance environmental history in Europe and beyond.

### Curriculum Vitae

Martin Meiske is a postdoctoral researcher at the Research Institute of the Deutsches Museum in Munich and a lecturer at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). He studied in Potsdam, Zurich, and Bern (Oeschger Center for Climate Change Research), and earned his PhD at the Rachel Carson Center/LMU Munich. His research interests lie at the intersection of environmental history, the history of technology, and the history of science, with a particular focus on infrastructures. He is the author of *Die Geburt des Geoengineerings* (Wallstein, 2021; ESEH Tallinn Dissertation Prize “highly commended,” 2021; ESEH First Poster Prize, 2015) and co-editor of *Beyond the Lab and the Field: Infrastructures as Places of Knowledge Production* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022). His current project, “Cultures and Costs of Maintenance: The Rise of Creosote and its Precarious Legacy”, brings together histories of maintenance and repair with (new/neo) material history and environmental history, critically addressing issues of occupational health, contaminated land, and environmental justice. – [www.martinmeiske.com](http://www.martinmeiske.com) / [@mmeiske.bsky.social](https://www.instagram.com/mmeiske.bsky.social)

### Selected Publications:

Tracing Creosote’s Legacy: From the Rails of Europe to Unplanned Deposits, in: *Technology and Culture* 66, no. 3 (2025) [forthcoming].

Sicherheit ist Beinarbeit. Spannungsfelder historischer Wartungskulturen am Beispiel des Bahnunterhaltungsdienstes in Deutschland zu Beginn des 20. Jahrhunderts, in: *traverse. Zeitschrift für Geschichte. Revue d’histoire*, no. 1 (2025), 61–80, <https://revue-traverse.ch/ausgabe/2025-1/>

(with Stefan Esselborn) Public History: The Infrastructural Utopia of Metropa, in: *Technology and Culture* 65, no. 4 (2024), 1335–1347, <https://doi.org/10.1353/tech.2024.a940473>

Empire, Extraction, and Externalization. Wood Impregnation in Early Twentieth Century Bosnia and Herzegovina and Its Precarious Legacy, in: *Environmental Histories of the Dinaric Karst*, edited by Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš, Jelena Mrgić, Hrvoje Petrić, Matija Zorn, Žiga Zwitter (Cham: Springer, 2024), 377–399, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-56089-7\\_13](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-56089-7_13)

(with Fabienne Will) Erdsystemisches Lehren und Lernen. Orientierungswissen für eine Geo-Geschichts-Didaktik, in: *Zeitschrift für Geschichtsdidaktik* 23 (2024), 44–62, <https://doi.org/10.13109/zfgd.2024.23.1.59>

Exploring the Earth through its Anthropogenic Scars. Geology and the Construction of the Panama Canal, in: *Beyond the Lab and the Field: Infrastructures as Places of Knowledge Production Since the Nineteenth Century*, edited by Eike-Christian Heine and Martin Meiske (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022), 43-62, <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv2fwfz3h.6>

(with Christian Zumbrägel) Holz im Zeitalter von Kohle und Stahl. Zur Persistenz und Wandelbarkeit eines Werkstoffes in der Hochindustrialisierung, in: *Technikgeschichte* 88 (2021) H. 3, 251-286, [doi.org/10.5771/0040-117X-2021-3-251](https://doi.org/10.5771/0040-117X-2021-3-251)

(with Jeroen Oomen) Proactive and Reactive Geoengineering: Engineering the Climate and the Lithosphere, in: *WIREs Climate Change* 12, no. 6 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.732>