



# RESEARCH REPORT 2017-2020

Max Planck Institute for the Study of  
Religious and Ethnic Diversity



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# 01 INTRODUCTION

The **Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity** is one of the foremost centers for the multi-disciplinary study of diversity, in its various forms, in today's globalizing world. The Institute consists of three independent departments: Peter van der Veer is the Director of the Department of Religious Diversity; Steven Vertovec is the Director of the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity; and Ayelet Shachar is the Director of the Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics.

As societies across the globe become ever more diverse, pressing new challenges emerge to the fore, motivating the study of critical questions, such as: the relationship between mobility and inequality; the interaction of globalization, religious diversity, and the secular state; the legal boundaries of cultural accommodation; global cities and super-diversity within them; new forms of membership and belonging; and the trans-bordering networking of ethnic and religious minorities. These thematic clusters provide a glimpse into the foundational queries that animate the rigorous scholarly investigation pursued by researchers at the Institute through a variety of disciplinary perspectives, including, but not limited to, anthropology, sociology, political science, philosophy, and law.

The Institute also hosts two Max Planck Research Groups, led by early career scholars who were selected through a competitive open-call process managed by the Max Planck Society in Munich: Megha Amrith is the Group Leader of the Ageing in the Time of Mobility Max Planck Research Group; and Jeremy Walton is the Group Leader of the Empires of Memory Max Planck Research Group.

Finally, the Institute serves as an intellectual and institutional home to two Max Planck Fellow Groups, headed by outstanding university professors and designed to foster collaboration with members of the MPI-MMG: Ran Hirschl heads the Max Planck Fellow Group in Comparative



Constitutionalism; and Matthias Koenig heads the Max Planck Fellow Group in the Governance of Cultural Diversity.

This report showcases the major research and scholarly activities undertaken by the Institute's academic units in the period between January 2017 and June 2020. It describes, in some detail, the intellectual vibrancy, breadth, and depth of the research projects pursued by the scientific staff at the MPI-MMG. Our research fellows (doctoral, post-doctoral, and visiting professors) hail from 53 books, 35 edited volumes and special issues, 335 journal articles, 213 chapters in edited volumes and 29 working papers in the said time period. They have contributed to major intellectual debates in their fields. Our scholars have also engaged in extensive public outreach activities,



disseminating the key findings of their research to academic and non-academic audiences in civil society organizations, through print, electronic, digital and social media venues, and have provided expert advice to various levels of government.

We welcome you to learn more about the Institute's different departments, research projects, and the host of international and interdisciplinary conferences, workshops, seminars, and guest lecture series that take place at our vibrant research

community by reading through the wealth of information offered by this report, and by browsing through our extensive website.

I would like to express sincere gratitude to Anna Stuhldreher for spearheading the mammoth endeavor of preparing the 2017-2020 scientific report, Mira Seyfettinoglu for her invaluable research assistance, and Birgitt Sippel for the striking visual design of the pages you are about to read.

*Ayelet Shachar, Göttingen, September 2020*

# 02

## ETHICS, LAW AND POLITICS

### DIRECTOR: PROF. DR. AYELET SHACHAR

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## OVERVIEW

The Department of Ethics, Law and Politics (ELP), headed by Ayelet Shachar, was established in July 2015. The Department focuses on pressing topics of citizenship, migration, and diversity, addressed from the joint perspectives of law and political theory. Our Department probes a broad range of cutting-edge theoretical, ethical, and legal puzzles. Comparative approaches, inter-disciplinary inquiry, and international collaboration are key to our continued success.

From the refugee crisis in 2015 to the unprecedented travel restrictions imposed by more than 200 countries in response to COVID-19 in 2020, the major research themes in our Department intersect with persistent and often urgent scholarly and public debates: Who belongs? And according to what criteria? How porous (or impenetrable) are the boundaries of solidarity and the gates of admission? Should non-citizens gain the right to vote, and if so, in relation to what level(s) of government (city, state, supranational institutions)? Is it legitimate to demand value-adaptation from newcomers as a precondition for naturalization? How can the ever-expanding reach of borders and migration controls be tamed in a world of persistent inequality? What is the relationship between the 'restrictive turn' in immigration law and fast-tracked citizenship-for-sale programs that waive cultural and civic integration requirements when it comes to the super-rich? This is a small sample of the range of inquiries that have informed the research themes and projects pursued by members of the ELP Department in the three-year period (2016 to 2019) covered by this report.

Before we take a closer look at these themes, it is worth exploring the philosophy motivating the training and mentoring of early career researchers at the Department. These researchers are welcomed into the intellectually rigorous, yet warm, environment that has become the trademark of the ELP.

In the relatively short period of time since its inception, the Department has established an impressive track record of attracting outstanding junior scholars trained in law, political science, philosophy, history, and sociology. Our doctoral and post-doctoral fellows hail from near and far: from Bogazici University in Istanbul to the Australian National University in Canberra, and from



Informal scientific discussion in the ELP lounge.  
© DFG, 2019. Photo: David Ausserhofer



São Paulo University to Yale University. Once established in the Department, we create a multitude of venues and forums for interdisciplinary exchanges, from our regular work-in-progress sessions up to international conferences. The expectation is that each new member of the Department will retain a distinctive voice and grounding in his or her respective disciplinary field, while venturing out to engage - deeply and seriously - with alternative approaches from other intellectual traditions, moving beyond their comfort zone. As a consequence, a philosopher may be faced for the first time with a fierce debate about the meaning of a legal provision found in a national or international convention, or be exposed to the nuance and diversity of opinions expressed by judges in a landmark constitutional decision. Conversely, a historian specializing in the early modern era may be drawn into 21st-century empirical debates about how to best construct a

dataset, which regressions to run, how to ensure internal and external validity, and - a perennial favorite at our proverbial discussion table - how to identify a 'dummy variable'. The legal scholars in the group are invited to clarify the normative assumptions informing their analysis when speaking about terms, such as justice and solidarity, and to do so more sharply and explicitly than before. Over time, the discussions become richer and thicker, as we aim to create a shared vocabulary. Such exchanges are not restricted to members of the ELP Department. We engage with members of the Max Planck Research Fellow Group in Comparative Constitutionalism, the Max Planck Research Fellow Group in the Governance of Diversity, and the Alexander von Humboldt Chair in Comparative Constitutionalism at the University of Göttingen. We also regularly interact with members of the other academic units at the MPI-MMG.



Staff members of the Department of Ethics, Law and Politics. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebl

## RESEARCH THEMES

The Department's research mandate, outreach, dissemination, networking, and international collaboration activities focus on three interrelated themes: (1) the legal construction of borders; (2) the transformation of citizenship; and (3) law, religion, and constitutional democracy.

### (1) THE LEGAL CONSTRUCTION OF BORDERS

COVID-19 has reminded us of the significance of borders. In 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall, many predicted that sealed gates would soon become relics of a bygone era. Today, however, we find a different reality. Instead of disappearing, borders are metamorphosing. The border itself has evolved to become a moving barrier, an unmoored legal construct. It has broken free of the map. It may extend well beyond the edge of territories or deep into their interiors. Indeed, the consequent detachment of state power from a fixed territorial marker has created a new paradigm: the *shifting border*.

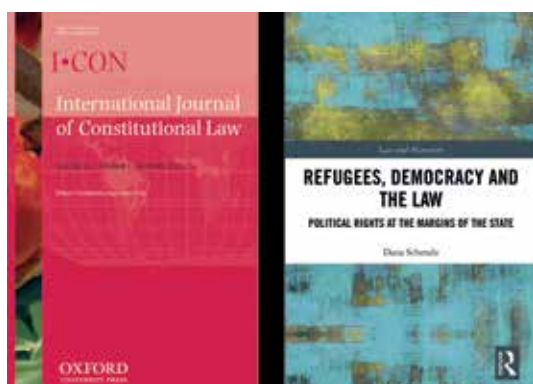
The shifting border now consists of legal portals rather than physical barriers; it is no longer fixed in time and place. The shifting border framework is developed in Shachar's most recent book, *The Shifting Border: Legal Cartographies of Migration and Mobility*, which was published in 2020 under the auspices of the Critical Powers Series, aimed at "constructing dialogues around innovative and original work in social and political theory." In this book, Shachar has proposed a transition in perspective from the more familiar locus of studying the *movement of people across borders* to critically investigating the *movement of borders to regulate the mobility of people*. Shachar's analysis combines insights from law, political science, philosophy, and institutional design to offer an analysis that operates at three inter-related levels: diagnostic, interpretative, and prescriptive. Her analysis reveals how the national and supranational strategies undergirding the shifting border disrupt and test our assumptions about waning sovereignty, while also elucidating the limits of the populist push for border-fortification.

The shifting border framework has further provided an organizing anchor for numerous public lectures, symposia, and international workshops held at the MPI-MPG, along with our partner institutions at Harvard, Berkeley, Freie Universität Berlin, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, and the New School for Social Research in New



York City. These include events, such as the "Borders, Fences, Firewalls: Assessing the Changing Relations of Territory and Institutions" held in Oct. 2017, which brought to the Institute major participants in both scholarly and policy debates, including Alex Alienikoff (former Deputy High Commissioner of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), Elizabeth Cohen (author of "The Political Value of Time"), and Margaret Moore (author of "A Political Theory of Territory"). Another event, "Border Landspaces: Material Boundaries of Stasis and Mobility", added a critical geography perspective, highlighting the uneven movement of people and capital through circuits of urban, national, and regional spaces, as well as exploring prospects for transnational solidarity, contestation, and resistance.





Interest in the spatiality of public law also informs a joint project, spearheaded by Ran Hirschl and Ayelet Shachar, entitled “Public Law and Spatial Governance: New Frontiers.” In this project, Hirschl and Shachar seek to insert a degree of innovation into debates about global law and territorial sovereignty, exploring how and why space, place, and density impact the conceptualization of state power in a world of growing complexity and interdependence. From the constitutional status of cities to the doctrine of permanent sovereignty over natural resources to the place of religious symbols in the public sphere, Hirschl and Shachar demonstrate the versatility and creativity of the state in using the classic tools of public law to deploy and stretch its spatial and juridical influence. One of the major outputs of this research project is the publication of “Foreword: Spatial Statism” in the *International Journal of Public Law* (ICON). The Foreword is among the most prestigious publications in the field of public law. A follow-up symposium was published in 2020.

The shifting border framework also provides a thematic umbrella for a range of individual research projects pursued by post-doctoral fellows and visiting researchers. These include Derek Denman’s fascinating exploration of the changed conceptions of ‘fortresses’, from Machiavelli’s scholarship to present day ‘weaponization’ of nature and urban spaces to control mobility. Denman’s research has appeared in *Political Theory*, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, and he is now completing his book manuscript, “Fortress Power and the Politics of Spatial Control”, which is bound to draw scholarly and public attention.

Marie-Eve Loiselle’s “Walled Landscapes: Legal Discourse and the Construction of Physical

Partitions” offers a combined sociolegal, discursive, and historical account of the emergence of the U.S.-Mexico border wall. Loiselle’s archival research meticulously explores two key episodes of legislative debates and legal texts from 1935 and 2006 (the adoption of the *Secure Fence Act*), which authorized the erection of visible, physical barriers at the border. Her study further investigates how textual and oral narratives accompanying the construction of this barricaded landscape have contributed to the construction of national identities on both sides of the border.

Dana Schmalz, an early-career researcher trained in both international law and legal philosophy, spent two years at the ELP Department as a Post-doctoral Fellow prior to her appointment to the position of Senior Fellow at the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought at the Columbia Law School. Schmalz underscores the challenges posed by distant claim-making, both legally and politically. Her interdisciplinary work has appeared in *Constellations*, *Inter Gentes*, *Human Rights Law Review*, and her book manuscript, “Refugees, Democracy and the Law: Political Rights at the Margins of the State” (Law and Migration Series, Routledge), will be published in summer 2020.

Rethinking the role played by territoriality in international law, and the implications for international organizations’ responsibilities, is central to Gail Lythgoe’s dissertation project. Lythgoe was the Inaugural Doctoral Exchange Fellow in our new collaboration with Glasgow Legal Theory - one of the largest academic units in Europe and the UK dedicated to research in legal theory, broadly construed, with an emphasis on engaging globalization and contemporary law and government in a critical key.

Another critical dimension of the shifting border is the growing reliance on digital, biometric, and cybernetic measures of migration control, comprising more diffused forms of surveillance, data collection, and predictive technologies that increasingly turn the human body into a site of regulating mobility. Indeed, responses to the global pandemic have accelerated this trend, a topic addressed by Shachar’s intervention in public debate during the COVID-19 lockdown, through high impact venues, such *Open Democracy* and the *UNESCO Courier* (the UN’s most widely distributed print and digital publication). To launch this new research focus area,

through the unique angle of combining insights from feminist theory and critical border studies, in July 2021, we will hold a major international conference, entitled “The Border Within: New Technologies of Migration Control.” This event is

organized by the ELP Department in partnership with the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet) at the Australian National University, Australia’s leading research university.

## (2) THE TRANSFORMATION OF CITIZENSHIP

Like the shifting border, membership boundaries are neither fixed nor static. Rather, they expand or shrink - selectively and strategically - depending on the target populations that they encounter. Moving beyond the debate between open and closed borders, this line of research provides extensive evidence to demonstrate that immigration and naturalization policies are *both* more open *and* more closed, simultaneously.

Shachar’s new research project, “The Transformation of Citizenship”, highlights three intersecting, yet analytically distinct, dimensions of the realignment of citizenship: the territorial, the cultural, and the economic. In each of these domains, governments the world over are using a versatile toolbox of ‘line-drawing’ techniques to accomplish goals that often seem contradictory: here, membership rules are being at once ‘tightened’ and ‘lightened’. In other words, governments are restricting and relaxing the requirements of access to membership at the same time. These sorting methods are producing overt and covert inequalities that modern states are formally committed to abolishing, all the while establishing new global hierarchies. Shachar’s work on this topic has appeared in top venues, such as *Ethics & International Affairs* and *Jurisprudence*.

Within the purview of this intellectual terrain, several members of the ELP team have explored different instances of overt or covert reliance on cultural, religious, and ethnonational markers of collective identity. One such study offers a meticulous historical and legal account of how civic and religious allegiances are managed in rites of citizenship (Hans Leaman). Another project develops a normative framework for evaluating the legitimacy of mandatory integration requirements that make access to citizenship conditional upon individuals’ ‘acculturation’ to majority norms (visiting professor Tamar de Waal). An ambitious comparative study tests the assumption that restricting immigration fosters migrant integration

(Samuel Schmid). Yet another project is based on interviews with applicants taking the citizenship test in four different governmental offices (two in the UK and two in Germany), offering an account of the lived experience of naturalization procedures in Germany and the UK (Elisabeth Badenhoop, whose excellence in research was recognized by the 2019 Council for European Studies Immigration Research Network Best Paper Award). An international workshop exploring these governance structures of naturalization was convened in April 2020; the proceedings will appear in a special issue of *Citizenship Studies*.

An important dimension of the “Transformation of Citizenship” relates to its scale, both above and below the nation-state. In June 2019, the Department convened a conference marking the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inception of EU citizenship, focusing on the principles of mutual solidarity and respect. Three main themes were explored: should the EU work toward common standards on the acquisition (and loss) of citizenship? Should member states incur greater social obligations towards nationals of other member states (and mobile third-country nationals)? If so, through which institution(s) must these changes be realized? The conference brought leading scholars of EU citizenship and social welfare law to debate these issues, culminating with a keynote lecture by Philippe van Parijs, one of Europe’s most distinguished political philosophers and an avid advocate of Universal Basic Income.

If we think of citizenship as multi-layered, how do we assess its local, national, and transnational scales? Martijn van der Brink, a legal scholar trained at the EUI, explores the relations between national and supranational citizenship in a research project, entitled “The Boundaries of Citizenship within the European Union”. He has published the main findings in several major law and social science journals, including *Modern Law Review*, *European Law Journal*, and the *Journal of Common Market Studies*. Upon completion



of his post-doctoral affiliation at the ELP Department, van der Brink secured a highly competitive British Academy Fellowship, which he now holds at the University of Oxford.

The normative case for treating cities as gateways to membership is explored by Benjamin Boudou as part of his research project “The Border Dilemma.” Weaving the famous democratic theory boundary dilemma into a critique of methodological nationalism, Boudou has connected this line of research with his interest in reinvigorating the ancient concept of hospitality in contemporary political theory, applying it to the context of immigration and frontiers. It is remarkable that Boudou, a Senior Research Fellow at the Department and the Editor-in-Chief of *Raisons Politiques* (a premier political theory journal in France), published two books in the three-year period covered by this report. “Politique de l’Hospitalité: Une Généalogie Conceptuelle” (Paris: CNRS éditions) was published in 2017, followed by “The Dilemma of Borders: Ethics and Politics of Immigration” [in French] (Paris, Editions de l’EHESS) in 2018.

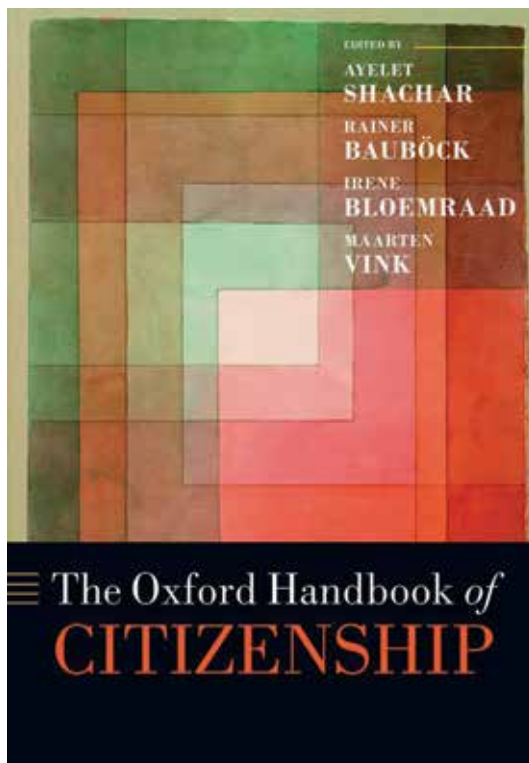
Barbara von Rütte’s research focuses on the regulation of citizenship in international law. She develops an innovative legal argument for incorporating the principle of *jus nexi* into a proportionality analysis that courts and public agencies would be obliged to undertake. This approach assists to address protection gaps, as well as to counter arbitrary state action, providing claimants with a concrete legal argument to support their claim for membership in a *particular* country. Trained as a lawyer with a special interest in citizenship and migration law, von Rütte is a consultant for the Council of Europe and has previously worked at the European Court of Human Rights. In 2019, she was elected as a member of

the Swiss Federal Commission of Migration, an extra-parliamentary commission comprised of 30 migration experts appointed by the Federal Council to advise the federal government on matters pertaining to migration.

Questions of political representation form another sub-theme, here moving beyond theory-building to the potential for applied democratic reform. One such proposal looks into the representation of asylum-seekers and refugees at the supranational level (Ali Emre Benli). Another idea is to grant those residing in refugee camps the power to democratically govern themselves (Felix Bender). Regarding long-term residents, can they claim a right to vote if they chose not to naturalize (Visiting Fellow Gün Gülay)? How far to extend the boundaries of ‘inclusive representation’ is another pressing issue that was explored in a workshop convened by Benjamin Boudou (ELP) and Marcus Häggrot (Normative Orders, Frankfurt) in October 2019; the proceedings will appear in 2021.

The last theme explored under the heading of “The Transformation of Citizenship” is the recent surge in programs that allow the super-rich to ‘buy their way’ into the political community. This line of inquiry examines why the gates of admission, so carefully guarded when it comes to the many, are swung open when it comes to the select few: the world’s moneyed elite. Their journey to membership is paved with ‘golden visas’ and ‘golden passports’, allowing a smooth and easy path to naturalization for individuals who are willing and able to transfer hefty sums of investment with a click of a button across international borders. Indeed, more than half of the world’s countries now offer such preferential treatment for the rich in securing residence or citizenship. These programs create a link between wealth and the expedited bestowal of citizenship. In certain cases, millionaire migrants need not even set foot in the new home country. These developments reveal a new hierarchy in access to membership. Shachar’s work on this topic has appeared in numerous venues, including *The Oxford Handbook of Citizenship* (Oxford University Press, 2017 & 2020), for which she served as lead editor.

A closely related sub-theme explores the reliance on capital and human capital in recruiting ‘elite’ immigrants as part of the global race for talent. Here, the research encompasses the



categories of highly skilled migrants, start-up visa recipients, as well as the increasingly important category of international students. Highlighting the importance of cultural and symbolic capital, Siqi Tu deploys qualitative research methods to investigate the shifting racialized identity of urban upper-middle-class Chinese students who arrive to the United States to attend private high schools. The implications of these transnational patterns of mobility and their intersection, which questions global distributive justice in migration, is a topic that is central to a series of “critical dialogues” co-organized by Ayelet Shachar (MPI-MMG) and Rainer Forst (Normative Orders, Frankfurt), which rotate between Göttingen and Frankfurt. (see, for example, the 2017 and 2019 joint ELP-Normative Orders events).

### (3) LAW, RELIGION, AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

The common assumption in the legal literature is that religion is an ‘outsider’ to the constitutional order, i.e., a threat and a force that cannot easily be wedded to the modern conception of a sovereign people in whose name the constitution is written and ordained. This familiar perspective

It also forms the basis of an ongoing collaboration with the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Migration Law Interest Group, led by Itamar Mann and Tandeyi Achiume, the UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance. The future of highly skilled migration and concerns about richer countries depleting or ‘creaming’ talent from poorer developing countries were also explored in a conference organized in collaboration with the Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Göttingen, which brought together the expertise of international scholars and major players in the German national arena, including a keynote lecture delivered by Prof. Christine Langenfeld (Justice of the German Constitutional Court) and Dr. Holger Kolb (Head of the Research Unit at the SVR/Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration).

Along with the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, we recently launched a new collaborative project exploring the intersections of citizenship law and tax law in shaping membership boundaries and defining the mutual obligations that residents owe each other. A joint symposium was convened in November 2019 by Ayelet Shachar (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity) and Wolfgang Schön (Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance) at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. A follow-up conference will take place at the University of Oxford in May 2021. Our goal, ambitious from the start, is to sketch a new research agenda that ties together questions of defining ‘who belongs’ to a given political community from the perspectives of citizenship and taxation regulation; this may prove to offer more flexible and functional standards of membership befitting the age of transnational mobility.

itself relies on a set of dichotomies that valorizes the liberal constitutional order as progressive and enlightened, as a force of light against a sea of darkness. These dualities have been subject to extensive criticism and need not be repeated here. In their “Competing Orders?” project,



Hirschl and Shachar contribute to this debate by exposing the often overlooked similarities (rather than differences) between constitutions and sacred legal texts governing communal life. It seeks to identify the structural features that, in deeply diverse societies, such as Israel or India, make religion a credible competitor to secular constitutional orders. This research project further investigates the affinity between (majoritarian) religion-based affiliations and populist variants of nationalism, and the threat that they pose to more inclusive definitions of ‘who belongs’ within the domain of constitutional democracy. The output from this research project has appeared in leading venues, such as *The University of Chicago Law Review*, *Jerusalem Review of Legal Studies*, and *Constitutional Democracies in Crisis?* (Mark Graber, Sanford Levinson and Mark Tushnet, eds., Oxford University Press, 2018).

Other projects that fall under this third pillar of research in the Department include the nuanced work of Marieke Reidel, whose research sits at the intersections of law, religion, and race. Drawing on critical race theory, she explores the impact of identity politics on Jewish communities, as manifested in law. Although today Jews are largely seen as a successful and well-integrated minority, a number of recent legal conflicts regarding Jewish practices suggest that there is an ongoing tension between dominant ideas about liberal law and ‘Jewishness’ that is embodied in these contested practices. In these legal disputes, the Jewish practices in question are often rendered as symbols of ‘Otherness’. One set of such cases concerns the construction of *eruv* – notional spaces for the observance of Shabbat. Another set of cases involves the body

as a site for the construction of identity, as well as difference, in the legal and political debates about the practice of male circumcision. This research pursues two main aims: first, to illuminate the ambivalent role that the figure of ‘the Jew’ has played in the Western imagination, as well as to show how contemporary law is mobilized for this imagination. The second aim is to integrate the contemporary Jewish experience into existing scholarly theorizing on the legal construction of religious and racialized difference, where Jews, Judaism, and Jewishness have so far received little attention. We will be holding a conference in December 2020 which engages these complex and sensitive questions by interrogating the interrelationship of religious and racial identity.

Addressing the relationship among religious accommodation, liberal toleration, neutrality, and multiculturalism from an analytical philosophical perspective is the core of Bouke de Vries’ research. His penetrating analysis of these topics has appeared in top-rated journals, including *Politics*, *Philosophy*, *Economics*, and *Res Publica*.

The role of religion in contemporary debates about ethical and legal obligations to refugees frequently goes unexamined in light of the central role played by states in the architecture of refugee protection. In 2017, the ELP Department convened a workshop focusing on these themes, ‘Welcome Refugees: The Role of Religion.’ This workshop brought together a highly interdisciplinary group of scholars, manifesting both Global North and Global South perspectives, to examine the role of religious practices, institutions, and discourses in the development of advocacy regarding refugees and refugee policy. A special issue based on this fresh perspective will appear in *Migration and Society*.

Finally, in collaboration with Jaclyn Neo, the newly-elected Director of the Center for Asian Legal Studies at the National University of Singapore, the ELP Department will co-host a conference at NUS on intersections of citizenship and religion. This conference aims to trace and explain ‘legal transplant’ journeys of legal concepts, such as ‘living together’ and ‘religious harmony’, which are increasingly prevalent in both national legislation and supranational adjudication.



## FUTURE STRATEGY

This brief report outlines the rich and varied activities of the Ethics, Law, and Politics (ELP) Department, and our contributions to cutting-edge, innovative scholarly debates. Our Department has established an excellent track record of alumni placements and the promotion of female junior scientists' leadership through Max-Planck-wide programs, such as SpeakUp! Broadening our network of institutional partnerships, in 2018, the Department established a joint post-doctoral fellowship program with the University of Toronto. Plans are currently underway for establishing similar exchange programs with the Australian National University, the National University of Singapore, and potentially the European University Institute.

We are also strongly committed to a new transnational initiative, the establishment of the Ethics and Public Policy Laboratory (EthicsLab) in Yaoundé, Cameroon. As a center for research excellence at the Université Catholique d'Afrique

Central, the EthicsLab, led by Dr. Thierry Ngoso, was officially launched in March 2019. It will serve as a regional hub for training doctoral students and early career scholars from across Africa, specializing in ethics, politics, and philosophy. Members of the ELP Department will have an opportunity to travel to Yaoundé to participate in conferences, workshops, and working groups at the EthicsLab. In this vein, we will foster exchange visits at the ELP for members and affiliates of EthicsLab.

In addition to the achievements listed above, we hope to harness the momentum of excellence and interdisciplinarity in the study of citizenship, migration, and diversity that has characterized the Department since its inception, and for which we received welcome public recognition with Shachar's selection as the recipient of the 2019 Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize - Germany's most distinguished research award.



The Leibniz Prize Laureates 2019. From left to right: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Matthias Wessling, Dr. Melina Schuh, Prof. Dr. Michèle Tertilt, Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wernsdorfer, Federal Minister Anja Karliczek, Prof. Dr. Hans-Reimer Rodewald, Prof. Dr. Rupert Huber, Prof. Dr. Brenda Schulman, the Bremen Senator for Science Eva Quante-Brandt, Prof. Dr. Andreas Reckwitz, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Sami Haddadin and DFG President Prof. Dr. Peter Strohschneider. © DFG, 2019. Photo: David Ausserhofer



## SELECTED EVENTS

Intersection of Religion and Race: Law, Politics and Everyday Life | December 9–10, 2020

The intricate relationship between religion and race has been fuelling both public debate and academic discussion. While the intersections of these categories have not yet received much attention in the political and legal realm, scholars have begun to pay closer attention to their intertwined histories and conceptual connections, pointing for example to the racialization of religion and the importance of the ‘religion-line’ for the genealogy of race beyond colonial history and the color-line. Indeed, current and historical forms of exclusion, such as for example antisemitism and Islamophobia, complicate attempts to draw any neat delineation of race and religion. What would it mean to consider religious and racial formations in tandem and how can it illuminate current and historical forms of exclusions?

The Law and Political Economy of Citizenship | November 8, 2019

What is the relationship between citizenship and taxation? This workshop was a joint collaboration of the Department of Ethics, Law and Politics at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Science and Humanities (BBAW). It brought together leading scholars from the fields of law, economics and philosophy to explore how and why the cross-border mobility of labor and capital dramatically impacts the state’s ability to tax its wealthiest members and to provide public goods. A follow up workshop will be held at the University of Oxford in May 2021.

Max Planck Law. Inaugural Conference | October 21–23, 2019

This inaugural conference was held at the Harnack-Haus in Berlin. It marked the launching of Max Planck Law Network which represents a cooperation forum among eleven Institutes of the Max Planck Society engaged in basic research in various fields of law. The ELP Department represents the focus on citizenship, migration and human rights. The founding partners are joint together by a commitment to academic excellence, an international orientation and interdisciplinary research.

Inclusive Parliaments. Representation, Mobility, Disability | September 26, 2019

This workshop, organized by Benjamin Boudou (MPI-MMG) and Marcus Häggrot (Goethe University Frankfurt), focused on the democratic representation of marginalized populations and interests. Representative democracies, even the most inclusive ones, have populations that are explicitly or implicitly excluded from the ordinary process of electoral representation. It remains poorly understood and/or controversial whether marginalized populations have a claim to representation, and whether representation itself is the right response to non- or misrecognition. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Alexander von Humboldt Chair in Comparative Constitutionalism and brought together scholars from the Ethics, Law and Politics Department and Goethe University Frankfurt’s Normative Orders for an extensive

discussion was held at the MPI-MMG, which will serve as the basis for a special-issue publication.

#### Solidarity and mutual respect in the domain of European Union citizenship | June 14, 2019

The status of European Union citizenship, conferred on all nationals of an EU Member State 25 years ago, has been at the forefront of political and legal debates ever since. While enhancing the life-opportunities of a considerable group of EU citizens by granting free movement within the EU, the limitations of EU citizenship nowadays increasingly come to the fore, especially concerns regarding mutual solidarity and respect have intensified. This conference offered critical reflections on these pressing questions including a keynote lecture, “Is it really solidarity that we Europeans need?” delivered by Philippe Van Parijs.

#### Border Landscapes: Material Boundaries of Stasis and Mobility | April 12, 2019

The workshop completes the trilogy of border-focused conferences at the ELP (past events can be found [here](#) and [here](#)). It was organized in cooperation with the Lichtenberg-Kolleg. The theme motivating this event was the exploration of borders as landscapes—designed spaces that are at once architectural, infrastructural, and geophysical. The conference participants called attention to the changing shape of a global bordering regime in which the materiality of borders has been “weaponized,” the ways the heat of desert borders, the vastness of the sea, and the remote location of detention centers have been utilized as constraints on human movement. Deborah Cowen delivered the keynote, entitled “Imprints of Empire: Border Infrastructures and the Landscape of Jurisprudence”.

#### The Contours of Citizenship | March 15, 2019

The Third Annual Goethe-Göttingen Critical Exchange took place in Frankfurt and was co-organized by Rainer Forst (Normative Orders, Frankfurt) and Ayelet Shachar (ELP, MPI-MMG). Bringing together a highly multidisciplinary group of scholars, the conference revolved around the three themes: “Who Needs Secularism?” “Alienation” and “The Marketization of Citizenship”.

#### Public Law and Spatial Governance: New Frontiers | December 7, 2018

Co-organized by Ran Hirschl (Max Planck Fellow Group in Comparative Constitutionalism) and Ayelet Shachar (ELP), this conference brought together an innovative group of scholars from France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Singapore to explore the theme of “spatial statism”, critically exploring the relationship among law, territory, cities, borders, and human rights.

#### Welcoming Refugees: The Role of Religion | October 12, 2018

This conference explored the role of religion in public life, focusing on the question of whether, and if so, how and why, faith communities have contributed to the historical and contemporary development of the concept of the refugee. The participants also examined the influence of religious narratives on crystalizing modern-day ethical commitments to host and resettle asylum seekers. This multidisciplinary event brought together historians, theologians, lawyers, geographers, political scientists and international relations scholars. It was held at the MPI-MMG with the support of the Alexander von Humboldt Professorship in Comparative Constitutionalism.

Labor Migration: Global and Comparative Dimensions | May 18, 2018

Organized in collaboration with the Faculty of Law of the Georg-August Universität Göttingen, the event brought together scholars from Europe and North America to examine topics in labor migration, including precarious migration; high-skilled migration; and the relation between migration, labor, and trade. Christine Langenfeld, Judge on the Federal Constitutional Court, and Holger Kolb of the Expert Council on Integration and Migration, delivered the keynote, using the case of high-skilled migration to Germany to consider emerging challenges within EU labor migration law.

Migration, Citizenship, and Democracy: Contemporary Ethical Challenges Part II | March 22–23, 2018

Held at Harvard University, this conference continued the conversation begun in Berlin the year prior, bringing together an international community of scholars to discuss the social and political transformations as well as the ethical challenges that arise from the accelerated speed and expanded scale of migration. Ayelet Shachar (MPI-MMG) delivered the keynote, “Shifting Borders of Justice: Territory, Market, Migration,” examining the changing nature of territorial, legal, and normative borders. The conference was made possible through collaboration with the Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility at The New School, the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, and Freie Universität Berlin Research College, The Transformative Power of Europe.

Politics of Migration: Testing the Boundaries of Membership | December 15, 2017

This was the Second Annual Goethe-Göttingen Critical Exchange. Featured panels highlighted the work of David Miller (Nuffield College, Oxford) and Andreas Cassee (Freie Universität Berlin; Institut für Philosophie, Universität Bern) and concluded with a roundtable chaired by Ayelet Shachar and including Gertrude Lübbe-Wolff, former Judge on Federal Constitutional Court (Bielefeld), Hiroshi Motomura (UCLA), and François Crépeau, who previously served as United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants (McGill). A transcribed version of François Crépeau’s remarks are available at the MPI-MMG website.

**Ethics, Law and Politics Work-in-Progress Series**

The Department meets regularly to provide critical, constructive commentary on research in process. During the last year postdoctoral fellows, guests and visiting scholars presented work that has since been accepted for publication in *International Migration*, *Political Theory*, *Modern Law Review*, *Journal of Law and Society*, *Constellations*, *Res Publica*, *European Law Journal*, *Jurisprudence*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Philosophy*, *Politics & Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence*, and the *University of Chicago Law Review*, among others, and scholarship that has additionally been presented at conferences in Florence, Boston, Copenhagen, Porto, Santiago de Chile, São Paulo, Sydney, Melbourne, Abu Dhabi, Tel Aviv, Bielefeld, Montreal, Paris and New York, among others.



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### BOOKS

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- Boudou, B. (2018). *Le dilemme des frontières: Éthique et politique de l'immigration*. Paris: Editions de l'EHESS.
- Levey, G.B and A. Shachar (Eds.) (2017). *The Politics of Citizenship in Immigrant Democracies: The Experience of the United States, Canada, and Australia*. London: Routledge.
- Schmalz, D. (2020). *Refugees, Democracy and the Law: Political Rights at the Margins of the State*. Law and Migration Series, Routledge.
- Shachar, A., Bauböck, R., Bloemraad, I., & Vink, M. (Eds.). (2017; 2020). *The Oxford handbook of citizenship*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Shachar, A. (2020). *The Shifting Border: Legal Cartographies of Migration and Mobility*. Critical Powers Series, Manchester University Press.

### ARTICLES

- Badenhop, E., & Boswell, C. (2020). "What isn't in the files, isn't in the world": Understanding state ignorance of irregular migration in Germany and the United Kingdom. *Governance*, 1-18. doi:10.1111/gove.12499.
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- Denman, D. S. (2019). Machiavelli and the fortress city. *Political Theory*, 47(2), 203-229. doi:10.1177/0090591718772546.
- de Vries, B. (2020). Against hands-on neutrality. *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*, online first. doi:10.1177/1470594X20924679
- de Vries, B. (2019). Is multiculturalism discriminatory? *Res Publica*. doi:10.1007/s11158-019-09433-4.
- Riedel, M. (2019). An uneasy encounter. Male circumcision, Jewish difference, and German law. *Studies in Law, Politics, and Society*, 79, 55-84. doi:10.1108/S1059-433720190000079005
- Riedel, M. (2021). Law, religion, race, and the construction of Jewish difference. *Journal of Law and Society*.
- Schlegel, S. (2018). A bundle of bundles of rights – International treaties regarding migration in the light of the theory of property rights. *Utrecht Journal of International and European Law*, 34(2), 111-129
- Schlegel, S. (2018). Move inside the "Bell Jar": A property rights approach to the skills of migrants. *International Migration*, 1-16. doi:10.1111/imig.12499.
- Schmalz, D. (2019). Social freedom in a global world: Axel Honneth's and Seyla Benhabib's reconsiderations of a Hegelian perspective on justice. *Constellations*, 26(2), 301-317
- Schmid, S. D. (2020). The architecture of national boundary regimes: mapping immigration and citizenship policies in 23 democracies 1980–2010. *Comparative Migration Studies*, 8: 25



- Schmid, S. D., Helbling, M., & Simon, S. (2020). Restricting immigration to foster migrant integration? A comparative study across 22 European countries. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. doi:10.1080/1369183X.2020.1727316.
- Scholz, M. M. (2019). Religious Refugees and the Search for Public Worship in Frankfurt am Main, 1554–1608. *Sixteenth Century Journal*, 50(3), 765–782.
- Hirschl, R. & Shachar, A. (2018). Competing orders? The challenge of religion to modern constitutionalism. *The University of Chicago Law Review*, 85(2), 425–455.
- Shachar, A. (2020). Beyond open and closed borders: The grand transformation of citizenship. *Jurisprudence*, 11(1), 1–27. Doi: 10.1080/20403313.2020.1788283
- van den Brink, M. (2019). EU citizenship and (fundamental) rights: empirical, normative, and conceptual problems. *European Law Journal*, 25(1), 21–36. doi:10.1111/eulj.12300.
- van den Brink, M. (2019). Justice, legitimacy and the authority of legislation within the European Union. *Modern Law Review*, 82(2), 293–318.
- von Rütte, B. (2019). Social Identity and the Right to Belong – the ECtHR’s Judgment in Hoti v. Croatia. *Tilburg Law Review*, 24(2), 147–155.
- Yong, C. (2018). Justifying resistance to immigration law: The case of mere noncompliance. *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence*, 31(2), 459–481. doi:10.1017/cjlj.2018.20.



## 03

## RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

DIRECTOR: PROF. DR. PETER VAN DER VEER

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## INTRODUCTION

Directed by Peter van der Veer, the Department of Religious Diversity has been built up since 2009. From 2017 to 2020, the department had 25 social scientists, nine Ph.D. students, and three non-scientific staff. Five Ph.D. students have finished in this period. The Ph.D. students all have the Director as their advisor. Having had positions in the Institute, fellows have moved on to other positions in universities and research organizations in Germany, Britain, France, Singapore, China, and the USA.

Religious diversity is a regular feature of modern, complex society. The focus is therefore not on diversity *per se*, but on the project of the nation-state to create a national, integrated culture. A topic researched in this department is how religious diversity is accommodated and governed within secular arrangements. Since these arrangements, which are primarily those of the nation-state and concern the location of religion in national culture, are increasingly globalized – like religion itself – the question is how globalization (today and in the recent past) has affected secular governance on the one hand, and religious movements and networks on the other. This issue is addressed in a comparative manner between societies and cities (primarily Asian), as well as religions (primarily Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Daoism).

The research program of the Department is developed within the ideographic tradition of anthropology and religious studies, and thus allows for quite a variety of individual projects that strive to answer questions that are not pre-

determined by theoretical models, but rather developed in an ethnographic or micro sociological fieldwork. To contain this variety, a regional focus on South, South-East, and East Asia has been chosen due to the importance of this region in terms of its share of the world's population, and with the assumption that comparisons can be fruitfully made across this region. This is because common civilizational histories, as well as common histories of imperialism and cold war politics, have transformed the religious traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Islam, and Christianity into “modern religions” in the Western sense. Work on Asia also permits us to challenge some of the ethnocentrism that is behind much of social theory that claims to be universal. From the start, concerted efforts have been made to create collaborations with research institutions and researchers in the societies in which fieldwork projects are carried out. The collaborations that stand out in the period under review are those with the Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore (NUS), the Department of Religious Studies at Utrecht University, and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Hong Kong. The Department is also part of the Max Planck Cambridge Centre for the Study of Ethics, Human Economy and Social Change (MaxCam), together with the Department of Anthropology at Cambridge University and the Department of ‘Resilience and Transformation in Eurasia’ at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle (2017-2021). <http://maxcam.socanth.cam.ac.uk/>



Staff members of the Department of Religious Diversity. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebl

## RESEARCH FOCUS

The Department of Religious Diversity is devoted to the empirical and comparative study of religious actors, movements, and institutions mainly in Asian societies. We are particularly interested in the intersection of socioeconomic inequality and religious diversity within the theoretical context of discussions of social justice and problems of the recognition of religious difference. This implies giving attention to the politics of religion, histories of secular state formation and economic changes, as well as religious conceptualizations of the self and of the “good life”. The research strategy is to develop a reflexive approach towards Western theoretical assumptions that enables us to avoid preconceived universal understandings of “religion” and “secularity”. While most of the work in the Department takes the form of individual case studies, the presence of colleagues working on similar, but different, cases elsewhere in Asia makes a comparative approach possible. Comparisons are significant when they

raise questions that are never or seldom asked by those specializing in the study of one society or site, or when they offer alternative explanations for important phenomena from comparable cases elsewhere. The aim is not to arrive at a general model of religion in society, but rather to illuminate and further the understanding of selected phenomena and processes. One contribution of these studies is to critique universal taxonomic approaches of, for instance, social stratification or secularism that cannot do justice to the specificities of caste, Hindu religion, or communist atheism. Comparisons have been explicitly promoted through a number of workshops that have led to collective volumes. The Department offers a unique setting for connecting ethnographic projects through comparative themes.

For our purposes, comparison should be seen primarily not in terms of comparing societies or events, or of institutional arrangements across societies, but as a reflection on both our conceptual framework and the history of the interactions that have constituted our object of study. One can,

for instance, suggest investigating church-state relations in India and China, but this involves critical reflection on the fact that such a study already presupposes the centrality of both church-like organizations and the model of Western secular state formation in our analysis of developments in India and China. Such critical reflection often leads to an argument that Asian societies, such as India and China (and other societies outside of the West), should be understood in their own terms, and cannot be understood in Western terms. However, Indian and Chinese developments have to be interpreted and translated in relation to Western scholarship. Moreover, such translations and interpretations are part of a long history of interactions with the West. This field of comparison has been widely democratized by modern media, so that the everyday realities of “immediate” and “distant” societies are thoroughly mediated and interconnected. Comparison, as understood here, is thus not a relatively simple matter of juxtaposing and comparing two or more different societies, but a complex reflection on the network of concepts that underlie both our study of society and the formation of these societies themselves. In that sense, a double act of reflection is always involved. Beyond the individual case studies of junior scholars, an explicitly comparative approach is developed by van der Veer in his Lewis Henry Morgan Lectures on “The Value of Comparison” (published by Duke University Press in 2016). After work on religion and nationalism comparing India and Britain, and China and India, he is now working on a book comparing post-1945 German-speaking refugees in Germany with post-1978 Vietnamese refugees in Germany. A volume on refugees and religion, co-edited with Birgit Meyer of Utrecht University, is accepted and in press by Bloomsbury (2020). The comparative approach is also furthered by comparing “old” and “new” Chinese diasporas in Southeast Asia, a program that van der Veer is coordinating with Kenneth Dean of NUS and David Palmer at the University of Hong Kong, and by comparing cross-border minority politics between Vietnam, Burma, Thailand, and China.

In the research strategy of the Department, religion is not a “thing” that can be easily distinguished and separated from the flow of social life, but rather a “lens” through which one can pose questions about social life that have not been fully assumed by mainstream social science or

cultural studies, which frequently betray a secular bias by avoiding the study of religion altogether. It is evident that religion is not on the retreat in modern societies, and that migration and globalization, in general, are encouraging religious revitalization. It is also clear that religious movements do not have to be “fundamentalist”, “anti-Western” or violent, there being a great variety of religious activity that is significant in the social life of large parts of the world’s population, including certainly in Asia.

The aim of the research in this Department is to further a social-science perspective on religion in Asian societies from the relatively protected vantage point of a German academic institution. Religion is one of the most politically charged social phenomena in these societies, and it can only be studied with great difficulty by social scientists who are based in them. While it is also not easy for foreign-based scholars to gain access to study religion, it remains possible, although the current COVID-crisis adds a new challenge to field work. The task of a foreign research institution under these circumstances is to stimulate collaboration with partners in the societies under investigation.





Given the state of development of social-science research on religion in Asian societies, this is absolutely necessary.

Over the past decade, the research themes have constantly shifted, as has the composition of research teams. In the period between 2017

and 2020, continuing themes have been *religious networks in China and South-East Asia*, as well as *secularism and the treatment of religious minorities*. New themes are *migrants and refugees* (triggered by the 2015 refugee crisis in Germany), and *death, war, and violence*.

## RESEARCH THEMES

### 1. CHINESE RELIGIOUS NETWORKS IN CHINA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA (2016-2021)

(Team: Tam Ngo, Jie Kang, Tzu-Lung Chiu, Zhen Ma. Past members: Ying Diao, Jifeng Liu, Chris White, Wing Man Liza Kam, Paul Sorrentino, Neena Mahadev, Leilah Vevaina, Sudheesh Bhasi, Fabian Graham, Naomi Hellmann)

Here, the relation between old and new connectivities and mobilities in Asia and their impact on Chinese religions is explored. China has always been connected to the rest of Asia, and especially South-East Asia, through commerce and religion. In the nineteenth century, under imperial conditions, huge labor migration was added to the mix. These connectivities and mobilities are aspects of an older Chinese diaspora. Since the rise of

China as a huge economic power from the 1990s, the connections between China and the rest of Asia have been transformed by new investment structures, new infrastructures, and new chains of production and commerce.

Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity and Islam, and a number of more local or regional religions, have been of central importance to the earlier modes of connectivity. The new connectivities



Singapore - Nine Emperor God Festival. Spirit medium channelling the 1st Emperor God. © MPI-MMG, 2015.  
Photo: Fabian Graham



combine state initiatives and entrepreneurial projects. These initiatives and projects are represented in a technocratic developmental discourse, which possesses civilizational aspects that do not highlight religion. The impact on religious organizations and imaginations, however, is substantial, but under-researched. While the circulation and interpenetration of religious networks has been a significant aspect of the “old” diaspora, this has been greatly intensified by China’s rise as a global economic hub. The primary purpose of this research then is to understand the current

expansion of China, of which the Belt and Road program is a major aspect, in relation to the longer history of Chinese circulations in the region. Among these circulations, religious travel, a combination of pilgrimage and modern tourism, is an example of the various ways in which the new connectivities interact with older ones. The interactions that are enabled by trade and tourism are also reviving old anxieties about China’s power. Finally, religious aspirations about the region that differ from those of secular politicians emerge alongside economic projects.

#### LIST OF PROJECTS

Sudheesh **Bhasi**: “Enduring Links and New Connections in the Malaysian Indian Diaspora: Class, Caste and Transnationalism” (completed)

Tzu-Lung **Chiu**: “Transnational Networks, Localization, and Hybridization: The Practice and Influence of Chinese Buddhism in Contemporary Myanmar and Thailand”

Ying **Diao**: “Media Margin and the Making of Lisu Transnational Religious Networks in Post-1980s Myanmar and Yunnan” (completed)

Fabian **Graham**: “Chinese Spirit-Medium Cults in Southeast Asia” (completed)

Naomi **Hellmann**: “The Effects on Ethnic Minorities of the Opening Up of Southwest China to Southeast Asia” (completed)

Wing Man Liza **Kam**: “Home to the (post-)colonial Deities: The Transforming Colonial Shinto Shrines in post-colonial Taiwan and the ideological engineering(s) in motion” (completed)

Jie **Kang**: “Missionary Movement of Chinese Protestant House Church”

Jie **Kang**: “Chinese Christian Community and Network in Germany”

Jie **Kang**: “Christian Tourism and its Global Connectedness”

Jifeng **Liu**: “China’s Rise, Restructured Relations and Transforming Religious Networks between Minnan and Southeast Asia” (completed)

Zhen **Ma**: “Theravada Buddhism in Xishuangbanna and its Connections in the Upper Mekong Region”

Neena **Mahadev**: “Itineraries of Religious Arrival and Revival: Multi-ethnic Religious Spaces in Sri Lanka and Singapore” (completed)

Tam **Ngo**: “Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Sinophobia and Religious Nationalist Sentiments in Vietnam”

Paul **Sorrentino**: “Negotiating Rituals in Contemporary Vietnam” (completed)

Leilah **Vevaina**: “Dying and Diaspora: The Faith and Finance of Death Rituals” (completed)

Leilah **Vevaina**: “Of Faith and Fortune: Parsi Philanthropic Networks between Bombay-Mumbai and Hong Kong” (completed)

Chris **White**: “Faith of Our Fathers: Commemorating Christian Heritage in China” (completed)

## 2. SECULARISM AND ASIAN RELIGIONS (2016-2021)

*(Team: Peter van der Veer, Irfan Ahmad, Yang Shen, Eijiro Hajama, Jiazhi Fengjiang. Past members: Shaheed Tayob, Sophorntavy Vorng, Samuel Lengen, Sana Ghazi, Xiao He, Xiaoxuan Wang, Arpita Roy)*

Despite the fact that there is no evidence of the decline of religion in Asia, the issue of “the secular” in Asia is very important, especially in its communist variants. This project examines a broad variety of interactions between “the religious” and “the secular” in Asia. Studies of secularism have primarily concentrated on Northern Europe and North America. The philosopher Charles Taylor has written a detailed account of the centuries-long historical development of a secular age in the Western Christianity of Euro-America. The anthropologist Talal Asad has provided a genealogical account of the concept of religion and ritual, noting the legacy of Christian theological understandings. In a subsequent work, he called for an ethnography of multiple forms and consequences of secularism beyond Euro-America. In a study of Europe and the Americas, the sociologist Jose Casanova has outlined three elements in the so-called “secularization thesis”, and shown that these are not in any necessary relation to one another.

The debate about the secularization thesis has not yet really excited scholarship on Asian societies. However, also in Asia, one cannot ignore the importance of the separation of modern state institutions from religion. Here, the discussion has mostly focused on legal arrangements regarding

religious institutions and communal rights. The issue of “the secular” is also of great importance in Asian intellectual debates. Some initial attempts have been made to provide alternative Asian intellectual histories for Taylor’s masterful presentation of Euro-American history, but one should not attempt to find, in Asian histories, the presence or absence of some historical essence that is the hallmark of modernity. Asian histories have their own issues that should be explored on their own terms, but also through comparison. In the modern period, the interaction with Western societies is crucial in those histories. Van der Veer has outlined the 19<sup>th</sup> century formation of a “syntagmatic chain” of interconnected concepts – religion-magic-spiritualism-secularism - that was introduced to the rest of the world by colonial and imperial Western powers over the course of the 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The ways in which these concepts were interpreted, legislated, and internally absorbed has led to strikingly different results: religious nationalism is on the rise in India, while China still insists that it is an atheistic state regulating limited religious freedoms.

In this project, we seek to explore a wide set of instances of the interaction between the secular and the religious.

### LIST OF PROJECTS

Irfan **Ahmad**: “What Might an Anthropology of Terrorism Look Like?”

Irfan **Ahmad**: “Disciplinary History: Indian Anthropology/Sociology, Nationalism and Religion”

Irfan **Ahmad**: “Muslims and/in Indian Democracy”

Jiazhi **Fengjiang**: “Trading Piety: The Ritual Economy of Sutra Chanting in Southeast China”

Jiazhi **Fengjiang**: “Yuhuaazhai Movement: Moral Cultivation and the Invention of ‘Traditional Chinese Culture’”

Sana **Ghazi**: “Remaking Selves: Narratives of Young Muslim Women in Mumbai” (completed)

Eijiro **Hazama**: “Religious Nationalism in Modern Gujarat: An Entangled Relationship between Hindutva and Gandhism”

Xiao **He**: “Time Experiences of Uncertainty and Aspiration among Rural Migrants in Globalizing Shanghai” (completed)

Samuel **Lengen**: “Binary Dreams: Creative Success and Failure in Beijing’s Internet Industry” (completed)

Arpita **Roy**: “Tantric Alchemy” (completed)

Yang **Shen**: “Sidestepping Secularism: Performance and Imagination in Buddhist Temples in Contemporary China”



Attendees of Lumadeng Township Women Church Ministry Workshop rehearsing for the graduation performance, Fugong County, 8 July 2014. © MPI-MMG, 2014. Photo: Ying Diao

Shaheed **Tayob**: "Islam as a Lived Tradition: Ethical Constellations of Muslim Food Practice in Mumbai" (completed)

Sophornrav **Vorng**: "Religion, Marginality and Addiction in Northern Thailand" (completed)

Xiaoxuan **Wang**: "Transformation of Religion and Society in China under Mao and its Contemporary Legacies" (completed)

### 3. MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES (2017-2021)

*(Team: Peter van der Veer, Tam Ngo, Arndt Emmerich, Salah Punathil, Jingyang Yu, Nga Mai, Chen Yining)*

One of the main political issues today globally, but certainly also in Europe, is that of refugees. However, we refuse to make a hard and fast distinction between migrants and refugees by pointing out how changing legal arrangements, as well as people's varying statuses, make the concept of "refugee" a dynamic one. In the Indo-China crisis of the late 1970s, it is estimated that at least 150.000 Vietnamese lost their lives on the sea voyage to refugee camps in South-East Asia. Refugees from Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia were resettled in Europe, Australia, and the USA. Recently, we have witnessed how the new boat refugees have received a much colder welcome. Since 2014, more than 15.000 people have

drowned on their passage over the Mediterranean. Politically, the issue of refugees has been responded to by a nationalist upsurge across Europe, where the question of nationalism and migration has been shaping the political landscape for more than a decade. This project places the current trajectories of people who flee from oppression, conflict, and for a host of other reasons in a broader historical and comparative perspective. In so doing, it addresses past experiences with accommodating refugees, in the aftermath of World War II and in the context of the Cold War, as well as world historical events, such as the Indian Partition, or the division of North and South Vietnam, which tend to be "forgotten" in

current debates. Our central concern is to assess the multiple ways in which religion plays a role in prompting people to flee and seek refuge, as well as in their accommodation. Understanding religion from a material and corporeal angle, the contributions do not only address the ways in which refugees practice their religion – Islam,

Christianity, Buddhism -, and convert to or develop new faiths, but also how secular institutions in Europe frame and determine what is religion and what is not religion according to the law, and delineate the limits of religious authority, religious practice, and religious speech.

#### LIST OF PROJECTS

Yining **Chen**: "Refugee' in the Making: Movements and Practices in and between Nigeria and The Netherlands"

Arndt **Emmerich**: "Dis/trusted Partners: Local Mosque Activism During the German Refugee Crisis"

Nga **Mai**: "'Legality First': Moral Practices and Negotiation of Moral Values During Migration in Germany"

Salah **Punathil**: "'Migrant Illegality' and Bengali Speaking Muslims in the Assam State of North East India, South Asia"

Peter **van der Veer**, Tam **Ngo**: "North-South by East-West"

Peter **van der Veer**: "Refugees and Religion"

Jingyang **Yu**: "Mother Tongue: Intergenerational Negotiations over Language and Identity among Chinese Immigrants in Berlin"

## 4. DEATH AND VIOLENCE (2018-2021)

*(Team: Tam Ngo, Nicole Iturriaga, Patrice Ladwig, Scott Maclochlainn, Annalisa Buttici, Ngoc Thi Vuong)*

What does one do with the dead? Burial, entombment, mummification, or cremation hint at creative ritual possibilities of disposal of the body that inform us about how the living relate to the dead. In several contexts, the dead form an unquestionable social good that encompasses a number of tropes, such as making the dead benevolent ancestors and preventing them to become uncontrollable ghosts, signifying the nation-state through memorials and the sanctification of mortal remains, meditating on death as part of ethical self-formation, and so on. Added to this is the whole range of beliefs in souls, spirits, ghosts, zombies, saints, and shamans that anthropologists routinely encounter, which testifies to the idea of a vibrant afterlife and shows the global marginality of any conceptualization of death as finitude or cessation. Conversely, the dead, and especially mortal remains, also entail vital registers of forgetting, ostracism, and obliteration. To touch upon these registers, whether in our personal or communal lives, is impossible without touching simultaneously on politico-religious issues of the most perplexing kind. In addition, there is much that remains enigmatic in

the social effects of new technologies of burial, cremation, or preservation of corpses. In many societies, the professionalization of mortuary specialists, once considered ritual and traditional, has taken on industrial and commercial connotations. Moreover, scarcity of space has made cemeteries an important element of city planning.

Through ethnographically situated studies, this project focuses on the aftermath of state violence and the memory of civil war. An integral part of this is a project, entitled "Bones of Contention: Technologies of Identification and Politics of Reconciliation in Vietnam", that is financed by a large and prestigious grant from the Netherlands Foundation for the Advancement of Scientific Research awarded to Tam Ngo. Her team is located at the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation (<https://www.niod.nl/nl/projecten/bones-of-contention>). Besides Ngo, it consists of a senior scientific fellow, Professor Sarah Wagner (George Washington University), a post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Dat Nguyen (Ph.D. Boston University), and two Ph.D. students, Quynh Nguyen and Ha-Lan Tran. It will run from 2019-2024.



**LIST OF PROJECTS**

Annalisa **Butticci**: "The Formation of Afro-Catholicism in Colonial and Post-Colonial West Africa"

Patrice **Ladwig** (with Nicolas **Sihlé**, Centre d'études himalayennes, CNRS): "Towards an Anthropology of Buddhism. Ethnography, Theory and Comparison"

Patrice **Ladwig** (with Gregory **Kourilsky**, École française d'Extrême-Orient, EFEO, Paris): "Governing the Monastic Order. A Comparative Exploration of Traditional Sangha-Laws in Pre-Modern Laos and Their Transformations under Colonialism"

Patrice **Ladwig**: "Life Cycle Rituals and the Booming Economy. Ordinations, Funerals and Ethical Change in Urban Lao Buddhism" (Subproject of the Max Planck Cambridge Centre for Ethics, Economy and Social Change)

Nicole **Iturriaga**: "Memories of Violence in Spain"

Nicole **Iturriaga**: "Memories of Violence in Argentina"

Nicole **Iturriaga**: "Exhuming Violent Histories"

Scott **MacLochlainn**: "Rituals of Evidence: Media, Faith, and Death in the Philippines"

Tam **Ngo**: "The Unclaimed War: The Social Memory of the 1979 Sino-Vietnamese Border War in China and Vietnam"

Tam **Ngo**: "Bones of Contention: Technologies of Identification and the Politics of Reconciliation in Vietnam"

Ngoc Thi **Vuong**: "Polluted and polluting: a view from the borderland" (completed)

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

In May 2021, Peter van der Veer will retire as Director while continuing for two years as emeritus member. The Max Planck Society will select a new Director, and build a Department around the new appointee. According to the Max Planck rules the new Director alone decides on his or

her research objectives and methods. This means that the contracts of all of the fellows of the Department end with van der Veer's retirement, except for Tam Ngo who has a permanent contract as scientific staff, and Jie Kang who has a permanent contract as non-scientific staff.



Evangelical Exhortation. © MPI-MMG, 2015. Photo: Anderson Blanton



## SELECTED EVENTS

### **A Secular Age in South, East. And South-East Asia**

International Conference, organized together with the National University of Singapore (2017)

### **Refugees and Religion**

International Conference, organized together with Utrecht University (2018)

### **The Sociopolitical Lives of Death**

International Conference, organized together with the Radboud University Nijmegen, 2018

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- Ahmad, I. (2017). *Religion as critique: Islamic critical thinking from Mecca to the marketplace*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.
- Ahmad, I., & Kanungo, P. (Eds.). (2019). *The algebra of warfare-welfare. A long view of India's 2014 election*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Ahmad, I., & Doyle, N. J. (Eds.). (2018). *(Il)liberal Europe: Islamophobia, modernity and radicalization*. London: Routledge.
- Ahmad, I. (Ed.). (2021). *Anthropology and ethnography are not equivalent: reorienting anthropology for the future*. New York: Berghahn Books.
- Akan, M. (2017). *The politics of secularism: Religion, diversity, and institutional change in France and Turkey*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Emmerich, A. (2020). *Islamic movements in India: moderation and its discontents*. London: Routledge.
- Gandhi, A., Harriss-White, B., Haynes, D. E., & Schwecke, S. (2021). *Rethinking markets in Modern India: embedded exchange and contested jurisdiction*. Cambridge University Press.
- Graham, F. (2020). *Voices from the underworld: Chinese hell deity worship in contemporary Singapore and Malaysia*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- Heo, A. (2018). *The political lives of saints: Christian-Muslim mediation in Egypt*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Ladwig, P., & Roque, R. (Eds.). (2020). *States of imitation: mimetic governmentality and colonial rule*. New York: Berghahn.
- Punathil, S. (2018). *Interrogating communalism: violence, citizenship and minorities in South India*. London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- van der Veer, P., & Dean, K. (Eds.). (2019). *The secular in South, East, and Southeast Asia*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.
- van der Veer, P. (Ed.). (2017). *Prayer and politics*. London: Routledge.
- van der Veer, P., & Meyer, B. (Eds.). (2021). *Refugees and religion: Ethnographic studies of global trajectories*. London: Bloomsbury.

- Vorng, S. (2017). *A meeting of masks: Status, power and hierarchy in Bangkok*. Copenhagen: NIAS Press.
- Wang, X. (2020). *Maoism and grassroots religion: the Communist revolution and the reinvention of religious life in China*. New York: Oxford University Press.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Iturriaga, N., Panofsky, A., & Dasgupta, K. (in press). How white nationalists mobilize genetics: From genetic ancestry and human biodiversity to counterscience and metapolitics. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.
- Iturriaga, N. (2019). At the foot of the grave: challenging collective memories of violence in post-franco Spain. *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*, 5, 1-16.
- Emmerich, A. (2020). Salafi youth activism in Britain: A social movement perspective. *Journal of Muslims in Europe*, 9(3), 3-34.
- Mahadev, N. (2018). Economies of conversion and ontologies of religious difference: Buddhism, Christianity, and adversarial political perception in Sri Lanka. *Current Anthropology*, 59(6), 665-690.
- Ngo, T. (2020). Dynamics of memory and religious nationalism in a Sino-Vietnamese border town. *Modern Asian Studies*, 54(3), 795-829.
- MacLochlainn, S. (2019). Of congregations and corporations: Schism, transcendence, and the religious incorporate in the Philippines. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 92(4), 1039-1068.
- MacLochlainn, S. (2019). Brand displaced: Trademarking, unmarking, and making the generic. *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*, 9(3), 498-513.



# 04 SOCIO-CULTURAL DIVERSITY

## DIRECTOR: PROF. DR. DR. H.C. STEVEN VERTOVEC

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## INTRODUCTION

During the reporting period 2017-2020, the Department for Socio-Cultural Diversity (SCD) was home to 31 scientific staff from a range of countries and disciplines, including anthropology, sociology, political science, geography, and architecture. While most have been funded by the Institute's own Max Planck Society resources, a number have also been funded by outside agencies, including the Volkswagen Foundation and the Federal Ministry for Education and Research. Prof. Steven Vertovec is the Department's Director, closely supported by Prof. Karen Schönwälder as Research Group Leader.

During this period, SCD research collaborations have spanned a broad set of partners at universities and institutions, including Oxford, the University College London, the London School of Economics, Birmingham, Leiden, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the European University Institute, Sciences Po, New York University, Princeton, the City University of New York, the University of British Columbia, Massey University, Monash University, Cape Town, Duisburg-Essen, and five Max Planck Institutes in Germany. Members of SCD are also variously engaged in international forums, such as IMISCOE and Metropolis, as well as national and international professional bodies of their respective disciplines.

It is the nature of Max Planck Institutes that research projects and staff are regularly changing over time. While on the one hand this provides great intellectual stimulation, on the other hand it presents challenges to pursue collective and continuous research agendas. Within SCD, a general set of central theoretical concerns and

themes underpins and serves to ensure that a research framework maintains tight cohesion.

## I. RESEARCH FOCUS

Now is a vital time to study diversity, in multiple terms. Reasons for this are numerous, including the demonstrable facts that:

- worldwide, societies are diversifying – ethnically/racially, linguistically, religiously, and along several other characteristics – considerably through migration;
- in many countries, populations are also transforming through natural demographic growth among existing minorities, and a marked rise in the number of people of mixed or “multi-group” backgrounds;
- there is more empirical evidence and public concern about growing social and economic inequalities – disparate resources, opportunities and rewards, material outcomes, and relative social status – and the ways in which these are disproportionately distributed in relation to categories of socio-cultural difference;
- rapid diversification is known to stimulate support for populist right-wing parties, while significantly at the same time, as measured in academic studies and public opinion surveys, pro-diversity attitudes remain high and stable. Such divergent trends and patterns of attitudes contribute to growing social and political fragmentation of societies;
- while an escalating number of cities around the world are becoming what some, correctly or incorrectly, term “majority-minority”, everyday urban exposure to multidimensional- or super-diversity is now often considered commonplace or “normal”.



Staff members of the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebl

For social scientists, diversity is a kind of umbrella term for a field of study. This field concerns the interrogation of categories, identities, and variables of difference – and how these play out in social interactions and social structures, spatial dynamics, political engagements, and institutional activities. Across the public sphere, as well as academia, key categories of “difference” are: race and/or ethnicity, gender, religion, language, class, sexuality, disability, legal status, and age– and, significantly, their intersections. Especially in our present era characterized by heightened modes of diversification, a core approach of SCD is to seek, through multi-disciplinary and comparative study, better understandings of the ways that multiple concepts, settings, policies, and socio-cultural dynamics of diversity and difference relate to social interactions, political outcomes, and ongoing processes of social and economic stratification.

Within SCD, researchers are encouraged to consider the mutually conditioning relationships

between three key domains of social life. These are: (1) the ways that various kinds of “difference” are conceived and represented (in categories, discourses, and images); (2) everyday interactions between people (what determines them, what they entail, how these are regarded, and how they influence attitudes toward others and perspectives on society); and (3) the setting in which social life occurs (including the nature of locality and space, demographics, economic conditions, public discourses, and institutional structures and practices). These create a triangle of mutual effects: representations influence interrelations; interrelations influence settings; and settings influence representations. With this approach, one always looks for more than one factor of influence on any social phenomenon. In these ways, SCD is concerned with “the social organization of difference” – a concept about which its Director, Prof. Vertovec, has extensively lectured and written.

## II. RESEARCH THEMES

The following themes serve to organize issues, approaches, and findings of SCD research. While most research in the Department is conducted as individual Ph.D. and post-doctoral projects, SCD undertakes a number of larger projects with common questions and strategies engaging a number of researchers. Of course, most SCD projects address elements of more than one theme; nevertheless, such thematic grouping helps to shape our intellectual understanding or research questions and approaches, methods, and the relevance of our findings. Below, SCD themes are described and exemplified through selected glimpses of some key research findings during the reporting period (please see page 143).

While the majority of SCD projects examine settings in the Global North, and especially Europe, we have always acknowledged that the most comprehensive theories, concepts, categories, and analyses within our field will only emerge through global comparison with a range of postcolonial settings in the South. For this reason, we have particularly sought to maintain a set of projects based in a variety of African settings, where the “social organization of difference” surrounding matters, such as ethnicity, language, religion, sexuality, and gender differentially present us with alternative ways to think, research, and theorize. Within the Department, exchanges between scientists working on African and European contexts have been extremely fruitful. As with most SCD projects, our African research tends to both cross-cut and deepen our three themes.

### *Institutions and organizations*

Research within this theme considers the ways that institutions and organizations both respond to societal diversification, and serve to shape its social and political relevance.

*CityDiv*, a large, multi-part project, has examined a range of diversity policy instruments that are widely used in French and German cities. It has identified factors contributing to their greater or lesser use. By way of some sample findings, in France, it was observed that the local political constellation is crucial to whether diversity policies are implemented; moreover, higher numbers of diversity policies are associated with center-left dominance. In contrast, in German cities,

political consensus between parties seems to prevail around diversity policies, and higher adoption rates are associated with higher population diversity.

In a *CityDiv* sub-project entitled “Civil Society Organizations and the Politics of Diversity in German and French Cities”, Christine Lang investigates the differential discursive frames of civil society organizations advocating for immigration and diversity. These include interculturality (mainly in Stuttgart), integration (mainly in Cologne), living together (mainly Toulouse), racism (mainly Cologne, recently Stuttgart), political rights (Strasbourg), and territorial inequalities (mainly in Toulouse). The different ways that organizations in the four cities present immigration and diversity issues do not just reflect national differences between Germany and France and differences in local problems, but also local institutional structures and path-dependencies that shape “bottom up” politics of diversity.

Also within the *CityDiv* project, Lisa Szezan explores how established welfare organizations position themselves within cities that are marked by a growing number of smaller civil society actors, as well as attempts to foster diversity-oriented policies. In Germany, these organizations have a strong legacy in contributing to the welfare state as privileged care-providers and political partners of state institutions. In attempting to address broad issues surrounding diversity and to promote forms of intersectional advocacy, civil society organizations need to address concerns of sexual and gender minorities, as well as migration-related modes of difference. Here, as part of the *ZoMIDI* project, Sanja Bökle investigates a number of contested phenomena within such organizations. These phenomena concern, among other issues, the differential treatment of subgroup interests, debates about the heritage and successes of queer/LGBTIQ movements, and tensions surrounding their combined roles as service providers, interest representatives, and lobby organizations.

Schools represent another kind of key institution shaping national societies and organizing social differences. Hania Sobhy researches encounters and experiences of various education stakeholders (officials, teachers, students), as they reflect religious and linguistic differences in everyday relations in schools within Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia. In these contexts, issues

around gender, language, religion, and social class vary markedly. Language, Sobhy points out, is a crucial mode of difference, since local dialects and language of instruction can undermine children's learning in ways that parallel the disadvantage of migrant or minority students. Diversity in languages and dialects disproportionately affects disadvantaged populations.

In 2015-16, over one million asylum-seekers arrived in Germany. A number of projects in SCD have entailed research into the social and political effects of this phenomenon. Many media, as well as scholarly, accounts have claimed that the rapid arrival of asylum-seekers at this time had

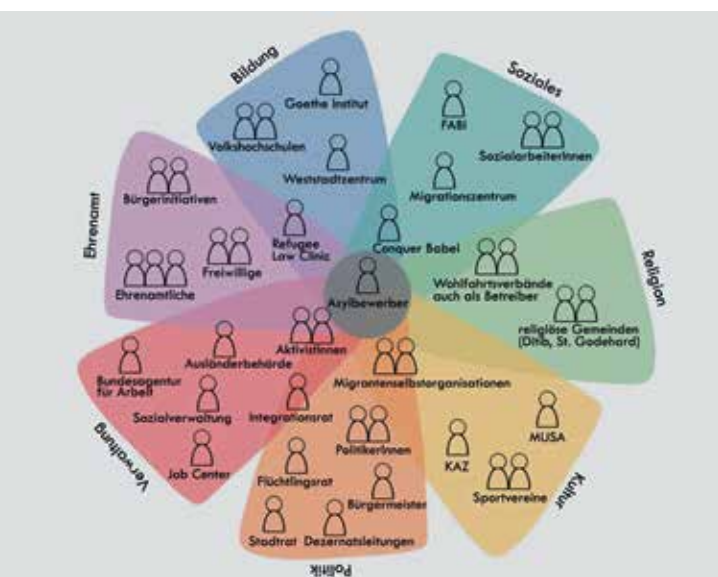
It is well-known that the rapid immigration of these years fueled various right-wing reactions and mobilizations. While otherwise known for their skepticism of European institutions, Michalis Moutselos reveals how radical-right parties actually become less Eurosceptic in order to double down on their anti-immigrant stance. Indeed, radical-right parties may strategically embrace aspects of the European Union (its resources, avenues of representation and coordination, and cultural underpinnings) as a response to the 2015 migrations.

### *Encounters and representations*

This SCD theme addresses the ways that social categories are constructed, formulated, shaped, blurred, sharpened, and reproduced through social interactions. Conversely, here we are also concerned with the ways that social categories themselves differentially shape, constrain, and enable social interactions.

Sometimes, new meanings arise to dislocate old categories or representations. In her project on "Becoming Jewish", Vanessa Rau describes the formation of a particular Jewish urban scene in Berlin, which is a social structure which is no longer a "Jewish" community as an institution, but instead a complex field made out of very different initiatives. These are linked, however, to existing institutions, and thereby form a "post-institutional" religion that is embedded in its historical context and influenced by urban lifestyles. There are times, too, when individuals must refashion or re-present themselves in order to be included. Lucas Drouhot has studied immigrant professionals who have experienced upward social mobility (and thus should have theoretically reached membership in the "mainstream"). He finds that a high class status appears convertible into a sense of worth and inclusion only if individuals can rely on broader cultural repertoires to deflect stigma and claim membership in the imagined community. This tends to exclude Muslims, however, who have a difficult time reconciling religious and national belonging.

Representations are also critical for the shaping of political and state activities. Elena Gadjanova has undertaken numerous comparative studies of so-called ethnic politics in specific African countries. Among other findings, she unpacks the workings of "ethnic wedge issues" – rhe-



Schematic for field of institutional actors potentially engaged by a new asylum-seeker in Germany. Graphic: Shahd Seethaler-Wari

led to a breakdown of German administration, or even to failure of the state. Miriam Schader found, however, that local administrations were not in crisis. Her interview data confirm that the level of uncertainty to be dealt with by the local state certainly increased significantly in the short term, but that this did not constitute a crisis in the sense of a "collapse" or "failure".

To the contrary, administrations have proved their efficiency in dealing with uncertainty, particularly at the local level where much of the processing of refugee immigration takes place. Through specific strategies, the rapid asylum-seeker immigration of 2015-16 has actually been a motor for the local state to adapt to an increasingly diverse society.



torical tools intended to splinter the support of a key opponent by employing narratives of ethnically motivated discrimination, victimization or exclusion, and promising remedial action. In places like Kenya and Zambia, Gadjanova concludes, formulating ethnic wedge issues is an important, yet overlooked, strategy for cross-ethnic mobilization where coalitions are needed to win elections.

The state's attempts to manage ethnic categories can have unintended consequences. This is demonstrated in Sabine Mohamed's work, also in Ethiopia, indicating the ways that managing and recognizing diversity by implicitly highlighting ethnic identities can lead to ethnic tensions. Her ethnographic research reveals how the state's policy to promote ethnic citizenship within an ethnic federal state since 1995 – intended as a measure of unity-in-diversity – has, in practice, produced further divisions among its citizens. Representations are also used by the state to control or discipline its citizens, not just in ethnic terms, but also relating to other modes of difference, such as sexuality. Serawit Debele has shown how, in both historic and contemporary Ethiopia, the state's urge to control what citizens do with their bodies, particularly regarding sex, has been central to the nature of the state and the way in which it operates. Indeed, managing the intimate life of citizens and enforcing a "purpose-oriented sex" (productivity and procreation) are central preoccupations of the state. Same sex intimacies, Serawit finds, are regarded as basically "useless" and hence need to be tamed – amounting to one way of justifying the legislation that criminalizes the *zega* (queer Ethiopian citizens).

Events themselves can be framed, labelled or categorized, as well. This is the case in the renowned Paris riots of 2005, often described by politicians and the media as "ethnic" or "racial" riots. Yet, as Michalis Moutselos discussed in his project "Housing Policy and Mobilization in the French Suburbs", the "identity" category actually mobilized in these violent protests cannot be understood through conventional appeals to "ethnic" and "racial" representations. His comprehensive analysis underscores that – rather than some issue based on ethnic or racial matters – living in concentrated social-housing neighborhoods leads to grievances, networks of mobilization, and tactical opportunities to begin and sustain violent, anti-state protest.

"Diversity" itself is a commonly used representation. For instance, as Farhan Samanani illustrates among national and grassroots civil society organizations in the UK, there is shared thinking



Students, clergy, and community leaders gather in an "assembly" to pressure a local London council. Photo: Farhan Samanani

amongst organizers that staging diversity helps to get politicians to accede to political demands. Displays of diversity, such as inter-faith assemblies, allow civil society organizations to show a plurality of support and interest, and so to frame their agendas as broadly representative, rather than narrow or private concerns. At the same time, these moments of staging diversity also produce encounters between members of different groups, who then come to reevaluate their understandings of one another. For those involved, experiences of pursuing political change within diverse coalitions can generate feelings of commonality.

### ***Flows, dynamics and urban space***

Contemporary diversification and its ramifications tend to play out initially, and perhaps most strongly, in urban settings. Research under this theme considers multiple processes surrounding diversity and diversification, and the ways in which these relate to migration, social space, and urban transformation.

The broadest level of research here addresses impacts of large-scale transformations in political economies. The coastal corridor spanning the

Indian Ocean from Somalia to South Africa is currently being radically re-shaped. Through a major international event at the Institute and a set of subsequent publications, Léonie Newhouse and AbdouMaliq Simone have explored the changes in infrastructural development, legal frameworks, finance (especially Chinese), resource extraction, and urbanization transforming this region. They investigate how these mediate, and are mediated by, social life, and analyze how these intersecting processes are spurring new forms of conflict, urban inequality, and population displacement.

Sakura Yamamura has undertaken novel methodological approaches, including innovative cartographic visualizations, to capture superdiversity in various kinds of urban spaces in cities, such as Glasgow, Tokyo, and Frankfurt. This includes an examination of business types and diversification strategies of ethnic minority entrepreneurs, along with hitherto unresearched actors, such as relocation companies, real estate firms, and their contracted agents. These appear to be closely connected to the migration networks “from below”, through which low-skilled migrant workers

are channeled as laborers into the same cities and spaces as high-skilled migrants.

Drawing on her skills as a professional architect, Shahd Seethaler-Wari highlights how different combinations of infrastructures and their socio-spatial characteristics result in differential access to services, resources, and relationships among recent asylum-seekers. She describes similarities and differences between various kinds of refugee accommodations and their effects on the daily lives of their inhabitants. This includes spatial layouts, socio-demographic compositions, and resulting interactions of the accommodations’ inhabitants with given physical and material environments, with administrative staff, and with other inhabitants. This perspective is extended to include the role of geographical space, demonstrating how the sheer location of an asylum-seeker accommodation impacts a variety of so-called integration processes.

Magdalena Suerbaum also works closely with a variety of recent asylum-seekers in Berlin. Her research reveals how many such newcomers experience complicated legal trajectories defined



Migrants in Ghana conversing through a mobile translation app. Photo: Michael Stasik

by status mobility, insecurity, and uncertainty. Su-erbaum focuses on three particularly vulnerable groups: (1) youngsters who had just turned eighteen; (2) newcomers who suffered from illness; and (3) mothers who held precarious legal statuses. All of them are shown to develop their own strategies to deal with the German authorities, given pressures to engage highly complex language issues, legal concepts, administrator attitudes, and bureaucratic processes. Overall, it is clear that holding an insecure legal status translates into restrictions and different forms of exclusion across multiple dimensions of everyday urban life.

The use of digital information sources among many asylum-seekers has been crucial for their survival. Jessica Rosenfeld's Ph.D. project explores digital literacy among recent migrants. Overall, the majority of Rosenfeld's sample stated that they would not have been able to make the journey had it not been for mobile technology. However, preliminary findings also reveal that her interlocutors generally do not trust online sources of information, such as those found on Facebook, preferring to obtain information in paper format directly from state or civil society institutions – in fact, the online processes offered by such institutions often tended to confuse her informants.

Working with migrants in Ghana, Michael Stasik demonstrates how certain mechanisms that characterized mobility practices of previous migrant generations in West African societies, principally forged along the lines of kinship and ethnicity, are being replaced by more dynamic forms of social relatedness. He describes the emergence of eclectic forms of groups that transcend common markers of difference, and the creation of novel ways of collective life in which diversity is considered a resource for collaboration, rather than an obstacle to it.

Religious congregations, too, comprise important institutions and social spaces cross-cutting boundaries of difference. Drawing on qualitative research in Johannesburg, Tinashe Chimbidzikai makes a case for a more nuanced and detailed understanding of the everyday realities and multiple senses of belonging – interestingly underpinned by gossip and modes of intimacy – among Pentecostal immigrants.

### III. FUTURE STRATEGY

This Report has been prepared during the Covid-19 pandemic, when the Institute has effectively been closed, and all scientists are working from home. Some SCD researchers have had their research seriously curtailed – especially those reliant on fieldwork. Therefore, the first set of activities for a future strategy will entail emergence from lockdown and the home office: re-organizing research trips, organization of conferences, seminars, lectures and workshops within the institute, writing and presentation in conferences, and generally working through contingency plans for individual and team projects by way of data gathering, analysis, write-up, and publication. The pandemic has had – and may continue to have – impacts on all of these key components of Institute work and life. The re-organization of conferences and workshops may be one of the more difficult sets of activities to undertake, because worldwide, most professional conferences have been postponed, and here may be a glut of such gatherings as academics re-emerge into professional events.

That said, SCD plans for the future include publications and media strategies (press releases, events, interviews, newspaper op-eds), formulated together with the Max Planck Society, for the *ZoMiDi*, *WiMi*, and *ProDiv* projects – each of which, it is anticipated, will attract considerable public interest. For instance, the *WiMi* report will coincide with the fifth anniversary of Chancellor Merkel's "Wir schaffen das" statement signaling Germany's acceptance of large numbers of asylum-seekers. Furthermore, we anticipate findings from our *ProDiv* survey to gain public and scientific attention, insofar as it will help to explain the social determinants of the "welcome culture" widely observed in Germany during the summer of 2015. More generally, the study will assist to identify the workings and mechanisms of popular assent to diversity – a major social asset to societies undergoing demographic shift and migration-driven diversification. The *Datarama* and *Visualizing Superdiversity* projects will also continue by way of technical development and modes of public exposure. Current research projects will naturally reach their fruition and publication, and new post-doctoral staff will be hired to continue work on themes, such as local responses to diversification and new urban expressions of difference.

## THEORIZING DIFFERENCE AND URBAN DIVERSITIES

***International Workshop, Schloss Ringberg, Kreuth, Germany 13-16 March 2019***

Convened at the Max Planck Society's unique convention center in the Bavarian Alps, 37 scholars participated in an event designed to advance methodological and theoretical approaches to the study of difference and diversity. Participants were comprised of current SCD staff, SCD alumni, and major figures in the field, such as Mary Waters (Harvard), Phil Kasnitz (CUNY), Nancy Foner (CUNY), Ralph Grillo (Sussex), Lauren Landau (Oxford), Caroline Kihato (Witwatersrand/Oxford), Bridget Anderson (Bristol), Peter Scholton (Rotterdam), Marco Martiniello (Liege), Brenda Yeoh (NUS), Jan Blommaert (Tilberg), and Dan Hiebert (UBC).

Participants were asked to provide brief, agenda-setting thoughts by way of responding to a series of general questions which also framed presentations and discussions. These were as follows:

- How can historical and international comparison contribute to theory and research concerning our understanding of "urban diversities" and concepts of "difference"?
- How can various concepts, contexts, processes, and theories in and from Africa contribute to the development of this field?



Schloss Ringberg

- Are we looking at the right categories of "difference", and how can we better bring intersectional approaches into our research?
- Where does the study of "difference" and "urban diversities" still need to go?
- How can scholars address these matters more effectively in a public sphere that is increasingly dominated by images, understandings, and rhetoric that are negative, if not hostile, to "difference" and (especially migration-driven) "urban diversities"?

An opening state-of-the-art lecture by Steve Vertovec was followed by springboard statements, and small group and collective discussions. The workshop proved to be an intriguing, thought-provoking, and agenda-setting event.



Plenary session at Schloss workshop



## VISUALIZING SUPERDIVERSITY

Recent migration has made traditional destination cities so diverse, in so many different ways, that numerous conventional social science concepts and methods have become outdated. In partnership with colleagues in Canada, New Zealand, Australia and the USA, Prof. Vertovec and SCD have released a unique new set of interactive data visualization tools (see [www.superdiv.mmg.mpg.de](http://www.superdiv.mmg.mpg.de)). These allow viewers to explore, in ways never-before seen, the changing interrelations between migration flows, traits, and outcomes. Users gain the ability to see and explore for themselves the combined effects of changing migrant characteristics, such as nationality, gender, age, education, and legal status. Moreover, through advanced cartography, we can observe how these intersections of traits are spatialized. Together, these shifting configurations of variables produce conditions of “[superdiversity](#)” across multiple scales.

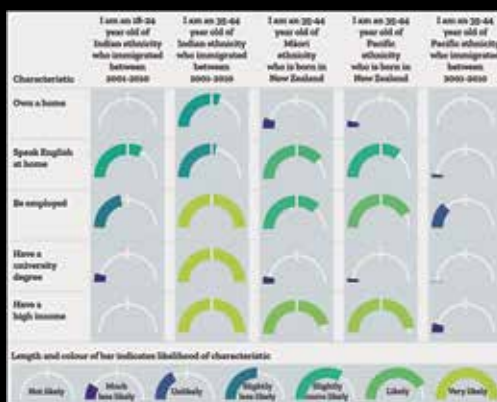
Using official statistics, the migration visualization tools have been launched with a comparative focus on three major contexts of recent immigration: Vancouver, Sydney, and Auckland. At each scale (national, metropolitan, neighborhood, and individual), the viewer can click between cities for comparison. For many of the graphics, users can toggle between time periods, as well. A second site has



Religion by ethnicity in Sydney

been created for Canadian cities, as the Canadian government is supporting the rollout of the visualizations for all of its cities of over one million people. We are also working with the Greater London Authority to incorporate London data, and with the City of New York Planning Department, New York University, and the City University of New York to add further comparative data visualizations.

With moving graphics and multiple modes of interaction that enable users to see patterns in official data (rather than just numbers), the migration visualization tools offer innovative ways to advance the methods and theories needed to study urban superdiversity, and to develop better public understandings and policies regarding processes of urban diversification.



Characteristics of selected Auckland residents



Ethnic and income diversity in Vancouver

## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION AND DIVERSITY: AGENTS OF CHANGE (ZOMiDi)

This government-funded project investigates how and why civil society organizations change in response to migration and societal diversity. Of a set of organizations, the Göttingen team specifically investigates a civil society organization of lesbian and gay persons, and another representing people with a disability and their families. As these are organizations that represent particular, potentially disadvantaged population groups, the project asks whether a “sensitivity for difference” makes them inclusive towards immigrants and members of ethnic minorities (see description under Schönwälder biography).

Preliminary findings suggest that there is no straight development towards more inclusive organizations, but rather discontinuity linked with selective organizational memory. All organizations change in some way in response to post-war migration, but often hesitantly and unevenly. They have adopted different stances vis-a-vis immigrants over the past 30 years: we identified solidarity, advocacy, practical support, paternalism, as well as sometimes hostility and contempt, sometimes alongside each other. Processes of change do not necessarily follow main political events and turning points, but exhibit independent dynamics.

Organizational fields, structures and identity of the organizations, as well as the presence or absence of key advocates of change, lead to remarkably dissimilar trajectories for the four organizations studied in the project. The contexts in which organizations operate shape their responses. For some, government policy constitutes an influential factor, for others sensitivity to racism in the field is the key factor to which they respond.



A controversial poster campaign: inclusive or paternalistic?



A magazine of an organization for the disabled addresses "Migration and mental disability"



A ZOMiDi Workshop: Mapping the organizational field



## SELECTED EVENTS

Workshop “Language and inequality in the age of superdiversity” 11-12.01.2017

Workshop - “The politics of uncertainty: producing, reinforcing and mediating (legal) uncertainty in local refugee reception” 15-16.11.2017

Conference - “European cities and diversity: new policies, changing relations between societal actors?” 25-26.1.2018

Conference - “Fantasies, Anxiety, Difference. The Figure of the Other in the Aftermaths of a Violent Political Transformation” 3-4.5.2018

Workshop - “INSIDE OUT - OUTSIDE IN. Shifting architectures of refugee inhabitation” 24-25.1.2019

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- Arnaut, K., Meeus, B., Van Heur, B. (2019) (Eds). *Arrival infrastructures: Migration and urban social mobilities*. Cham: Palgrave MacMillan.
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- Simone, A., & Pieterse, E. (2017). *New urban worlds: Inhabiting dissonant times*. Cambridge, UK; Malden, MA: Polity Press.
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- Weinbach, C. (2019). *Systemtheoretische Geschlechtersoziologie: Bestand, Kritik, Perspektiven*, Weinheim: Beltz Juventa.

### ARTICLES

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- Newhouse, L. (2017). Uncertain futures and everyday hedging in a humanitarian city. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 42(4), 503-515. doi:10.1111/tran.12188.
- Samanani, F. (2017). Introduction to Special Issue: Cities of refuge and cities of strangers. Searching for care and hospitality in the city. *City and Society*, 29(2), 242-259
- Schönwälder, K. (2020). Diversity in local political practice. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. doi:10.1080/01419870.2020.1760329.
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- Vertovec, S. (2019). Talking around super-diversity. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 42(1), 125-139. doi:10.1080/01419870.2017.1406128.
- Ye, J. (2017). Managing urban diversity through differential inclusion in Singapore. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 35(6), 1033-1052. doi:10.1177/0263775817717988.



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## INTRODUCTION

The Max Planck Fellow Group in Comparative Constitutionalism—headed by Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl—was established in 2018 to explore comparatively the interrelations between the constitutional arena (texts, institutions, jurisprudence) and the political sphere within which it operates, in particular as it pertains to the governance of collective identity, religion, urbanization, and economic and social rights across time and place. Our research is driven by an underlying premise that, in today’s world, there is neither a constitutionalism-free political system nor an apolitical constitutional legal framework. Consequently, we aim to advance an interdisciplinary approach, which is both methodological and substantive, to the study of comparative constitutionalism, and to foster dialogue between legal scholars and social scientists investigating a similar set of phenomena from different disciplinary perspectives.

In addition to Prof. Hirschl, the Comparative Constitutionalism Fellow Group provides funding for one full-time post-doctoral fellow based at the MPI-MMG, for long-term visiting fellow affiliation for several post-doctoral researchers based at the University of Göttingen, and for short-term visits by international scholars at all levels whose work falls within the Group’s thematic framework. The budget also allows for modest contributions to seminars, symposia, and workshops.

The research projects carried out by members and visitors of the Fellow Group complement and closely correspond with the research conducted in other units within the MPI-MMG, in particular with the Ethics, Law and Politics (ELP) Department headed by Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar, and with

MPFG Governance of Cultural Diversity headed by Prof. Dr. Matthias König, as well as with other Institutes in the Max Planck network. Additionally, we draw on Professor Hirschl’s Alexander von Humboldt Professorship held at the University of Göttingen to foster collaborative work and joint events with units and individuals within the University interested in the comparative study of constitutional law and politics. Since 2018, we have hosted a joint, highly productive Work-in-Progress Series with the ELP Department and have hosted half a dozen visitors, ranging from Ph.D. students at Oxford University and the University of Toronto to senior faculty members at the National University of Singapore. In addition, the Fellow Group has been collaborating closely and holding joint events with other universities and research institutes, notably the University of Milan, Utrecht University, Free University Berlin, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Toronto, and Harvard University.

One of our main research themes is the constitutional governance of urban agglomeration and megacities. This is a novel, research-intensive enterprise that draws on detailed comparative analyses of the political and jurisprudential dimensions of the constitutional recognition of urban centers worldwide, with special emphasis on the Global South, where the vast majority of urban population growth has occurred since the 1960s. This research project also comprises gathering data on urbanization processes, density, and intra-metropolis diversity and inequalities. A main output of this research project is Hirschl’s new book, *City, State: Constitutionalism and*



Staff members of the Fellow Group "Comparative Constitutionalism". © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebl

*the Megacity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020). This book addresses a fundamental void: the great constitutional silence concerning urbanization and the rise of the megacity. Indeed, more than half of the world's population lives in cities; by 2050, it will be more than three quarters. Moreover, projections suggest that megacities of 50 million or even 100 million inhabitants will emerge by the end of the century, mostly in the Global South. This shift marks a major and unprecedented transformation of the organization of society, both spatially and geopolitically. Our constitutional institutions and imagination, however, have failed to keep pace with this new reality. Cities have remained virtually absent from constitutional law and constitutional thought, not to mention from comparative constitutional studies more generally. As the world is urbanizing at an extraordinary rate, Hirschl argues, new thinking about constitutionalism and urbanization is desperately needed. Combining insights and methods from social science and public law, this study: traces the origins of constitutional si-

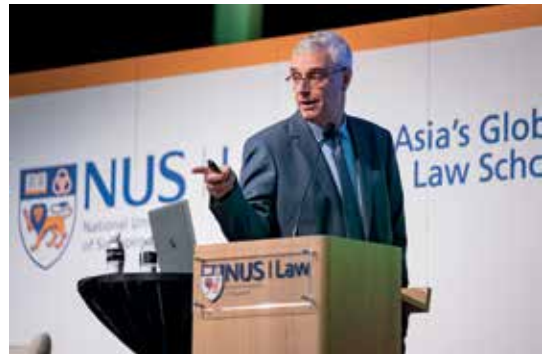
lence about the metropolis; explores how urban agglomeration affects the theory and practice of constitutional democracy; and considers several fresh ideas for carving a new place for the city in constitutional thought, constitutional law, and constitutional practice, while mitigating the re-surging urban/rural divide.

In 2019 and early 2020, Hirschl presented parts of this work in conferences held at the University of Melbourne, the National University of Singapore, the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile in Santiago, the University of Milan, and the University of Texas at Austin, with additional scheduled events at the University of Virginia, the University of Copenhagen, Humboldt University, and Harvard University postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Online events on this thread in Hirschl's work are organized by the University of Rio de Janeiro (September 2020); the University of Hong Kong (November 2020) and the University of Toronto (February 2021). Additional articles growing out of this project will soon be published in the *Annual Review of*

*Law and Social Science*, and the *European Yearbook of Constitutional Law*.

Based on their body of novel work on the spatial dimensions of public law, Hirschl and Shachar were invited to write the prestigious Annual Foreword to the 2019 volume of the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*; this extensive, terrain-defining article, entitled “Spatial Statism”, was published in June 2019, and has generated considerable scholarly attention, including extensive published commentary and rejoinders. The article examines the tremendous versatility and creativity of states as they extend their spatial and juridical tentacles in the new global environment. In an array of key policy areas that share strong territorial or spatial elements, we explore in considerable detail how state-centered public law defines, and where required redefines, space and territory in order to tame potential threats—local or global, vertical and horizontal—to the state’s territorial sovereignty. In a world in which the globalization narrative is associated with unrestrained flows of capital, ideas and technologies, Hirschl and Shachar track and identify a counter-narrative—*spatial statism*—of reconfigured regulation of the mobility of people, the immobility of cities, the emplacement of natural wealth and resources, the withering expression of religious diversity in the public sphere, and the unheralded return of us-them distinctions based on “true” belonging and place-based attachments to a particular patria, revealing through these illustrative examples the importance of a framework of analysis that takes heed of the spatial dimensions of public law. Taken in conjunction, these illustrations suggest that the disregard for, and dismissal of, the state as a potent actor in the public law arena is premature. State sovereignty may be metamorphosing, but it is evidently not vanishing.

Another area of research to which we devote significant focus is illiberal constitutionalism, in particular the rise of religion-infused narratives of membership as part of the ethno-nationalist populist waking worldwide. Our new research in that area spans the world, involving gathering of data and exploration of public debates, laws and court rulings from North America and Europe, as well as from less frequently studied constitutional settings, such as Israel, India, and Malaysia – all of which have undergone major religionization of public and constitutional discourse. Our recent work on this subject was published in the *Univer-*



Ran Hirschl delivers the 2019 Kwa Geok Choo Distinguished Visitors Lecture at NUS

sity of Chicago Law Review and in *Constitutional Democracy in Crisis?* (Oxford University Press, 2018). In addition, a new chapter by Hirschl on theocratic constitutionalism will be included in the *Routledge Handbook of Illiberalism*, to be published in late 2020, and another article on mixed constitutions will appear in *Law & Ethics of Human Rights* in 2021. Three visitors in our Group have been researching and publishing on closely related topics: Prof. Jaclyn Neo (NUS) on the constitutional regulation of religion in Asia; Faisal Kamal (Toronto) on the constitutional construction of “religion” in Pakistan and Bangladesh; and Dr. Lisa Harms (Göttingen) on strategic mobilization among various religious groups litigating religious freedom cases before the European Court of Human Rights.

A fourth thematic focus of the Fellow Group in Comparative Constitutionalism has been the politics of constitutional change and constitutional identity formation. We draw on a variety of research designs and methods to explore how the intersection of institutions, ideas, and interests creates a kaleidoscope of constitutional formations across the world of new constitutionalism. Works published in that area by Group members and visitors address a broad range of constitutional settings, from Ethiopia and Nigeria (Dr. Berihun Gebeye) to the Philippines (Dr. Santiago Regilme) to Mexico (Dr. Mariana Velasco-Rivera), and from Italy (Dr. Antonia Baraggia) to Hong Kong (Julius Yam) and to Canada (Prof. Dr. Hirschl). Dr. Alex Hudson—a post-doctoral researcher who joined the Group in mid-2018—has been leading the way in that endeavor. Hudson deploys a multi-method approach, including interviews, detailed constitutional ethnography and large-N statistical analyses, to assess the real effect of public participation in constitutional transformation. His





Demonstrators protest Basic Law: Israel as the Nation-State of the Jewish People

work has been published in leading venues, including *Comparative Politics* and in the *Handbook on Comparative Constitution-Making* (Elgar 2019), and recognized through best-paper awards.

In addition to publishing regularly in some of the most competitive and prestigious venues in public law, members of the Group engage in dissemination of ideas through the two main scholarly blogs in comparative constitutionalism: *Verfassungsblog* and *I•CONnect: Blog of the International Journal of Constitutional Law*. Our recent blog entries dealt with the constitutional dimensions of urban citizenship (Hirschl), women's rights in Mexico in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic (Velasco-Rivera), and the constitutional recognition of aboriginal peoples' rights in Canada (Hudson). In his role as co-president of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S), Prof. Hirschl (alongside Prof. Gráinne de Búrca of NYU) oversaw the tremendous growth of the Society, the creation of a dozen national and regional chapters, and the organization of the Society's major annual conferences, featuring towering jurists, such as the Chief Justice of Canada, the President of the UK Supreme Court, the President of Italy's Constitutional Court, the Chief Justice of the European Court of Justice, and the President of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Under his leadership, the ICON-S annual conferences

were held in Berlin (Humboldt University), Copenhagen (the University of Copenhagen), and Hong Kong (the University of Hong Kong). Virtually all researchers who study public law at the MPI-MMG have participated in these events.

As indicated earlier, the work of the Fellow Group is closely intertwined with the research carried out by Professor Hirschl and his team as part of the Alexander von Humboldt International Research Award that Hirschl was granted in 2016. Some of the publications emanating from that collaboration include Hirschl's "Comparative Methodologies" – the opening chapter of *The Cambridge Companion of Comparative Constitutional Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2019); Hirschl et al. "Justiciable and Aspirational Social and Economic Rights in National Constitutions" included in *The Future of Social and Economic Rights* (Cambridge University Press, 2019); as well as three major monographs: Hirschl's book, *City, State: Constitutionalism and the Megacity* (Oxford University Press, 2020); Hudson's book, *The Veil of Participation: Citizens and Political Parties in Constitution-Making Processes*, which will be published by Cambridge University Press in early 2021; and Gebeye's book, *Legal Syncretism—A Theoretical Framework for African Constitutionalism* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming in late 2021).





## SELECTED EVENTS

### WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

**“Methods and Research Design in Comparative Constitutional Studies”**

Co-organized with the University of Utrecht | 15.03.2018

**“Public Law and Spatial Governance: New Frontiers”**

Co-organized with the Department of Ethics, Law and Politics at the MPI-MMG | 07.12.2018

**“Equality at Stake: Constitutional Approaches in Comparison”**

Co-organized with the University of Göttingen | 07.06.2019

**“Comparative Constitutional Development”**

Co-organized with the University of Toronto | 03.10.2019 – 05.10.2019

**“Constitutional Design and the Urban/Rural Divide”**

Co-organized with the University of Chicago | 26.04.2020 – 27.04.2020 (Postponed)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- Hirschl, R. (2019). *Asuncos Comparativos: El Renacimiento del Derecho Constitucional Comparado*. Bogotá: Universidad Externado de Colombia.
- Hirschl, R. (2020). *City, state: constitutionalism and the megacity*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Hudson, A. (in press). *The veil of participation: Citizens and political parties in constitution-making processes* (forthcoming 2021-02). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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- Hirschl, R., & Shachar, A. (2018). Competing orders? The challenge of religion to modern constitutionalism. *The University of Chicago Law Review*, 85(2), 425-455.
- Hirschl, R. (2018). Going global? Canada as importer and exporter of constitutional thought. In R. Albert, & D. R. Cameron (Eds.), *Canada in the world: Comparative perspectives on the Canadian constitution* (pp. 305-323). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/9781108333436.014.
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- Hudson, A. (2020). Political parties and public participation in constitution making: Legitimation, distraction, or real influence? *Comparative Politics*. doi:10.5129/001041521X15966512980176.
- Velasco Rivera, M. (In press). Experimenting with amendment rules: is the U.S. constitutional system really doomed by Article V? Lessons from Mexico. *International Journal of Constitutional Law*.
- Gebeye, B. A. (In press). Global constitutionalism and cultural diversity: The emergence of jurisgenerative constitutionalism in Africa. *Global Constitutionalism*.
- Hirschl, R. (In press). Constitutional theocracy. In A. Sajó, S. Holmes, & R. Uitz (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Illiberalism*. Routledge.
- Hirschl, R. (In press). Methodology and research design in comparative constitutionalism. In D. Law (Ed.), *Constitutionalism in context*. Cambridge University Press.



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## INTRODUCTION

The Max Planck Fellow Group “Governance of cultural diversity – socio-legal dynamics” was established in December 2011 for a five-year period and extended, after positive evaluation, in December 2016 for another five-year period to stimulate innovative research on socio-legal dynamics of governing cultural diversity in a global comparative perspective. Theoretically, the Fellow Group combines sociology’s neo-institutionalism with insights from social movements and field theories. Consequently, law is regarded as articulating cognitive and normative scripts for governing diversity that circulate across national jurisdictions. At the same time, law is seen as a transnational action field in which various actors, organizations, and social movements struggle over the recognition of cultural and religious difference. Empirically, the Fellow Group analyzes socio-legal dynamics of governing diversity with multi-method research designs that combine quantitative analyses based on novel global datasets with qualitative and historical case studies. With its thematic focus, theoretical orientation and empirical approach, the Fellow Group contributes to the Institute’s overall mission, while connecting to all three Departments and strengthening cooperation with the University of Göttingen.

In its second period, the Fellow Group has included its group leader, Prof. Matthias Koenig (2011-2021), as well as a post-doctoral researcher (Marian Burchardt, 2011-2017), a doctoral researcher (Lisa Harms, 2014-2019), and student assistants who have jointly contributed to the comparative research agenda. The Fellow Group furthermore hosted an international research

fellow (Nader Sohrabi, 2016-2017), who added a historical-sociological perspective by exploring constitutional crises, nationalist movements, as well as religious and ethnic conflicts in the late Ottoman Empire. It also welcomed a short-term visitor (Zachary Elkins, University of Texas at Austin) to explore and build a joint data infrastructure for the digital study of constitutions, law, and politics. Due to external funding (see below), the Fellow Group recently recruited a new post-doctoral researcher (Artem Galushko, 2019-2021), whose work focuses on constitutional traditions in (post-)Soviet Eurasia.

The Fellow Group has worked continuously towards completing its major projects, while expanding its research agenda into new directions. The first project on minority rights in the world’s constitutions, conducted in collaboration with Kiyoteru Tsutsui (Stanford University) and co-funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Japan Foundation, has completed data collection and started preparing major research publications. The Minority Rights in Constitutions dataset (MRC v1.0), which contains 80 variables related to religious, linguistic and ethnic diversity in over 900 new constitutions worldwide (1800-2015), is being cleaned for public usage. Macro-quantitative time-series analyses of this dataset’s three major indexes – cultural homogeneity, individual rights, and collective rights – form the basis of article publications on global and domestic determinants of constitutional change, as well as on the latter’s consequences for ethnic power relations. Moreover, a series of author workshops (Ann Arbor 2017,



Göttingen 2017, Tokyo 2018) has resulted in a book manuscript based on paired country comparisons (US/Canada; Argentina/Brazil; Algeria/Morocco; South Africa/Zimbabwe; Myanmar/Nepal; Russia/Kazakhstan; Senegal/Indonesia) which, through in-depth process-tracing, shed light on causal mechanisms prompting the adoption or non-adoption of constitutional multiculturalism. Building on this research, Koenig has started a new follow-up project, funded within the framework of the EraNet-RUS program and carried out in collaboration with the Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg and the University of Eastern Finland (2019-2021). The project systematically scrutinizes diversity provi-

sions in post-imperial constitutions at both state and sub-state levels. While focusing on (post-) Soviet Eurasia, this research aims for broader comparative perspectives on the complex legacies of imperial modes of regulating difference in national constitutions, as studied in Sohrabi's work on post-Ottoman constitutionalism (e.g., Sohrabi 2018).

The second major project on judicial politics of religious diversity has also resulted in a number of publications. Informed by broader theories of law and religion (Burchardt 2018; Koenig 2018), it has studied courts as arenas for struggles over the recognition of religious difference. The European Court of Human Rights Religious



"Fundamentalism is not a Quebec value" – Demonstration in favour of the Charter of Secularism, Montreal.  
© Marian Burchardt, 2013.





The ECtHR has become a major forum for jurists, politicians and transnational religious movements to negotiate the governance of religious diversity. © 2013, picture alliance / dpa | Rainer Jensen

Litigation dataset (HUREL v1.0), which comprises more than 1.200 cases related to the European Court of Human Rights' jurisprudence on religion (1950-2015), is being cleaned for public usage. Harms has finished her doctoral research that she pursued in a cotutelle program between Sciences Po (Paris) and the University of Göttingen, where her dissertation was awarded the Christoph-Friedrich-Dahlmann Prize of the Social Sciences Faculty (2020). Drawing on the aforementioned dataset, extended fieldwork in Brussels, London, Paris, and Strasbourg and dozens of expert interviews, her dissertation shows how power asymmetries shape strategic religious freedom litigation of transnationally organized groups at the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). Burchardt's fieldwork in Catalonia and Quebec (e.g., Burchardt 2018, 2019) has culminated in a monograph that reveals how collective memory enters into judicial repertoires of contention over religious differences (Burchardt 2020). Together with former visiting fellow Zeynep Yanasmayan, Burchardt and Koenig have investigated the transnational circulation of justificatory repertoires of burqa bans in Spain and Belgium in the shadow of the ECtHR (Burchardt/Yanasmayan/Koenig 2019).

Third, adding a global historical sociology component to both projects, Koenig has pursued his project of mapping religious rights provisions in international treaties in the long 19<sup>th</sup> century. The project departs from neo-institutional analyses of international human rights by engaging in closer dialogue with global (legal) history (see Koenig 2015). It has produced a relational dataset that captures the network of sovereign states, their treaty relations, and trajectories of codifying religious rights. During his stay as a Visiting Scholar at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University (2018/19), he also conducted exploratory archival research on American missionaries' lobbying networks. The analysis shows how trade, imperialism, and transnational mobilization shaped the emergence of legal scripts prior to the birth of multilateral rights regimes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Max Planck Fellow Group and its members have presented their research results at major international conferences (e.g., ASA, ICON-S, IPSA, ISSR), high profile workshops (e.g., Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, International Commission of Jurists – German Section), and through invited lectures at leading universities

(e.g., Harvard University, Heidelberg University, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, University of Toronto, Zürich University). Capitalizing on their international research networks, they have deliberately contributed to revitalizing socio-legal research in German academia. Moreover, the Max Planck Fellow Group pursued its efforts to intensify collaboration at the *Göttingen Campus*, an alliance between the university and non-university research institutes. In this way, Koenig has assumed a leading role in an initiative to study the re-configurations of religious boundaries ("The Making and Unmaking of the Religious", funded by Lower Saxony's Ministry for Cultural Affairs, MWK), an initiative that has created sustained collaboration within the Forum for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion (FIRST). Serving as Vice Director at the Lichtenberg Kolleg, the University's Institute of Advanced Study, he has run the research group "Human rights, constitutional politics, and religious diversity" that has built bridges to the Institute and strengthened collaboration with the Alexander-von-Humboldt Professorship "Comparative Constitutionalism" (Ran Hirschl). Koenig has also co-sponsored and organized several workshops, seminars, and lecture series involving participants from the Institute and the University, and fostered debates on topics, such as recent trends and future perspectives in human rights scholarship (June 2016), religious freedom and the varieties of establishment (June 2017), and national identities and institutions in transitions (February 2018).

In terms of research training and mentoring, Koenig has not only supervised his own doctoral candidates (Harms, Rüdell, Trittler, Zimmer) but also served as a thesis committee member for completed and ongoing doctoral dissertations under the supervision of Vertovec (Chaloyan, Kankonde, Chimbizikai), thus linking the Institute's research on migration, transnationalism, and religion with his own research on integration trajectories of recent migrants and refugees, hosted at the University (SCIP & ENTRA, DFG funding; see e.g. Koenig et al. 2016). Additionally, he has offered mentoring workshops, introducing post-doctoral researchers at the Institute

and at the Kolleg to academic career trajectories in Germany and beyond. The Fellow Group's placement record confirms successful training of its post-doctoral researchers, who have directly moved to tenure-track or tenured professor positions at leading research universities (Leipzig University, McGill University, New York University Abu Dhabi).

The Max Planck Fellow Group will devote the last year of its second funding period to completing all of its publication plans. In addition, it will explore three novel directions of research. First, it aims to integrate socio-legal research findings more systematically with the comparative study of migrant incorporation, to better elucidate the complex interplay of institutional accommodation and social boundary configurations in shaping integration trajectories of religious minorities within Europe and beyond. Second, it aims to study the consequences of constitutional rights provisions for minorities' political and socio-economic status. Clearly, this is a question of pressing policy relevance worldwide to assess the success of different models of constitutional design, in terms of peaceful coexistence, social solidarity, and public good production. Merging MRC data with other available global datasets (Minorities at Risk, Ethnic Power Relations, etc.), it will scrutinize whether (individual, as well as collective) rights to cultural difference bolster minorities' claims to recognition, amount to a mere ceremonial adoption of globally hegemonic scripts, or even provoke populist counter-movements and authoritarian backlashes. Third, in a long-term perspective, it aims to develop innovative research on alternative visions of global order in international law. Current political contestations of multilateralism and shifting centers of geopolitical power raise the question of which visions of global order will shape international law in a culturally diverse and multi-polar world. Global comparative sociology as pioneered in the Fellow Group's previous projects might assist in answering that question by dissecting mechanisms through which rivaling (political, economic, religious) visions of global order become legally institutionalized.



## SELECTED EVENTS

### **Mini-workshop "After Critique: Recent Trends and Future Perspectives in Human Rights Scholarship"**

Organized by Matthias Koenig in cooperation with Lichtenberg Kolleg, MPI, Göttingen June 2016

### **Workshop "Imagining and Regulating Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Turkey – Macro-configurations and Micro-dynamics"**

Organized by Sinem Adar, Markus Dressler, Matthias Koenig and Zeynep Özgen, MPI, Göttingen July 2016

### **Public Lecture "Why Evangelicals Voted for Trump" (Philip Gorski)**

Organized by Matthias Koenig in cooperation with the Forum for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion (FIRST), Göttingen December 2016

### **Workshop "Legal Pluralism in Personal Status Law: Comparative and Historical Perspectives"**

Organized by the "Human Rights, Constitutional Politics and Religious Diversity" research group at Lichtenberg Kolleg, Göttingen October 2016.

### **Workshop "Religious Freedom and the Varieties of Religious Establishment – National Identities, Public Morals and Cultural Values"**

Organized by the "Human Rights, Constitutional Politics and Religious Diversity" research group at Lichtenberg Kolleg, Göttingen June 2017

### **Workshop "Digital Turn in Comparative Constitutionalism"**

Organized by Zachary Elkins, Ran Hirschl and Matthias Koenig, IPSA, Hannover December 2017

### **Workshop "Changing Legal Definitions of Minority Rights and Nationhood in Written Constitutions"**

Organized by Matthias Koenig and Kiyoteru Tsutsui, MPI, December 2017

### **Workshop "Liberalism and its Critics: National Identities and Institutions in Transition"**

Organized by the "Human Rights, Constitutional Politics and Religious Diversity" research group at Lichtenberg Kolleg, Göttingen February 2018

### **Workshop "Constitutional Multiculturalism: Global and Local Dynamics of Minority Inclusion"**

Organized by Matthias Koenig and Kiyoteru Tsutsui, Tokyo, December 2018

### **Workshop "Post-Imperial Diversities: Constitutional – Majority-Minority Relations in the Transition from Empires to Nation-States"**

Organized by Matthias Koenig in the framework of Eranet-RUS ImpDiv, MPI, Göttingen January 2019

### **Public Lecture "White, Christian Nation: Race, Religion and Nation in the Making of American Identity" (Philip Gorski)**

Organized by Matthias Koenig at the Department of Sociology, Göttingen June 2020

### **Public Lecture "Has the Covid-19 pandemic led to reduced support for diversity? Experimental evidence from German cities" (Lucas Drouhout, Karen Schönwälder, Steve Vertovec)**

Organized by Matthias Koenig at the Department of Sociology, Göttingen June 2020

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- Burchardt, Marian (2020). *Regulating Difference: Religious Diversity and Nationhood in the Secular West*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

### ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS AND EDITED VOLUMES

- Burchardt, Marian (2017). "Recalling modernity: how nationalist memories shape religious diversity in Quebec and Catalonia". *Nations and Nationalism* 23 (3): 599-619.
- Burchardt, Marian (2018). "Governing religious identities: law and legibility in neoliberalism". *Religion* 48(3): 436-452.
- Burchardt, Marian (2019). "Religion in urban assemblages: space, law, and power". *Religion, State & Society*, 47(4-5): 374-389.
- Burchardt, Marian and Mar Grier (2018). "To see or not to see: Explaining intolerance towards the 'Burqa' in European public space". *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 42(5): 726-744.
- Burchardt, Marian, Zeynep Yanasmayan and Matthias Koenig (2019). "The judicial politics of 'burqa bans' in Belgium and Spain – socio-legal field dynamics and the standardization of justificatory repertoires". *Law and Social Inquiry* 44(2): 333-358.
- Koenig, Matthias, Mieke Malipaard and Ayse Guveli (2016). "Religion and new immigrants' labor market entry in Western Europe", *Ethnicities* 16(2): 213-235.
- Koenig, Matthias (2018). "Religion und Recht". In: Detlef Pollack, Volkhard Krech, Olaf Müller, Markus Hero (Hg.). *Handbuch Religionssoziologie*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS: 741-762.
- Koenig, Matthias (2018). "Contentieux religieux, politique judiciaire et gouvernance de la diversité religieuse". In: Irene Becci, Christophe Monnot, Olivier Voirol (eds.), *Pluralisme et reconnaissance. Face à la diversité religieuse*. Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes (2018), pp. 107-120.
- Koenig, Matthias (2019). "Reconfiguring cultural differences". *Social Science History* 43: 369-378.
- Koenig, Matthias (2019). "Religion et identités nationales – reconfigurations dans l'Europe contemporaine". In: Jean Baubérot, Philippe Portier and Jean-Paul Willaime (eds.). *La sécularisation en question. Religion et laïcités au prisme des sciences sociales*. Paris: Les Classiques Garnier, pp. 675-688.
- Koenig, Matthias (2020). "Emile Durkheim and the sociology of religion". In: *Oxford Handbook for Durkheim Studies*, ed. by Hans Joas and Andreas Pettenkofer. Oxford: Oxford University Press DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190679354.013.18
- Sohrabi, Nader (2018). "Reluctant nationalists, imperial nation-state, and Neo-Ottomanism: Turks, Albanians, and the Antinomies of the end of empire". *Social Science History* 42(4): 835-870.



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## INTRODUCTION

"Ageing in a Time of Mobility" was established in January 2018 and is situated at the juncture of two key phenomena of our times: ageing populations and global migration. Globally, there are over 705 million persons aged 65 years or older, and this number is projected to double to 1.5 billion by 2050 (UNDESA, 2019). Yet, in a context of global interconnection, not all of these people will be growing older in the places that they might have imagined. Ageing and migration are often spoken about separately in public and scholarly debates. However, these processes intersect in important ways. Older people are among the refugee populations, who are forcibly displaced in situations of political conflict and environmental change; they migrate across borders to build new lives in retirement; or they age abroad as members of diverse diasporic communities. Indeed, even when they do not physically move, their lives may be profoundly transformed by the transnational mobilities of others.

The group's research agenda thus attends to the social, political and economic transformations associated with ageing and migration, bringing together both of these fields of research, and adopting a particular focus on how such transformations take shape in people's everyday lives and in their intimate, familial worlds. In terms of geographical scope, the group focuses on cases that deal with the mobilities of older populations in and from regions that are ageing most rapidly (UNDESA, 2019) – namely Asia, Latin America, and Africa – but that have been less visible in research and policy agendas. It adopts a multi-sited ethnographic approach to illuminate narratives

that extend beyond the often-reductive and static representations of ageing as either an alarmist demographic problem or as a "triumph of development", directing attention instead to the complex, translocal negotiations of kinship, social networks, institutions, home, belonging, and citizenship that lie between these two framings.

Overarching questions that guide the group's work include: how do meanings of ageing "travel" across borders, and equally, how do age and generations matter in experiences of migration? How do current forms of knowledge and expertise about ageing and migration resonate, or come into tension with, the diverse lived realities of growing older in a time of intensified mobilities? How might the joint study of ageing and migration enable a rethinking of normative assumptions surrounding kinship, care, work, and generations? How does the category of age intersect with categories of race, class, and gender as people navigate social differences, boundaries, and inequalities in contexts of diversity?

Underlying these questions is a recognition that subjective, relational and social constructions of age do not always fit with institutionalised categorisations of "old-age", even as the latter hold much significance in shaping life transitions. Ageing also offers a unique lens into the study of migration, diversity, and social change by adding a valuable temporal perspective. While the group's work is largely focused on human migration and displacement, a broader notion of "mobilities" is adopted to capture the movement of ideas and institutions, as well as the experiences of those whose lives are shaped by the mobilities of others.

## PROJECTS

The current research team comprises Research Group Leader, Dr. Megha Amrith, two post-doctoral fellows, Dr. Victoria Kumala Sakti and Dr. Dora Sampaio, one doctoral fellow, Nele Wolter (enrolled for the doctoral degree at the Department of Anthropology and African Studies, University of Mainz), and is supported by the group secretary, Antje Menster. The individual projects focus on the following interconnections between ageing and mobilities to shed light on their complexity and diversity: (1) ageing labor migrants and diasporas; (2) ageing in contexts of forced migration; (3) the care for older generations who "stay behind" in transnational familial migration; and (4) ageing, internal mobilities, and displacement.

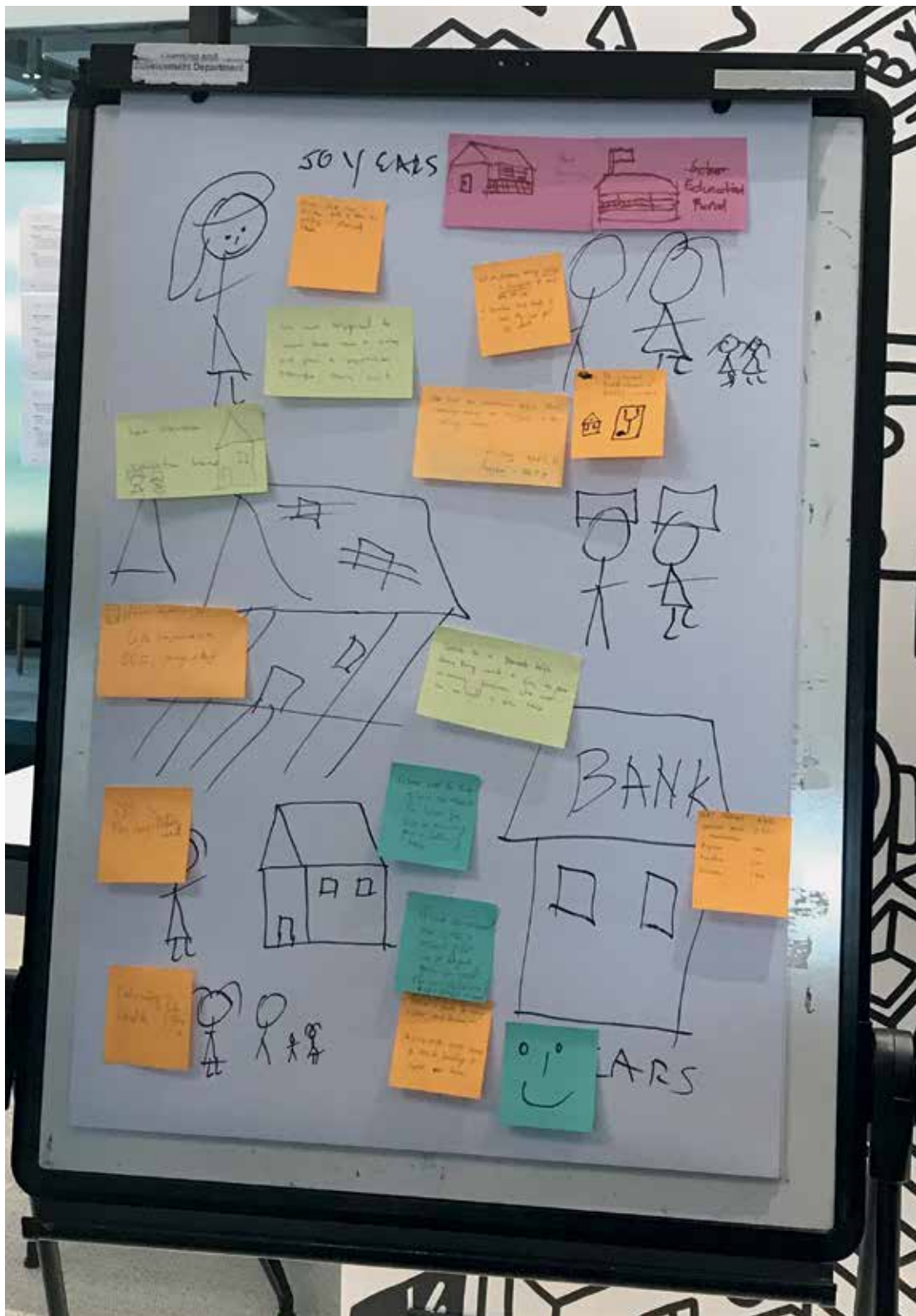
In the current projects, Megha Amrith focuses on Asian migrant women in Singapore, who work abroad over decades in temporary and precarious labour contracts. Amrith considers what futures might look like for women at the point of having to return home to their countries of origin when they face retirement with limited social protections. Victoria K. Sakti researches the experiences of the East Timorese diaspora in Indonesia as they grow older "between places" in a politicized context of protracted displacement.

Sakti analyses the material, kin and ancestral relationships that shape older refugees' experiences, in situations where returning to one's original home is not feasible. Dora Sampaio explores the conflicts and solidarities in transnational Brazilian families, examining how Brazilian migrants in the USA and UK, some undocumented, negotiate care across hardened borders for their ageing parents who remain in Brazil, and the creative arrangements that emerge from this tension. Finally, Nele Wolter studies how older Cameroonians make a living in situations of volatile political violence and internal displacement, considering the intergenerational impacts that these displacements of uncertain time periods have on everyday livelihoods and practices of care.

All projects are situated in the disciplines of anthropology and geography, while drawing on scholarship from sociology, history, and interdisciplinary fields, such as migration studies, social policy, and gerontology. Ethnography sits at the heart of the group's research methodology, as do proximate qualitative methods, such as oral history interviews, working with material culture, digital technologies, and visual techniques.



Dona Aparecida in her home in Governador Valadares, Brazil (photo by Dora Sampaio, 2019).



A training session in Hong Kong on migrant women's financial futures (photo by Megha Amrith, 2020).



Photos of family near and far in an East Timorese living room, Indonesia (photo by Victoria K. Sakti, 2019).

## CURRENT RESEARCH FINDINGS

Our research to date demonstrates a clear disjuncture between the realities of translocal lives on the one hand, and state- or place-bound frameworks of social protection and migration on the other. Differential rights to mobility and citizenship have uneven impacts on how people experience older-age, either as migrants themselves or when family members live elsewhere. Ageing trajectories are shaped by unequal global and regional interdependencies, while also generating new forms of inequality along the lines of historically and socially-constituted categories of race, class, and gender. Structural precarity, discrimination and exclusion can persist well into later life, and across generations, to restrict access to care, social services, and livelihoods for more vulnerable migrant groups. Our research further illuminates how formalized forms of social protection have only limited reach in some contexts, while being cut back in others, and that the pursuit of work goes well beyond institutional definitions of “retirement”, particularly in conditions of ongoing socio-economic insecurity. The perspectives that our research brings from different regions of the world, moreover, critically nuance universalizing assumptions about ageing (expressed in ideas, such as “successful” or “active” ageing).

At the same time, there are myriad ways through which normative ideas and expectations about care, kinship, and ageing are being

reimagined and newly configured. The migration of younger family members may generate greater resources to support the care needs of older members, while care across distances is increasingly practiced digitally. In certain cases, older generations might be more mobile in the face of restrictive immigration regimes, playing crucial decision-making roles within transnational families. The perspectives that we have heard from the ground illuminate how older people are not just passive or sedentary recipients of care, but importantly contribute to organizing households, building new communities, participating in politics, and pursuing aspirations and desires of their own, within and across borders.

## PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

The group now moves towards writing up research findings for presentation and publication in different scholarly venues. Peer-reviewed publications in progress, and eventually monographs, are making contributions along three lines: (1) to relevant conceptual debates within our disciplines of anthropology and geography; (2) to interdisciplinary fields of ageing, migration, mobility, diversity, and citizenship; and (3) to our respective regional studies debates, namely Southeast Asian Studies, African Studies, and Latin American Studies.

The group regularly hosts guest lectures with key scholars in our fields, as well as thematic and



methodological workshops. Our inaugural workshop in October 2018 “Ageing Across Borders: Care, Generations, and Citizenship”, for instance, was crucial for developing the group’s conceptual foundation. In 2020, we organized an international workshop on later-life aspirations, and another on everyday intimacies, bureaucracies, and imaginaries in forced migration (co-organized with the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity). For 2021, we have plans for workshops on ‘southern’ re-configurations of the ageing-migration nexus; ageing, migration, and livelihoods in Latin America; and intergenerational dynamics. The workshops advance our collaborations with scholars globally, and will lead to collective publications as journal special issues and edited volumes. The group members regularly present their work and organize thematic panels at international conferences and workshops, and are also committed to taking these research findings to broader audiences. We are actively planning for an exhibition in the coming years to share audio-visual narratives from fieldwork with wider publics, involving academic collaborators, artists, and those working on applied projects.

We have found a collegial and vibrant scholarly home at the MPI-MMG, and enjoy regular exchanges of ideas with colleagues in the other departments and research groups. Other institutions and networks to which team members are connected through memberships, affiliations, or collaborations (e.g., joint events, visiting arrangements, or publication projects) include: the European Association of Social Anthropologists Age and Generations Network, the American Anthropological Association Aging and Lifecourse Interest Group, the Psychological Anthropology Working Group of the German Anthropological Association, IMISCOE, the European Association of Southeast Asian Studies, as well as scholars and research groups based at the University of Mainz, the National University of Singapore, Brandeis University, Humboldt University, Rutgers University, the University of Sussex, the University of Western Australia, Univale (Brazil), and the University of Dschang. We look forward to building on our research on the diverse ways through which people respond to the cultural, political, and ethical transformations connected to ageing in a time of mobility.



Grace feeding her mother in Bafoussam, Cameroon (photo by Nele Wolter, 2020).



## SELECTED EVENTS

### **"Ageing across Borders: Care, Generations, Citizenship"**

International Workshop | 23.10.2018 – 24.10.2018

### **"Unpacking the Ageing-Migration Nexus"**

Lecture by RUSSELL KING (University of Sussex) | 23.10.2018

### **"Ageing and Mobility: Care, Generations, and Citizenship beyond the Views of the West"**

Lecture by SARAH LAMB (Brandeis University) | 23.10.2018

### **"Biographical Methods and Life-Story Interviews"**

Workshop | 30.10.2018 | Gabriele Rosenthal (University of Göttingen)

### **"Transnational Ageing and Care Technologies: Mainland Chinese Grandparenting Migrants"**

Lecture by ELAINE HO (National University of Singapore) | 11.07.2019

### **"Digital Kinning And the Role of Intergenerational Care Support Networks in Ageing"**

Lecture by LORETTA BALDASSAR (University of Western Australia) | 16.07.2019

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- Amrith, M., & Sahraoui, N. (Eds.). (2018). *Gender, Work and Migration: Agency in Gendered Labour Settings*. London: Routledge.

### ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS AND EDITED VOLUMES

- Amrith, M. (2019). The substance of care: Ethical dilemmas in migrant medical labour. *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology*, 1-17. doi:10.1080/00141844.2018.1542410.
- Amrith, M. (2020). The linear imagination, stalled: changing temporal horizons in migrant journeys. *Global Networks: A Journal of Transnational Affairs*. doi:10.1111/glob.12280.
- Sakti, V. K. (2020). Aging in Timorese Exile: (Im)Mobilities of Care and Intergenerational Relationships. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*. DOI: 10.1080/15350770.2020.1787039
- Sakti, V. K. (2020). The Politics of Loss and Restoration: Massive Bad Death in the Oecussi Highlands. In Kent, L. and Feijó, R. G. (Eds). *The Dead as Ancestors, Martyrs, and Heroes in Timor-Leste*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Sampaio, D., King, R., & Walsh, K. (Eds.). (2018). Geographies of the ageing–migration nexus: An introduction. *Area*, 50(4), 440-443. doi:10.1111/area.12463.
- Sampaio, D. (2020). Ageing strategically: On migration, care, and diversity in later life. *Population, space and place*, doi:10.1002/psp.2317.
- Sampaio, D. (2020). Caring by Silence: How (Un)documented Brazilian Migrants Enact Silence as a Care Practice for Aging Parents. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*. DOI: 10.1080/15350770.2020.1787038

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## INTRODUCTION

The current exhibition at the Zagreb Ethnographic Museum, "Hats Off! The Story of (Un)Covered Heads," presents a cornucopia of headgear to the curious visitor, ranging from haute couture millinery to pancaked fishermen's chapeaus. Bridal headdresses, which often doubled as dowries, are especially prominent in the display. As was traditionally the case in much of the Balkans, many of these headdresses consist of coins affixed to a delicate mesh of silver-chain thread. They are entrancing objects, even when admired from several metres away. A closer inspection reveals an enigma, a clue to the curious past in which these relics took shape: the money that they contain is politically promiscuous. Side-by-side, these matrimonial ornaments feature both Habsburg thalers embossed with the profile of Empress Maria Theresa and Ottoman lira displaying the Sultan's seal, the tughra.

Objects such as these constitute a lustrous metaphor for, and metonym of, the themes that orient and inspire our Max Planck Research Group, "Empires of Memory: The Cultural Politics of Historicity in Former Habsburg and Ottoman Cities," which was established at the MPI-MMG for an initial period of five years in May 2016. In recent years, bygone empires have dramatically refused to remain confined to the dustbin of the past. This recrudescence of empires and imperialism is vivid across central Europe, the Balkans, and the Middle East, where collective memories of Habsburgs and Ottomans—not to mention Romans and Romanovs, Byzantines and Macedonians, French and British—provide a lexicon and a repository of images for thinking through vexed

questions of identity and difference, selfhood and otherness. Legacies and memories of empires are especially dramatic and impactful when they are juxtaposed to those of other polities, whether imperial or national—like the coins on a Bosnian headdress.

"Empires of Memory" grapples with this rich field of post-imperial legacies in eight specific cities: Vienna, Istanbul, Trieste, Thessaloniki, Budapest, Sarajevo, Belgrade, and Zagreb. Each of these cities is a stage and laboratory for rethinking and reframing collective memories of the Habsburgs and Ottomans, often in direct relation to each other. Rather than limit research to a single city, most of our research for "Empires of Memory" explicitly draws several cities into comparative conversation, with the aim of delineating unanticipated continuities and contrasts between and among them. As former seats of imperial governance and culture where post-imperial collective memory is robust, Vienna, Budapest, and Istanbul form a provocative trio. Trieste and Thessaloniki—key entrepôts in the Habsburg and Ottoman Empires, respectively—each illustrate the flattening effects of nationalism on the linguistic, cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity that characterized imperial port cities. Budapest, Sarajevo, and Belgrade each resided in both of the empires at different times and in dissimilar capacities; images of empire in these three cities continue to be affected by the legacies of imperial borderland politics, as well. Finally, Belgrade, Sarajevo, and Zagreb also constitute a fascinating triad: in each city, the memories and legacies of the Habsburgs and Ottomans are inextricable



A 19th century Bosnian bridal headdress, featuring Habsburg and Ottoman coins, on display at the Zagreb Ethnographic Museum (photo by Jeremy F. Walton, 2020).

from the more recent, ambivalent inheritance of Yugoslavia.

An omnivorous methodological appetite and interdisciplinary purview correspond to the geographic multiplicity of “Empires of Memory”. Imperial legacies take on numerous forms, in many mediums, including visual, literary, filmic/televisual and architectural, in addition to their articulations in public discourse generally. Concomitantly, “Empires of Memory” draws on the insights and methods of anthropology, sociology, history, comparative literature, and art and architectural history, as well as memory studies, urban studies, and visual studies. As I describe below, the output of the group also reflects our integrated interdisciplinarity.

Thus far, “Empires of Memory” has supported a total of six research projects. Jeremy F. Walton’s ongoing project examines different types of sites of post-imperial memory—monuments, museums, spaces of worship, and cemeteries—in Vienna, Istanbul, Trieste, Thessaloniki, Zagreb, and Belgrade. Giulia Carabelli, a former post-doctoral fellow in the project (2016-2019), explored modalities of Habsburg nostalgia in Viennese-style cafes in Trieste, Budapest and Sarajevo, as well as in Vienna itself. Dr. Carabelli left the group for a permanent post at Queen’s University, Belfast. Miloš Jovanović, another former post-doctoral fellow (2016-2019), examined iterations of Habsburg urban design along the Danube, in

Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, and the Bulgarian city of Ruse. Dr. Jovanović left the project for a tenure-track position in the Department of History at UCLA. Our third former post-doctoral fellow, Piro Rexhepi (2016-2018), interrogated the politics of post-imperial memories in Sarajevo and Thessaloniki, with a focus on the communities and identities excluded from hegemonic images of the past, including refugees, Muslim groups, and LGBTQ+ individuals. Dr. Rexhepi left the project to pursue a permanent academic position in the United States. Çiçek İlengiz joined “Empires of Memory” in late 2019 to explore how contemporary communities devoted to the works and person of the poet, philosopher and mystic Rumi (Mevlana), refract Ottoman and Seljuk imperial legacies in Istanbul and Rumi’s adopted home, the Turkish city of Konya. Annika Kirbis, the doctoral student in “Empires of Memory”, is currently preparing a dissertation on the myriad effects of hegemonic memories of the Ottoman siege(s) of Vienna in relation to a variety of sites and communities in the city today. Finally, we welcomed another post-doctoral fellow in March 2020, Jelena Radovanović, who will illuminate the shared history and contemporary valences of the Islamic institution of the *waqf* (*vakıf*, *vakuf*) in the Ottoman and post-Ottoman Balkans.

“Empires of Memory” has been productive as both a platform for publications and a node in intersecting networks of scholars and research. The stature of our publication profile has increased in the past three years especially. Since the inauguration of our group, we have published 19 peer-reviewed journal articles (10 in 2019 alone), approximately 13 book chapters, and manifold blogs and para-academic publications, including several editorials in prominent forums, such as *The Guardian*. Two single-authored monographs, Jeremy F. Walton’s *Muslim Civil Society and the Politics of Religious Freedom in Turkey* (Oxford University Press, 2017) and Giulia Carabelli’s *The Divided City and the Grassroots: The (Un) Making of Ethnic Divisions in Mostar* (Palgrave, 2018), have been published during our tenure. We have also produced two documentary films: *Skopje-Sarajevo-Salonika: A Post-Ottoman Trilogy* (<https://vimeo.com/236848010>) by Piro Rexhepi (2017) and *Waterfront: A Post-Ottoman, Post-Socialist Story* (<https://vimeo.com/318706476>) by Miloš Jovanović (2018). We are particularly proud of our collaborative work on a variety of edited



volumes, including *Ambivalent Legacies: Political Cultures of Memory and Amnesia in Former Habsburg and Ottoman Lands*, a special issue of *History and Anthropology* (Vol. 30, Issue 4) published in 2019 and edited by Jeremy F. Walton, and *Sharpening the Haze: Visual Essays in Imperial History and Memory* (Ubiquity Press, 2020), co-edited by Giulia Carabelli, Miloš Jovanović, Annika Kirbis, and Jeremy Walton. In 2020, Giulia Carabelli and Miloš Jovanović will also serve as co-editors of special issues of *History of the Present* and *Cultural Studies* based on their work with “Empires of Memory”, and Jeremy F. Walton will also be engaged in several ongoing or recently-completed editorial projects in 2020.

The events that the Research Group “Empires of Memory” has organized and hosted—many of which have already resulted in publications and further collaborations—have constituted the group’s lifeblood. Since 2016, the group has coordinated four major international conferences: “Ambivalent Legacies: Memory and Amnesia in Post-Habsburg and Post-Ottoman Cities” (2017);

“Through the Looking Glass of the Local: Rereading Istanbul’s Heterogeneous Pasts” (2017); “Empire Off-Center” (2018); and “Striking Back? On Imperial Fantasies and Fantasies of Empire” (2019). Additionally, the Research Group has hosted five smaller workshops and panels. The “Telling Times: Memories of Culture, Cultures of Memory” lecture series has sponsored a total of 16 lectures (three in 2016, four in 2017, two in 2018, and seven in 2019). Less formally, the group has established productive collaborations with members in every department and research group in the Institute. By virtue of its unique position, straddling disciplines and geographies, “Empires of Memory” and its members have pioneered novel research questions that integrate the insights and expertise of scholars and scholarship that might otherwise remain distant from one another. The double interrogation of imperial pasts and the post-imperial present will continue to animate the remainder of the time together and, hopefully, open productive horizons of inquiry and collaboration in the future.



Antagonists in the 16th century, Zrínyi Miklós (Nikola Šubić Zrinski) and Süleyman the Magnificent now stand beside each other in the Hungarian-Turkish Friendship Park in Szigetvár, Hungary (photo by Jeremy F. Walton, 2016).



## SELECTED EVENTS

### **"Material Temporalities"**

An international workshop co-sponsored with the Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Georg August University of Göttingen | 2020

### **"Striking Back? On Imperial Fantasies and Fantasies of Empire"**

A two-day international conference | 2019

### **"Empire Off-Center"**

A two-day international conference | 2018

### **"Through the Looking Glass of the Local: Rereading Istanbul's Heterogeneous Pasts"**

A two-day international conference | 2017

### **"Ambivalent Legacies: Memory and Amnesia in Post-Habsburg and Post-Ottoman Cities"**

A three-day international conference | 2017

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 "Empire Off-Center." A special issue of the journal *Cultural Studies*. Giulia Carabelli and Miloš Jovanović, edited.
- 2020 "Empire Off-Center." A special section of the journal *History of the Present*, vol. 10, issue 1. Giulia Carabelli and Miloš Jovanović, edited.
- 2020 *Sharpening the Haze: Visual Essays on Imperial History and Memory*. Giulia Carabelli, Miloš Jovanović, Annika Kirbis and Jeremy F. Walton, edited. London: Ubiquity Press.
- 2019 *Art and Politics in the Modern World*. Dragan Damjanović, Lovorka Magaš Bilandžić, and Željka Miklošević, and Jeremy F. Walton, edited. Zagreb: University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.
- 2019 "Siting Pluralism." A special section of the journal *Religion and Society: Advances in Research*, no. 10. Jeremy F. Walton and Neena Mahadev, edited.
- 2019 "Ambivalent Legacies: Political Cultures of Memory and Amnesia in Former Habsburg and Ottoman Lands." A special issue of the journal *History and Anthropology*, vol. 30, issue 4. Jeremy F. Walton, edited.
- 2019 *Waterfront: A Post-Ottoman, Post-Socialist Story*. Documentary film. Directed by Miloš Jovanović, Miloš Miletić and Mirjana Radovanović.
- 2018 *The Divided City and the Grassroots. The (Un)Making of Ethnic Divisions in Mostar*. Academic monograph by Giulia Carabelli. London: Palgrave.
- 2018 *Skopje, Sarajevo and Salonika: A Post-Ottoman Trilogy*. Documentary film. Directed by Piro Rexhepi and Ajkuna Tafa
- 2017 *Muslim Civil Society and the Politics of Religious Freedom in Turkey*. Academic monograph by Jeremy F. Walton. New York: Oxford University Press.

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## ETHICS, LAW AND POLITICS

### PROF. DR. AYELET SHACHAR Director



Ayelet Shachar is Director of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, and Professor of Law, Political Science, and Global Affairs at the University of Toronto. Previously, she held the Canada Research Chair in Citizenship and Multiculturalism. Her work has inspired a whole new generation of thinking about how best to mitigate tensions between religious diversity and gender equality, and has proven influential in public policy and legislative debates. It has also been cited by religious leaders (e.g., England's Archbishop of Canterbury) and in apex court decisions (e.g., the Supreme Court of Canada). Shachar's research is motivated by the need to develop new legal principles to address some of the most pressing issues of our time: how to live together in diverse societies, how to grant rights to those who lack formal access to membership, and how to tame the ever-expanding reach of borders and migration control in a world of persistent inequality. She is the author of "Multicultural Jurisdictions: Cultural Differences and Women's Rights" (Cambridge University Press, 2001 & 2009) - winner of the American Political Science Association Foundations of Political Theory Best First Book Award, "The Birthright Lottery: Citizenship and Global Inequality" (Harvard Uni-

versity Press, 2009) - named 2010 International Ethics Notable Book in recognition of its “superior scholarship and contribution to the field of international ethics”, “The Shifting Border: Legal Cartographies of Migration and Mobility” (Critical Powers Series, Manchester University Press, 2020), as well as close to 100 articles and book chapters published in leading social science and law journals. Shachar is also the lead editor of the field-defining “Oxford Handbook of Citizenship” (Oxford University Press, 2017 & 2020). She serves on the Board of Trustees of the Association of Members of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, the Advisory Board of the Boundaries, the Membership & Belonging Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), and the Advisory Board of the Max Planck-Cambridge Centre for Ethics, Economics, and Social Change at the University of Cambridge. Shachar is also the Founding Co-chair of the Max Planck Research Initiative on Migration, Integration, and Exclusion (total research budget: €3.7 million). She was a Fulbright Fellow at Yale, Emile Noël Senior Fellow at NYU, Member of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, and held distinguished visiting professorships at Stanford and Harvard. Shachar is the recipient of research excellence awards in Canada, Israel, Germany, and the United States. Beyond contributing to key scholarly debates, she has provided *pro-bono* consultation to judges, non-governmental organizations, the European Parliamentary Research Services, and the World Bank. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (FRSC) - the highest academic accolade in that country, as well as a Member of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities (Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen). Most recently, she won the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize - the most prestigious research award in Germany.

## PROJECT 1: SHIFTING BORDERS OF JUSTICE: TERRITORY, MARKET, MIGRATION

*Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar*

Contributing to debates about migration and globalization, this research project explores how and why the multiple borders of justice - territorial, legal, and normative - are shifting. These dramatic transformations unsettle ideas about waning sovereignty, just as they illustrate the limits of the populist push toward re fortified

bordering responses. As an alternative to these established theoretical poles and as part of a broader attempt to overcome policy deadlocks at the domestic and international level, Professor Shachar proposes a new approach to human mobility in a world where borders, like people, have the capacity to move.



*The Shifting Border: Legal Cartographies of Migration and Mobility*  
(Critical Powers Series, Manchester University Press, 2020)

“Starting where *The Birthright Lottery* ends, in this new path-breaking work, Ayelet Shachar makes visible recently developed border regimes that defy settled notions of territory and human rights, constituting a new level of control and global inequality. Both her empirical and her normative analyses are innovative and rich, an exemplar of profound scholarship. In dialogue with a superb group of experts, the complex dimensions of shifting borders are further elucidated. A great achievement.”

– Rainer Forst, Goethe University Frankfurt



*"The Shifting Border* by Ayelet Shachar is a remarkable book. Essential for understanding government responses to people on the move, Shachar's vivid description, analytical precision, and reasoned persuasion combine to challenge conventional wisdoms about "borders" and how they work. The result: exceptional insights into how migration control can be more just. *The Shifting Border* offers an indispensable roadmap to immigration and refugee debates all around the world.

– Hiroshi Motomura, UCLA School of Law

*"In her impressive book, The Shifting Border, Ayelet Shachar refuses to adhere to what she views as false dichotomies between traditional approaches to a concept (culture, citizenship, borders) and premature diagnoses of the concept's demise. The force of her argument is consistently oriented towards rethinking the question, offering a new framework to understanding the world. Shachar's innovative framework nicely exemplifies the shift from idealized ethical debates to institutional and political analysis ... Highly recommended."*

– Lior Erez, *LSE Book Review Blog*

## PROJECT 2: ON "GOLDEN VISAS" AND "GOLDEN PASSPORTS": THE MARKETIZATION OF CITIZENSHIP IN AN AGE OF RESTRICTIONISM

*Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar*

In today's age of restrictionism, a growing number of countries are closing their gates of admission to most categories of would-be immigrants with one important exception. Governments increasingly seek to lure and attract 'high value' migrants, especially those with access to large sums of capital. These individuals are offered 'golden visa' programs that lead to fast-tracked naturalization in exchange for a hefty investment, in some cases without inhabiting or even setting foot in the passport-issuing country to which they now officially belong. In the U.S. context, the contrast between the 'dreamers' and 'parachuters'

assists to draw out this distinction between civic ties and credit lines as competing bases for membership acquisition. Drawing attention to these seldom-discussed citizenship-for-sale practices, this project highlights their global surge and critically evaluates the legal, normative, and distributional quandaries that they raise. Moving from the positive to the normative, this project explores whether purchased membership goods can replicate or substitute the meaningful links to a political community that make citizenship valuable and worth upholding in the first place.

### **Representative publications:**

- Shachar, A. (2018). "The Marketization of Citizenship in an Age of Restrictionism," *Ethics & International Affairs* 32(1), 3-13
- Podcast: "[Golden Visas, Dreams & Ethics in Immigration](#)" - Author Interview with Ayelet Shachar



## PROJECT 3: SPATIAL STATISM (WITH RAN HIRSCHL)

*Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar, Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl*

In this project, Ran Hirschl and Ayelet Shachar seek to insert a degree of innovation into debates about global law and territorial sovereignty. They do so by asking how considerations of space, place, and density impact the conceptualization of state power in a world of growing complexity and interdependence. Highlighting an array of key policy areas - immigration regulation and border control; the constitutional status of cities; natural resources; the place of religious symbols in the public sphere; and 'us vs. them'

constructions of national identity - Hirschl and Shachar demonstrate the versatility and creativity of states, acting alone or in concert, in deploying and stretching, through the classic tools of public law, their spatial and juridical tentacles in a new and complex global environment. Taken in conjunction, these illustrations suggest that the disregard for, and dismissal of, the state as a potent actor in the public law arena is premature. Sovereignty may be metamorphosing, but it is evidently not vanishing.



### **Representative publication:**

- Hirschl R. & Shachar A. 2019. "Spatial Statism" *International Journal of Public Law* 17(2), 387-438. <https://doi.org/10.1093/icon/moz052>

### **Themed event:**

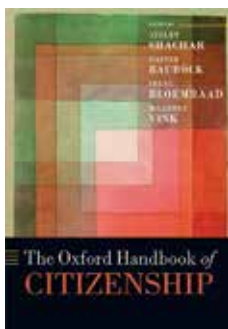
- "[Public Law and Spatial Governance: New Frontiers](#)," International conference co-organized by the Ethics, Law and Politics Department and the Alexander von Humboldt Chair in Comparative Constitutionalism

## **PROJECT 4: THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF CITIZENSHIP – COMPLETED**

*Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar*

This field-defining project provided the groundwork for developing the themes and approaches explored in "The Oxford Handbook of Citizenship", for which Ayelet Shachar serves as the Lead Editor. With 37 chapters written by some of the field's leading and upcoming scholars, the Handbook sets an agenda for both theoretical and empirical research explorations through state-of-the-art analyses of the main challenges and prospects of citizenship in today's world of increased resurgent populist nationalism and globalization pressures.

Topics include the 'selling' of citizenship, 'non-Western' citizenship, in-between statuses, explaining citizenship laws, post-colonial citizenship, the impact of technological change on citizenship, and other cutting-edge topics. "The Oxford Handbook of Citizenship" brings together multidisciplinary and comparative contributions from legal academics, political scientists, sociologists, geographers, historians, and philosophers. It has emerged as a major reference work in the field for those engaged with citizenship for a legal, political, and cultural perspective.



### *The Oxford Handbook of Citizenship*

(Oxford University Press, 2017 hardcover and eBook; 2020 paperback)

"A robust, modern guideline to induce creative and pragmatic discussions about some of the most pressing issues we currently face."

– *Global Citizenship Review*

"No other single volume achieves the theoretical acuity, historical depth, legal grounding, and sociological analysis of citizenship that this book manages to achieve. It is clear, wide ranging, and admirably un-parochial in the range of its references. By focusing on a wide range of citizenship claims, from those of dominant groups seeking to exclude to marginalized groups struggling for legal recognition, the Handbook enlarges our sense of the moral stakes and political struggles at the heart of citizenship."

– Pratap Bhanu Mehta, President, Centre for Policy Research

"An excellent starting point for the study of some of the main challenges and prospects informing citizenship in today's world"

– Zakaria Sajir, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*

"The definitive source on a critical concept in political and social life. Innovative in its conception and authoritative in its execution."

– J.H.H. Weiler, University Professor, NYU School of Law

## PROJECT 5: CONSTITUTING CITIZENS: OATHS, GENDER, RELIGIOUS ATTIRE

*Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar*

The requirements of naturalization tell us a great deal about a given society's vision of citizenship, the expressive function of law, and the power dynamics revealed when one stands on the cusp of membership. Contributing to the burgeoning literature on global and domestic legal pluralism, this research project explores how states determine who legally belongs to the political community, and according to what criteria. It

also reveals the importance of agency and resistance in testing the boundaries of membership. Combining insights from law and political theory, the project offers a comprehensive comparative study of textual and performative aspects of citizenship oaths and their centrality to processes of *becoming* members, especially in diverse societies negotiating the trilemma of constituting identity, respecting diversity, and promoting equality.

### **Representative publication:**

- Shachar, A. (2020). "On the Verge of Citizenship: Negotiating Religion and Gender Equality." In P. S. Berman (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Global Legal Pluralism* (pp. 1017-1043). Oxford University Press.

### **DR. ELISABETH BADENHOOP** Sep 2018 – Oct 2020



Elisabeth Badenhoop joined the Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics (ELP) as a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in September 2018. Combining contemporary social theory with qualitative social research methods, her research explores the governance of citizenship and migration from a comparative perspective. Elisabeth studied politics, social sciences and philosophy at the University of Leipzig and Science Po Paris, and holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and an MSc in Equality and Human Rights from the University of Glasgow. Funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the German Academic Scholarship Foundation, for her Ph.D. research, she conducted a multi-sited state ethnography of naturalization procedures in Germany and the UK. Prior to joining the MPI-MMG, Elisabeth carried out the German case study for the ESRC-funded research project "[Seeing Illegal Immigrants: State Monitoring and Political Rationality](#)" at the University of Edinburgh.

Elisabeth's publications at the MPI-MMG examine the implementation of migration policies from the perspective of migrants as well as state officials, in areas such as naturalisation processes, database surveillance of migration, state ignorance of irregular migration, and the linking of migration and welfare policies in Germany, France and the UK, considering both the present and the historical emergence of such policies in post-1945 Europe. Her article "What drives the

immigration-welfare policy link? Comparing Germany, France and the United Kingdom” co-authored with Mike Slaven and Sara Casella Colombeau won the [2019 Best Paper Award](#) of the Immigration Research Network at the Council for European Studies. The award has been sponsored by the Journal of Comparative Migration Studies with 500 Euro every year since 2017 and previous award winners include Marc Helbling and Richard Traunmüller (2017), Lars Leszczensky, Rahsaan Maxwell and Erik Bleich (2018).

## CALLING FOR THE SUPER CITIZEN: THE GENEALOGY AND EFFECTS OF NATURALIZATION

*Dr. Elisabeth Badenhoop*

State expectations from migrants aspiring to full membership status have increased since the expansion of citizenship tests, courses, and ceremonies across several European countries during the 2000s. This study critically examines the implementation and lived experiences of contemporary naturalization procedures in Germany and the UK, addressing two related research questions: What kind of subjectivity do citizenship admission procedures suggest? How is this subjectivity created - through which problematizations, rationalities, authorities, and techniques? This research aims to advance citizenship and migration studies, as well as theories of power and individual agency. To this end, Elisabeth develops the poststructuralist framework of subject-formation and conceptualizes naturalization procedures as attempts at shaping a particular subjectivity, which she terms the “Super Citizen”. Applying the innovative methodology

of a multi-sited state ethnography, she explores how local officials enact, and how migrants receive, this particular regime of subject-formation in ceremony halls, classrooms and naturalization offices, drawing on a comprehensive dataset consisting of interviews, observations, and documents.

This project has two main outputs: 1) a book manuscript, entitled “Calling for the Super Citizen: Contemporary Naturalization Procedures in the United Kingdom and Germany” (targeted publisher and book series: Palgrave Macmillan Politics of Identity and Citizenship Series); and (2) an international workshop at the MPI-MMG on 2-3 April 2020 and a Special Issue on “Citizenship Matters: the History, Governance, and Lived Experiences of Naturalization in a Global Perspective” (targeted publication outlet: *Citizenship Studies*).

## SEEING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: STATE MONITORING AND POLITICAL RATIONALITY

*Dr. Elisabeth Badenhoop*

Irregular immigration in Europe has attracted significant political attention recently, largely focused on unauthorized entry via sea borders. Just as striking, however, are the omissions implied by this focus: the lack of codified knowledge about, or even ‘strategic ignorance’ of, unauthorized foreign nationals already resident in European countries. Few states estimate stocks of ‘illegal’ residents in their territory. Governments tend to be just as reticent about collecting and publishing data on apprehensions or removals of undocumented immigrants. In addition, there is a dearth of analysis on the economic and social effects of illegal residence and employment. This project examines how states ‘see’ irregular im-

migrants, addressing two sets of questions. First, which forms of illegality do states monitor, and which are left unscrutinized? By identifying and critically examining the techniques and technologies that public authorities utilize to produce knowledge about the kinds of unauthorized residents that they choose to monitor, this study contributes to migration, security, and surveillance studies. Second, what do monitoring choices and practices tell us about the type of political rationality informing state monitoring practices? By analyzing how states attempt to ‘see’ illegal immigrants, this project aims to reconstruct the logics underpinning decision-making on monitoring, and thereby also makes a broader con-



tribution to theories of the state and political agency. This study reconstructs state monitoring of irregular migrants in Germany, France, and

the UK from the 1960s/70s to the 1990s/2000s. Its major findings have recently appeared in a co-authored article in *Governance*.

**Representative publication:**

- Boswell, C., & Badenhoop, E. (2020). "What isn't in the files, isn't in the world": Understanding state ignorance of irregular migration in Germany and the United Kingdom. *Governance*, 1-18. doi:10.1111/gove.12499.

**DR. ALI EMRE BENLI**  
Sep 2019 – Dec 2020



Ali Emre studied philosophy at Bogazici University in Istanbul and holds an M.A. in Philosophy from Erasmus University in Rotterdam. He obtained his Ph.D. in Political Theory from LUISS University in Rome, Italy (2016). Since then, he has held research positions at the University of Rijeka, the Italian National Research Council, Durham University, the University of Louvain, and the University of Edinburgh. He is an Associate Researcher at the Center for Ethics, Politics, and Society at the University of Minho. He has taught courses on the *Ethics of Immigration* (2017) and *Ideal of Democracy* (2019) as a Visiting Lecturer at Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey. His research has been published in peer-reviewed journals such as the *Journal of Global Ethics*, *Glocalism*, and *Diacritica*. He is also the Co-Editor of the collection *Claiming Citizenship Rights in Europe* (2018) published by Routledge.

## THE POLITICAL RIGHTS OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS IN THE EU

*Dr. Ali Emre Benli*

The refugee regime in the European Union (EU) is established to enable member states to collectively discharge their individual obligations recognized by the 1951 Refugee Convention and human rights norms. It governs the admission of refugees, the allocation of rights, and the distribution of member state responsibilities within the EU. Asylum-seekers and refugees, nevertheless, lack any formal standing to participate in the decision-making mechanisms of the EU. While they are devoid of political rights of representation, such as the right to vote and stand in elections, freedoms of expression, assembly, and

association are limited by security and stability concerns of the host states.

In this project I argue that a major discrepancy exists between the political standing of asylum-seekers and refugees, on the one hand, and the commitments to democracy and human rights in Europe, on the other. The discrepancy has been overlooked in recent debates on the ethics of refugee policy that have rather focused on basic socio-economic rights and access to full citizenship rights in a host state. The main question is: Which political rights must asylum-seekers and refugees enjoy in the EU? Two further

questions then follow: What grounds are there for extending political rights to asylum-seekers and refugees? Which novel institutions should be implemented for sustaining such rights?

To answer these questions, the project considers the idea of a non-territorial Refugee Community in Europe.

## DR. BENJAMIN BOUDOU

Sep 2016 – Aug 2021



Benjamin Boudou is Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics. His work deals with the ethics and politics of migration, representation, the theory of democracy, and sanctuary cities. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science at Sciences Po (Paris), and worked as a post-doctoral researcher at the Center for International Studies and at KU Leuven. He has been teaching political theory at Sciences Po and University Paris 8. He is the author of two books, “Politique de l’Hospitalité” [Politics of Hospitality] (CNRS Editions, 2017) and “Le Dilemme des Frontiers” [The Border Dilemma] (EHESS Editions, 2018), and recently published “Hospitality in Sanctuary Cities” in the *Routledge Handbook of the Philosophy of the City*. He is also the editor-in-chief of *Raisons Politiques*, a peer-reviewed journal of political theory published in French and English.

### THE BORDER DILEMMA – COMPLETED

*Dr. Benjamin Boudou*

In 2016-2018, Benjamin Boudou developed “The Border Dilemma” project, which aimed at investigating democratic justifications of borders. First, he reconstructed the ongoing debate on the ethics of immigration to explain how the ‘boundary dilemma’ arises, i.e., the difficulty of reconciling a clear justification for border controls with a solid defense of freedom and equality. Secondly, he argued that the main positions in

this debate rely on methodological nationalism, i.e., they build their theories on a biased image of the political community. Thirdly, he made the case for a pragmatist definition of democratic communities, and contends that the various interests of members and non-members should equally be taken into account in order to ensure participation of those whose interests are severely affected.

### A PARLIAMENT FOR NON-CITIZENS: INCLUSION AND REPRESENTATION

*Dr. Benjamin Boudou*

In his new research project, “A Parliament for Non-citizens: Inclusion and Representation”, Boudou argues for a realist implementation of the principle of affected interests through rep-

resentation. He pursues three goals: (1) to address the legitimacy gap for democracies that misrecognize the interests and views of non-citizens, whether they be residents or not; (2) to

liberate the principle of affected interests from its radical conclusion of enfranchising everyone potentially affected by any possible decisions; and (3) to expand the literature on representa-

tion by offering a normative argument for the inclusion of non-citizens through representative mechanisms.

**Representative publication:**

- Boudou, B. (2019). From Visit to Representation: Pursuing the Cosmopolitical Project [in French]. *Lignes*, 2019/3(60), 149-162. doi:10.3917/lignes.060.0149.

**DR. BOUKE DE VRIES**  
Sep 2016 – Sep 2019



Bouke is now a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at Umeå University. Bouke de Vries' research interests include liberal toleration, neutrality, multiculturalism, and more recently, migration. At the ELP department, he worked on the question of whether volunteering should be a necessary and/or sufficient condition for (expedited) access to permanent residency and/or citizenship.

Bouke did his Ph.D. at the European University Institute, Florence, under the supervision of Prof. Rainer Bauböck (EUI) and Prof. Alan Patten (Princeton University). During his Ph.D., he was a visiting research student at Princeton University and the University of Warwick. Prior to coming to the European University Institute, where he previously obtained an MRes in Political Science, he read philosophy at the University of St. Andrews (MPhil) and King's College London (MA). He also holds a degree in Arts and Culture from Maastricht University (BA).

During his stay at the MPI-MMG, Bouke has worked on different questions related to migration, cultural and ideological diversity, social taboos, and family ethics. One strand of his research criticized existing theories of state neutrality and multiculturalism. Another strand focused

on illiberalism and extremist ideologies. His work has appeared in journals such as *Journal of Applied Philosophy*; *Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy*; *Moral Philosophy and Politics*; *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*; and *Res Publica*.

**Representative publication:**

- de Vries, B. (2020). Against hands-on neutrality. *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*, online first. doi:10.1177/1470594X20924679.

## DR. DEREK S. DENMAN

Oct 2017 – Aug 2019



Derek S. Denman is a Post-doctoral Researcher at the University of Copenhagen Faculty of Social Sciences. He is a political theorist with interests in: the politics of space, place, and scale; critical border and migration studies; and the relation between architecture, design, and democracy. He approaches these topics through critical theory, continental philosophy, and postcolonial thought. At the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, he was a Post-doctoral Fellow from 2017–2019. Add one or two sentences about the content of the work/research done at the MPI-MMG. He received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in December 2015. He has served as an Assistant Editor at *Political Theory: An International Journal of Political Philosophy* from 2012–2015. He has also taught political science at Goucher College, Towson University, Loyola University Maryland, and Johns Hopkins University. In 2017, he was a Fellow at City/Nature: Urban Environmental Humanities, a summer institute sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

### FORTRESS POWER AND THE POLITICS OF SPATIAL CONTROL

*Dr. Derek S. Denman*

This project examines the ways in which the fortress has shaped territory, nation-state boundaries, and political space. Fortresses evoke an image of massive defensive structures, offering security through their immobility. Their walls are intended to mark clear divisions between military and civilian life and between rulers and ruled. However, the history of ideas surrounding fortification and the fortresses of contemporary political life accentuate the problems with this classical image of the fortress. As walls and bunkers continue to proliferate in response to

contemporary reconfigurations of sovereignty, fortifications have also moved into new, diffuse, and mobile forms. These 'defensive' structures increasingly serve as offensive weapons to constrain public space and exacerbate global inequalities. This project asks how the present proliferation of fortresses in new domains poses challenges to democratic society and social justice, and how these diffuse security apparatuses blur distinctions between public/private, military/police, and war/peace.

#### **Representative publication:**

- Denman, D. S. (2019). Machiavelli and the fortress city. *Political Theory*, 47(2), 203-229. doi:10.1177/0090591718772546.



## DR. LISA HARMS

Jun 2019 – Sep 2019



Lisa holds an M.A. in Political Sociology from the Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) Paris. She completed her Ph.D. in Sociology and Political Science at the University of Göttingen and the IEP Paris. During her Ph.D., she was as a Doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Fellow Group Governance of Cultural Diversity. Her Ph.D. included extended research stays at the Centre d'Études Relations Internationales in Paris. Prior to joining the AvH Chair of Comparative Constitutionalism in October 2019, she was a Post-doctoral Fellow at the MPI Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics.

### FRAGMENTED UNIVERSALISM: THE MAKING OF THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF RELIGION AT THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

*Dr. Lisa Harms*

At the MPI, Lisa has been working on her doctoral dissertation, which she defended in September 2019. The thesis, entitled "Fragmented Universalism: The Making of the Right to Freedom of Religion at the European Court of Human Rights", studies the influence of religious advocacy groups in international litigation. Examining litigation by a broad array of religious actors,

including Muslims, Sikhs, Jehovah's Witnesses, Evangelicals, Christian conservatives and Russian Orthodox representatives, the dissertation contributes to elucidating the complex entanglements of religion and (secular) law. It argues that power-relations, in which religious actors are embedded, are crucial in order to understand how these actors shape the law.

## DR. HANS LEAMAN

Oct 2017 – Aug 2018



Hans Leaman is an Assistant Professor of History at Sattler College in Boston, Massachusetts. He was a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at MPI-MMG (Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics) in 2017-2018. He previously taught as a Post-doctoral Associate in the History Department at Yale University and practiced law at Sidley Austin LLP in Washington, D.C. He holds a Ph.D. in History and Renaissance Stud-

ies from Yale University, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and an A.B. from Princeton University.

At MPI-MMG, Leaman researched the legislative history of the United States' first exemptions from immigration restrictions for reasons of „religious persecution“ in immigrants' home countries, providing needed legal background for American contributions to the development of the International Refugee Organization and international refugee law after WWII. The project involved research of the earliest uses of the terms „refugee“ and „asylum“ in American legislation, Congressional debates and diplomatic correspondence on immigration. He also wrote about the implications of recent European decisions denying citizenship to immigrant candidates who declined to shake hands with government officials on account of religious scruples and helped to organize a conference at MPI-MMG on religious factors in nations' preparedness to accommodate refugees.

## EMBEDDING INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE PROTECTION IN NATIONAL HISTORICAL NARRATIVES

*Dr. Hans Leaman*

The 1951 Refugee Convention framed refugee status around the fear of persecution, following language in the Constitution of the International Refugee Organization (IRO), written five years earlier. Even though persecution was not an element in prior international refugee protection treaties, the focus on persecution was not a novel product of the Cold War years. Rather, it built upon antecedents in British and American immigration laws. In the early twentieth century, both the United Kingdom and United States, when enacting restrictions on immigration, made exemptions for persons emigrating from their home countries in order to escape religious persecution - largely in response to Jewish humanitarian organizations' concerns for Jews

experiencing violence and discrimination in the Russian Empire. In the Congressional and Parliamentary debates over these exemptions, political leaders anticipated many of the important aspects of 'persecution' that are now recognized in the UNHCR guidelines for determining refugee eligibility. This project models how historians can identify antecedents for international refugee protection in individual nations' histories of accommodating foreigners. This project aims to bridge the gap by embedding the history of international refugee protection in religious and humanitarian values commonly expressed at the national and local level, as well as historic perceptions of state interest.

### ***Representative Conference Paper:***

- "German-American Printing Networks in the Immigration Accounts of Rep. Richard Bartholdt and Dr. Heinrich Fick," Nexus of Migration, Youth, and Knowledge, German Studies Association Annual Meeting (sponsored by the German Historical Institute), Pittsburgh (27-30 September 2018)

## REFUGEE LAW AND THE GOVERNANCE OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

*Dr. Hans Leaman*

Articles 3 and 4 of the 1951 Refugee Convention introduced aspects of refugee protection that had not been a part of inter-war refugee conventions or the Constitution of the International Refugee Organization: contracting states

committed not to discriminate among persons seeking refuge on the basis of religion, race, or country of origin (Art. 3), and to accord admitted refugees the same level of freedom to practice their religion and give their children a religious

education that their nationals enjoy (Art. 4). For this project, Hans Leaman inquired into: (1) the historical background and rationales for these understudied articles, which affords an opportunity to feature the role of religious NGOs and

post-war Christian Democratic social thought in the formation of refugee law; and (2) the implications for human rights jurisprudence on religious freedom and host countries' accommodation of increasing religious diversity.

***Representative Conference Paper:***

- “Managing Civic and Religious Allegiances in the Rites of Citizenship: Reflections on a Handshake,” Toleration and Religious Freedom in the Early Modern and Contemporary World, Centre For Research in The Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, Cambridge University (26-27 March 2019)

**DR. MARIE-EVE LOISELLE**  
Jan 2020 – Aug 2021



Marie-Eve joined the MPI-MMG as a postdoctoral fellow in January 2020. With the department of Ethics, Law and Politics her research project aims to identify challenges arising from the expanding use by the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) of biometric technologies for the identification of refugees and the provision of aid. Her research will document and analyze the legal and normative consequences of the new technologies for the agency and other stakeholders involved in the collection and management of the data, including refugees. Prior to joining the MPI-MMG, Marie-Eve completed her PhD at the Australian National University (ANU), where she explored the role of legal discourse in the construction of a wall at the border between the United States and Mexico.

Marie-Eve was an Australian Research Council (ARC) Research Fellow at the Faculty of Law of the University of New South Wales, where she worked on the project, “Leveraging Power and Influence on the UN Security Council”. She also worked on issues related to the UN Security Council as a Research Officer on the ARC linkage project, “Strengthening the Rule of Law through the UN Security Council”, at the ANU. Marie-Eve worked at international organizations (ILO, NATO) on issues related to international law and human rights. She completed a Bachelor of Law at the University of Montreal.

**WALLED LANDSCAPES: LEGAL DISCOURSE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF PHYSICAL PARTITIONS**

*Dr. Marie-Eve Loisel*

Using the U.S.-Mexico border as a case study, Marie-Eve explores the role of the law in the emergence of border walls from a socio-legal

lens. She analyzes two episodes of wall-building in American history: the first surrounding the adoption of the Act of August 19, 1935, and the

second the adoption of the Secure Fence Act of 2006, both authorizing the erection of a fence at the U.S.-Mexico border. She investigates how legislative debates and legal texts authorizing the erection of walls represented the Mexican neighbor. Then, she considers how the walled border landscape, a constructed space, operates to transmit legal knowledge about the border and national identities.

What emerges from this inquiry is that state law and associated legal processes have provided sites for the deployment of oral and textual narratives contributing to constructing the Mexican

neighbor as an inferior and often threatening 'other' in opposition to an idealized self-defined American identity. She observes that people's aesthetic encounter with the walled landscape, mediated by the symbol of the wall and the physical experience of the space, translates the narrative of difference, fear, and exclusion found in state law into material form. She argues that the walled landscape constitutes a legal discourse with normative power that forms an integral part of the law that governs the U.S.-Mexico borderland.

## GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES OF THE BIOMETRIC REGISTRATION OF REFUGEES

*Dr. Marie-Eve Loiselle*

In February 2015, UNHCR completed field testing of its Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS). The new scheme enables UNHCR to register and verify the identity of individuals based on their unique physical characteristics, using iris recognition, fingerprints, and facial images. As of March 2018, UNHCR has used BIMS for the registration of 4.4 million refugees in 48 countries.

The proposed research project will identify challenges arising from the expanding use by the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) of biometric technologies for the identification of refugees and the provision of aid. It will document and analyze the legal and normative consequences of the new technologies for the agency and other stakeholders involved in the collection and management of the data. It will consider, as

well, the impact on refugees of this new regulatory requirement. In particular, it will question: (1) how the technology is affecting the way that UNHCR is carrying out its humanitarian mission; (1.a) how it is reconfiguring the relationship between UNHCR and other stakeholders, including refugees, private corporations, and states; and (1.b) what power structures and dynamics are taking shape around BIMS. Under the second subset of questions, Marie-Eve asks: (2) what are the ethical and legal implications of BIMS; (2.a) what are the effects of BIMS on the rights of refugees; and (2.b) how does BIMS fit within the larger landscape that governs border management and immigration, including the rise and influence of 'big data'?

### DR. TANIA PAGOTTO Jan 2018 – Jan 2019



Tania Pagotto holds a Ph.D. in Constitutional and Comparative Public Law (Venice) and a Master's Degree in Law (Padua). She defended her doctoral dissertation, entitled „A Sustainable Accommodation. A Comparative Study on Interruption of Pregnancy in Italy, Spain, and Mexico“.



In 2019, she was appointed as a Non-Resident Visiting Writing Fellow at the International Center for Law and Religious Studies, BYU, U.S.A. In the same year, she attended the Religion and the Rule of Law Program, organized by BYU at Oxford University, as a recipient of the Young Scholars Fellowship.

A significant part of her Ph.D. research was conducted as a Fellow of the Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics at the MPI for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen. Previously, she spent a period performing research at the Centre of Law and Religion in Cardiff and at the Vrije Universiteit in Brussels. Currently, she is a Non-Resident Visiting Fellow at ICLRS, BYU Law School, U.S.A.

## A SUSTAINABLE ACCOMMODATION. A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON INTERRUPTION OF PREGNANCY IN ITALY, SPAIN, AND MEXICO

*Dr. Tania Pagotto*

The research project investigates and compares the right of physicians to refuse to provide interruption of pregnancy on grounds of conscience and religion. The case-study covers three countries with a Catholic majority or a historical Catholic influence: Italy, Spain, and Mexico.

The conceptual scenario is located along two main lines. The first one is the need to pursue and maintain pluralism within modern societies; the second one is the obligation to guarantee access to lawful medical care as a public service.

The project is divided into three main sections. The first section investigates how conscientious objection is construed in each legal order. The second section observes how conscientious objection to interruption of pregnancy, in particular, is framed and describes how the objection movement affects implementation of the laws. The third and final section proposes some corrections, in light of the construction of a sustainable accommodation of the right to conscientious objection.

### DR. MAREIKE RIEDEL

Sep 2018 – Dec 2020



Mareike Riedel joined the Department Ethics, Law, and Politics as a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in September 2018. Her research sits at the intersections of law, religion, and race with a particular focus on Jewish identity and its relationship with secular liberal law in Europe, Australia, and North America. Mareike holds a Ph.D. in Sociolegal Studies from the Australian National University, where she was a Doctoral Scholar at the ANU School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet). Between 2014 and 2016, she was a member of the Law and Anthropology Department at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, and taught courses in public law for the Martin-Luther-University Halle/Wittenberg and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences. In 2015, she was a Visiting Ph.D. Scholar at the

University of New South Wales' School for Social Sciences in Sydney. In 2020, she teaches a course on Law, Citizenship, and Diversity at the Law School of the Free University Berlin together with Barbara von Rütte.

## LAW, JEWISH IDENTITY, AND THE QUESTION OF DIFFERENCE

*Dr. Mareike Riedel*

Drawing on critical approaches to law, Mareike's research project explores the impact of identity politics on Jewish communities, as manifested in law. Although Jews are today often seen as a successful and well-integrated 'model minority' across Western societies, a number of recent legal conflicts regarding Jewish practices suggest that there is an ongoing tension between dominant ideas about liberal law and Jewishness as embodied in these contested practices. In these legal disputes, the Jewish practices in question are frequently rendered as symbols of 'Otherness'. One set of such cases concerns the construction of *eruv* - notional spaces for the observance of Shabbat. Another set of cases involves the body as a site for the construction of identity and difference in the legal and political debates about the practice of male circumcision.

Through a critical analysis of such cases, she takes a closer look at the legal techniques and argumentative tools through which Jewishness is constructed as an 'Otherness', and explores the images and representations of 'the Jew' in law and legal discourse in order to highlight the culturally productive role of law for the creation of religious and racialized difference.

This research pursues two main aims: First, to illuminate the ambivalent role that the figure of 'the Jew' has played in the Western imagination, and to show how contemporary law is mobilized for this imagination. Second, to integrate the contemporary Jewish experience into existing scholarly theorizing on the legal construction of religious and racialized difference, where Jews, Judaism, and Jewishness have so far received little attention.

### **Representative publication:**

- Riedel, M. (2019). An uneasy encounter. Male circumcision, Jewish difference, and German law. *Studies in law, politics, and society*, 79, 55-84. doi:10.1108/S1059-433720190000079005.

## DR. STEFAN SCHLEGEL

Jan 2016 – Dec 2018



Stefan Schlegel studied law in Zurich (CH) and Lyon (France) with specializations in Human Rights Law, Constitutional Law, and International Law. He worked as a research assistant with Prof. Walter Kälin at the University of Berne, where Stefan wrote his Ph.D. on the topic of immigration law in the economic analysis of law, describing the right to decide over someone's migration as a property right. Stefan is a co-founder of the young Swiss Think Tank "foraus – Forum Aussenpolitik" ([www.foraus.ch](http://www.foraus.ch)), a former member of its executive board and formerly responsible for its migration program. In 2015, Stefan

was a visiting Ph.D. Fellow at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law. From 2016 on, Stefan was the ELP department's inaugural Post-doctoral Fellow, and then served as its first Senior Research Fellow. His scholarly and institutional innovations have remained influential ever after his departure, in 2019, to the University of Bern as a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Law.

## IMMIGRATION LAW AND THE INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION IN LIGHT OF THE THEORY OF PROPERTY RIGHTS

*Dr. Stefan Schlegel*

Stefan Schlegel's research at the MPI-MMG centered on the question of which goods (e.g., access to well-functioning public institutions and well-functioning labor markets) are distributed by immigration law. He analyzed international treaties on migration from the perspective of the goods that are transferred by these treaties. He developed an understanding of the growing variety of international treaties concerning migration and a common language for the goods (e.g., market access) that are transferred by

these treaties. He develops the idea that blocking migration imposes a negative external effect on foreign countries and their citizens, and that many treaties regarding migration can be understood as an attempt to internalize some of that effect. The insight that immigration law allocates good 'access to institutions' is also useful for the debate on migration and development. He identifies this access as the main reason why migration can have such an opportunity-enhancing effect.

### **Representative publication:**

- Schlegel, S. (2018). Move inside the "Bell Jar": A property rights approach to the skills of migrants. *International Migration*, 1-16. doi:10.1111/imig.12499.

## DR. DANA SCHMALZ

Jan 2017 – Aug 2019



Dana Schmalz is a scholar of international law and legal philosophy. She is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Contemporary Critical Thought at Columbia University; her research is supported by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Her work focuses on international and European refugee law, fundamental rights, democratic theory, and critical approaches to international law. Dana Schmalz holds a Ph.D. in Law from the University of Frankfurt (2017) and an LL.M. in Comparative Legal Thought from Cardozo Law School, New York (2017). In spring/summer 2019, she was a Visiting Professor at the University of Bremen. Prior to that, she was a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg/Berlin (2011-2016), and a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

in Göttingen (2017-2018). Dana Schmalz is a Chief Editor at *Voelkerrechtsblog*, an Associate Editor at *Verfassungsblog*, and an Editor at *Kritische Justiz*.

## DISTANT CLAIMANTS. AN INQUIRY ON HOW LAW CONDITIONS ACCESS TO POLITICAL MEMBERSHIP

*Dr. Dana Schmalz*

The research project examines how the role of physical presence for politics translates into legal problems, and how law conditions access to political membership in constellations of physical distance. It proceeds, on the one hand, from an analysis of asylum cases, in which the legality of deterrence at the border was in question. These constellations underline how physical distance plays a role for the arising of claims under human rights jurisdictions, and for the practical conditions of making those claims heard legally and politically. On the other hand, the project situates these case analyses within considerations about the changing assumptions about co-presence in legal and political theory. Territory and co-presence constitute the very bases of political membership in a modern conception: Democratic citizenship is understood with reference to the territorially

defined state, and constitutes, vice versa, the basis of legitimacy for rules regulating access to the community. Co-presence is thereby the, often implicit, justification for more far-reaching mutual obligations among citizens, and the reference point for conceptions of the political beyond formal participation rights. Yet, conditions of co-presence themselves are shaped by legal rules, and as such constitute a necessary subject of political contestation. Drawing on examples from the law of forced migration, the project raises questions as to how democratic theory can account for distant claimants, and what dilemma arises for an open conception of democratic citizenship. It further explores what provisions we find in refugee law reflecting these difficulties, and which channels legal institutions might offer to address the dilemma.

### **Representative publication:**

- Schmalz, D. (2020). *Refugees, democracy and the law: political rights at the margins of the state*. Abingdon: Routledge.

**SAMUEL D. SCHMID**  
Sep 2019 – Sep 2021



Samuel D. Schmid is a Doctoral Fellow at the MPI-MMG Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics, and a Ph.D. researcher at the Department of Political and Social Sciences at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. Supervised by Rainer Bauböck and Maarten Vink (both EUI), he investigates the association between the degree to which states open up entry points for immigrants to settle in a



receiving country and the degree to which it is more or less easy to obtain a passport of the host state. Further fields of research include democratic inclusion and the franchise in an age of migration, as well as attitudinal and behavioral research in the realm of immigrant integration. Samuel holds a B.A. in Political Science (*summa cum laude*), an M.A. in World Society and Global Governance (*summa cum laude*) from the University of Lucerne, Switzerland, and a MRes from the European University Institute. At the MPI-MMG, he has worked on completing his dissertation, co-organizing the inaugural workshop of the IMISCOE Standing Committee on Migration, Citizenship and Political Participation (co-sponsored by the department), and engaged in vibrant intellectual exchanges with his colleagues on the ELP floor.

## WALLS AND PASSPORTS – CONFIGURING IMMIGRATION POLICY AND CITIZENSHIP POLICY

*Samuel D. Schmid*

Do inclusive societies need closed borders? Political theorists have pondered this puzzle for decades. The conventional view holds that, in liberal democracies, immigration restrictions are legitimate, and some argue that they are necessary for inclusive citizenship. Some empirical analyses corroborate this claim. There appear to be certain trade-offs between the openness of borders and the inclusiveness of immigrant rights. Reformulating the underlying empirical puzzle in a general way leads to the following

research question: How are immigration regime openness and citizenship regime inclusiveness associated, and what explains variations in this association across space and time? This question remains underexplored. Combining quantitative and qualitative methods, Sam's doctoral project attempts to fill this gap. The resulting insights will not only advance our understanding of immigration-related policy-making, but also inform a long-standing normative discourse from an empirical perspective.

## RESTRICTING IMMIGRATION TO FOSTER MIGRANT INTEGRATION? A COMPARATIVE STUDY

*Samuel D. Schmid*

Are more restrictive immigration policies associated with higher levels of migrant integration? Based on the assumption that more stringent admission regimes will facilitate integration of the immigrants admitted under these regimes, conventional wisdom holds that immigration restrictions indeed foster migrant integration. Yet, empirical analyses testing this hypothesis are rare. This project attempts to provide such

a test. We investigate the relationship between both external and internal aspects of admission regimes with various immigrant integration outcomes, i.e., socio-economic, socio-cultural, and political aspects. This project has been done in collaboration with Marc Helbling and Stephan Simon from the WZB Social Science Center Berlin.

### ***Representative publication:***

- Schmid, S. D. (2020). The architecture of national boundary regimes: mapping immigration and citizenship policies in 23 democracies 1980–2010. *Comparative Migration Studies*, 8: 25. doi:10.1186/s40878-020-00182-5.

## DR. MAXIMILIAN SCHOLZ

Jun 2016 – Jul 2017 | May 2018 – Aug 2018



Maximilian Scholz is an Assistant Professor of History at Florida State University. He specializes in the social and religious history of early modern Europe. His current book manuscript, entitled “Refugees and the Recasting of the Reformation: Frankfurt am Main, 1554-1618”, explores the fate and impact of Reformation refugees by looking at one center of refugee life, the German city of Frankfurt am Main. Dr. Scholz contends that refugees determined the nature of the religious changes taking place in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Europe. Dr. Scholz received his B.A., M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. from Yale University. He won a Fulbright Grant for his research in Germany, and held a Post-doctoral Fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen. His work appears in the *German Studies Review*, the *Sixteenth Century Journal*, and the *Journal of Urban History*.

### REFUGEES AND THE RECASTING OF THE REFORMATION: THE CASE OF FRANKFURT AM MAIN, 1550-1618

*Dr. Maximilian Scholz*

“Refugees and the Recasting of the Reformation” sheds new light on the historical process now known as “confessionalization.” Confessionalization describes a process - which began in the late sixteenth century and affected every post-Reformation church - whereby political and religious leaders used tools of social discipline to define and defend the boundaries of their communities and, in so doing, begin to construct states. “Refugees and the Recasting of the Reformation” reveals that it was the arrival of refugees that prompted rulers to begin this process of boundary formation. The displaced people living in Frankfurt had initially been welcomed in the name of Protestant solidarity, yet their

very presence began to fracture Protestantism. Frankfurt’s rulers came to the conclusion that the newcomers did not share the same religion as the city, and animosity and new social boundaries followed. By 1608, the situation had turned violent. To survive in this newly troubling time, the community of refugees developed new institutions, such as bible study groups and a consistory to monitor and correct people’s behavior. These institutions remain hallmarks of modern Protestantism, and it is accurate to depict modern Protestantism - with its confessional divides and intramural strengths - as partly the result of Europe’s first refugee crisis.

#### **Representative publication:**

- Scholz, M. M. (2019). Religious refugees and the search for public worship in Frankfurt am Main, 1554–1608. *Sixteenth Century Journal*, 50(3), 765-782.

**MIRA SEYFETTINOGLU**

Sep 2019 – Jan 2020 | Jul 2020 – Jun 2021



Mira Seyfettinoglu is a Pre-Doctoral Fellow at the MPI-MMG Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics. In 2020, Mira graduated from the MSc Research Master in European Studies at Maastricht University. During her masters, she was the research assistant of Maarten Vink in the European Research Council project “Migrant Life Course and Legal Status Transition”. She thus has extensive knowledge of comparative citizenship studies and quantitative methods. In 2018, Mira completed her B.A. in European Studies at Maastricht University, including a semester abroad at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. During her time in Vancouver, she also interned at the German Consulate General’s Press, Cultural and Economic Affairs Unit. Mira is also an alumna of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation (Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes).

In her pre-doctoral fellowship, Mira works on the instrumentalization of citizenship with a special emphasis on the worldwide sale of citizenship, so-called Citizenship-by-Investment Programs. She conducts an empirical-comparative study on the global trends and determinants of these Citizenship-by-Investment programs.

## RE-ENVISIONING CITIZENSHIP: TRENDS AND DETERMINANTS OF THE INSTRUMENTAL TURN OF CITIZENSHIP

*Mira Seyfettinoglu*

In her pre-doctoral fellowship, Mira works on developing her dissertation proposal where she, amongst other topics, works on the empirical study of Citizenship-by-Investment programs. These programs offer the global super-rich expedited ways to obtain citizenship in return for monetary investments. In 2020, 40 countries sell citizenship, including some of the Caribbean islands, Pacific Rim countries, and Member States of the European Union. This trend has led to both political and scholarly debates as to whether citizenship *should* be for sale. Beyond norma-

tive controversy, the empirical study of the determinants of investor citizenship programs remains limited. To fill this gap, Mira develops a global and longitudinal dataset, screening nationality laws from 1980 onwards in order to document which countries introduced investor citizenship at which point in time. Subsequently, she conducts a quantitative analysis on the macro-level determinants associated with investor citizenship. Her co-authors for this study are Ayelet Shachar, Jelena Dzankic, and Maarten Vink.

## DR. MARTIJN VAN DEN BRINK

Sep 2017 – Sep 2019



Martijn van den Brink is currently a British Academy Post-doctoral Fellow at the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford. His postdoctoral project, “Religious Equality and Employment within the European Union”, examines which employment practices affecting the freedom of religion and belief must be outlawed within the European Union. Prior to joining the University of Oxford, Martijn was a Post-doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen, where he worked on a project entitled “The Boundaries of Citizenship within the European Union”. He holds a Ph.D. from the European University Institute, Florence. His Ph.D. thesis was on the authority of the European Union legislature. Martijn holds degrees in law and political science from the Universities of Oxford and Groningen, respectively. He has also held visiting positions at the University of Michigan and the University of Zagreb.

### THE BOUNDARIES OF CITIZENSHIP WITHIN THE EUROPEAN UNION

*Dr. Martijn van den Brink*

The principal project that he worked on during his fellowship investigated the boundaries of citizenship within the EU. Its focus was on three dimensions of the EU citizenship debate. The first is the relation between national and EU citizenship. As part of this dimension, he asked whether the primacy of nationality over EU citizenship is still desirable in light of current challenges to EU

citizenship. The second is the relation between EU citizenship and rights. As part of this dimension, he asked to what extent EU citizenship should condition access to rights given the exclusionary side of EU citizenship. The third is the political dimension of EU citizenship, which studied the implications of EU citizenship for the boundaries of democratic inclusion.

### INTEGRATING LEGISLATION: THE EUROPEAN LEGISLATURE’S AUTHORITY RECONSIDERED

*Dr. Martijn van den Brink*

The second project built on his Ph.D. research. It reconsiders the authority of the EU legislature by defining the domain in which the EU legislature can legitimately exercise its authority and by developing a theory prescribing what respecting its authority involves. It does so in relation to the EU Court of Justice, which has significantly curtailed the legislature’s authority. The project ex-

amines the comparative legitimacy and institutional abilities of the EU legislature vis-à-vis the Court, and develops a theory of legislative interpretation that considers the formation of legislative intent, the constraining effects of legislative rules, and the challenges posed by legislative indeterminacy.



**Representative publication:**

- van den Brink, M. (2019). A Qualified Defence of the Primacy of Nationality over EU Citizenship. *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, 69(1), 177-202. doi:10.1017/S0020589319000538.

**DR. BARBARA VON RÜTTE**

Mar 2018 – Jun 2018 | Oct 2019 – Sep 2021



Barbara von Rütte joined the Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics at the MPI-MMG as a Post-doctoral Researcher in October 2019. Prior to joining the Department, she wrote her Ph.D. on “The Human Right to Citizenship. From State Privilege to Individual Right” within the framework of the Swiss National Center of Competence in Research - The Migration Mobility Nexus NCCR - on the move and the Center for Migration Law at the University of Bern. Barbara is an attorney-at-law and holds an LL.M. (University of Leiden) and MLaw (University of Bern) with a special interest in citizenship and migration law and theories, as well as constitutional and international human rights law. She is also a consultant for the Council of Europe on the Committee of Experts on Administrative Detention of Migrants (CJ-DAM) and has previously worked at the European Court of Human Rights, as well as in law firms. Furthermore, she has been elected by the Federal Council to the Swiss Federal Commission on Migration for the term 2020-2023. The Federal Commission on Migration is an extra-parliamentary commission which is mandated by law to address social, economic, cultural, political, demographic and legal issues that arise from the residence of foreign nationals in Switzerland. The members of the Commission determine its positions and advise the Federal Council and the public administration on questions of migration.

**THE RIGHT TO CITIZENSHIP, *JUS NEXI*, AND LEGAL IDENTITY***Dr. Barbara von Rütte*

Barbara von Rütte studies the regulation of citizenship in international law, in particular international human rights law. She identifies rights and obligations that can be derived from the right to citizenship as enshrined in international legal standards, and examines the protection gaps that leave individuals at risk of violations of their right to citizenship. The project aims to apply the principle of *jus nexi* to the right to citizenship in order to address these protection gaps and to strengthen the effectiveness of the

right to citizenship in a migration context. Barbara's research, moreover, looks at the concept of social identity developed by the European Court of Human Rights and how the Court applies the concept to migrant rights. Her project at the ELP Department focuses on the publication of a book based on her Ph.D., and on the development of a new research agenda on the concept of legal identity and its use in the context of citizenship and statelessness.

## DR. CALEB YONG

Sep 2017 – Aug 2018



Caleb Yong received a B.A. in Modern History and Politics from the University of Oxford, an MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History from the University of Cambridge, and a DPhil in Politics from the University of Oxford. His doctoral dissertation was awarded the Sir Ernest Barker Prize for best dissertation in political theory from the UK's Political Studies Association. Before coming to the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, he served as a Post-doctoral Fellow at McGill University, Harvard University, and Goethe University Frankfurt. His work has been published in the *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence*, the *Journal of Social Philosophy*, and *Social Theory and Practice*, among other venues.

## PROJECTS

### *Dr. Caleb Yong*

Caleb Yong's primary research project focused on the legitimacy of immigration law. To date, the philosophical literature on immigration has mostly focused on the substantive justice of immigration restrictions. A distinct question is whether immigration law has legitimate authority over those whose conduct it claims to regulate, i.e., whether those persons subject to immigration law have a moral duty, or at least strong moral reasons, to comply with the directives of immigration law even when they do not believe that these directives are substantively justified. A special problem for any account of the legitimacy of immigration law is that the main subjects of immigration law - namely, would-be immigrants - are excluded from participating in the political processes by which the immigration laws of their intended receiving state are enacted. As a

consequence, at least with respect to would-be immigrants, immigration law's legitimacy cannot be grounded in principles of democratic legitimacy. Caleb argues that there is an alternative source of immigration law's legitimacy, i.e., the *external or international* legitimacy of the receiving state. If a state is properly recognized as having external legitimacy, then other states and their respective individual members are morally required not to undermine the capacity of that state to achieve its legitimate domestic policy goals. Since widespread noncompliance with a state's immigration laws would undermine its capacity to pursue its domestic policy goals, this project contends that externally-legitimate state immigration laws themselves have legitimate authority over would-be immigrants.

### **Representative publication:**

- Yong, C. (2018). Justifying resistance to immigration law: The case of mere noncompliance. *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence*, 31(2), 459-481. doi:10.1017/cjlj.2018.20.

## GUESTS



**EILEEN CHURCH CARSON**  
University of Toronto  
JUL 2018 – AUG 2018



**DR. TAMAR DE WAAL**  
University of Amsterdam  
NOV 2019 – DEC 2019



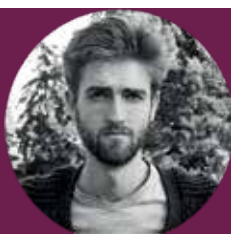
**RYAN DORSMAN**  
University of Toronto  
MAY 2018 – JUN 2018



**PROF. DR. YOLANDA GARCIA RUIZ**  
University of Valencia  
JUL 2018 – SEP 2018



**DR. GÜN GÜLEY**  
Hamburg University  
MAR 2018 – APR 2018 | MAR 2019 – JUN 2019



**THOBY KING**  
University of Toronto  
MAY 2019 – JUN 2019



**KARLSON LEUNG**

University of Toronto

**AUG 2017 – SEP 2017 | JUN 2018 – JUL 2018**



**MICHAEL LUTSKY**

University of Toronto

**MAY 2019 – JUN 2019**



**GAIL LYTHGOE**

University of Glasgow

**OCT 2018 – DEC 2018**



**DR. PETRA MOLNAR**

University of Toronto

**MAR 2020 – MAY 2020**



**PROF. DR. HIROSHI MOTOMURA**

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

**JAN 2020**



**DR. JACLYN L. NEO**

National University of Singapore

**DEC 2019**





**PROF. DR. JOSÉ MANUEL SANCHEZ PATRÓN**  
University of Valencia  
JUL 2018 – SEP 2018



**BIANCA PONZIANI**  
University of Toronto  
APR 2017 – MAY 2017



**ELENA PRATS**  
Uppsala University  
JUN 2019 – AUG 2019



**DR. STEFAN SALOMON**  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz  
OCT 2018 – DEC 2018



**SAHAR SAYYAD**  
University of Toronto  
MAY 2018 – JUN 2018



**DR. ANDRÉ SICILIANO**  
University of São Paulo  
JAN 2019 – FEB 2019



**TERALEIGH STEVENSON**

University of Toronto

**MAY 2017 – JUL 2017**



**GABRIELLE THOMPSON**

University of Toronto

**MAY 2017 – JUN 2017**



**JANICE TO**

University of Toronto

**JUL 2018 – AUG 2018**



**CHANTELLE VAN WILTENBURG**

University of Toronto

**JUN 2018 – JUL 2018**



**JACOB WEBSTER**

University of Toronto

**JUN 2019 – AUG 2019**



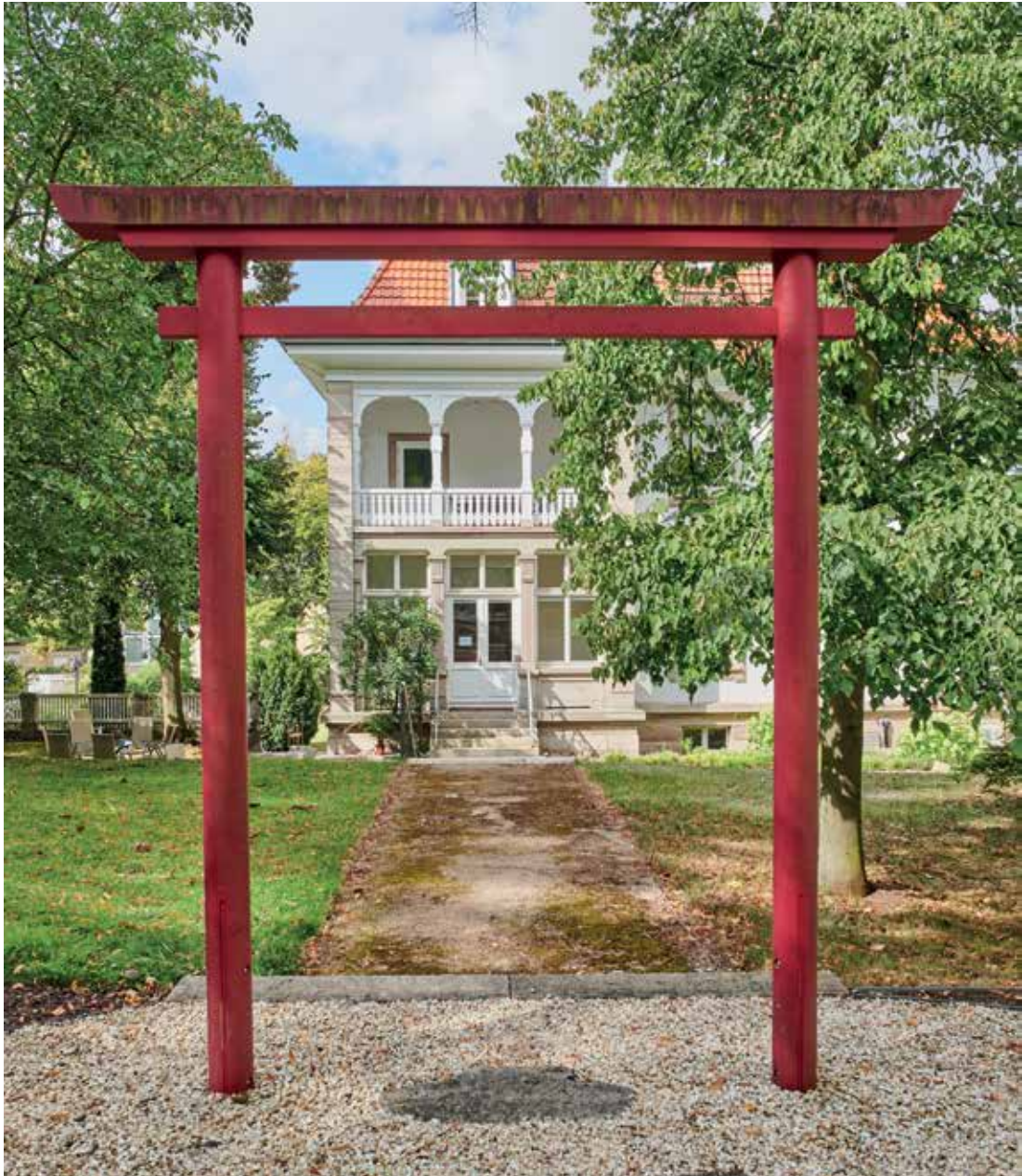
**ANJU XING**

University of Toronto

**JUN 2019 – AUG 2019**



**DR. MARY ZHAO**  
Stanford University  
AUG 2018 – SEP 2018



## RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

### PROF. DR. PETER VAN DER VEER Director



Peter van der Veer is the Director of the Department for the Study of Religious Diversity. He has taught anthropology at the Free University in Amsterdam, at Utrecht University, and at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1992, he was appointed as Professor of Comparative Religion and Founding Director of the Research Center in Religion and Society in the Social Science Faculty of the University of Amsterdam. He served as the Dean of the Social Science Faculty, the Dean of the Amsterdam School for Social Science Research at Amsterdam, and the Director of the International Institute for the Study of Islam and the Chairman of the Board of the International Institute for Asian Studies, both in Leiden. In 2004, he was appointed as University Professor at Large at Utrecht University, a position from which he retired in 2019. He has held visiting positions at the LSE, the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan, the EHESS in Paris, the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, the New School in New York, and the National University of Singapore. Most recently, he served as the Provost's Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago, where he delivered the 2019 Annual Vivekananda Lecture. He also received the Hendrik Muller Award for his social science study of religion. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. Van der Veer works on religion and nationalism in Asia and Europe. Among his major publications are "Gods on Earth" (LSE Monographs, 1988), "Religious Nationalism" (University of California Press, 1994), "Imperial Encounters" (Princeton University Press, 2001), "The Modern Spirit of Asia. The Spiritual and the Secular in China and India" (Princeton University Press, 2013), and "The Value of Comparison" (The Lewis Henry Morgan Lectures, Duke University Press 2016).

### NORTH-SOUTH BY EAST-WEST

*Prof. Dr. Peter van der Veer, Dr. Tam Ngo*

This project studies the interactions and mutual understandings of North-Vietnamese and South Vietnamese in Germany after the Fall of the Berlin Wall. The North Vietnamese have come to East Germany as students and guest workers from one Communist country to another. The

South Vietnamese have come to West Germany in fleeing a Communist regime. After the Fall of the Wall, they are confronted with each other, with their memories, and with a post-communist situation in Germany and a post-socialism with Vietnamese characteristics in Vietnam.



The fieldwork is primarily carried out in Berlin. This fieldwork will be expanded with work

among the Vietnamese in the Netherlands and in France.

## REFUGEES AND RELIGION

*Prof. Dr. Peter van der Veer*

This project concerns the role of religion in producing refugees and assimilating them. While the emergence of nation-states with territorial sovereignty constitutes the core issue in the production of refugees, the relation of this historical process to religious understandings of purity and danger, martyrdom, as well as conversion, is neither sufficiently discussed nor understood. The book will address the religious underpinnings of notions of human and humanity. It will also examine research on empathy and trauma. Understanding religion from a material and corporeal perspective, the project not only addresses the ways in which refugees practice their religion - Islam, Hinduism, forms of Christianity, Buddhism - and convert or develop new faiths, but also how secular institutions and political ideologies frame what is, and what is not, religion according to the law, and delineate the limits of religious author-

ity, religious practice, and religious speech. The project focuses on three cases: (1) the connection between state formation and the production of refugees in Europe since the expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Catholic Spain and Portugal. (2) The partition between India and Pakistan in 1947 and its aftermath until today. The emergence of religious (Hindu and Muslim) nationalism in South Asia raises a number of questions about modern citizenship. (3) The production of refugees in three Indo-China wars since the 1950s, and the role of Catholicism and Buddhism in it.

With Birgit Meyer, Peter has edited a volume on "Refugees and Religion" which will be published by Bloomsbury. Peter is also authoring a monograph on the topic, which he hopes to finish when he has retired from the Institute.

### DR. IRFAN AHMAD Oct 2018 - May 2021



Since mid-2017, Irfan Ahmad is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute. A political anthropologist, Ahmad has taught at the University of Amsterdam and Utrecht University in the Netherlands, and Monash University and Australian Catholic University in Australia. Interested in the dynamics of religion (Islam), politics, democracy, media, violence, anthropology of philosophy and history of anthropology - especially in South Asia - he has authored two monographs (Princeton University Press and University of North Carolina Press/Oxford University Press) and co-edited two books (Routledge and Oxford University Press). An edited volume, "Are Anthropology and Ethnography Equivalent?" is forthcoming from Berghahn in 2021. Ahmad's contributions have appeared, inter alia, in *Anthropological Theory*, *JRAI*, *Public Culture*, *HAU*, *Philosophy & Social Criticism*, *Modern Asian Studies*, and *Public Anthropologist*. Founding Co-Editor of *Journal of Religious & Political Practice*, Ahmad is also on the editorial



boards of *Public Anthropologist*, *South Asia*, and *International Journal of Islam in Asia*.

## WHAT MIGHT AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF TERRORISM LOOK LIKE?

*Dr. Irfan Ahmad*

Under this project, Irfan Ahmad is about to complete writing a book manuscript. Rather than asking the usual questions, such as what is terrorism or what motivates terrorism, following James Baldwin, it inquires: who needs the category of 'the terrorist'? One approach to develop an anthropology of terrorism - a sub field yet to fully come into being - is to take anthropology as given, and then proceed to apply it to the study of terrorism. Conversely, one could take terrorism as given, and examine it anthropologically, as the discipline is normally construed. This book, however, pursues neither. Rather, "Terrorism in Question" subjects both anthropology and terrorism to critical scrutiny because to take them as given is to misunderstand both anthropology and terrorism. Based on interviews with officially

qualified 'terrorists' in India and Australia, and fieldwork with journalists reporting on terrorism, the book aims to offer ground-breaking perspectives about both anthropology and terrorism. Interdisciplinary, and at times also in-disciplinary, the book weaves insights from political theory, international relations (IR), media studies, anthropology of religion, philosophy, and literary studies to call the reigning doxa into question, so as to arrive at what is true rather than what is barely real - reality, which is claimed as the foundation by social science, in general. Beyond the prevalent idea of risks, the book also sheds light on what it means to be an anthropologist writing on terrorism and the intertwining of knowledge power, IR, and nationalism.

## DISCIPLINARY HISTORY: INDIAN ANTHROPOLOGY/SOCIOLOGY, NATIONALISM, AND RELIGION

*Dr. Irfan Ahmad*

Irfan is working on a short volume on the relationship between Indian anthropology-sociology and nationalism, and how this relationship has historically viewed the subject of Islam and Muslims. In particular, it examines the discourses of religious syncretism and its cohabitation with

nationalism. Overall, the objective is to write an anthropological history of the discipline of anthropology/sociology in relation to Islam and Muslims, and religion more broadly - a subject on which very little work has been published.

## MUSLIMS AND/IN INDIAN DEMOCRACY

*Dr. Irfan Ahmad*

Irfan plans to work simultaneously on the place of Muslims in India's democracy by positioning it in the debates on religious-cultural diversity, and theories of democracy and populism or neo-populism. To provide this study with an empirical anchoring, Irfan intends to examine some of the many cases of Muslims being lynched on the allegation of storing/eating beef or smuggling of cows and their videos shared on social media - a political phenomenon that has emerged and increased in the past approximately five years.

As is well known, upholding beliefs of religious Hindus who regard cows as a holy mother, many Indian states have declared beef as illegal. To this end, Irfan plans to conduct a short fieldwork of eight to ten weeks with the family and community members of the lynched Muslims in the latter half of 2020.

One key outcome of this project is a paper co-authored with Peter van der Veer. It has been under review with the journal *Nations & Nationalism* since mid-February.

## DR. SUDHEESH BHASI

Mar 2015 – Apr 2018



Sudheesh Bhasi received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Macquarie University. As a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the MPI, Sudheesh examined transnational Hindu networks in Malaysia and Singapore. His work focused on exploring the enduring transnational religious connections of the ‘old Indian diaspora’ and document the extent of the economic, material, affective, and symbolic ties that exist within the transnational and translocal social space of Hindu networks. In his earlier doctoral research, Sudheesh examined everyday religious practices and the production of social capital within the Hindu diaspora in Sydney. Adopting an ethnographic approach, his work sought to rethink the concept of social capital from within the traditional concerns of critical social theory, rather than through a neo-liberal economic lens. His research investigated the production of social capital in three main contexts: (1) the religio-cultural norms surrounding food and commensality; (2) the impact of space and place on social interaction and religious structural forms; and (3) the transnational flows which link the localized religious community to a wider, global Hindu diaspora. Sudheesh’s research interests encompass religion and migration, transnational communities, community development, urban sociality, social inclusion, and neoliberalism.

### ENDURING LINKS AND NEW CONNECTIONS IN THE MALAYSIAN INDIAN DIASPORA: CLASS, CASTE, AND TRANSNATIONALISM (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Sudheesh Bhasi*

This project examines some of the transnational religious links that exist between Malaysia and South India. Indian presence in Malaysia has a long history, which includes continuous pre-modern cultural and economic contact by Indian monarchs and traders, followed by large-scale immigration from the end of the nineteenth century as indentured labor on British plantations in Malaya. Among those who stayed permanently in the country, return visits were few in the first generation, except among some affluent Indian communities, such as the business-owning, money-lending group called “chettiers”. Today, India is closer than ever, connected to several South Indian cities by low-cost airlines and free

WhatsApp messages. Based on fieldwork in Malaysia and India, this study explores the role of religious ritual, class, and caste in how old transnational linkages have been maintained, as well as how newer ones have been formed. The emergence of the pilgrimage cult of Ayyappan worship in Malaysia as a broad-based phenomenon among Malaysian Hindus over the past 15 years is especially interesting from the point of view of transnationality. This study investigates the nature of this growth, and how the movement has transitioned from its middle-class origins in Malaysia to attracting tens of thousands of working-class pilgrims to the forest hill of Sabarimala in south India each year.

## DR. ANNALISA BUTTICCI

Mar 2019 – Jul 2020



Annalisa Buttici is a Senior Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Her research interests include anthropology and sociology of religion, historical anthropology, World Christianity, Roman Catholicism(s), Pentecostalism(s), African religions, African diasporas, Afro-Europe, mobility and migration, medical anthropology, religion and mental health, visual and material studies, and life stories. She received her Ph.D. from the Catholic University of Milan, Italy. Prior to her position at the Institute, she was an Assistant Professor at the Department of Cultural Anthropology at Utrecht University. From 2012-2015, she was a Marie Curie Fellow at Harvard Divinity School and the Department of Religious Studies at Utrecht University. She has been a Fellow at European and American universities and research institutes, including New York University, Rutgers University, the University of Padua (Italy), Freie University (Berlin), and Forum Transregionale Studien-Art Histories and Aesthetic Practices in Berlin.

### THE FORMATION OF AFRO-CATHOLICISM IN COLONIAL AND POST-COLONIAL WEST AFRICA

*Dr. Annalisa Buttici*

The project focuses on the Roman Catholic missionary projects and expansion in West Africa, with a particular focus on Gambia and Ghana. The research in Gambia focuses on the life story of Father Samba (1842-1881), the first Gambian Catholic priest of the Vicariate of Senegambia. Father Samba was a young, talented, and yet rebellious young Wolof Catholic priest who became the 'nasty affair' of the Catholic mission, as the European missionaries called him. Through Father Samba's history of resistance to ecclesiastical power and racial hierarchy of both the Catholic Church and colonial administrations, the research highlights the messiness of colonial and missionary expansion in Senegambia, and reveals the social, religious, and political relevance of colonial unsettling subjects.

The research in Ghana focuses on the cult of the statue of Nana Ntona, or Saint Anthony

renamed as a local deity. Brought by the Portuguese in the seventeenth century, the statue became popular for its healing and miraculous power. Successively, during the period of the Atlantic slave trade, when Elmina became one of the major Dutch sources of slaves, Nana Ntona's shrine became an asylum for runaway slaves, and years later became the great protector of the Elminians who were fighting against the British colonial empire. By historically and anthropologically investigating the rituals, practices and aesthetics related to the remains (or relics) of the statue of Saint Anthony, the project illuminates the clashes, continuities, and ambiguities that shaped, and continue to shape, the encounter and relationship between Roman Catholicism and African traditional religions.

## YINING CHEN

Oct 2017 – Nov 2020



Yining Chen is currently a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. She completed her first master's degree in comparative literature with the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship at Osaka University. Later, she was granted an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD) Scholarship and graduated cum laude from the University of Göttingen and the University of Groningen. Prior to joining Max Planck, she did her post-graduate training in the Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG) at Utrecht University. Since the beginning of 2015, she started volunteering with the Asiel (asylum) Team at COC Groningen & Drenthe, a local branch of a Dutch rainbow organization, which led to the direction of her doctoral research.

### 'REFUGEE' IN THE MAKING: MOVEMENTS AND PRACTICES IN AND BETWEEN NIGERIA AND THE NETHERLANDS

*Yining Chen*

This project stems from Yining Chen's long-term engagement as a volunteer with the Asiel (asylum) Team at a rainbow NGO's local branch in the northern Netherlands, a team mainly working to provide social platforms for migrants with experience in sexuality-based asylum claims. Emerging from visceral feelings and experiences of sharing food, shelter, displacement and relocation, it particularly examines and traces several tracks of movements and practices that stretch across Nigeria and the Netherlands over a span of more than 20 years.

From slum, port, oil city, Egbesu's War-God empowerment and protection, to underground renting, illicit work, ties with the Pentecostal church and institution-provided venues for LGBT activities, those tracks of movements and practices hinge on spaces, in which relationships and

social worlds emerge and are cultivated vis-à-vis various modes of intensified and structured state control. The 1990s Niger Delta oil conflict, indigenous religious beliefs, the Dutch shadow economy, and an informational empire are thus threaded together. Specific political and legal subjects, such as "asylum seeker", "1F-er", and "terrorist", and events, such as "war", "imprisonment", and "deportation", are in the (non-)making, which in turn imparts dimensions, vectors, and ethical weight to the tracks of movements and practices. Elaborating on the (de)formation of social worlds and relationships along the tracks that fall in and out of the state's (asylum) registration, regulation and recognition, this project aims to shine more light on the prolonged and repetitive colonial and capitalist extraction and accumulation occurring in the modern world.

## DR. TZU-LUNG CHIU

May 2017 – May 2021



Prior to joining the Max Planck Institute as a Post-doctoral Researcher, Tzu-Lung Chiu was a Post-doctoral Fellow in Buddhist Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, having completed her Ph.D. studies at Ghent University, Belgium, in 2016. Her research interests comprise Indian Vinaya rules, contemporary Chinese Buddhism, gender, the Chinese diaspora, and Buddhist rituals and practices. She has also authored a number of research articles on traditional Vinaya rules, regarding such matters as fasting and the handling of money, as they are applied (or not) in contemporary Chinese Buddhist contexts. She is currently researching monastic networks that link Mahāyāna and Theravāda Buddhism in East and Southeast Asia, especially Thailand and Myanmar.

### TRANSNATIONAL NETWORKS, LOCALIZATION, AND HYBRIDIZATION: THE PRACTICE AND INFLUENCE OF CHINESE BUDDHISM IN CONTEMPORARY MYANMAR AND THAILAND

*Dr. Tzu-Lung Chiu*

In the past few decades, globalization has brought about transnational flows of people and cultures via both immigration and commerce. Inevitably, Buddhism's different traditions have transcended their traditional geographic boundaries, resulting in unprecedented mutual dialogue, competition and integration, even to the point of creating hybrid Mahāyāna/Theravāda communities. The research, therefore, investigates how Chinese Mahāyāna monasteries in Thailand and Myanmar have influenced, and been influenced by, the prevailing cultural ethos of Theravāda Buddhism in those places. Given the marked differences between these two traditions in terms of both ritual/ceremony and religious practices, such as meditation and precept observance, it is especially worth inquiring how, and to what extent, Chinese monastics have adjusted their

ways of everyday life to suit their interactions with Theravāda contexts. The project addresses the following three main research questions: (1) how far do extant monastic institutions maintain a sense of continuity with the key characteristics of Chinese Buddhism, as evidenced by dharma services, liturgy, ritual, and rites? (2) How, and to what extent, have Chinese Buddhists' religious practices and spiritual cultivations been adapted to, reshaped by, and merged with indigenous traditions and customs due to localization or hybridization, and/or the need to garner the support of local Theravāda followers, as well as Chinese laypeople? and (3) How much cross-traditional (i.e., Mahāyāna and Theravāda) interaction with Thai/Burmese monastic communities can be characterized as mutual, at the level of either doctrine or practice?



**DR. YING DIAO**  
Nov 2016 – Nov 2019



Over more than a decade, Ying has studied, taught, and conducted research in five countries: China, the United States, Myanmar, Thailand, and Germany. She holds a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology (2016) from the University of Maryland and has been a Post-doctoral Fellow in the Religious Diversity Department since December 2016. As an anthropologist of music and religion, she researches the intersection of religion, sound and media, and her special areas are minority Christian history and culture on the China-Myanmar border. She has carried out extensive ethnographic work among the Lisu, a Tibeto-Burman-speaking people spread across the mountainous regions of Southwest China and Southeast Asia. Her ongoing book project, “Sounding the Christian Minorities: Media Margin and Lisu Religiosity on the China-Myanmar Border”, explores how material objects and technologically-mediated sound are being employed by the Christian Lisu to create everyday audible religiosity, which have become essential to the indigenous perception and practices of faith.

**MEDIA MARGIN AND THE MAKING OF LISU TRANSNATIONAL RELIGIOUS NETWORKS IN POST-1980S MYANMAR AND YUNNAN (COMPLETED)**

*Dr. Ying Diao*

The ethnographic inquiry has moved outwards from rural China, to the cyberspaces of virtual congregating, and to Myanmar’s Kachin state, Yangon, and northern Thailand. The project aims to elucidate how transnational trends in media practices are being locally reproduced, thus providing affordances for religious minorities to maintain a resilient faith community. A major aspect of her project has been the preparation

of her first monograph, entitled “Sounding the Christian Minorities: Media Margin and Lisu Religiosity on the China-Myanmar Border”, an ethnographic study of how material objects and media engagements have become essential to the indigenous perception and practices of faith amidst the political and social changes that have occurred along the Myanmar-Yunnan frontier over the last three decades.

**DR. ARNDT EMMERICH**

Jun 2019 – May 2021



Arndt Emmerich is a sociologist and Research Fellow in the Department of Religious Diversity. Prior to this, Arndt was a Qualitative Research Officer at the Oxford Department of International Development, working for the “Changing Structures of Islamic Authority” project. In his recently published monograph “Islamic Movements in India - Moderation and its Discontents”, Arndt conducted long-term participatory research within an assertive Islamic movement in the five Indian states, drawing on insights from political sociology, social movement theory, and studies on political Islam to analyze the ways in which Islamic movements participate in the democratic process, negotiate with the secular state, and align with other Muslim and non-Muslim groups. He holds a DPhil and MPhil from the University of Oxford and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Essex.

**DIS/TRUSTED PARTNERS: LOCAL MOSQUE ACTIVISM DURING THE GERMAN REFUGEE CRISIS***Dr. Arndt Emmerich*

As part of his project, Arndt Emmerich analyses the role of local mosque activism during the German refugee crisis through a comparative neighborhood perspective. Through fieldwork in Ankara, he studies how the Turkey-based training facilities for Islamic authorities engage with the changing demographic and political context in Germany. So far, the Turkish perspective is missing from the academic debate but could inform current scholarship in Germany and Western Europe,

due to Turkey’s historical experience of building democratic institutions along well-established Islamic traditions. The aim is to explore political techniques, responding to religious diversity in Turkey and its impact on the refugee situation in Germany. Arndt Emmerich has also investigated the history and negotiation of Germany’s first Muslim-Christian kindergarten to inform the current debate around the trajectory of global interfaith movement.

## DR. JIAZHI FENGJIANG

Apr 2020 – Aug 2020



Jiazhi Fengjiang is a Post-doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Her ongoing book project explores the political, moral, and economic lives of ordinary people who strategized volunteering and charitable work in coping with political-economic restructurings in contemporary China. Her broader research interests span political and economic anthropology, anthropology of development, ethics and humanitarianism, gender, work, mobility, East Asian studies, as well as visual and graphic anthropology. Prior to joining the Max Planck Institute, she taught anthropological theories and ethnographies, economic anthropology, and graphic anthropology at LSE. She received her MPhil in Social Anthropology from the University of Oxford and in 2019, she obtained a Ph.D. in Anthropology at LSE.

### TRADING PIETY: THE RITUAL ECONOMY OF SUTRA CHANTING IN SOUTHEAST CHINA

*Dr. Jiazhi Fengjiang*

This project examines the political economic processes that give rise to the trade of chanted sutra in Southeast China in relation to a growing rural aging population. In recent decades, the growing commodification of sutra chanting has given rise to novel forms of work for illiterate older people in rural villages in China's Southeast coast. The driving force is an increasing demand for chanted sutras to be used for the Daoist 'doing-good rite' (zuo haoshi) - a popular kind of

Daoist ritual performed in private households or local temples. The work of chanting with piety is believed to add additional value to sutras that are otherwise products of mass printing. Based on ethnographic fieldwork, the project seeks to unpack the creation, circulation, transformation, and contestations of value among varied spheres, including the secular and the religious, through the labor of piety.

### YUHUAZHAI MOVEMENT: MORAL CULTIVATION AND THE INVENTION OF 'TRADITIONAL CHINESE CULTURE'

*Dr. Jiazhi Fengjiang*

This project seeks to explore the interaction between the religious and secular through the case study of the Yuhuzhai movement in China. Yuhuzhai is a chain of charities offering both free vegetarian lunches and space for moral cultivation for its followers in China. First created by Venerable Wenquan in Hangzhou in 2011, the charity model of Yuhuzhai spread rapidly

in small cities and towns across China. Although mostly founded by Buddhist followers, at the centre of Yuhuzhai's moral cultivation is a peculiar coupling of a vegetarian diet and 'traditional Chinese culture' study. Volunteers perform daily rituals following a rigid practice of "li" (etiquette) before and after they serve free lunch to local people in Yuhuzhai charities. They also hold

weekly study sessions reading curated texts from Confucian, Buddhist, and Daoist traditions. More fieldwork and research are requisite to examine

this particular formulation of traditional Chinese culture.

## DR. SANA GHAZI

Jan 2016 – Apr 2019



Sana Ghazi was a Ph.D. student in the Religious Diversity Department of the MPI-MMG. She studied for a B.A. degree in Sociology at St. Xavier's College in Mumbai and an M.A. in International Relations from the University of Warwick, UK. Subsequently, she taught four undergraduate courses in Asian history and political science at Utica College, New York, over two semesters. One of these focused on contemporary issues located at the intersection of religion and civil society in a pluralistic context. From 2012-13, she was a Research Fellow at the Indian think-tank, the Observer Research Foundation, where she worked primarily on an academic research project pertaining to popular narratives and discourse surrounding Iran's nuclear program, on which she also wrote in national Indian newspapers and magazines.

## REMAKING SELVES: NARRATIVES OF YOUNG MUSLIM WOMEN IN MUMBAI (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Sana Ghazi*

At the Institute, Sana Ghazi aimed to study young Muslim women in Mumbai. She intended to deconstruct the inherent categories of "young, urban Muslim women", through their agency. The project documented and analyzed female young Muslim narratives, while delimiting the focus geographically to Mumbai. With an emphasis on the nuances of their Muslimness, the study focused on their artistic expression, its hybridity and enablement, and the demonstration of their plurality through 'alternate culture'. The proj-

ect opened-up a discussion on their individual negotiations in overlapping, yet distinct, spaces in terms of 'being' and 'doing', without necessarily establishing a dichotomous relationship between the two. The objective, broadly, was to explore how negotiations in diverse spaces observed in, for instance, writing, art, cinema or the underground music scene - which may largely be understood as 'invisible' or 'hidden' - are shaping multiple strands of their identity.

## DR. FABIAN GRAHAM

Dec 2016 – Apr 2018



Fabian Graham was a Research Fellow in the “Temples, Rituals, and the Transformation of Transnational Networks” research project headed by Peter van der Veer. Having completed two years of fieldwork in Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan on spirit mediumship, rituals and temple culture, he has been working on writing up his research data into a book. Previously, Fabian studied Taiwan studies, social anthropological analysis, and social anthropology in Taipei, Cambridge, and SOAS in London. His doctoral dissertation compared the folk Taoist landscapes of Taiwan and Singapore with the aim of locating historical and socio-political explanations for the recent evolution of difference between the two religious cultures. Working closely with spirit mediums and their devotees, and adopting a participatory approach to fieldwork, his analysis encompassed temple-based ritual and material culture, spirit mediumship and trance states, inter-temple organization and expanding temple networks, and the social factors that have influenced the development of these religious elements in each location. His research interests include the anthropology of Chinese religion, folk and orthodox Taoism, tang-ki spirit mediumship, temple ritual and material culture, the invention and reinterpretation of tradition, ethnographic approaches to the study of religious phenomena, and evolving forms of new syncretic practices in Southeast Asia.

### CHINESE SPIRIT-MEDIUM CULTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Fabian Graham*

This project focuses on mapping variations in tang-ki spirit medium practices and their diffusion within the context of temple-based Chinese religious culture in Southeast Asia. The collected ethnographic data was analyzed with the aim of linking social change to specific developments in temple culture locally, nationally, and internationally. With an emphasis on tang-ki spirit medium temples as the loci of ritual activity, the primary research was carried out in Malaysia, with a secondary focus on Singapore.

Complementing research into temples into which local tutelary and heaven deities are channeled, the ongoing popularization of a Singaporean tang-ki-centric deity cult dedicated to

a selection of underworld deities is of particular interest. Since the 1980s, the worship and channeling of these deities has generated a vibrant ritual and material culture that has increasingly dominated Singapore’s temple landscape and has become popular in Malaysia more recently. This study aimed to investigate how, when and why this development occurred, and how the broader ritual and material cultures in both locations have evolved in response to dissimilar sociocultural and political conditions. Employing a comparative methodology incorporating both emic and academic interpretations of religious phenomena, the extent to which contemporary Malaysian and Singaporean tang-ki and temple



cultures have been influenced by each other, by local historical and ongoing socio-political developments and by external factors, including the importation of deity statues and subsequent overseas religious pilgrimages to ritually connected temples, was investigated.

The long-term goal of this research was to provide a substantive contribution to theoretical discourse concerning the processes involved in the ongoing development of Chinese tang-ki and temple culture and the construction, maintenance, and expansion of ritually-linked temple networks in Southeast Asia.

## DR. EIJIRO HAZAMA

Sep 2020 - May 2021



Eijiro Hazama (Ph.D.) has been a JSPS Post-doctoral Fellow at MPI-MMG from April 2020. He specializes in South Asian intellectual history and cultural anthropology, particularly contemporary ‘post-enlightenment’ issues revolving around nationalism, secularism, and epistemological modernization in India. He was formerly a JSPS Post-doctoral Fellow at the Department of Cultural Anthropology, the University of Tokyo (2017-2020). He earned his Ph.D. degree at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo in March 2017 after completing his Fulbright doctoral dissertation research program at Columbia University (2012-2013). In February 2019, he published a single-authored book, “Gandhi no Sei to Nationalism”, by the University of Tokyo Press. He has been awarded the twelfth Annual Journal Prize (2015) by the Japan Association for Asian Studies, and the eighth Annual Journal Prize (2016) by the Society for the History of Social Thought.

## RELIGIOUS NATIONALISM IN MODERN GUJARAT: AN ENTANGLED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HINDUTVA AND GANDHISM

*Dr. Eijiro Hazama*

The aim of this research is to elucidate a paradoxical continuity between the rise of Hindu nationalism (later called “Hindutva”) and the ideology of Gandhi(ans) in colonial and post-colonial Gujarat. Generally, it is acknowledged that Gandhi and his followers were anti-communalists who railed against the discourse of Hindu nationalism (Madan 1987; Yagnik and Sheth 2005; Suhrud 2008, etc.). Contrary to this presupposition, however, this research intends to demonstrate that the widespread notion of Gandhi’s “anti-materialism” - indubitably an idea inspired by West-

ern romanticists in the Metropole (van der Veer 2001) - had contributed to produce the following three new historical perceptions among Gandhi’s contemporary intellectuals: (1) the decrease of the sense of pride towards mercantile and commercial cultures in Gujarat, which used to be a dominant feature of historical narratives by the literati in the pre-Gandhian era (i.e., Narmad, M. N. Dvivedi, G. Tripathi, etc.); (2) the gradual loss of this perception eventually pushed aside positive historical evaluations concerning the past Islamic rulers of Gujarat (particularly,

Ahmad Shah and his successors, Akbar, Jahangir, and Shah Jahan) who had conceivably brought a 'benedictional' economic prosperity; (3) because of these, only the negative and antagonistic conception of the Muslim 'invasion' had come to be emphasized in intellectuals' historical narratives (this can be mostly explicitly seen, though some-

what ambiguously, in K. M. Munshi's writings). For all of the conscious efforts to prevent communal disintegration, this lesser-explored ideology of Gandhian anti-materialism, though insensibly, had proffered a subterranean route for the later development of Hindu nationalism.

## XIAO HE

Sep 2011 - Jan 2017



Xiao He was a Doctoral Research Fellow at the MPI-MMG. He holds a B.A. in Journalism from Anhui University (2008) and an M.A. in Anthropology from Fudan University, China (2011). His Ph.D. thesis, "Entrepreneurial Aspiration: Money and Social Life among Rural Migrants in Shanghai", investigated the lived experiences of rural migrants in Shanghai. He received the Ph.D. degree at Utrecht University in 2017. He is interested in questions relating to migration, urbanization, money, time, labor, and work.

## TIME EXPERIENCES OF UNCERTAINTY AND ASPIRATION AMONG RURAL MIGRANTS IN GLOBALIZING SHANGHAI (COMPLETED)

*Xiao He*

This project explored rural migrants' experiences of time in globalizing Shanghai. Before a period of rigid restrictions on migration from the 1960s to the 1980s, Shanghai had historically been a global commercial center attracting many internal and international migrants. Since the 1990s, Shanghai has been reconstructing itself into an emerging global city, witnessing massive inflows of rural migrants and rapid urbanization. Indeed, the social landscape of Shanghai is being reconfigured, not only in terms of urban space, but also in terms of temporality. While the state attempts to promote a 'new Shanghainese' identity based on a futuristic vision of belonging, Xiao's previous research found that rural migrants often claimed that they 'live one day at a time'. On

the one hand, because of their memory of the state's violent restriction on migration and their anticipation of precarious urban restructuring, rural migrants feel a strong uncertainty in everyday life; on the other hand, globalizing Shanghai enables their aspiration for possibilities, causing them to remain and persevere with the everyday despite great uncertainty. The central question of the project is two-fold: (1) how heightened social and economic uncertainties brought out by migration and urban transformations sharpen rural migrants' everyday experiences of time; and (2) how they enact their historically- and culturally-specific temporalities to deal with urban uncertainty, reclaim urban aspirations, and forge new urban politics.

**NAOMI HELLMANN**

Jun 2016 – Aug 2018



Naomi Hellmann was a Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Religious Diversity. She holds an M.A. in Development Studies from Brown University and an MSc in Contemporary Chinese Studies from the University of Oxford. Her Ph.D. research investigates the effects on ethnic minorities of the opening-up of Southwest China to Southeast Asia, and why the outcomes of China's transnational regionalization strategy have affected ethnic minorities differently. Her research interests focus on development, institutions, and ethnic minority groups in China.

## THE EFFECTS ON ETHNIC MINORITIES OF THE OPENING-UP OF SOUTHWEST CHINA TO SOUTHEAST ASIA (COMPLETED)

*Naomi Hellmann*

Since the beginning of market reforms in 1978, Southwest China has experienced dramatic and wide-ranging changes. Once connected by a vast network of mountain roads and bridges channeling flows of trade, religion and culture between diverse ethnic groups, China is currently building a modern superhighway that traverses through Southeast Asia from Yunnan to major riparian cities to mirror the ancient caravan routes. As China endorses a 'going-out strategy', extending its influence into Southeast Asia, both the apparent persistence in levels of poverty that are accom-

panying the acceleration of rates of economic growth and the evident contradiction between local autonomy and national unity and integration that lies at the heart of China's ethnic policy, raise numerous unanswered questions. The key question on which this study focuses is as follows: What are the effects on ethnic minorities of the opening-up of Southwest China to Southeast Asia? Indeed, why do ethnic minorities differ in the outcomes of China's transnational regionalization strategy?

## DR. NICOLE ITURRIAGA

Jul 2018 – May 2021



Nicole Iturriaga is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen, Germany. Nicole holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles (2018) and a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley (2009). Since starting at MPI, she has published a paper in *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* (March 2019) and *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* (December 2019), and she has an additional paper that received a revise and resubmit in October 2019 from *Heritage and Society*. Her book, “Exhuming Violent Histories: Forensics, DNA, and Rewriting the Past in Spain”, is under review at Columbia University Press. She has also given papers at major academic conferences and seminars, including the American Sociological Association (2018/2019), Society of Social Problems (2018), Council for European Studies (2019), and the Memory Studies Association (2019).

### MEMORIES OF VIOLENCE IN SPAIN

*Dr. Nicole Iturriaga*

From 2018-2019, Nicole worked on completing and submitting the following three papers. The first is “At the Foot of the Grave: Challenging Collective Memories of Violence in Post-Franco Spain,” a paper that focuses on human rights activists with the Spanish Association for the Historical Memory (ARMH) and their use of multiple tactics (de-politicized science framing, action-oriented objects, and embodiment) to deliver a counter-memory of the Spanish Civil War and Franco regime, to make moral and transitional justice claims. This research shows how victims’ remains and personal objects found in graves also provoke the desired meaning that emotionally connects those listening to the classes to the victims and the ARMH’s counter-memory. This paper was submitted in November 2018, accepted in December 2018, and published March 2019. Her second paper, “Ending the Dou-

ble Death: Moral Claims to Rebury the Missing, Science, and Rewriting Spain’s Violent Past,” argues that homage and reburial ceremonies put on by the Spanish Association for the Recovery of Historical Memory (ARMH) force local Spanish communities, and the larger Spanish society, to view the consequences of the violence, which remains ‘present in the lived experience’ of the victims. She further contends that activists, during this display of grief, simultaneously make public demands for transitional justice efforts on the part of the state and political elites. Moreover, she posits that these reburial and homage ceremonies offer an interesting perspective on how these delayed death rites not only create a public space to grieve and mourn, but also to critique established power, such as the state. This paper was submitted in August 2019 and given a revise and resubmit in October 2019.

## MEMORIES OF VIOLENCE IN ARGENTINA

*Dr. Nicole Iturriaga*

Nicole's third paper, "The Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, Framing, and Mnemonic Memory of State Terror," which illustrates how human rights activists are negotiating post-authoritarian situations via framing strategies that counter the state's narrative of the past, puts state terror on full display, and aids activists in achieving their goals. In this article, she analyzes the Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo as a successful mnemonic-memory movement that advanced an alternative collective memory of Argentina's last military regime (1976-1983). She specifically focuses on their use of memory work and the evolution of their framing approach. She demon-

strates how their framing and frame-bridging (rights of families, depoliticized science) constituted an emergent process that materialized across time and alongside emerging technologies, culminating in their overarching 'right to identity' frame. Moreover, she analyzes how the Grandmothers utilized these frames to navigate transforming political landscapes and obstacles, and to attack social structures maintaining impunity for the regime's crimes. Nicole ultimately argues that these actions, alongside their extensive memory work, have provided them with a loud and powerful voice over the collective memory of Argentina's violent past.

## EXHUMING VIOLENT HISTORIES

*Dr. Nicole Iturriaga*

While at the MPI, Nicole has also been working to complete her book manuscript, "Exhuming Violent Histories: Forensics, DNA, and Rewriting the Past," currently under review at Columbia University Press. It explores how human rights activists use forensic interventions, such as exhumations and DNA testing, to challenge dominant histories of violence, thereby contesting the state's claims over historical memory, notably those of the highly problematic Francoist period. Explicitly, the book illustrates that, by grounding their claims in science, human rights activists have presented themselves as credible and impartial, rather than as partisan and biased. In other words, they draw on science, international protocols, and tropes of modernity to depoliticize their account of state terror. "Exhuming Violent Histories" reveals that human rights activists, using what Nicole terms a "depoliticized scientific approach," can meaningfully alter dominant narratives of violence, shape transitional justice efforts, and reconstitute the identities of missing persons. Nicole also shows that this transnational movement's sovereignty and legitimacy has risen - in many cases - above those of the nation-state. The book's data pull from a historical analysis of secondary literature

of the global forensics-based human rights social movement, two months of interviews and observations in Argentina in 2015, 15 months of participant observation with the Spanish Association for the Recovery of Historical Memory (ARMH) in 2015-2017, and interviews with 230 activist and non-activist Spaniards. The book also incorporates new data, including a content analysis of local news coverage of an ARMH reburial event, to explore their mezzo-level impact on challenging the dominant narratives, as well as 55 interviews with experts from other human rights forensics laboratories currently working across the world. Nicole's ongoing project seeks to unpack the multi-level impact (individual, local, state, and transnational) of scientific exhumations and identifications of missing persons on post-conflict Argentina and Spain. Specifically, this project will look at the role that forensic interventions (including exhumations and genetic testing) have played in the process of mourning, interrupted death rituals, and potential closure. This research will both develop and expand our understanding of how the scientific recovery, identification, and reburial of victims of enforced disappearance mediate long-term grief and suffering, as well as societal collective memory.



## DR. LIZA WING MAN KAM

Sep 2017 – Sep 2019



Wing Man Liza Kam trained in architectural schools and practices in Singapore, Hong Kong, Liverpool, London and Paris before she joined the Bauhaus in Germany and obtained her PhD in Architecture in 2014. She is Assistant Professor of Urban Studies and Chinese Societies at the Department of East Asian Studies, Georg-August University of Göttingen, former Research Fellow at the Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity and visiting scholar in Europe, US and Asia. Her research interests include: transformation of symbolism represented by colonial urban heritage in various unique post-colonial settings; interrelation between architecture, historiography, identity and civic awareness; comparing the seemingly antithetical colonial nostalgia and decolonization in the cases of various Asian polities; and the intellectual trajectories of design and culinary ideas with empire expansions. She has published works on the material and symbolic transformation of colonial urban heritage in the neo-/post-colonial Hong Kong and Taiwan.

### 'HOME TO THE (POST-)COLONIAL DEITIES: THE TRANSFORMING COLONIAL SHINTO SHRINES IN POST-COLONIAL TAIWAN AND THE IDEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING(S) IN MOTION'

*Dr. Wing Man Liza, Kam*

The project investigates the Shinto shrines constructed by the Japanese colonizers between 1895-1945 in Taiwan. It inspects firstly, the underlying ideas of these colonial-symbolism-embodied-in-religious-space; then it proceeds to examine their physical transformations since Japan lost the Pacific War and left the colony in 1945, hence these shrines' changing roles played at different stages of ideological engineering implemented by the post-colonial authorities in Taiwan. The project interrogates the changing perceptions as perceived by the current quotidian users of these former colonial spaces. While their current kaleidoscopic usage is easily perceived as carefree adoption of convenient resources or even colonial nostalgia, the project concludes that, such broad range of re-appropriating the

'colonial infrastructures' is in fact, a form of enunciation of Taiwanese people's right and autonomy to cultural discourse—after the Japanese and mainland Chinese had monopolized such right since decades ago.

Inquiring into theoretical works on space, identity and colonialism and aided with site visits, narrative interviews with informants of different age groups and backgrounds, local historians and everyday space users, the project seeks to identify the causal linkage between the shrines' material/imperceptible existence, their conferred/perceived symbolisms and their material/ symbolic transformations—and to reflect on the notion of decolonization. Through investigating the continual re-appropriation of the colonial Shinto shrines in Taiwan's unique contemporary setting

in geopolitical, societal and cultural terms, the project contributes to enrich the current scholarships on colonialism-- mainly Eurocentric-- and

ultimately, to shed light on the genealogy of the emerging nationalistic sentiments in Taiwan.

## DR. JIE KANG

since Dec 2009; permanent contract



Jie Kang is a Research Fellow and Project Coordinator for “Cultural Diversity in South-West China and South-East Asia” and “Temples, Rituals, and the Transformation of Transnational Networks” headed by Peter van der Veer at MPI-MMG’s Department of Religious Diversity. She is also responsible for the communications, publications, and outreach of the Department. She was awarded a Ph.D. degree in 2014 in Sinology from the University of Leipzig for a dissertation, entitled “From Peasant to Pastor - The Rural-Urban Transformation of Protestant Christianity in Linyi, Shandong Province.” She is also the author of the book “House Church Christianity in China: From Rural Preachers to City Pastors” published by Palgrave in 2016. Generally, she is interested in transnational religious networks in China and among the Chinese diaspora abroad, missionary movement, state-church relations, religion and nationalism, including national identity. Alongside her own research, she is also currently responsible for the following:

- Supporting collaboration with Chinese universities, academic institutions, and organizations.
- Organizing the MPI-MMG’s activities internationally and with reference to China, such as conferences and workshops.
- Developing a research network base connecting the MPI-MMG’s Department of Religious Diversity to Chinese academic institutions.

## MISSIONARY MOVEMENT OF THE CHINESE PROTESTANT HOUSE CHURCH

*Dr. Jie Kang*

Chinese Protestant Christianity has grown exponentially in the last few decades. China has, moreover, simultaneously become a missionary-sending country as its political and economic importance in the world has increased. Many Chinese Christians believe that God calls them to undertake the great mission of converting

Muslims to Christianity. The series of political decisions made by President Xi Jinping aimed at increasing the power and status of China are regarded as signs of God’s work for China, especially the “One Belt and One Road” policy. The project attempts to explore the following questions: (1) what are the unintended consequenc-

es of China's political-economic expansion for the international religious landscape, in general, and Christianity, in particular? (2) How does the China-led missionary movement to convert Muslims transform the dynamics of church-state interaction? (3) How are the geopolitics of China and its neighboring countries affected by the dynamics of Christianity as a world religion in this new global evangelism? (4) How do Chinese Christians perceive and act towards international

Christianity in the context of globalization? (5) How is 'otherness' conceptualized, especially in the form of Islamophobia, which may be expressed through Chinese Christian unity, in opposition to Islam as 'the common enemy'? The project is supported by a grant from the University of Hong Kong as part of the project "Infrastructures of Faith: Religious Mobilities on the Belt and Road" (<https://brinfaith.weebly.com/>) headed by Professor David Palmer.

## CHINESE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND NETWORK IN GERMANY

*Dr. Jie Kang*

Chinese Christian fellowships in Germany can be viewed as significant strands of the transnational ethnic Chinese Christian network or diaspora covering Southeast Asia, North America, and Europe. This consists of overseas Chinese, Hongkongese, and Taiwanese Christians who have been establishing a Christian network outside of China. Their aim is to convert mainland Chinese living abroad, with the intention that the converts would eventually return to China, and themselves become seeds of Christianity. Chinese-speaking Christians have, in this way, established a Christian network connecting North America and Europe, in which Hongkong and Taiwanese churches are involved. The project will explore the nature of the connections between North America and Europe of the Christian network. How do they understand their

identity in relation to China or in being Chinese? Moreover, the network of North American/European/Southeast Asian Chinese Christians not only has little connection with the Chinese mainland Christian church, but also differs from the Chinese mainland mission. The project will, therefore, compare two Christian networks and their mission by asking to what extent they are dissimilar and why. Is it because of different social-political contexts, or is it based on different theological and biblical training of church leaders who practice a different church governance and organizational system? Or is it perhaps that Chinese House Church Protestantism can be seen as being at an 'early stage' of Christianity compared with overseas Chinese groups influenced by longer established Western Christian versions?

## CHRISTIAN TOURISM AND ITS GLOBAL CONNECTEDNESS

*Dr. Jie Kang*

The itineraries of Christian tourist packages from China are designed for pilgrimage to important historical Christian sites, in order to obtain a deeper understanding of the history of Christianity. The destinations include Jesus's birthplace of Jerusalem; Turkey and Greece, where Paul the Apostle went on his missionary journey; and Egypt, where Mount Sinai, the holy site of the Abrahamic religion, is located. According to one report, in the first seven months of 2017, 64,000 Chinese travelled to Israel. The research project focuses on the following questions: (1) how are sacred religious sites conceptualized by groups with different interests, including those of trans-

national entrepreneurs, Christian church leaders, and followers? How do religious sites create or reinforce religious experience? (2) How are Christian network bonds strengthened through shared travel experiences? (3) How does Christian tourism compete with so-called 'Red tourism' and the recently prevalent educational trips based on the theme "Remain true to our original aspiration" promoted by the Communist party? (4) What novel techniques are being employed to enhance the marketability of religious sites, including sharing personal experience on social media platforms, such as WeChat?

## PROF. FRANK J. KOROM

Jan 2020 – Dec 2020



Frank J. Korom is a Professor of Anthropology and Religion at Boston University and a Faculty Associate of the Program in Folklore and Mythology at Harvard University. He is the Co-Editor of the journal *Asian Ethnology* and also the Vice-President of the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies. His research has focused on South Asia, Tibet, and the Caribbean, with a theoretical emphasis on the interaction of religious traditions and their transformations over time and space. He is the author and/or editor of 10 books. Currently, he is working on transnational Sufism originating in the Tamil-speaking region of northern Sri Lanka.

### GURU BAWA AND THE FORMATION OF A TRANSNATIONAL SUFI FAMILY

*Prof. Dr. Frank J. Korom*

Bawa Muhaiyaddeen was a non-literate Tamil-speaking Sufi saint from Sri Lanka, whose originally enigmatic career began in Jaffna in the late 1940s. After making a name for himself by performing miracles, healing people and performing numerous exorcisms, he was 'discovered' by liberal Muslim intellectuals in Colombo who convinced him to move to the capital city. While in residence there, he began correspondence through an interpreter and scribe with a woman in the United States who heard about him through a Sri Lankan student studying in her university town. She eventually raised funds to bring him to the United States to guide her and other fellow seekers. He arrived in Philadelphia

in 1971 and spent the remaining years of his life moving back and forth from the United States to Sri Lanka. After his death in 1986, he was buried on a plot of land purchased by his American followers to serve as a cemetery. A shrine was built over his gravesite, and the place has now become a location of pilgrimage for his admirers from around the world. Frank's study contextualizes the origin and development of the Bawa Muhaiyaddeen Fellowship using multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork and oral history dated, conducted, and compiled over more than a decade and a half of research. The results of the study will be published by DeGruyter in its "Religion and Society" series.

**DR. PATRICE LADWIG**

Jul 2016 – Dec 2021



Patrice Ladwig studied social anthropology and sociology, and obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge. He worked at the University of Bristol, the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, and was Visiting Professor at the University of Zürich and the University of Hamburg. His work focuses on the anthropology of Buddhism (Laos and Thailand), death and funeral cultures, colonialism, the link of religion to communist movements, and general social theory. At the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, he was First Principal Investigator in a project on Buddhist law funded by the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation in Buddhist Studies. Since 2018, he has carried out research on economic modernization, religion, and ethics in the context of the Max Planck-Cambridge Centre for the Study of Ethics, Human Economy, and Social Change.

**TOWARDS AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF BUDDHISM. ETHNOGRAPHY, THEORY, AND COMPARISON  
(WITH NICOLAS SIHLÉ, CENTRE D'ÉTUDES HIMALAYENNES, CNRS)**

*Dr. Patrice Ladwig*

The groundwork for the academic study of the anthropology of Buddhism was established in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Since then, although the anthropology of Islam, and even more of Christianity, have undergone a resurgence, it seems that scholarship on the anthropology of Buddhism has largely fragmented into a variety of disconnected concerns. However, in the last few years, a new interest in the 'anthropology of Buddhism', as an ethnographically-based, comparatively- and theoretically-informed collective endeavor has begun to emerge. The present project aims to give expression to this emergent

innovative dynamic, which involves sustained intellectual exchanges between specialists of very different kinds of Buddhism. The special issue resulting from the project presents an assessment of, and comparative engagement with, current scholarship on the topic. Beyond the bounds of the national, regional and ethnic traditions, the publication therefore addresses themes and topics that are not only of interest for regional or Buddhist studies readership, but, with its focus on comparison and theory, also reaches out to a broader anthropological audience.

**GOVERNING THE MONASTIC ORDER. A COMPARATIVE EXPLORATION OF TRADITIONAL  
SANGHA-LAWS IN PRE-MODERN LAOS AND THEIR TRANSFORMATIONS UNDER COLONIAL-  
ISM (WITH GREGORY KOURILSKY, ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE D'EXTRÊME- ORIENT, EFEO, PARIS)**

*Dr. Patrice Ladwig*

Patrice Ladwig was Principal Investigator of a project funded by the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation in Buddhist Studies. He collaborated with Gregory Kourilsky (École française d'Ex-

trême- Orient, EFEO, Paris). This project examines texts and laws that concern the governance and administration of the Buddhist monastic order (Sangha) in Laos during the pre-modern



and the colonial period (19th century - 1953). First, it will explore how legal and religious concepts borrowed (directly or not) from India were adapted to pre-modern Buddhist Lao kingdoms. Secondly, the research will examine modern colonial legislations for controlling and administering the Sangha in French Laos. Synthesizing the

results and focusing on the concept of 'localization', the ruptures and continuities of Buddhist law-making under different political regimes will be explored. By combining textual analysis with historical methods and theories, broader conclusions will be drawn from comparisons with other Theravada cases in South and Southeast Asia.

## LIFE CYCLE RITUALS AND THE BOOMING ECONOMY. ORDINATIONS, FUNERALS, AND ETHICAL CHANGE IN URBAN LAO BUDDHISM (SUBPROJECT OF THE MAX PLANCK CAMBRIDGE CENTRE FOR ETHICS, ECONOMY AND SOCIAL CHANGE)

*Dr. Patrice Ladwig*

The current project examines the interdependence of economic modernization and ethical change through the prism of Buddhist life-cycle rituals. With a focus on ordinations and funerals as the two most important rites of passage in Theravada Buddhist Southeast Asia, it researches how the economic boom in urban Laos has trans-

formed these rites. Taking as a starting point the moral economy and donation-based exchanges between laypeople and monks as ritual experts, the project sets out to explore how associated values and practices have changed with respect to ethics under conditions of the recent economic boom and increasing social stratification.

### SAMUEL LENGEN Mar 2013 – Aug 2017



Samuel Lengen is a Research Associate at the Center for Data Ethics and Justice in association with the Data Science Institute at the University of Virginia. Samuel earned his M.A. in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Zurich. He was a Doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen, Germany before earning his Ph.D. degree in Cultural Anthropology from Utrecht University in the Netherlands. His research explores the ethics of data and digital infrastructures, with a focus on gender, social media, and government policy in China. Currently, Samuel is researching the implications of data capture in the context of digital platforms with particular attention to the emergence of Chinese social credit scores. Samuel is the author of "Beyond a Conceptual Framework of Oppression and Resistance: Creativity, Religion, and the Internet in China".

## BINARY DREAMS: CREATIVE SUCCESS AND FAILURE IN BEIJING'S INTERNET INDUSTRY (COMPLETED)

*Samuel Lengen*

Samuel Lengen's Ph.D. project ethnographically explored connections between IT entrepreneur-

ship and online media production in Beijing's Internet industry. In particular, it examined how

entrepreneurial efforts draw on digital media to mediate and materialize gender, creativity, and

mobility in their efforts to captivate online users and consumers.

## DR. JIFENG LIU

Nov 2016 – Nov 2017



Jifeng Liu is an Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Studies at Xiamen University, China and was previously a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Germany from November 2016 to November 2017, where he still is a Research Partner. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology and Religious Studies from Leiden University, the Netherlands. His research revolves around the interplay of ethnicity, religion and politics, in particular religion in Chinese societies, Chinese in Southeast Asia, immigrant religion, as well as ethnicity and religion in Southeast Asia. Jifeng has carried out field research in Southeast China, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore. He is currently focusing on his book manuscript, entitled “Retrieving the Past Glory: Social Memory, Transnational Networks, and Christianity in Contemporary China”.

## CHINA'S RISE, RESTRUCTURED RELATIONS, AND TRANSFORMING RELIGIOUS NETWORKS BETWEEN MINNAN AND SOUTHEAST ASIA (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Jifeng Liu*

The resurgence of religious activity in reform-era South Fujian (Minnan), China, has been greatly advanced by its various transnational networks. Since the late 1990s, however, in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis, the situation has changed. A number of overseas Chinese of Minnan origin went bankrupt, and were consequently forced to stop their financial contributions to religious recovery in their homeland. However, China's economy was not greatly scathed; it continued to develop, and Minnan has become one of China's most economically prosperous regions. This considerable change in economic situation

has substantially reshaped transnational ties and geopolitics.

Given the transforming economic and political conditions, any investigation of transnational religious networks requires dynamic and comparative perspectives. This research treats the religious networks as a dynamic process that has been reshaped by China's rise, and the consequently restructured relations between Chinese communities in Southeast Asia and Minnan, as well as examining the effect of generational difference.

## DR. ZHEN MA

Feb 2017 – May 2021



Ma Zhen is a Post-doctoral Researcher and works in the Department of Religious Diversity. She is currently working on a project dealing with transnational interactions between Southwest China and Myanmar, with a focus on the two interrelated issues of Theravada Buddhist networks and cross-border marriage. She was previously funded by a CSC-DAAD Scholarship 2016 and joined the Institute in February 2017. She attended her Ph.D. at the School for the Study of Ethnology and Sociology, Minzu University of China. Her Ph.D. research was about Pu'er tea, and the encounter between Chinese ethnic minorities and modernity in Southwest China. Her research interest covers Theravada Buddhist culture, material culture and visual anthropology, with a special reference to ethnic minorities in Southwest China, such as the Bulang, Dai, Wa, and Bai. In addition to her research writing, she has also made five ethnographic films. Her film "Living on Tea" was nominated by The Second Beijing Ethnographic Film Festival in November 2017.

## THERAVADA BUDDHISM IN XISHUANGBANNA AND ITS CONNECTIONS IN THE UPPER-MEKONG REGION

*Dr. Zhen Ma*

This project examines transnational interactions in the Upper-Mekong region, with a focus on two interrelated issues concerning Theravada Buddhist networks and cross-border marriage. In particular, it explores the Theravada Buddhist belief and practices of the Dai-lue and the Bulang in Xishuangbanna, and their Buddhist networks with the Shan State and Northern Thailand. It further examines how Buddhist networks facilitate cross-border marriages on the Sino-Burma border.

The project focuses on three questions: The first one is how Theravada Buddhism was revived in the Dai-lue and Bulang villages in Xishuangbanna. And how does the revival of Theravada Buddhism from the 1980s to the 1990s shape Buddhist networks today? Given the fact that the

Sangha system has been meticulously regulated by the state, the social memory of a space that was not controlled by nation-states and people's experience of tightened control will be of great importance for any inquiry into the revitalization of Buddhism in Xishuangbanna. The second one is how transnational religious networks have been (and will continue to be) shaped by different and rapidly changing social milieus in Xishuangbanna and other parts of the Upper-Mekong region. And how does this religious network, i.e., the flowing of people, knowledge and goods, shape Buddhist belief and practices in Dai-lue and Bulang villages in Xishuangbanna reciprocally. The third one is how religion networks interplay with Sino-Burma cross-border marriage connections of both sexes.

## DR. SCOTT MACLOCHLAINN

Jul 2018 – May 2021



Scott MacLochlainn is currently a Post-doctoral Fellow with the Department of Religion, where he is also a Research Affiliate with the Max-Cam Centre for Ethics, Economy, and Social Change. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, having completed his undergraduate studies in anthropology and history at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. His research engages new forms of media, legal, and religious transformation in the Philippines. He has recently completed and submitted for review his first book, “The Copy Generic”. He is currently undertaking a research project that explores how increasing extrajudicial killings in the Philippines have seen death emerge as a contested evidential space in religious and state authority. As well as serving as the current Co-Convenor of the Network of Ethnographic Theory, under the European Association of Social Anthropologists, he has established a cross-departmental writing workshop, WriteLab, at the Max Planck Institute.

### RITUALS OF EVIDENCE: MEDIA, FAITH, AND DEATH IN THE PHILIPPINES

*Dr. Scott MacLochlainn*

Scott is currently conducting a research project on death in Manila, funded in part by a Wenner-Gren post-Ph.D. research grant. This is an ethnographic study of how death and its rituals have increasingly become contested spaces over what constitutes evidence. It is centered in the increased visibility of death in the contemporary moment in the Philippines. Situated amidst a backdrop of widespread extrajudicial killings since 2016, this project examines a number of spaces surrounding death: from Christian ritual prayer and mortuary practices, to murder photographers and the media markets of death, to the legal and state spheres in which normative definitions of death are contested and transformed. In doing so, it aims to bring together an ethnographic and theoretical focus on the mediations and rituals of death as evidential forms.

This research reveals not only how religious communities in the urban context of Manila are responding to violence and the mediatization of death, but also how they are actively engaging with these contexts as spaces of religious interpretation and ritual. Theoretically framing the intersecting practices of media, faith, and death through the concept of evidence, this research contributes to contemporary scholarly conversations on contested media spaces of knowledge, pluralisms of religion and publics, and novel forms of state control. Moreover, this research seeks to successfully move to consolidate multiple scales of religious practice, ranging from a finely-grained ethnographic examination of funeral rites, cemetery workers and mourning families, to the broader spaces legal and state spaces in which religious meaning circulates.

## SMALLER GODS: THE DIVINE LIVES OF CORPORATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES

*Dr. Scott MacLochlainn*

Scott is currently completing research and a book manuscript that emanates in part from his dissertation research, and is an ethnographic and historical study of how Christian practice in the Philippines is increasingly mediated through corporate identities. Intended to quickly solve the problems of Catholic-owned property, as well as to open-up newly available markets to U.S. business interests, the U.S. modern corporate form was introduced to the Philippines at the turn of the twentieth century by the new American colonial government. The explicitly secular corporate model has developed over time, in tension with the ubiquitous and influential role that Christianity has played in the Philippines. Working with Christian, Muslim and indigenous Mangyan groups, as well as with corporate and legal actors, this book argues that the dual iden-

tity of religious groups, both as congregations and as corporations, is increasingly influential for contemporary modes of religious formation, as well as for how we understand the ever-quicken- ing shifts in what constitutes and limits the con- temporary private corporation. In other words, spaces in and around concepts of the religious - whether related to religious freedom, secular- ism, divine presence, or indeed the morality of money - push at the limits and constraints of corporate personhood, and its distinction from its members. This book asserts that, inasmuch as the corporation provides an invaluable lens through which to view the history and inter- section of modern forms of religion with legal, economic and political governance, communal forms of religious subjectivity enable us to un- derstand the nature of the corporation.

## THE COPY GENERIC

*Dr. Scott MacLochlainn*

While a Post-doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute, Scott has completed his first book, "The Copy Generic". This book explores the 'generic' as an overlooked concept in social theory. Everywhere and nowhere, discarded as the copy, the knock-off, the old and overgeneralized, this book argues that the generic is instead remarkably neglected as a cornerstone of the circulation of contemporary forms of knowledge. "The Copy Generic" moves between a number of contexts, such as movie prop-design offices in Los Angeles, early twentieth century U.S. colonial urban planning in Manila, as well as practices of Christian Bible translation, the use of sign language by Jehovah's Witness missionaries, and the emergence of Christian denominational

pluralism on the island of Mindoro. This book is at the intersection of a number of important themes in anthropology, including an emerging anthropology of abstraction and logistics, current theoretical and ethnographic engagements in language and media, as well as a rethinking of how to theorize increasingly globalized religious practices and identities. The book describes how the condensed mutability between specificity and universality that is interred in the idea of the generic, facilitates a rethinking of some inherited lines of division in anthropological theory, as well as engages Southeast Asian ethnography and the anthropology of Christianity in innovative ways.



**DR. NEENA MAHADEV**

Oct 2015 – Sep 2017



Neena Mahadev was a Research Fellow at MPI-MMG, where she prepared her book manuscript, “Rivalry and Political Cosmology: The Buddhist-Christian Conversion Debates in Millennial Sri Lanka”, for publication. This study is based upon 24 months of fieldwork in Sri Lanka in 2009-2011, generously supported by the Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. The ethnography offers a situated look at Christian conversion and Buddhist anti-conversion measures. Being dually situated among Sri Lankan Christians and Buddhists, the project sheds new light on pressing debates over secularism and religious freedom. The study reflects the profound implications of inter-religious tensions for post-war Sri Lanka, and for a globalizing world more generally. Through attention to the quotidian theological repertoires and discourses about conversion, the study examines how different communities construct views on the ethics of religious attraction. It accounts for denominational and sectarian logics at work in these conflicts, and tracks debates between: (1) Buddhists and evangelical Christians; (2) Catholics and Pentecostals; (3) evangelists and ecumenical leaders of inter-religious dialogue; and (4) Buddhist authorities who condemn new Buddhist movements as heretical, even as they soar in popularity. At the same time, the ethnography considers conciliatory work carried out through ecumenical institutions, political diplomacy, and through everyday strivings to live alongside religious others despite haunting concerns over difference.

## ITINERARIES OF RELIGIOUS ARRIVAL AND REVIVAL: MULTI-ETHNIC RELIGIOUS SPACES IN SRI LANKA AND SINGAPORE (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Neena Mahadev*

While at Max Planck, Neena developed several new articles and book chapters, based on further work on her dissertation materials. This mainly involved the development of new theoretical and analytical interventions. Her publications appear in top anthropology journals, including *Current Anthropology*, *Religion & Society* (forthcoming), and *Hau Journal of Ethnographic Theory* (forthcoming), in addition to book chapters.

Typically, publication takes three years from first submission of an article to top-tier journals in her discipline.

Neena was also sponsored by MPI-MMG to perform two months of research between Singapore and Sri Lanka. This resulted in one publication, a keynote talk, and several other invited lectures and conference presentations. More articles based upon that research are in progress.

**NGA MAI**

Apr 2016 – Sep 2020



Nga Mai joined the MPI-MMG in 2016 to work on her doctoral research under the supervision of Professor Peter van der Veer and Dr. Tam Ngo. Before working at the Max Planck Institute, she graduated from two master programs. Her first M.A. was an interdisciplinary program in public health in Thailand, where she researched Vietnamese diaspora in Thailand and their marriage migration. She received the second M.A. in Migration and Intercultural Relations – an Erasmus Mundus joint masters program - with her dissertation on the history of Vietnamese immigration into the Czech Republic and the transformation of the diaspora into one of the ethnic minorities in the country. At the Max Planck Institute, she is interested in Vietnamese immigration in Germany, and how the perception of intimacy and self is mediated by the legalization process.

## **'LEGALITY FIRST': MORAL PRACTICES AND NEGOTIATION OF MORAL VALUES DURING MIGRATION IN GERMANY**

*Nga Mai*

This project examines the practices deployed by new Vietnamese migrants in Berlin to legalize and legitimize their residency. Besides both commonly-known Vietnamese groups in Germany - former contract workers and boat refugees - migrants from Vietnam continue to perceive Germany as a desirable destination and attempt to move to the country. As they encounter German immigration and citizenship laws, however, they realize that their chance of success is quite slim. German immigration laws still feature an ethno-cultural understanding of national membership and selective civic inclusion, which creates a situation in which immigrants are likely to seek different ways to obtain legal status. This research aims to investigate the experience of German immigration and citizenship laws from

the bottom-up. Specifically, Nga Mai focuses on migrants' everyday knowledge, perception, and narratives of dealing with the legislative and law enforcement system. She observes that legality is at the top of people's everyday concerns; correspondingly, many migrants prioritize the attainment of long-term residence status in Germany, weighed against the moral values of self and family encouraged by nationalist and essentialist viewers. In this long process, the perception of self and the structure of family relationships are subject to both re-evaluation and transformation. This project also asserts that religion plays an important role in tending to migrants' spiritual needs and the transformation of the material world.

## DR. TAM NGO

since Feb 2009; permanent contract



Dr. Tam Ngo studies religious change, dialogues between spiritualism and science, and memory politics in post-war late socialist Vietnam and China using anthropological methods and discourse analysis. A podcast about her first book, “The New Way: Protestantism and the Hmong in Vietnam” (Seattle, 2016) can be listened to via the following link: <https://podtail.com/en/podcast/new-books-in-christian-studies/tam-t-t-ngo-the-new-way-protestantism-and-the-hmon/>. A review of it can be read here: <https://rai.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1467-9655.12953>. Currently, she is writing her second monograph, provisionally titled “The Unclaimed War: The 1979 Sino-Vietnamese Border War. Memory politics in Vietnam and China”. She received a Senior VIDI grant (2020-2024) from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research for a research project on the use of spiritual and DNA forensics to find and identify war dead in Vietnam and its implications for the country’s reconciliation politics. She has recruited one Post-doctoral Fellow and two Ph.D. students for this project. She works half-time at the MPI and half-time at the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation (NIOD) in Amsterdam.

## BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE: SINOPHOBIA AND RELIGIOUS NATIONALIST SENTIMENTS IN VIETNAM

*Dr. Tam Ngo*

President Xi Jinping’s launch of the “One Belt One Road Initiative” (OBOR or BRI) was met with a negative reaction in the Vietnamese public sphere, although the markedly rapid development of infrastructure connecting Vietnam and China would stimulate a number of trade sectors. The discussion focused on whether part of Vietnamese sovereignty should be given to China, even if only for a certain number of years (99 years was the proposed lease for the Van Don Port, for example). In Vietnamese belief, expressed in a saying “trần sao âm vậy” (“whatever happens in the world of the living, the exact happens in the world of the dead”), the world of the living is intricately connected to that of the spirits. This proposed project therefore inves-

tigates the reflection of various perceptions of BRI in contemporary Vietnamese religion. Concretely, it examines two newly emerged popular religious movements that build their legitimacy and popularity on the treacherous terrain of Sino-Vietnam relation. The first movement is the newly emergent Ho Chi Minh Cult, in which a number of cult leaders evoke Uncle Ho to return to lead the nation in spiritual warfare against the invasion of China’s ghost army. The second is a movement founded by a combination of female spirit mediums from lower social strata and highly educated intellectuals, business owners, and politicians. While the more privileged members of this group often benefit financially from Vietnam’s good relations with China, Sinophobia

binds the group together. Conducting spiritual warfare against China, this group has adopted spiritually aggressive approaches. For example, by disguising as tourists, they chartered buses to bring them to Nanning, Guangzhou and Kunming, or flew to Beijing, Shanghai and Chengdu, to carry out spiritual attacks in China's territory. The weapon employed by both groups constitutes a revised form of spirit writing.

By following the activities of these two religious movements, this project aims to address a number of empirical and analytical questions. How are the advantages and disadvantages of

BRI reflected in the Vietnamese cosmological relation with China? One of the threats of BRI for Vietnam is the fact that Vietnam may be left behind once China completes its strategy to neutralize Vietnam's geopolitical importance. In that relation, what kind of new civilizational imaginations are produced and what kind of identity formation can be anticipated? What does the employment of spirit writing in spiritual warfare against China in contemporary Vietnam reveal about Sino-Vietnamese civilizational imagination?

## NORTH-SOUTH BY EAST-WEST

*Prof. Dr. Peter van der Veer, Dr. Tam Ngo*

This project studies the interactions and mutual understandings of North-Vietnamese and South Vietnamese in Germany after the Fall of the Berlin Wall. The North Vietnamese have come to East Germany as students and guest workers from one Communist country to another. The South Vietnamese have come to West Germany in fleeing a Communist regime. After the Fall of

the Wall, they are confronted with each other, with their memories, and with a post-communist situation in Germany and a post-socialism with Vietnamese characteristics in Vietnam. The fieldwork is primarily carried out in Berlin. This fieldwork will be expanded with work among the Vietnamese in the Netherlands and in France.

## THE UNCLAIMED WAR: THE SOCIAL MEMORY OF THE 1979 SINO-VIETNAMESE BORDER WAR IN CHINA AND VIETNAM

*Dr. Tam Ngo*

This project addresses the memory politics of the 1979 Sino-Vietnamese Border War. This brief, but bloody, war killed tens of thousands of Vietnamese and Chinese, yet it is a forbidden topic in both countries today. For the people whose lives were devastated by it, the daunting memory of this war continues to haunt their daily existence. The intensity of their suppressed memory is startling, especially in the present context of a thriving politics and culture of war commemoration in both China and Vietnam.

In this study, Tam follows the life stories and narratives of people whose lives were defined by this war, such as the veterans, inhabitants of the borderland, both ethnic minorities and Kinh and Han majority groups, the ethnic Chinese people in Vietnam, and the ethnic Vietnamese people in China. These life stories have led her to a number of geographical locations, some of which became

the main sites for her research, such as Lao Cai, Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, Shanghai, Kunming, and Dali in China. Because of the war, half of a million Hoa Kieu (ethnic Chinese from Vietnam, or Vietnamese Hoa Kieu) have fled the country and resettled in the West. Ethnographically, Tam's focuses are on subtle, often underground, rituals that aim to commemorate the war, as well as the religious expression of memory about this war. This project also includes the life stories and memory politics among the Chinese-Vietnamese population in three European cities: Berlin, Amsterdam, and Paris. By focusing on the ethnic and religious networks maintained between the Vietnamese Hoa Kieu in the West and their ethnic fellows that remained in Vietnam, this project uses religion as a lens through which to understand war and refugee experiences.

## BONES OF CONTENTION: TECHNOLOGIES OF IDENTIFICATION AND THE POLITICS OF RECONCILIATION IN VIETNAM

*Dr. Tam Ngo*

Finding and identifying missing war dead is an important task for any society after warfare. How this task is performed has a strong impact on post-war political reconciliation. The key objective of “Bones of Contention” is to gain thorough empirical and theoretical knowledge of the processes of war-dead identification and post-war reconciliation in Vietnam.

Facing the challenge of finding and identifying millions of missing war dead, Vietnamese families since the 1990s have resorted to ‘spiritual forensics’, a variety of spiritual techniques to locate and name the dead. The success of ‘spiritual forensics’ challenged Communist atheism and the state’s arbitrary control over whose bodies can be unearthed and repatriated and whose cannot. To counter spiritual forensics, in 2013 the Vietnamese began to import advanced DNA-based forensic technology, which is also only permitted in the identification of the remains of those who died fighting for, and not against, the communist government.

Using ethnographic fieldwork, the following two main questions are posed: (1) how are the two technologies of identification, i.e., spiritual forensics and DNA-based forensics, applied and discussed by families of the war dead and by state institutions; and (2) how does the differential utilization of these technologies and respective discourses relate to Vietnam post-war reconciliation politics?

The innovation and urgency of this research is the study of the production and reception of scientific methods and knowledge in a highly politicized social environment. What is to be gained is an understanding of the role of different kinds of expertise (scientific and spiritual) in the process of reconciliation in post-war Vietnam. As Vietnam constitutes a major test-case of new DNA technology, this research is directly relevant for the further development of these methods in a culturally-sensitive manner. The insight obtained in this project will be pertinent for the process of war-dead identification elsewhere.

### DR. SALAH PUNATHIL

Jul 2018 – Jun 2020



Salah Punathil was a post-doc research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity from 2018 to 2020. He is now a Permanent Faculty Member at the Centre for Regional Studies, the University of Hyderabad, India. His research interests comprise ethnic violence, migration, citizenship, Muslims in South Asia, and the intersection of archives and ethnography. His recently published book “Interrogating Communalism: Violence, Citizenship, and Minorities in South India” (Routledge, 2019) examines conflict and violence among religious minorities and their implications for the idea of citizenship in contemporary India. Punathil has also published articles in journals, such as *South Asia Research* and *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. He was the recipient, in 2015, of the M. N. Srinivas



Award for Young Indian Sociologists. His current research focuses on the migration of Muslims from what is now Bangladesh to northeast India, and the current crisis of citizenship and ethnic violence.

## 'MIGRANT ILLEGALITY' AND BENGALI-SPEAKING MUSLIMS IN THE ASSAM STATE OF NORTHEAST INDIA, SOUTH ASIA

*Dr. Salah Punathil*

Salah has been working on the theme of migration, citizenship, and violence against Bengali-speaking Muslims in the Assam state of Northeast India. The research examines how the discourse of 'migrant illegality' is constituted by the long-term process of 'Muslim otherness' enacted in both religious nationalism in India and ethnic sub-nationalisms in post-colonial Assam. By using historical, as well as ethnographic, data, the research also maps and analyzes the antecedents, sites, and experience of vulnerability and violence among Bengali-speaking Muslims. Salah recently completed a research paper on the Muslim camps and experience of violence in Assam. Currently, he focuses on the crisis of migrants after the publication of the NRC (National Register of Citizens), which lists 1.9 million peo-

ple in Assam as illegal migrants from Bangladesh. It raises the question of the increasing threat of detention and 'deportability' of the Muslim population in Assam. The institutional procedures, court documents and narratives of the select cases of 'detected', as well as 'detained', migrants from ethnographic fieldwork reveals how the absence of formal papers and errors on the family records, kinship relations, and property inheritance among the poor migrant families transforms actual citizens into 'illegal migrants' in the bureaucratic maneuvering. His research specifically addresses how prejudice, arbitrariness, and contradictions feed into the bureaucratic process, leading to the intense crisis among family units, as several migrant families have both Indians and alleged 'Bangladeshis' in their home today.

## DR. ARPITA ROY Sep 2015 – Aug 2019



As a Post-doctoral Scholar at MPI-MMG, Arpita Roy was conducting research on alchemy and occult Tantrism on the basis of extensive fieldwork in rural Bengal, India. A critical component of her research involved examining how alchemy forms a matchlessly supple instrument, which aligns the local landscape with the grand scale of cosmogenesis, to open-up several lines of questioning at the base of myth, history, and science. Her project, entitled "Tantrism in Contemporary Bengal", was committed to taking textual material seriously and integrating it with fieldwork data in the hope that ethnography may clarify the rich layering and multi-directionality of Tantric thought. Arpita Roy received her doctorate in Anthropology in 2011 at the University of California, Berkeley, where she taught as a Lecturer for two years thereafter, followed by a Post-doctoral Research Fellowship at the Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, Paris.

Her doctoral dissertation was an ethnographic study of physics and physicists at the Large Hadron Collider particle accelerator at CERN in Geneva, Switzerland. The radical shift in focus from particle physics to occult Tantrism is part of her commitment to interrogate, in a full sense, the boundaries and interrelations of fundamental categories called magic, religion and science, a topic whose seductive possibility once inhabited the heart of classical anthropology.

## TANTRIC ALCHEMY

*Dr. Arpita Roy*

This project is based on research on Tantric alchemy and how it underwrites specific notions of asceticism, healing and vitality. Previously the problem was seen as expressing a contradiction between the worship of god for the sake of liberation (mukti) and the cultivation of occult powers such as levitation, atomization and other kinds of wizardry (siddhi). But I think this framework is faulty. The stumbling block is that a large part of the tantric alchemical corpus is used for routine healing like the use of a concoction of mercury against snakebite or indigestion. How does a religious orientation of salvation connect to this kind of healing? On the other hand, how does everyday healing square with extraordinary occult powers?

Ronald Barrett's work on Aghori healing establishes the argument that ritually polluting substances are used for healing stigmatized diseases like leprosy and leukoderma. The ar-

gument appears a little limited and contrived. I have observed that village people go to Tantric healers for everyday illnesses and practical cures. To be useful, there has to be some institutional or doctrinal form within Aghori or Tantric healing which explains this flexibility and range.

While on the one hand I am convinced that such a long tradition and corpus of writings as Tantric alchemy embodies cannot be happenstance. Whatever be its actual worth, there has to be a well-spring for it to be alive till today in the rural milieu. And yet on the other hand, the problem is how to have a framework, which addresses the specificity of this tradition. What can be adduced on the behalf of a religious idiom that justifies this angle of healing, hygiene and diet along with the cultivation of extraordinary occult powers and the desire for salvation?

**DR. YANG SHEN**  
Nov 2019 – May 2021



Yang Shen is a cultural anthropologist working on secularism and ritual theories, focusing on late socialist China. She graduated from Boston University in Anthropology in October 2019 and joined the Institute in November. She has won grants and fellowships from the U.S. National Science Foundation, the Templeton Foundation, among others. She also received an Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award and Humanities Paper Prize from Boston University. Yang organized conference panels at the American Academy of Religions Annual Meeting,

Society for the Anthropology of Religion Biennial Meeting, and the Biennial Conference of the European Association for Chinese Studies. Her publications include „Rethinking Traditions: Reading the Classics as Ritual“. *Journal of Chinese Humanities* 1 (2015) and, in Chinese, „Religion and Society in a Perspective of an Anthropology of Cultivation: Synopsis of the Second Workshop of Anthropology of Religion“. *Studies of World Religions* vol. 6. (2016). 186-192.

## SIDESTEPPING SECULARISM: PERFORMANCE AND IMAGINATION IN BUDDHIST TEMPLES IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA

*Dr. Yang Shen*

The project investigates Buddhist temple spaces as unique semi-public arenas in late socialist China, where the interaction between the secular and the religious takes place openly. Based on 15 months of fieldwork in East China, the project identifies and documents three stylistic forms of temple participation that are widely accessible to the public and require no prior religious commitments: (1) making wish-vows; (2) drawing efficacious lots; and (3) providing residential temple services. By revising a ritual analysis approach, the project reveals the ways in which temple participation allows diverse Chinese citizens to flexibly negotiate modernity, side-step institutional constraints in a non-confrontational way, and introduce ritual-religious momentum to their temple-going lives in a mainstream so-

ciety. Theoretically, the project discusses the social conditions for creative actions, and the relationship between religious participation and state secularism. It also transcends the dichotomous paradigms of state/religion or state/society, which do not support us to understand how people relate to religious practices under the late socialist state secularism. Instead, it shows that ‘temples’, as spatial entities, can be a place for many-sided meaningful activities and an incubator for complex visions of life, outside of the conventional type-cast of sacred spaces based on institutional religious dissimilarities. This brings us to an anthropology of religion which effectively considers the making of humanity in contemporary China in a shared modern world.

## DR. PAUL SORRENTINO

Oct 2015 – Sep 2017



Paul Sorrentino’s research aims at developing a pragmatic approach to religious practices based on a fine-grained ethnography that takes individuals’ capacities for critique and judgement into account. This object and this approach constitute an entry to the study of Vietnamese society’s transformations through the great changes that have occurred in the country in its recent history, i.e., colonization, wars of extreme violence, the creation of a socialist state, and the latter’s conversion to a market economy. His previous work has focused on spirit possession and the relations between the living and the dead in

Vietnam. His project at MPI-MMG opened the scope to the broader context in which these changes have occurred, and focused on the diverse negotiations surrounding rituals in Vietnam, where different forms of authority come into play at the crossroads of science, spirituality, and nationalism.

## NEGOTIATING RITUALS IN CONTEMPORARY VIETNAM (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Paul Sorrentino*

This project intended to study the negotiations surrounding ritual practices in contemporary Vietnam, in a context of suspicion towards religions, combined with a rapid international integration of the country and a tense geopolitical situation. From a theoretical perspective, this research utilized the conceptual tools proposed by Luc Boltanski's pragmatic sociology and Bruno Latour's anthropology of sciences, providing a useful framework to trace the continuities between ritual action, discourse on ritual, and the effects of ritual on society.

An important body of scholarship has questioned the religious revival observed in Vietnam after the beginning of the *Đổi mới* policy in 1986. The paradigm of 're-enchantment' is applied in that literature. This paradigm describes the resurgence of practices that the war and the revolution had interrupted or made invisible, and the way that these practices adapt to

new social needs related to the development of a market economy. However, many works falling within this approach tend to suggest a simple opposition between society and state, between crowds of enthusiastic practitioners and an almighty Communist Party at war against uncontrolled religion, conveying the idea of a revival mechanically triggered by the political opening of the late 1980s. One can only regret the lack of detailed case studies about the complex adjustments between multiple agendas that allow religious practices to revive and inform their specific transformations. In the context of the failure of what Shaun Malarney has called „state functionalism“, i.e., the attempt, by the authorities, to create a new set of rituals contributing to the socialist reform of popular culture, this project will attempt to take into account the multiplicity of agents involved in the revival of ritual practices in Vietnam.

### DR. RAPHAEL SUSEWIND

Aug 2016 – Jan 2017



Raphael Susewind is now a Lecturer in Social Anthropology and Development at the Department of International Development, King's College London. He is a political anthropologist of urban India and worked as an Associate of the Contemporary South Asia Studies Program at the University of Oxford, where he explored Muslim belonging, as well as the ambivalence of the sacred and electoral politics, through both ethnographic and quantitative approaches. At MPI-MMG, Raphael wrote about the iconic, but forgotten, Rifah-e-Aam Club in Lucknow.

## DR. SHAHEED TAYOB

Mar 2012 – Jan 2017



Shaheed is an anthropologist of Muslim food practices in India and South Africa. His Ph.D. research looked at the intersection of ethics, religion, and economy as it relates to the Muslim meat and food industry in Mumbai. Central themes include the sense, religious change, ethics in business, and human-animal relations. He has thus far published articles analyzing the contemporary transformation of halal into a global consumer market, as well as an argument for disgust as a form of radical political engagement in India. He continues to work towards the publication of his thesis into a book manuscript, as well as theoretical and ethnographic work on the intersection of religion and economy as viewed through the emerging global halal market.

### ISLAM AS A LIVED TRADITION: ETHICAL CONSTELLATIONS OF MUSLIM FOOD PRACTICE IN MUMBAI (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Shaheed Tayob*

In April 2017, Shaheed Tayob defended his Ph.D. thesis, entitled “Islam as a Lived Tradition: Ethical Constellations of Muslim Food Practice in Mumbai”. Soon after the defense, Shaheed was employed as a Permanent Lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. He has since continued to write on his research in Mum-

bai, and is currently in the process of developing that work into a book. He currently has one article from the Max Planck funded Ph.D. research which argues the critical potential of disgust as a mode of embodied critique. His research speaks to the current right-wing politics of marginalization of Muslims in India.



## DR. BOB VAN DER LINDEN

Aug 2016 - Feb 2017



Bob van der Linden (Ph.D. South Asian History: University of Amsterdam, 2004) is a historian and musicologist. His first book, “Moral Languages from Colonial Punjab: The Singh Sabha, Arya Samaj, and Ahmadiyahs” (New Delhi, 2008) was a comparative socio-intellectual history of these voluntary Muslim reform movements in the context of the imperial encounter. Subsequently, he combined his fascination for music, India, and British imperial history in “Music and Empire in Britain and India: Identity, Internationalism, and Cross-Cultural Communication” (New York, 2013). From a comparative global historical perspective, Bob is generally interested in the study of what he refers to as the study of music in imperial culture, i.e., parallels in non-Western national music formation, intellectual interactions in music between Europe and the rest of the world (especially India and China), the emergence of the discipline of ethnomusicology, etc. As a Writing Fellow at the Institute, Bob worked on the long-overdue biography of Arnold Bake (1899-1963).

## DR. LEILAH VEVAINA

Jul 2016 - Dec 2019



Leilah Vevaina is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. From 2015-2019, she was a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Goettingen, Germany. She received her Ph.D. in Social Anthropology from the New School for Social Research in 2014. She has an M.A. in Anthropology from The New School (2007), as well as an M.A. in Social Thought from New York University (2005). Her research focuses on the form of trusts within the intersection of urban property and religious life. Her book manuscript, “Trust Matters: Religious Endowments and the Horoscope of the City”, focuses on the trust as a mechanism of property (both kinship and real

estate) management in Mumbai, and is forthcoming with Duke University Press. Her current research examines intra-communal modes of wealth transfer through religious endowments between Bombay-Mumbai and Hong Kong.

## DYING AND DIASPORA: THE FAITH AND FINANCE OF DEATH RITUALS (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Leilah Vevaina*

Zoroastrianism, while still a lived religion today, sees its practitioners as not only small in number, but increasingly scattered around the globe. From the Parsis' arrival to India until the present day, Dokhmenashini, the funerary practice of excarnation or sky burial, has been consistently practiced by the majority of the community in Bombay-Mumbai as one of the most important Zoroastrian rituals. Wherever Parsis moved and settled, they constructed sacred spaces, such as temples and funerary grounds, to maintain Zoroastrian laws of purity and pollution in their new environment and used endowments to financially support them. Due to the unviability of excarnation in the present (Vevaina 2013), even the Parsis in Mumbai are now moving away from Dokhmenashini and seeking viable alternatives.

This project demonstrated that this transition away from millennia-old ritual practice is not simply attributable to the reduced viability of excarnation outside of a few locations, but also due to the newly acquired financial and political strength of diaspora groups, particularly in Hong Kong, within the global Zoroastrian community. The material support and reformist values of diaspora groups have been funding several new initiatives, such as Parsi cremation in Mumbai, a funerary practice which was, until recently, considered unthinkable within a traditional Zoroastrian framework of purity and pollution (putting the impure corpse into the pure, i.e., fire). The project aimed to examine the new and influential role of the diaspora for those dying in Mumbai.

## OF FAITH AND FORTUNE: PARSI PHILANTHROPIC NETWORKS BETWEEN BOMBAY-MUMBAI AND HONG KONG (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Leilah Vevaina*

While the center of Parsi (Indian Zoroastrian) communal life remains in Mumbai, the community, through its ties to ship-building, and the opium and tea trade, has for centuries had a quiet presence in the city of Hong Kong. Trade brought the Parsis to Hong Kong in the mid-eighteenth century, and a small group remained and settled after the British took over the island in 1841. Just as in Bombay, the Parsis in Hong Kong, through various philanthropic and for-profit endeavors, built-up various sectors in the colonial city, including banks, hospitals, the ferry system, and the university. In return, profits from the China trade made millionaires of several of Bombay's 'illustrious' philanthropists, and helped to build some of this city's founding infrastructure.

Although the ties between the two ports were never severed, there is currently a resurgence of donations transferred from Parsi trusts in Hong Kong back to Mumbai, for even larger projects. Unlike the profits from the China traders of the past, these funds are funneled through charitable trusts, and thus have more complex communal mandates. For certain trusts, such as the Bombay Parsi Punchayet (BPP), i.e., the apex trust of India's Parsis, funds from overseas are vital to their welfare and redevelopment projects. As the communities in Mumbai, as well as Hong Kong, are demographically diminishing for various reasons, this project explores the re-emergence of funds and the kinds of projects that they engender in this tale of two cities.

## DR. SOPHORNTAVY VORNG

Oct 2016 – Apr 2017



Sophorntavy Vorng was a Writing Fellow at MPI-MMG. She completed her Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Sydney in 2009. In 2004, she graduated with a B.A. degree in Liberal Studies (Anthropology Honours I), also from the University of Sydney. Sophorntavy's research interests include class and consumption, status and inequality, space and politics, and religion and addiction. Her primary field sites are Bangkok and Chiang Rai. Her work in Bangkok explores consumption, urban space, status relations, class identity, and the nature of privilege and inequality in contemporary Thailand. At the Institute, she continued her project on religion, marginality, and addiction among highland ethnic minorities in Northern Thailand. In addition to her academic work, Sophorntavy has also worked as a consultant with international organizations focusing on development assistance and social science research in Southeast Asia.

### RELIGION, MARGINALITY, AND ADDICTION IN NORTHERN THAILAND (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Sophorntavy Vorng*

This project investigates conversion and missionization, the regional drug problem, and relations with the state among ethnic minority highlanders in Chiang Rai. I explore how government programs implemented through Buddhist monasteries construct Buddhist subjects and realize agendas of national security in border areas, while simultaneously offering development support and access to resources. At the same time, gospel rehabilitation centers provide much-needed drug treatment services, whilst drawing highlanders into transnational spheres of Christian fellowship. I argue that the relationship between ethnic minorities and the state can be defined in terms of aspiration and negotiation, as well as resistance and evasion, as has been previously argued in the literature. Another dimension of the study investigates the consequences of the global/national war on drugs through a compar-

ative exploration of two religious drug rehabilitation centers, one Buddhist and one Christian, which emerged from the post-opium prohibition era in Thailand. In the process, I consider notions of morality, discipline, individualization, and the structural factors involved in addiction. A further area of research examines the stigmatization of ethnic minority highlanders as drug addicts and traffickers in Thailand. I contend that the construction of these politicized ethno-racial discourses plays a key role in ongoing prejudice, discrimination, and the denial of citizenship and other basic human rights by the Thai state toward ethnic minorities. Simultaneously, this situation of marginalization creates a space for the proliferation of missionary activities in the form of prison ministries and the forms of developmental work by religious organizations.

## NGOC THI VUONG

Apr 2016 – Apr 2019



Ngoc Thi Vuong was a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Institute. She holds an MPhil in Sociology from Cambridge University (2011). Her research topics concern the effects on ethnic minorities of the opening-up of Southwest China to Vietnam. She is also interested in gender equality, transnationalism, and development.

### POLLUTED AND POLLUTING: A VIEW FROM THE BORDERLAND (COMPLETED)

*Ngoc Thi Vuong*

This Ph.D. research focuses on investigating the social-cultural life of the Nung ethnicity living in the border provinces of Vietnam and China. Ranking seventh in population among other ethnicities in Vietnam, the Nung have not received much attention from scholars, either domestically or internationally. The recent opening-up between Vietnam and China has led to profound changes in the life of Nung people living at the

border of Vietnam. Improvement of living standards goes hand-in-hand with intense transformations in cultural practices and social relationships. This research thus aims at exploring the trends of cultural development and ethnic affiliations of the Nung, especially in the context of their close relationship with the Zhuang nationality in China. The research site chosen is Lang Son province, where 31% of the Nung population live.

## DR. XIAOXUAN WANG

Jan 2018 – Jan 2019



Xiaoxuan Wang is a historian of modern and late imperial China. His research interests include Chinese communal religion, Chinese Christianity, and Chinese diaspora in Europe and the U.S. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in November 2015. His first book project examines the Maoist revolution and its legacies on grass-roots religious life in Southeast China post-1949. He is currently working on urbanization and religious life in China today, and starting a new project on transnational networks and local society in southern Zhejiang in the twentieth century.

## TRANSFORMATION OF RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN CHINA UNDER MAO AND ITS CONTEMPORARY LEGACIES (COMPLETED)

*Dr. Xiaoxuan Wang*

The project showcases the experience of Wenzhou, a coastal region sometimes referred to as “China’s Jerusalem.” It is based on in-depth research of rarely available state archives, oral historical interviews of local residents, and field investigations from 2011 to 2013. The goal of his

project was, first, to illustrate through religion the shifting social organization and communal identities in post-1949 China and second, to re-appraise the role of the Mao years in the making of religious modernity in China.

### DR. CHRIS WHITE Aug 2015 – Jul 2018



Chris White received his PhD in Modern Chinese History from Xiamen University. Currently he is the Assistant Director of the Center on Religion and the Global East at Purdue University. Prior to this, from 2015–2018, he was a Research Fellow with the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Recent publication includes journal articles in *Modern China*, *China Information*, *Review of Religion and Chinese Society*, and *Studies in World Christianity*, as well as the book, *Sacred Webs: The Social Lives and Networks of Minnan Protestants, 1840s–1920s* (Brill, 2017) and the edited volume *Protestantism in Xiamen, Then and Now* (Palgrave, 2019). His current research interests include how Christian heritage is commemorated in contemporary China.

## FAITH OF OUR FATHERS: COMMEMORATING CHRISTIAN HERITAGE IN CHINA

*Dr. Chris White*

The research project looks at how different interest groups find value in the remembering and celebrating the history of Chinese Christianity. Specifically, this project looks at the issue of commemorating Christian heritage from three vantage points: the family, the church, and the (local) state.

During fieldwork in South China over the past decade, I have collected dozens of “Christian genealogies” and visited numerous “Christian ancestral halls.” These are two ways Chinese Christian families celebrate their religious heritage and commemorate their forefathers.

Christian congregations have also, over the past two decades, increasingly sought to uncover and celebrate their histories. This is most conspicuous in anniversary celebrations and publication of commemorative volumes. I have collected dozens of such books—what I term “congregational genealogies”—and see them as important local sources crafted for contemporary church members and local societies. While it may at first seem counterintuitive, particularly in an era of increased religious repression which China is now experiencing, for state actors to embrace Christian history, but this proj-



ect suggests that in many instances, this is exactly what is occurring. Regardless of the motives for such coupling (usually to enhance tourism or local pride), this project will detail case studies of

how Chinese Christian history is being co-opted by the state, and how individual Christians and churches, in turn, use this for their benefit.

## DR. JINGYANG YU

Nov 2013 – May 2021



Jingyang Yu received her B.A. in German Language and Literature Studies from the Communication University of China in Beijing, and her M.A. in Religious Studies from Humboldt University in Berlin. With a thesis on language socialization among second-generation Chinese immigrants in Berlin, she was a doctoral student in the department before completing her Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology at Utrecht University in October 2019. Since December 2019, she has been a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Religious Diversity.

## MOTHER TONGUE: INTERGENERATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS OVER LANGUAGE AND IDENTITY AMONG CHINESE IMMIGRANTS IN BERLIN

*Dr. Jingyang Yu*

This dissertation project is an ethnographic study of Chinese immigrants in Berlin, focusing on the process of how the second generation loses and learns the Chinese language within resources from families and institutions. This project includes a 12-month fieldwork at one public primary school, two private Chinese language schools, two Chinese Christian churches, and numerous

Chinese immigrant households throughout the city of Berlin. Based on extensive ethnographic materials, the dissertation examines the interactions between two generations of Chinese immigrant families in Berlin, and analyzes their ambivalent relation towards the Chinese language and their Chinese background.

## GUESTS



## DR. SANDRINE BERTEAUX

French Institute for Anatolian Studies, Istanbul

SEP 2016 – FEB 2017



**DR. LISA BJÖRKMANN**  
University of Louisville  
MAY 2017 – JUL 2017



**PROF. DR. KENNETH DEAN**  
National University of Singapore  
MAY 2017 | MAY 2018 – JUL 2018



**DR. AJAY GANDHI**  
University of Leiden  
JAN 2020 – APR 2020



**DR. AYŞE GÜÇ-IŞIK**  
Social Sciences University of Ankara  
NOV 2015 – MAR 2017



**DR. ALEXANDER HORSTMANN**  
School of Humanities, Tallinn University, Estonia  
JUL 2018



**DR. BRIAN ARLY JACOBSEN**  
University of Copenhagen  
FEB 2019 – MAR 2019



**DR. JIN-HEON JUNG**  
Freie Universität Berlin  
FEB 2017 – SEP 2018 | OCT 2019 – MAY 2021



**DR. ASHITHA MANDAKATHINGAL**  
University of Hyderabad  
JUL 2018 – JUN 2020



**DR. THIEN HUONG NINH**  
Cosumnes River College, Sacramento, USA  
JUN 2017 – JUL 2017 | JUN 2019 – AUG 2019



**DR. MONA ORABY**  
Amherst College  
JUN 2019 – JUL 2019



**DR. NATHANIEL ROBERTS**  
Centre for Modern Indian Studies (CeMIS)  
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
JAN 2015 – JAN 2017



**PROF. DR. BERNA TURAM**  
Northeastern University  
JUN 2018



**SAJIDA TUXUN**  
Shaanxi Normal University, China  
NOV 2016 – OCT 2017



**PROF. DR. HUI WANG**  
Tsinghua University  
AUG 2018 – OCT 2018 | JUN 2019 – AUG 2019



**DR. MAYFAIR YANG**  
University of California at Santa Barbara  
JUL 2017 – DEC 2017



**PROF. DR. ZHUHUI YANG**  
Minzu University of China  
FEB 2019 – MAR 2019





## SOCIO-CULTURAL DIVERSITY

### PROF. DR. DR. H.C. STEVEN VERTOVEC Director



Steve Vertovec is the Founding Director at the Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, and Honorary Professor of Sociology and Ethnology at the University of Göttingen, Germany. Previously, he was Professor of Transnational Anthropology at the University of Oxford, and Director of the British Economic and Social Research Council's Centre on Migration, Policy, and Society (COMPAS). Steve's work involves the critical examination of several concepts surrounding international migration, transnational social formations, ethnic diasporas, and contexts of urban diversity. His education includes a B.A. (*Magna cum laude*) in Anthropology and Religious Studies from the University of Colorado, an M.A. in Religious Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and a DPhil in Social Anthropology from the University of Oxford. In 2018, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate (Social Sciences) by the Université de Liège. Steve is currently Co-Editor of the journal *Global Networks* and Co-Editor of the Palgrave book series "Global Diversities". He is also the author of five books, including "Transnationalism" (Routledge, 2009) and "Diversity and Contact" (Palgrave 2016), and is Editor or Co-Editor of 35 volumes, including "Islam in Europe" (Macmillan, 1997), "Conceiving Cosmopolitanism" (Oxford University Press, 2003), "The Multicultural Backlash" (Routledge 2010), "The International Handbook of Diversity Studies" (Routledge, 2015), and "The Oxford Handbook of Super-diversity" (Oxford University Press, forthcoming). For over 25 years, Steve has engaged with a range policy-makers, including the Expert Council of German Foundations on Migration and Integration, the UK government's Cabinet Office and Home Office, the European Commission, the G8, the World Bank, and UNESCO.

### BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION: COMPARING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

In 2015, Germany experienced an influx of migrants entering the country. As a result, German authorities became responsible for providing accommodation for three-quarters of a million people during the course of their respective asylum determination processes. The sheer lo-

gistics of accommodating this number of asylum-seekers represents an immense organizational and financial undertaking. Federal, state, and local authorities have responded by setting up a range of sites, structures (asylum-seekers' housing centers or Flüchtlingsunterkünfte), and

modes of asylum-seeker accommodation quickly, extensively, and painstakingly. Especially at the local level, measures to provide accommodation have proceeded usually efficiently, often experimentally, sometimes ingeniously, and typically with markedly mixed outcomes. This research project has two related goals: (1) to improve understanding of the wide range of needs and aspirations among the recent asylum-seekers - concerning, for instance, their everyday living conditions, education, family life, legal processes,

and labor market access - and how these needs and aspirations reflect social differences, such as gender, age, class, ethnicity, and religion; and (2) to determine how local municipal, civil, and voluntary institutions arrange the reception of newcomers in refugee homes, and how such institutions manage logistical challenges, provide services, and respond to the asylum-seekers' diverse needs and aspirations. This project, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, is part of the "WIMI" initiative.

## THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) ["WiMi"]

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader,  
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

In 2015 and 2016, Germany received nearly 1.2 million people who were seeking asylum. German politics and society engaged in a massive set of restructurings in order to process, accommodate, and integrate such an immense intake of people. In order to undertake cutting-edge research and provide a comprehensive understanding of what was occurring during this period in Germany, the President of the Max Planck Society called for a large-scale, interdisciplinary initiative on migration and integration. In this way, the "WIMI" initiative emerged as a far-reaching, joint research program of the Max Planck Society. The collaborative research program involves researchers from across a range

of disciplines at six prestigious Max Planck Institutes. These are: (1) the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (Heidelberg); (2) the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Rostock); (3) the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy (Munich); (4) the Max Planck Institute for Human Development (Berlin); (5) the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle); and (6) the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity (Göttingen). It is led by Prof. Marie-Claire Foblets (Director, the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle), Prof. Steven Vertovec and Prof. Ayelet Shachar (both Directors, MPI-MMG).

## SUPERDIVERSITY

*Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec*

For many years, Steve has continued to work on various projects, publications, lectures, and other initiatives concerning the concept of superdiversity. This entails ongoing compilation and analysis of materials concerning the fact that, across the world over the past 30 years, there have not only been new movements of people reflecting more countries of origin (entailing multiple ethnicities, languages, and religions), but there have also been shifts in differential legal statuses and their concomitant conditions, divergent labor market experiences, discrete configurations of gender and age, patterns of spatial distribution, and mixed local area responses by service providers and residents. The dynamic interaction of these variables is what is meant by "super-diver-

sity" (Vertovec 2007, 1025). Superdiversity is a summary term proposed also to point out that the new migration patterns not only entail variable combinations of these traits, but that their combinations produced new hierarchical social positions, statuses, or stratifications. Currently, this work includes completion of a long-overdue book, entitled "Super-diversity: Migration and Social Complexity" (contracted for the Routledge "Key Ideas" series), a "Handbook of Super-Diversity" (contracted with Oxford University Press), and the further development of online, interactive data visualizations (accessible on the MPI-MMG website) and publications drawing upon them.

**DIVERSITY ASSENT IN URBAN GERMANY ("ProDiv")**

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Lucas Drouhot, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec and Prof. Dr. Sören Petermann*

[see entry under Drouhot]

**THE DATARAMA: ADVANCING IMMERSIVE DATA VISUALIZATION FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

*Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Alexei Matveev, Dr. Norbert Winnige, Jonathan Portelli, and Tau Tavengwa*

[see separate designated chapter in this report]

**PROF. DR. HELEN BAYKARA-KRUMME**  
 Feb 2018 – Feb 2019


Helen Baykara-Krumme worked in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity in the project "Civil Society Organizations and the Challenges of Migration and Diversity: Agents of Change (ZOMiDi)". Her research focuses on the patterns and determinants of change in civil society organizations in response to migration and diversity. Prior to joining the Institute, Helen taught as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Sociology and in the Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Integration and Migration (InZentIM) at the University Duisburg-Essen and at the Chemnitz University of Technology. Helen holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the Free University of Berlin and was a Fellow of the International Max Planck Research School LIFE at the MPI for Human Development in Berlin. In 2017, she completed her habilitation at Chemnitz University. Her research interests include family change and aging processes in migration and minority contexts, migrant transnationalism, integration and dissimilation processes, and methodological issues in migration research. Helen Baykara-Krumme is now a Professor of Migration Sociology at the University of Duisburg-Essen.

**CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION AND DIVERSITY: AGENTS OF CHANGE (ZOMiDi)**

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Vanessa Rau, Sanja Bökle, in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Helen Baykara-Krumme (now University Duisburg-Essen)*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

## DR. SUSANNE BECKER

Feb 2016 – Jan 2019



Susanne Becker was a Post-doctoral Researcher in the Department for Socio-cultural Diversity. She holds a degree (Diplom) in Sociology from Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU) in Munich/Germany, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from Goethe-University Frankfurt/Germany. Her work entails ethnographic studies focusing on the interconnections of language and social inequalities. She examined how language ideologies (beliefs about language(s) and ways of speaking) are linked to economic inequalities. Susanne was a Visiting Researcher at the University of Capetown (South Africa) and the University of Birmingham (UK), as well as a Research Fellow at the Department for Qualitative Research Methods at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (Germany). Her broader interests concern transnational migration, (global) social inequalities, language, asylum, post-colonialism, multilingualism, and translanguaging.

### BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION: COMPARING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

[see entry under Vertovec]

### THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) ["WiMi"]

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

[see entry under Vertovec]

## SANJA BÖKLE

Feb 2018 – Jan 2021



Sanja Bökle is a Doctoral Research Fellow in the research project “Civil Society Organizations and the Challenges of Migration: Agents of Change (ZOMiDi)”. Sanja studied international development studies at the University of Vienna and the Universidad de la República Uruguay, and worked as a Student Assistant at the Department for Development Cooperation and Development Politics at the Institute for Development Studies at the University of Vienna. Drawing from post-colonial, queer and feminist theories, Sanja’s master thesis asked how gender, sexuality, desire, and race are normed, negotiated, limited, and included in international voluntary work, and was published in the *Kölner Wissenschaftsverlag* and *Nomos-Verlag*. Sanja worked for many years as a social justice and diversity trainer, and founded an NGO for political education.

### INTERSECTIONAL ADVOCACY: CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN TIMES OF SINGULARIZATION & DIVERSIFICATION

*Sanja Bökle*

The study explores the possibilities of civil society organizing in times of diversification and singularization of society. The project assumes that organizations that claim to represent larger constituencies need to reach a sufficient degree of commonality/consensus to form and sustain an organization. Given the increasing diversification of society and trends towards singularity, this is neither easy nor straightforward. Studying the field of sexual and gender minorities in Ger-

many, the study asks: What are the possibilities and challenges of intersectional advocacy? How do civil society organizations negotiate tensions between individuals and community, and singularity and collectivity? Is intersectional advocacy a feasible alternative to fragmentation? What strategies do civil society organizations use to incorporate and represent sub(group) interests? This is part of the “ZOMiDi” project.

### CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION AND DIVERSITY: AGENTS OF CHANGE (“ZOMiDi”)

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Vanessa Rau, Sanja Bökle, in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Helen Baykara-Krumme (now University Duisburg-Essen)*

[see entry under Schönwälder]



**TINASHE CHIMBIDZIKAI**

Sep 2018 – Aug 2021



Tinashe Chimbidzikai is a Doctoral Research Fellow at SCD, and registered as a joint Ph.D. candidate in Sociology at Gottingen University and the African Studies Centre, Leiden. He completed his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Sociology and Social Anthropology at the University of Zimbabwe before joining the public service and the NGO sector. Prior to joining the MPI-MMG, Tinashe worked on several public health projects in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa, while doing part-time lectureship in gender and feminist studies, sociology, and social anthropology courses.

**(RE-)PRODUCTION AND IMAGINATION OF URBAN SOCIAL SPACE BY PENTECOSTAL IMMIGRANTS IN SOUTH AFRICA: A NARRATIVE ETHNOGRAPHY**
*Tinashe Chimbidzikai*

Intersecting the parallel issues of transnational migration, urbanity and African Pentecostalism, this project explores overlooked aspects of ways that intimate social relations are (re)produced, shaped, and contested in a transnational migratory context. Scholarship on global/ized African cities disproportionately depicts the public aspects of urban reality, neglecting myriad intimate dynamics that are just as relevant for analyzing African urbanity. Empirically inspired by Barbara Heer (2019)'s argument that approaching African urbanity primarily in the public sphere ignores the contradictions, ambivalences, interconnections and invisibilities characterizing African urbanity, the project explores the "entanglements between locality and mobility, between strangeness and intimacy, and between public and private". The study addresses this

scholarly bias straddling binaries of urban social space, unmasking the fluidities of imaginary boundaries between the public, on the one hand, and private and intimate spaces on the other, obfuscating the already complex relationship between these two domains. Theoretically, the study draws on various microlevel sociological approaches to everyday life, urban sociality, and lived religion. Utilizing qualitative ethnography in a superdiverse neighbourhood in north-western Johannesburg, the project explores how notions of morality, gossip, trust, and belonging intersect with intimate social relations among Zimbabwean Pentecostal immigrants in South Africa. These notions offer an extraordinarily rich prism into the sociocultural dynamics that inform Pentecostal immigrants' everyday lives.

## SOMAYEH CHITCHIAN

Oct 2015 – Jul 2019



Somayeh Chitchian was a Doctoral Fellow at SCD. She is currently a doctoral student at Harvard University, Graduate School of Design and a Research Fellow at the Urban Theory Lab (Harvard GSD). Her research focuses on the extended corridors of migratory circulation, and utilizes a logistical lens as both a material and theoretical tool towards a respatialized approach to migration research beyond its inherent methodological nationalism. Chitchian's work lies at the intersection of critical urban theory, migration research, border- and logistics-studies, and is guided by de/post-colonial thought, critical race theory, and radical cartography as its overarching framework of analysis. The central question guiding her doctoral work is: How does the contemporary logistics space (re)produce its political figure on-the-move, i.e., 'the migrant'? Chitchian is a trained architect (B.Arch and M.Arch) from Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, and holds a Master's degree in Design Studies (MDes) in Critical Conservation (with distinction) from Harvard University Graduate School of Design. Her master's thesis research "Middle Eastern Immigration Landscape in America" won Harvard ESRI Development Center's Student of the Year Award in 2014. During her years in the Netherlands, she practiced as an architect at several firms in both Amsterdam and The Hague, where she collaborated on various residential and cultural projects, as well as the design of advanced building envelopes.

### LOGISTIFICATION OF MIGRATION: CORRIDORS OF CIRCULATION, BORDERING, AND REBELLION

*Somayeh Chitchian*

The colonial and racial project of capitalism, since its emergence in the sixteenth century up until the present moment, has relied on a deadly logistical landscape for its expansion, accumulation, and management of circulation. Consequently, the field of logistics is not only concerned with the circulation of commodities and the accumulation of capital, it is simultaneously entangled with the strategic - often violent - channeling of human bodies, as well. Since the 1960s, however, supply chain capitalism has taken on a different

scale and has resulted in the so-called 'logistical reorientation of the economy' based on the military logic of efficiency of movement and the maximization of profit. This doctoral project centralizes the question of logistics/migration, and focuses on the extended corridors and infrastructures of circulation of 'Fortress Europe' as complex (post)colonial and racialized (new)bordered spaces of controlled and preselected circulation of bodies and commodities, on the one level, while simultaneously opening up grounds

for fugitive, migratory spatialities from below. By using logistics as both a material and theoretical lens, this doctoral project aims at respatializing migration studies' inherent methodological na-

tionalism and to challenge the object, scale, and spatialities that have been more conventional in migration research.

## DR. SERAWIT B. DEBELE

Jun 2017 – Jun 2020



Serawit B. Debele is a Research Fellow at SCD. She is the author of “Locating Politics in Ethiopia’s Irreecha Ritual” (Brill, 2019). Currently, she is conducting research on religion and sexuality in Ethiopia. In her research, she combines historical and ethnographic approaches to trace the change and continuity of discourses on sexuality, and how the religious factor shapes those discourses. She is also a joint Editor-in-Chief of the journal of *Secularism and Nonreligion*. She also co-convenes the African Academy for Urban Diversity (AAUD), an academy overseen by the Socio-Cultural Diversity Department of MPI-MMG.

### BECOMING ZEGA: QUEER SUBJECTIVITIES IN PUBLIC SPACES IN ETHIOPIA

*Dr. Serawit B. Debele*

“Zega” is an Amharic word which, in its current usage, means “a citizen”. In the context of the queer community, it is a codeword used to denote same-sex-attracted people. This research mainly focuses on Zega Addis Ababans to explore various forms and structures of power, practices, and experiences that shape queer subjectivities. By raising two overlapping sets of questions - one linked to history and the other to current unfoldings - about sexuality (same sex desire or otherwise), the project investigates queer subjectivities and what historical, political, and social processes and practices shape their formations. To this end, the project asks: What do histori-

cal accounts tell us about the public perception and reception of sexual desires and intimacies in the Ethiopian context? How do these historical accounts assist us to understand the contemporary processes of what look like subtle, and yet vibrant, emergence of queer subjects? What socio-cultural, political, religious, and economic conditions shape desire and intimacy? How do queer subjects navigate through existing public places and/or create new ones in a seemingly uneven terrain, such as Ethiopia? The research is based on extensive ethnographic fieldwork and historical research, including archival materials and oral narratives.

## DR. LUCAS DROUHOT

Oct 2018 – Sep 2020



Lucas Drouhot joined the MPI-MMG as a Post-doctoral Fellow in SCD as part of a team conducting the “ProDiv” project studying assent to diversity. His particular role involves large-scale survey research. As a sociologist, his substantive interests are in international migration, social networks, and social stratification. His research agenda focuses on diversification and the incorporation of the children of immigrants in Western Europe and the United States - with an empirical focus on acculturation dynamics, friendship patterns, and entrepreneurial action as they relate to broader processes of social inclusion. Before joining the Institute, Lucas obtained a Ph.D. in Sociology from Cornell University (2018), a B.A. in Sociology from McGill University (2012), and a *Licence de Science Politique* from the University of Lyon (2009).

### IMMIGRANT INCLUSION: STRUCTURAL, RELATIONAL, AND CULTURAL DIMENSIONS ACROSS GENERATIONS

*Dr. Lucas Drouhot*

Dominant theories of assimilation processes between immigrant and native populations have historically originated in the American context, from the theories of the Chicago School of Urban Sociology to Gordon’s canonical model and contemporary models offered by segmented assimilation and neo-assimilation theories. These dominant models’ foundations rest on purposive action embedded in institutional frameworks shaped by immigration law. While useful, they do not devote sufficient attention to two key theoretical dimensions: relational dynamics of mixing or segregating and their determinants, on the one hand, and cultural dimensions of belonging, on the other. Second, they are largely silent on the destiny of the third generation - the grandchildren of immigrants. Solo-authored and collaborative empirical efforts under this umbrella aim to: (1) use concepts and methodological tools from social stratification research to investigate structural (socioeconomic) assimilation

among the second generation and third generation and, in doing so, establish dynamics of social reproduction versus racialization as they affect the structural attainment of the children and grandchildren of immigrants; (2) utilize large network data to study relational structures, such as friendships and marriage patterns, in the context of cultural diversity; and (3) examine belonging and identity among immigrant populations who have high structural attainment (e.g., immigrant professionals), but experience stigma resultant from their phenotype or religious identity by way of in-depth interviewing. The overall theoretical aim of these empirical efforts is to refine American-born theories of assimilation to formulate a theoretical model that is appropriate to the contexts of immigrant reception found in Western Europe, where immigration flows and diversification processes are more recent and qualitatively different than those in North America.

## DIVERSITY ASSENT IN URBAN GERMANY ("ProDiv")

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Lucas Drouhot and Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Sören Petermann (Dortmund University)*

How do people living in contemporary Germany react to diversification in their everyday lives? What undergirds pro-diversity perspectives among those who live in rapidly diversifying cities? Conversely, what are their limits, and what groups are excluded? This project aims to elucidate the foundations and mechanisms underlying diversity assent in cities located both in West and East Germany. Two core motivations underlie the project: (1) thus far, it is insufficiently understood what motivates those who oppose right-wing positions, usually a majority among inhabitants of cities in Germany and other Western European countries; and (2) this project builds on a previous large-scale project of the department, "Diversity and Contact", and explores to what ex-

tent attitudes and patterns of interaction have changed, or remained constant, in the decade from 2010 to 2020, i.e., a time of major ruptures and political polarization. A large telephone survey of 2,850 respondents was designed, asking a set of interrelated questions on fundamental dispositions towards diversity, everyday experiences, and diversification dynamics. This includes an innovative set of survey experiments designed to access and measure social norms of tolerance. Results from this survey were anticipated to fill a major research gap in the literature on immigration and orientations toward diversity, which has thus far largely focused on the determinants of hostility and anti-diversity attitudes, rather than the determinants of more open views.

### DR. ANNETT FLEISCHER

Feb 2016 – Apr 2017



Annett Fleischer is now International Consultant/Migration Expert at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. She is a social anthropologist who joined the Institute as a Post-doctoral Researcher in the project "Diversity of Asylum-seekers' Needs and Aspirations". Her research interests comprise transnational migration, gender, and migration-development policy. Previously, she focused on return migration and reintegration using as case studies Armenia, Mali, and Tunisia. Her Ph.D. thesis, on Cameroonian migrants in Germany, examines the interplay of transnational mobility, family and kinship among migrants, and the overarching legal framework of immigration and integration. Since 2008, she has worked in different positions in international development cooperation, among others as a Project Coordinator and Consultant for GIZ, UNFPA, and IOM. In her most recent research project, she concentrates on the dynamics of transnational families, including family reunification and return migration.



## RHETORIC OF CRISIS: GERMAN MUNICIPALITIES' RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE INFLUX

*Dr. Annett Fleischer*

Within the framework of the larger project, “Diversity of Asylum-seekers’ Needs and Aspirations”, the sub-project “Rhetoric of Crisis” explored how local municipalities have responded to the recent influx of refugees into Germany. Interviews with political and administrative representatives in local municipal institutions demonstrated that the arrival of asylum-seekers was often perceived as an exceptional and unprecedented occurrence. Interview partners in the City Council and the Department of Social Affairs in the City of Göttingen used the rhetoric of crisis to describe these circumstances, but even more importantly, to justify and introduce

extraordinary measures and interventions. The ‘necessity to act now’, as the interview partners described it, also served as a justification for exceptional measures, such as the construction of collective housing centers for asylum-seekers on the outskirts of the city, despite an agreement to accommodate asylum-seekers in apartments. By unpacking the rhetoric of crisis, the study contributes to the current debate on the so-called ‘refugee crisis’ in Germany and to the academic discourse on crisis representation. This project, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, is part of the “WIMI” initiative.

## BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION: COMPARING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

[see entry under Vertovec]

## THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) [“WiMi”]

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

[see entry under Vertovec]

### THEODORA LAM CHOY FONG

Oct 2016 – Mar 2017



Theodora Lam was a Writing Fellow at the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity, the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, and is a Post-doctoral Fellow in the Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis, based at the Asia Research Institute, the National University of Singapore (NUS). She obtained her Ph.D. in Geography from NUS, and her dissertation focused on understanding changing gender subjectivities, the web of care, as well as relationships within the family in the wake of transnational labor

migration. Her research highlights the voices of return migrants, as well as carers and children who have remained in the home countries. Theodora is involved in several multi-country research projects, including the longitudinal study, “Child Health and Migrant Parents in Southeast Asia Wave II” (CHAMPSEA II) and “Migrating out of Poverty Research Programme Consortium” (MOoP). Her research interests comprise transnational migration, children’s geographies, and gender studies.

## CHILD HEALTH AND MIGRANT PARENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

*Theodora Choy Lam Fong*

For millions of families across Asia, international labor migration has become part of a household livelihood strategy, motivated by a desire to improve the life chances of the next generation. Yet, there has been relatively little research on transnational house-holding or the impacts of parental migration on children who stay behind in Southeast Asia. In this context, in 2008, the international research team first set out to collect survey data from approximately 1,000 households in four countries (Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam) as part of an investigation into “Child Health and Migrant Parents in South-East Asia” (CHAMPSEA). In the

following year, the team continued with qualitative, in-depth interviews with approximately 50 carers in each study country, as well as structured interviews with 32 Indonesian and Filipino children (16 per country) aged 9 to 11. Further qualitative interviews focusing specifically on the gendered narratives of 20 households comprising return migrants, left-behind carers and left-behind children in Indonesia and the Philippines, were conducted by Theodora between 2009 and 2012 to explore changing gender subjectivities (both masculinities and femininities), the web of care, and relationships within the family in the wake of labor migration.

## DR. ELENA GADJANOVA

Oct 2013 – Nov 2017



Elena Gadjanova was a member of the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity until 2017. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, and an MPhil in International Relations from the University of Cambridge. Her work focuses on ethnic politics and identities, particularly as these relate to questions of electoral campaign strategy and voting in Sub-Saharan Africa. She studies the use of political communication, the construction of social identities, and the role of informal institutions in new democracies. She has performed extensive fieldwork in Ghana and Kenya, and is finalizing a book manuscript on cross-ethnic coalitions in Africa’s presidential regimes. Her field research has also been supported by the Fritz-Thyssen Foundation. From September 2015 to June 2016, Elena was the recipient of a

Fung Global Fellowship, one of six awarded world-wide, for residence at Princeton University. In the past, she has also held teaching positions at the Graduate Institute in Geneva and a Doctoral Fellowship at Columbia University. Elena Gadjanova is now a Lecturer at the University of Exeter. Elena coordinates the African Diversities Colloquium and co-edits the journal *New Diversities*.

## COMPETITIVE ELECTIONS AND ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION IN AFRICA

*Dr. Elena Gadjanova*

This project used experimental methods to investigate the mechanisms behind the often observed increase in ethnic identification close to competitive elections in Sub-Saharan Africa. Drawing on research from social psychology (social identity theory, in particular), the research identifies several pathways through which the polarized campaign environment could influ-

ence individual identification. These pathways are then activated using primes in survey experiments of voters in the context of presidential elections in Ghana and Kenya in order to trace their effects on individual identification, inter-ethnic trust, perceptions of linked fates, and support for redistribution.

## COURTING NON-COETHNICS: CAMPAIGN STRATEGIES IN AFRICA'S HIGHLY DIVERSE STATES

*Dr. Elena Gadjanova*

This project examined how candidates reach across ethnic lines in places where ethnicity is politically salient, but cross-ethnic support is needed to win elections. The question is particularly relevant for Africa's presidential contests, which are won by majority vote, although countries' largest ethnic groups often represent less than one-third of the total population. The project relies on archival research and extensive interviews

with candidates, party strategists and campaign operatives in Ghana and Kenya, and presents the first extensive dataset of presidential candidates' campaign appeals in Sub-Saharan Africa since the re-introduction of multi-party government in the 1990s. These data make possible the rigorous testing of a number of assumptions behind extant theories of politics in Africa's pluralistic societies.

## CHRISTIAN JACOBS

Aug 2017 – Jan 2020



Christian Jacobs was a doctoral student in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity and a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Göttingen. After studying sociology and geography at the Universities of Göttingen and Utrecht, Christian received his M.A. in Sociology in 2013. His final thesis examined the significance of contact opportunities in public space of neighbourhoods for the frequency of interethnic contacts. Since 2009, Christian had already been working at the Institute as a Student Assistant, where he was mainly contributing to

the “Diversity and Contact” (DivCon) study. His research interests are in urban and diversity studies, city planning, housing policies, spatial structures, and public spaces of cities.

## PLANNING DIVERSITY: THE INFLUENCE OF CITY PLANNING ON SPATIAL STRUCTURES OF DIVERSITY AND THE COHABITATION OF DIVERSE GROUPS

*Christian Jacobs*

In his dissertation, Christian investigates the influence of city planning on spatial structures of diversity, and the housing opportunities and housing patterns of diverse groups in German cities. He analyses the interventions of public and private planners, as well as their underlying ideas. City planning today faces new tasks, as the composition of cities, through the diversification of urban societies, and the structures of urban planning, have changed significantly in recent times. Cities nowadays commonly claim

that they benefit from diversity and want to promote a diverse society. What remains mostly unclear, however, is how these claims affect policies and planning. Christian’s research focus is on city administrations in Germany, and especially the planning departments. How are public and private planners reacting to a diversification of urban societies? What are their aims, objectives, and guiding principles? How great is the planner’s actual scope of action? This project is part of the “CityDiv” project.

## CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE [“CityDiv”]

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### DR. ANNELIES KUSTERS

Sep 2013 – Apr 2017



Annelies Kusters was a Post-doctoral Researcher specializing in social and cultural anthropology and deaf studies, with research experience in India, Ghana, and Surinam. She has been investigating multimodal languaging between deaf and hearing strangers and acquaintances in public and parochial spaces in Mumbai (e.g., markets, shops, streets, food outlets and public transport). She investigates the discourse range of gesture-based communication, and their limitations and potential in relation to the places where the interactions occur and to people’s perspectives of gesture-based communication. In Mumbai, since 2007, she has also conducted fieldwork in suburban trains. Annelies was Coordinator of the Institute’s International Working Group on Sociolinguistic Diversity. In 2016, she received the Jean Rouch

Award (2016) from the Society for Visual Anthropology for her ethnographic film “Ishaare: Gestures and Signs in Mumbai”, and in 2015 the Ton Vallen Award for her written work on sociolinguistic and issues in multicultural societies. She is the Principal Investigator for a European Research Council Starting Grant (€1.5 million) for a project, entitled “Deaf Mobilities across International Borders: Visualising Intersectionality and Translanguaging (MobileDeaf)” (2017-2022). Annelies Kusters is now at Heriot-Watt University, the Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies, Edinburgh.

## DEAF-HEARING GESTURAL INTERACTION IN MUMBAI: AN ETHNOGRAPHY OF COMMUNICATION

*Dr. Annelies Kusters*

The aim of this study is to understand the potential and limits of gesture use in language contact situations between deaf and hearing people who do not have fluency in a shared language (mode). In the socio-linguistically diverse environment of Mumbai, where (co-speech) gesture is widely and effectively used among speakers of different languages, the study considers two related issues: how fluent deaf signers use gestures (both conventionalized and spontaneous) and aspects of Indian Sign Language to communicate with hearing non-signers; and how hearing speakers use gestures to communicate with deaf non-speakers. This research thus contributes to understanding the multilingual repertoire that speakers could utilize to achieve communication across diverse communities when attempting to reach mutual understanding. The deaf can contribute greatly to studies of gesture, as they are skilled in creative gestural communication with hearing people. In particular, the discourse

range of gestural communication, and its limitations and potential, are investigated. The roles of speech and writing in gestural communication are analyzed, as is the role of the location of the interactions (i.e., the immediate physical and spatial environment). Hearing and deaf participants’ own perceptions of the relative ease of communicating on various topics in a range of situations are also examined. Gestural interactions in public and parochial spaces (e.g., markets, shops, streets, food outlets, public transport, and parks) between strangers, acquaintances, or neighbors in Mumbai are observed and video-recorded, and interviews are conducted with individual deaf and hearing participants to discern more about their views on gesture. The recordings provide data for analysis, but also material for a film documentary, which serves as a basis for further exploration in a second round of data collection in which the documentary will be presented for group discussion.

## THE OCCUPATION OF SPACE, HIERARCHY, AND INTERSECTIONALITY IN MUMBAI'S SUBURBAN TRAINS

*Dr. Annelies Kusters*

Deaf people in the Mumbai metropolis travel in train compartments reserved for the disabled, where they chat and exchange news and information. These spatial practices are facilitated by the peninsular geography and train infrastructure of Mumbai. In order to produce deaf spaces where deaf sociality and sign-language use constitute the organizing principles, deaf people strategically board particular trains and compartments, and sometimes remain in the

train beyond their original destination. Mobile phones are used to coordinate these meetings. The diversity of people meeting in the train is high - for example, with regard to gender, age, religion, caste, and class - and divisions are either perpetuated or abated. Because these compartments provide a diverse range of deaf people with a space for daily meetings on the way to and from their (mostly hearing) work places and families, they are very important spaces in which



to maintain and expand networks in the wider Mumbai deaf community. These compartments for disabled people are also characterized by frequent encounters and interaction between deaf and non-deaf passengers. The compartments have increased in size over the years, and consequently the body of travelers has become more diverse, e.g., an increase in the numbers of women, but also of unauthorized travelers, e.g., se-

nior citizens, transgenders, schoolchildren, and large numbers of male, able-bodied encroachers. Passengers produce hierarchies based on need, physical differences, age differences and physical appearance, determining who can enter the compartments and who cannot, who can sit and who should stand, and where they should sit or stand.

## DR. CHRISTINE LANG

Jul 2017 – Jun 2021



Christine Lang is a Research Fellow in the Socio-Cultural Diversity Department. She is part of the “CityDiv” team and conducts a project on civil society in French and German cities. Christine holds a Ph.D. in Cultural and Social Sciences from Osnabrueck University and a Master in Sociology from EHESS, Paris. Until 2017, she was a Doctoral Fellow and Research Associate at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies at Osnabrueck University, where she worked, among others, on a project on social mobility in the immigrant second generation. Her Ph.D. thesis examined the employment of immigrant descendants in municipal administrations and the factors contributing to change, or persistence, of public organizations in increasingly diverse urban societies. Her dissertation received the Augsburg Science Award for Intercultural Studies 2019 and the Best Dissertation Award of the German Sociological Association’s Section Migration and Ethnic Minorities. Her research interests include diversity in organizations and public administrations, urban politics of diversity, civil society participation, as well as social mobility in immigration contexts.

## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE POLITICS OF DIVERSITY IN GERMAN AND FRENCH CITIES

*Dr. Christine Lang*

Migration and socio-cultural diversity are increasingly contested issues across Europe. Actors mobilizing against immigrants and migration-induced diversity are becoming more powerful; at the same time, immigrants and ethnic minorities have become increasingly vocal in questioning exclusionary practices and ideas of belonging. The influx of new migrants contributes to a con-

tinuously growing socio-cultural heterogeneity, especially in cities, which demands conceiving belonging and living together in novel ways. Starting from the premise that cities constitute important political arenas where diversity and belonging are negotiated, this project investigates the urban politics of diversity, and particularly the role of civil society organizations advo-

cating for immigration and diversity: How, why, and with what consequences do civil society actors organize around and articulate issues of diversity, participation, and belonging in cities? What shapes this and how does this change? The project aims at examining the conditions and forms of 'bottom-up politics', as well as their impact on political and institutional change. Theoretically, the project draws on different sociological theories (neo-institutionalism, organizational theory, field theories). Empirically, it combines a national and local comparison, comparing two

cities each in Germany and France (Cologne, Stuttgart, Strasbourg, and Toulouse). While Germany and France have in common never having had an official multicultural policy, they differ in citizenship traditions, histories of immigrant mobilizations, as well as cultures of collective political action and institutionalized opportunities for civil society participation. The empirical research includes qualitative interviews, document analysis, and participant observation. This project is part of the overall "CityDiv" project.

## THE PRODUCTION OF DIVERSITY IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIONS: CHANGE AND PERSISTENCE OF ORGANIZATIONS IN INCREASINGLY DIVERSE SOCIETIES

*Dr. Christine Lang*

Public administrations in European cities still rarely reflect how much international migration has transformed population structures. The discrepancy between a growing migrant population and the mostly native 'white' public workforce is large, raising questions of representation and equal opportunities. Demands have been growing louder to employ more employees with a migration background in public service. Drawing on a qualitative-ethnographic study on public

administrations in Berlin and on organizational theory, this project investigated to what extent the employment of staff members of immigrant descent in municipal administrations is changing, and which factors contribute to change, or persistence, of organizational practices and structures. Originally a Ph.D. thesis, the project was turned into a book at the MPI-MMG. The thesis was awarded the Augsburger Wissenschaftspries für interkulturelle Studien 2019.

## CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE ["CITYDIV"]

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### DR. JULIA MARTÍNEZ ARIÑO

Sep 2014 – Feb 2017



Julia Martínez-Ariño was a Research Fellow at the Institute, where she worked as part of the "CityDiv" project. Her research focuses on how actors in French cities shape structures of diversity. In particular, she investigates the local governance of religious diversity looking at, among other aspects, the participation of religious actors in local governance structures in France. Julia received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain) in 2012. She

was a Post-doctoral Researcher in the *Chaire religion, culture et société* at the University of Montréal. Previously, she did Post-doctoral Research at the Max Planck Fellow Group “Governance of Cultural Diversity” at MPI-MMG. Julia has also been a Research Fellow at the University of Vienna and the *Centre d’études interdisciplinaires des faits religieux* in Paris. Julia is also a Research Associate of the “Religion and Diversity Project” headed by Lori Beaman at the University of Ottawa and of the ISOR research group led by Mar Griera at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. She is member of the “Religion and Public Institutions” research network and the Spanish representative in the EUREL project at the University of Strasbourg. Her research interests include Judaism and contemporary Jewish communities, the processes of de-confessionalization and de-monopolization of the state, and the governance and accommodation of religious diversity in public institutions, such as hospitals, prisons and schools, and in cities.

## THE ACCOMMODATION OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY IN SPANISH PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

*Dr. Julia Martínez-Ariño*

European societies have experienced great transformations linked to the increase in international migrations in the last decades. The religious composition of their populations has changed significantly. Affiliation to traditional churches has dropped notably, and religious diversity has increased markedly. New religious groups have appeared, while others, already present in these countries, have acquired greater public visibility. Religion has gained ground in the public sphere, and religious issues are becoming increasingly relevant on the policy agenda of most European governments. European countries face challenges posed by the cultural and religious diversification of their populations to their existing state-church regimes from different starting points. While countries with no previous religious monopoly do not have to overcome structures and synergies of a past institutional

monism, countries with a previous strong monopoly have to deal simultaneously with the requirements of liberal democracies, and the resistance of majority religions to the loss of privileges. The religious landscape in Spain has also experienced significant transformations, which have led to the reformulation of the traditional pattern of church-state relations in the last decade. Drawing upon fieldwork conducted in hospitals and prisons in Spain, the project went beyond the analysis of legal regulations, and paid attention to the institutional arrangements and daily strategies developed by state institutions, the Catholic Church, and religious minorities to accommodate (or not) religious requests. This project contributes to theoretical discussions concerning the processes of institutional religious de-monopolization and religious minorities’ accommodation.

## RE-CASTING LOCAL LAÏCITÉ: THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY IN FRANCE

*Dr. Julia Martínez-Ariño*

The overall question of this project is how French cities respond to ethno-religious diversification. How are French secularism and color-blind republicanism being re-shaped and re-fashioned at the local level? In particular, Julia investigates the incorporation of diversity (in her case, mainly through, but not limited to, religious organiza-

tions) into local governance. More precisely, the research focuses on four main aspects of the local governance of religious diversity: (1) faith involvement in local governance. To what extent are religious groups and organizations considered legitimate partners in the local governance of urban diversity in French cities? (2) 'Policy in-

struments' for the governance of (religious) diversity. What public policy instruments do local actors use in responding to urban (religious) diversity? Why do cities adopt these specific policy tools? (3) The local (re-)definition of membership of the nation. How are the boundaries of the membership of the nation being reshaped at the local level? How are ethnic and religious dissimilarities being played out in these contexts? What are the narratives and discursive formations that

drive, and result from, cities' responses to diversity? (4) (Religious) minorities' claim-making. Are minority groups able to mobilize and assert their claims to local policy-making through their participation in governance networks? Methodologically, Julia adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining in-depth interviews with observations and network analysis, in three medium-sized cities in France.

## ALEXEI MATVEEV

Nov 2011 – Dec 2022



Alexei Matveev is an applications programmer at the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity. Prior to his current position, he worked in the fields of graphic design, web development, and semantic web. With over 15 years of professional experience as a software-developer, Alexei was responsible for interactive data visualizations in the scope of the ERC-funded "GLOBALDIVERCITIES" project headed by Prof. Vertovec. His work has been included in the 2011 exhibition "Media of Mobility" at the ZKM Media Museum in Karlsruhe, Germany. His current interests include augmented reality and mobile computing. His work has been featured in several exhibitions on new media, science, and culture. Currently, Alexei is Lead Technical Developer of the Datarama.

## THE DATARAMA: ADVANCING IMMERSIVE DATA VISUALIZATION FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

*Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Alexei Matveev, Dr. Norbert Winnige, Jonathan Portelli, and Tau Tavengwa*

[see separate designated chapter in this report]

**SABINE MOHAMED**

Oct 2018 – Jul 2020



Sabine Mohamed is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity, and is pursuing her Ph.D. at the Institute of Anthropology at Heidelberg University. She holds an M.A. (2014) in Political Science, Anthropology, and Islamic Studies from Heidelberg University. She has been a Research Fellow at the Institute for Ethiopian Studies at the Addis Ababa University, and is also supported by the Heidelberg Graduate Academy. Prior to joining the Max Planck Institute, she worked as an intern in the International Department of the newspaper *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* in Switzerland and as a Research Assistant in connection with a study of violence and discrimination against LGBTQ\* people of color in Germany at the Alice-Salomon-Hochschule in Berlin. Her doctoral research project, “In the Place of All, Black Empire and Addis Ababa as Cosmos”, examines how a state attempts to inscribe on a body of people signs of Afro-future and ethnic diversity in urban Ethiopia.

**IN THE PLACE OF ALL, BLACK EMPIRE AND ADDIS ABABA AS COSMOS***Sabine Mohamed*

This doctoral research project examines contemporary forms of empire, blackness, and the crisis of ethnic citizenship in Ethiopia’s capital, Addis Ababa. Working among displaced and precarious young people engaged in the informal economies of Addis, as well as Eritrean refugees, my dissertation is based on 14 months of ethnographic and archival research in Addis Ababa. During this research, I studied how the Ethiopian state seeks to inscribe on a body of people signs of an Afro-future and ethnic diversity in order to expand and foster political unity. Yet, in doing so, the state’s famous vision of an Ethiopian ‘renaissance and diversity’ has been generating atmospheres of loss, fear, and the threat of economic and physical displacement among the city’s marginalized. Nonetheless, these people are central to an ever-urbanizing and cosmopolitan capital city. To that end, I examine how projects of state

and regional expansion affect rapidly fluctuating forms of inclusion and exclusion, as well as pushing people to begin imagining Ethiopian counter-futures. Therefore, through my ethnographic fieldwork, this research reveals how, in projects of urban renewal in Addis Ababa, house evictions and removal are negotiated and subverted by its residents. In addition, as a part of tracing this renewal, I pay close attention to moments of erasure and purification within a greater imperial cosmopolitan project, for example, in examining the afterlives of the 1998 deportation of Eritreans from the city center - a deportation that was viewed as a classic state-making act of purification. Finally, I trace how the transcultural work of ‘Ethiopia’ as an imaginary in the African diasporic archive has returned to the visions of renaissance and black empire in urban Ethiopia.



## DR. MICHALIS MOUTSELOS

Apr 2016 – Aug 2020



Michalis is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Sociocultural Diversity. He completed his Ph.D. in Political Science at the Department of Politics, Princeton University in 2016. He studies the determinants of political behavior and political protest among persons of immigrant origin in European democracies. A secondary research focus relates to the transformation of political conflict in European democracies in the aftermath of the Eurozone and refugee crises. In addition, he has been a member of the “CityDiv” research group since 2015, investigating city-level responses to increasing population heterogeneity. His work lies at the intersection of comparative politics, political behavior, social movements, and ethnic/migration studies.

### HOUSING POLICY AND MOBILIZATION IN THE FRENCH SUBURBS

*Dr. Michalis Moutselos*

Violent and non-violent protests by persons of immigrant origin in Europe have evolved in recent years in ways that reflect the increasing diversity of the population and the experiences of second and third generations. The outskirts of big cities, in particular, have witnessed the birth of vibrant social movements that understand themselves as ‘urban’, as well as violent anti-state rioting, exemplified by the 2005 wave of protests in France. This individual project is a comparative study of French municipalities and their policies of social housing and urban renovation in neighbor-

hoods with a high concentration of populations of immigrant origin. Using both quantitative and ethnographic methods and data from interviews, archival research and newspaper coding, the project looks at how these policies have been, over a long period, associated with violent and non-violent protests. The analytical framework combines insights from social movement theory (grievances, networks, mobilization frames, protest repertoires), urban sociology, and political geography.

### POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Alex Street (now Carroll College, U.S.A.), Dr. Michalis Moutselos*

How do the political institutions and the political lives of countries, cities, and supranational units reflect the diversity of their populations? What does an immigrant or an ethnic minority background mean for the ability to participate politically and to aspire to political power? Such overall questions motivate a number of proj-

ects, completed and ongoing. Following studies of immigrant representation, the project turns to interactions between representatives and electorates. Based on a survey of potential voters in local elections in the regional state of Nordrhein-Westfalen, the project demonstrates that ‘common fate’, i.e., ethnic minority or migra-

tion background, is not the only motivation for supporting immigrant political representation. Rather, support for minority political presence

may have become part of a more general commitment to cosmopolitan values and inclusive democratic institutions.

## CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE ["CityDiv"]

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### DR. LÉONIE NEWHOUSE Sep 2016 – Nov 2018



Léonie Newhouse was a Senior Research Fellow/Group Leader associated with the “African Urban Diversity” research cluster in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity. Prior to joining the Institute, Léonie held a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor of African Studies at Pennsylvania State University. She earned her doctorate in Geography from the University of Washington, where she focused on an ethnographic examination of the political economy of refugee return migration to South Sudan. She holds an MSc in Forced Migration from the University of Oxford and a B.S. in Environmental Economics and Policy from the University of California at Berkeley. She has also held visiting positions at the Center for Peace and Development Studies at the University of Juba, the Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies at the American University in Cairo, and the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies at the University of California’s Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. Léonie’s research centers on the negotiation of the dynamic social assemblages that coalesce in times of uncertainty and flux, whether due to economic crisis, ongoing conflict, the arrival of vast aid infrastructures after social and natural disasters, and often all three. As a critical development scholar, she is interested in the articulations between geopolitics, a transforming global economy and diminishing opportunities for work, as played out in places in acute crisis. Her work builds on feminist, decolonial, and critical readings of political economy to understand the conditions of produced hyper-precarity that shape urban life, livelihoods and mobility strategies across much of Africa, and more broadly the developing world.

## IMAGINARIES OF OPPORTUNITY: PRECARIOUS MOBILITIES IN AND OUT OF CONFLICT IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Dr. Léonie Newhouse

In her current work, Léonie takes up the ways in which large-scale humanitarian interventions reshape regional migration patterns, economies, and social relations in urban centers in East Africa. International stabilization efforts, including humanitarian relief and peace-building operations, are accompanied by enormous flows of financial and material resources into struggling economies that have been further eroded by conflict and crisis. While research has shown that

complex emergencies bring influxes of skilled professionals and foreign currency to areas in crisis, less is known about the ways in which these efforts restructure imaginaries of risk and opportunity for migrants within the region. Through ethnographic investigation and analysis, Léonie's work identifies the routes that lead people to set up businesses in cities in crises, as well as the broader networks of migration, mobility, and finance within which they are situated.

### DR. DES. SIMONA PAGANO

May 2017 – Jan 2019



Simona Pagano was part of SCD's VW Foundation-funded project on refugee accommodation. A cultural anthropologist interested in issues related to migration and border regimes, racism and anti-racism, she completed her dissertation at the Department for Cultural Anthropology/European Ethnology at the University of Göttingen. For her dissertation, she carried out research in so-called 'authorized camps' for Romanies in Rome. She investigated how racism and heteronormativity intersect in the production of the camp space and, inversely, how the camp influences racialized and gendered regimes. Until September 2016, she was employed at the University of Göttingen as a Research Assistant in the DFG-funded Research Training Group "Dynamics of Space and Gender". From 2010 to 2013, she worked as a Research Assistant in the FP7-funded project "TOLERACE: The Semantics of Tolerance and (anti-)Racism in Europe" based at the European Viadrina University Frankfurt/Oder. In her case studies, she focused on institutional responses concerning the 'Roma Problem' in Italy in key life spheres, such as education and employment. Simona Pagano holds an M.A. in Intercultural Communication Studies from the European University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder. She co-edits the journal *Movements: Journal für kritische Migrations- und Grenzregimeforschung*.

## **BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION: COMPARING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS**

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

[see entry under Vertovec]

## **THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) ["WiMi"]**

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

[see entry under Vertovec]

### **JONATHAN PORTELLI** Nov 2019 – Dec 2022



Jonathan works on SCD's Datarama project as a software developer. He graduated in computer information systems at Liverpool University. Having worked in post-production and web design for clients, such as the BBC, Walt Disney and the University of British Columbia, he brings the experience of working across both technology and media fields in film and video production, post-production, and emerging web technologies. Jonathan now joins the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity from an award-winning search agency in London, where he developed data-driven web applications and motion graphics videos for international clients. He is currently focused on front-end/interface development for Datarama.

## **THE DATARAMA: ADVANCING IMMERSIVE DATA VISUALIZATION FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

*Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Alexei Matveev, Dr. Norbert Winnige, Jonathan Portelli, and Tau Tavengwa*

[see separate designated chapter in this report]

## DR. VANESSA RAU

Mar 2019 – Jan 2021



Vanessa Rau is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity and part of the ZOMiDi project, “Civil Society Organizations and the Challenges of Migration and Diversity: Agents of Change”. Here, she is responsible for a study of an organization of the disabled. Vanessa completed a Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Cambridge (2019) focusing on migration and diaspora, religion, secularities, and the politics of identity in diverse urban spaces. She completed an M.A. jointly at Freie Universität Berlin and Humboldt University Berlin, and a B.A. in Social and Political Science at the University of Cambridge. Her research interests include migration and diversity, the theory and politics of religion and secularism, identity and belonging, gender and sexuality, as well as post-colonial approaches to race and ethnicity and the politics of difference. She has worked with different community and development organizations and foundations, particularly in the context of intercultural/inter-religious dialogue in different parts of the world, including the U.S., Chile, and Rwanda. She has also coordinated projects on Jewish-Muslim relations, and conducts workshops in the context of civic education.

### BECOMING JEWISH BERLIN-STYLE

*Dr. Vanessa Rau*

This ethnography examines a newly emerging Jewish-Hebrew scene in Berlin, and investigates how religious and secular belonging are negotiated under specific discursive representations. In the context of the migrant group of ‘Israelis in Berlin’, the book shows diverse and complex affiliations and Jewishness(es) entangled with nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexuality. Through immersion in ‘Jewish’ and ‘Hebrew’ Berlin, it spans an interrelated ethnographic field that is construed as a sociological scene. Focusing on a choir, and its connections to a synagogue and a queer Shabbat event, it investigates “how the scene constitutes itself as Jewish”. Combining ethnography with biographical-narrative interviews, it analyses how this scene is enacted and performed, and formed by processes of mi-

gration and conversion. By way of mirroring the biographies of migrants and converts, I argue that Jewishness in the scene is constituted by complexity rather than unity, ambivalence rather than certainty, and contestation rather than agreement. The influence of Israeli migration on Berlin and the presence of Hebrew engenders the emergence of novel ways of ‘being Jewish’. Therefore, by way of mapping trajectories of conversion and migration and their embeddedness in their respective socio-political contexts, the project analyses processes of ‘becoming Jewish’ and their impact on this urban scene, and thereby contributes to the nexus of migration, diaspora, urban religion and secularism, as well as gender and sexuality.



## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION AND DIVERSITY: AGENTS OF CHANGE (ZOMiDi)

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Vanessa Rau, Sanja Bökle, in cooperation with Dr. Helen Baykara-Krumme (now University Duisburg-Essen)*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### JESSICA ROSENFELD Aug 2016 – Dec 2020



Jessica Rosenfeld is a Doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Bonn, and is funded through the Max Planck International Research Network on Aging (MaxNetAging). She obtained her M.A. in Policy Studies focusing on Conflict Resolution in 2007 from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. She completed her B.A. in International Studies and Foreign Language from West Virginia University in 2002. Prior to her current position with MaxNetAging, she worked at the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) in Bonn on issues related to higher education, climate change adaptation (CCA), and disaster risk reduction (DRR).

## THE ROAD AHEAD IS PAVED WITH WIRELESS NETWORKS: REFUGEES, MOBILE TECHNOLOGY, AND ADAPTATION IN GERMANY

*Jessica Rosenfeld*

This doctoral research project aims to identify digital inequalities among recent asylum-seekers, and understand how they impact on their life chances in Germany. Between 2015-2016, Germany received 1.1 million first-time asylum-seeker applications. Many of those individuals were able to arrive safely as a direct result of mobile technology. For those who were granted protectionary status, the state provided access to language, cultural, and educational training. However, absent from this was a digital integration component. Digital access and skills are not equal within countries, let alone across borders. Moreover, while many recent asylum-seekers arrived with smartphones in hand, they were frequently novice users coming from countries

where technology plays a smaller role in society. To map these digital inequalities, data were collected from 31 semi-structured interviews with recently arrived asylum-seekers between 2017-2018. Questions were asked with three aspects in mind: (1) technological usage patterns; (2) variety of uses; and (3) assessing digital problem-solving skills. Furthermore, interlocutors were also asked to discuss their personal experiences and perceptions of the role that technology has played and how it is evolving in their lives. Data analysis is being carried out using a mix-methods approach consisting of qualitative content analysis, as well as comparisons to previous European Union technology population surveys using descriptive statistics.

## DR. FARHAN SAMANANI

Oct 2018 – Sep 2021



Farhan Samanani completed his Ph.D. in Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge in 2017, having been a Gates Cambridge Scholar. There, his Ph.D. focused on how residents of the superdiverse London neighbourhood of Kilburn understood and attempted to shape forms of community. Before joining MPI-MMG, he worked as a Post-doctoral Research Associate in Urban Studies at the University of Oxford on a project examining the impacts of austerity on first-time parents. He has co-edited two collections, on care and hospitality in the city, and on ethnographies of home, published as a special issue of *City and Society*, and as an edited volume with Bloomsbury Academic, respectively. His other publications and projects also cover migration policy, everyday ethics in contemporary London, and race, identity, and belonging in the UK. In addition to his academic work, Farhan is committed to applying academic insights, working in collaboration with organizations and policy-makers, and has done work on diversity, migration, and belonging for a number of organizations, including the World Bank, the Runnymede Trust, and Share Action.

### DIVERSITY IN TRANSLATION: COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND QUESTIONS OF THE COMMONS IN THE UK

*Dr. Farhan Samanani*

Political divisions and tensions around the place of diversity in society have long been intertwined. In the UK, migration, multiculturalism, and the impact of these in British identity have long been some of the most pressing issues for the British electorate. Today, majority attitudes towards difference and diversity exhibit signs of fragmentation, where difference is valued to varying extents, and across different scales, moments, and issues. This fragmentation can be traced more broadly across British politics, where radical anti-diversity voices are finding renewed support, and there is a growing heterogeneity of political stances and commitments. This project examines this fragmentary landscape in relation to a particular political tradition that strives to build commonality out of difference - that of 'commu-

nity organizing'. Community organizing draws on an intellectual tradition and a practical toolkit which attempts to approach difference as the basis of political power, and to build common ground amongst people who hold, and retain, different values. Through ethnographic fieldwork with one of the largest community-organizing charities in the UK, this research attempts to trace how attempts to build a politics of common ground succeed and fail across a fragmentary political landscape. The project looks at difference and division not as fixed categories, but rather as everyday productions, which are contested and mobilized to both bring people together and to hold them apart. Initial empirical findings stress the importance of the 'vernacularization' of politics - where common cause is built by translating

particular concerns or perspectives into familiar moral and cultural language - so that the same issue, such as homelessness, for example, can bring people together when framed in Christian

terms for Christians, in the context of migrant struggles for Latin Americans, as related to struggles around home ownership for middle-class activists, etc.

## COMMONWEALTH: LESSONS IN LIVING WITH DIFFERENCE

*Dr. Farhan Samanani*

This book project builds on Farhan's Ph.D. research to explore the everyday implications of an increasingly diverse world. Centered around ethnographic research in the 'superdiverse' London neighborhood of Kilburn, from 2014-2016, this book weaves together everyday stories of cooperation and conflict with major questions from the fields of psychology, political history, and anthropology, in order to interrogate our capacity for living with difference. The scope of the book moves from a shared evolutionary history, through the particular political history of liberal democracies, and up to the ways in which difference has become contentious in the present day. This history is interwoven with scenes from contemporary Kilburn, which show these historical questions playing out in prosaic contexts. The book's central argument is that the politics of diversity play out on two distinct levels - everyday encounters and symbolic politics - each characterized by a different

form of political reasoning, drawing on distinct psychological capabilities. These two levels can and do intertwine, but also pose distinct political challenges, where forms of everyday harmony may not translate into more inclusive narratives about difference, and vice versa. Empirically, this is illustrated through a range of ethnographic examples from Kilburn - where people hold strong, highly-cooperative interpersonal relationships, but also critique or resist migration, multiculturalism, or the truth claims of other groups - or vice versa, where those with reasonably accepting politics in the abstract resist the building of collaborative relationships in person. These ethnographic vignettes are set alongside historical and ethnographic stories from elsewhere in the world, ranging from indigenous communities in the Amazon, to Islamic rule in Southern Spain, to post-conflict reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

### DR. MIRIAM SCHADER

Feb 2016 - Dec 2020



Miriam Schader is a Senior Research Fellow/Group Leader in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity, where she is responsible for the project "Local Transformations". Her research at the Institute focuses on local governance of the recent refugee migration to Germany. Within the Max Planck Research Initiative "The Challenges of Migration, Integration, and Exclusion", Miriam is also Principal Investigator of the project "The Inclusion-exclusion Continuum: Asylum-seekers and the Social Implications of Legal Statuses and Conditions in Germany". Additionally, she served as Coordinator of the pilot project

“Addressing the Diversity of Needs and Aspirations of Asylum-seekers”. Miriam earned her binational Ph.D. from Göttingen University and Sciences Po Paris. Her thesis on the religious and political mobilization of migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa in Berlin and Paris won the Augsburg Academic Prize for intercultural studies 2015 (Augsburger Wissenschaftspreis für interkulturelle Studien 2015). Before returning to Göttingen, Miriam was a Post-doctoral Researcher at Münster University, and worked as a Senior Project Manager for the Robert Bosch Foundation in the area of migration and integration. She holds a *Master professionnel* and a *Master recherche* in *Sociologie politique* from Sciences Po Paris.

## LOCAL TRANSFORMATIONS AND ASYLUM-SEEKER RECEPTION

*Dr. Miriam Schader*

This project investigates how German municipalities dealt with the arrival of a larger number of asylum-seekers in recent years, with a particular focus on structural changes induced by this new immigration. The rapid immigration of refugees in 2015/16 entailed a number of important changes in national and European migration and asylum policies and laws; the municipal level, however, is central when it comes to dealing with the actual people who have arrived and with the ‘processing’ of the situation with the instruments of the welfare state. The main research questions therefore are: How did German municipalities deal with this situation? How did members of local administrations experience what is often

labelled as the ‘refugee crisis’? Did the new immigration of asylum-seekers lead to changes in the structures within these municipalities? Why (not)? The study is based on a comparison of three municipalities: Göttingen, Oldenburg, and Delmenhorst. These are two small cities and one mid-sized town, all located in Lower Saxony, which allows me to keep the political and legal context ‘constant’. The data consist primarily of interviews with members of these three municipalities’ administrations at different levels and with further local actors, and of documents published by the municipalities. This project is part of the “WiMi” initiative.

## THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) [“WiMi”]

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

[see entry under Vertovec]

## BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION: COMPARING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

[see entry under Vertovec]

**DR. MARIA SCHILLER**

Jul 2013 – Aug 2018



Maria Schiller is now an Assistant Professor for Public Policy, Migration, and Diversity at Erasmus University Rotterdam and a specialist on urban governance of migration-related diversity. She leads the research theme “Inclusive Cities and Citizens” in EUR’s “Vital Cities and Citizens” initiative and coordinates the LDE-Master program “Governance of Migration and Diversity”. Prior to joining EUR, she worked as a Post-doctoral Fellow at the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity, where she examined local responses to migration, in particular focusing on institutional change, street-level bureaucrats’ practice, and claims-making by immigrants and residents, and often takes a comparative perspective. Maria holds a Ph.D. in Migration Studies from the University of Kent and an M.A. in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the University of Vienna.

## **DIVERSITY GOVERNANCE: HOW LOCAL STATE AND NON-STATE ACTORS INTERACT TO RESPOND TO MIGRATION**

*Dr. Maria Schiller*

The core interest of this post-doctoral research project is to investigate the interaction and co-operation of local state actors and residents in the development of local responses to immigrant-based diversity in Germany. Based on a comparative ethnographic study in Mannheim and Frankfurt, together with some complementary research in Stuttgart and Munich, it address-

es the following question: in governance fora, where state actors and residents interact and co-operate to formulate policy decisions, what explains different representations of diversity, in a context in which urban diversity has become a core field of action for local governments? This project is part of the overall “CityDiv” project.

## **URBAN GOVERNANCE NETWORKS AND MINORITY REPRESENTATION**

*Dr. Maria Schiller, Dr. Julia Martínez-Ariño, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder (cooperating partner: Dr. Mireia Bolibar, Barcelona)*

Policy development and implementation nowadays often involves cooperative structures between state and civil society actors. This raises questions of participation and representation: To what extent are such non-parliamentary structures inclusive of minority groups in the population? Are immigrant groups part of urban governance networks? Based on the CityDiv-survey, MPI-scholars have mapped key features of governance networks in the largest French and

German cities, and described the place of immigrant advocacy actors within them. Qualitative work has focused on fora, such as French councils for diversity and laïcité, and German integration councils. We can show a widespread incorporation of immigrant advocacy organizations in urban governance networks. The existence of stable institutional structures dedicated to immigrant incorporation or religious diversity plays a key role for wider network incorporation.



## CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE ["CityDiv"]

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### PROF. DR. KAREN SCHÖNWÄLDER [permanent staff]



Karen Schönwälder is a Research Group Leader at the Institute and an Extracurricular Professor at Georg August University Göttingen. At the Institute, her research focuses on societal responses to diversity, the presence of immigrants in politics, and policies shaping heterogeneous societies. Before joining the Institute, Karen Schönwälder was head of the Program on Intercultural Conflicts and Societal Integration at the Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB) and *Privatdozentin* at the Free University Berlin. She obtained a Dr. phil. from Marburg University in 1990, and completed her habilitation in Political Science in 2001 at Gießen University. Past positions include a Lectureship at the University of London and a semester as a Visiting Professor at Haifa University, Israel. Her research interests include political and broader societal responses to migration processes and the establishment of new minorities, as well as various aspects of immigrant integration. She has been a member of the Advisory Committee for Migration and Participation of the regional government and the Niedersachsen Integration Council. Since 2017, she has been a member of the Advisory Board of the Deutsche Institut für Urbanistik. She also belongs to advisory committees of research projects on diversity in the federal administration and on immigrants in the German federal election.

## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION AND DIVERSITY: AGENTS OF CHANGE ("ZOMiDi")

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Vanessa Rau, Sanja Bökle, in cooperation with Dr. Helen Baykara-Krumme (now University Duisburg-Essen)*

The project investigates how and why civil society organizations change in response to migration and societal diversity. Organizations in which citizens come together to further common interests, to voice minority claims, fight for climate change or for human rights, to provide just a few examples, play a key role in processes of

social self-organization and participation. They are also indispensable for societal integration in developed democracies. How flexibly do they adjust to social change? While we now generally assume that migration processes transform host societies, we do not know how this occurs, or does not occur, in different spheres of society.

Institutions and organizations are often described as resistant to change. Exclusion and discrimination may hinder an equal participation of people of immigrant backgrounds. This project investigates the conditions and actors that further change towards more openness, diversity, and participation. The focus is on organizations for which difference and participation are constitutive because they represent particular, potentially disadvantaged population groups. Does this 'sensitivity for difference' make them inclusive towards immigrants and ethnic minority people?

The Göttingen team specifically investigates a civil society organization of lesbian and gay persons, and another representing people with a disability and their families, both in Germany. Theoretically, the project aims to extend our understanding of organizational change, now mostly based on studies of businesses and administrations, to forms of organizations that follow, as we claim, a different logic. The MPI team cooperates with teams in Munich and Berlin. "ZOMiDi" is funded by the BMBF, and the National Ministry for Education and Research. It runs from 2018 to 2021.

### **CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE ["CityDiv"]**

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

Diversity has long constituted a distinguishing feature of cities and their populations. However, novel processes of diversification present new challenges: as post-war immigrants have become settled and recognized parts of the population, ongoing immigration adds to an increasingly heterogeneous population. Furthermore, other processes, such as the development of a broader variety of family forms and concepts of partnership, contribute to an increasing diversity of life trajectories and life concepts, particularly among the inhabitants of large cities. Politically, the recognition of difference and explicit 'diversity' policies have gained more prominence. This is an umbrella project with overall themes and more specific sub-questions. In aggregate, the project

investigates how urban actors in Germany and in France respond to diversity, and how they shape its implications. As distinct from previous work, this project focuses on policy interventions at the local level. Moreover, it extends the focus beyond the city government and administration to a broader range of actors to capture the shift to more collaborative forms of governance and to reflect the important role of civil society. We also study a large number of cities in two countries to facilitate systematic comparisons of cities and gain insights into what drives their responses to diversity. The project involves a large survey of urban actors in 40 major German and French cities, as well as case studies of selected cities, policy fields, and organizational developments.

### **POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY**

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Alex Street (now Carroll College, U.S.A.), Dr. Michalis Moutselos*  
[see entry under Moutselos]

### **DIVERSITY ASSENT IN URBAN GERMANY ["ProDiv"]**

*Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder, Dr. Lucas Drouhot, Prof. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec and Prof. Dr. Sören Petermann*

[see entry under Drouhot]

## DR. SHAHD SEETHALER-WARI

Feb 2016 – Jan 2019



Shahd Seethaler-Wari is a Post-doctoral Researcher at the Department of Social and Cultural Diversity. Her focus in the “Asylum-seekers’ Needs and Aspirations” project is the spatial needs of asylum-seekers in the refugee accommodations in Lower-Saxony, and the role of architecture and infrastructure of accommodation facilities in the daily lives and future trajectories of asylum-seekers. Dr. Seethaler-Wari studied urban planning and urban management at TU Berlin, and architecture at Birzeit University in Palestine. Her Ph.D. research focused on the perception and use of public space by Palestinian immigrants and refugees in Berlin. From 2013 until 2015, she was a part-time Lecturer at HTW in Berlin, teaching “Regional Policies in Less Developed Countries” in the framework of the International and Development Economics Master’s program (MIDE). Before her post-graduate studies in Germany, she worked as a Senior Project Coordinator at the International Peace and Cooperation Center (IPCC) in Jerusalem focusing on urban rights, and alternative and participatory planning.

### UNDERSTANDING THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE SPECTRUM OF SPACE IN ASYLUM-SEEKERS’ ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES

*Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

Within the framework of the project, “Diversity of Asylum-seekers’ Needs and Aspirations”, the sub-project “Understanding the Public-private Spectrum of Space” employed participant observation, spatial analysis, and guided and semi-structured interviews with asylum-seekers to understand their spatial needs and perceptions, and to investigate the importance of public and private spaces, as well as the dynamics of social spaces in accommodation facilities specifi-

cally and on the city level in Göttingen, in general. This focus on space is meant to contribute in part to answering the macro-project’s research question investigating needs and aspirations, and to elucidate whether and how existing institutional accommodation facilities meet the needs and aspirations of asylum-seekers, and how they influence their life trajectories. This project, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, is part of the “WiMi” initiative.

### BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION: COMPARING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari*

[see entry under Vertovec]

## THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) ["WiMi"]

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader,  
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

[see entry under Vertovec]

### PROF. DR. ABDOUMALIQ SIMONE Nov 2014 – Oct 2018



AbdouMalik Simone is an urbanist with a particular interest in emerging forms of collective life across cities of the so-called 'Global South'. He has worked across many different academic, administrative, research, policy-making, advocacy, and organizational contexts. Simone is presently: Senior Professorial Fellow at the Urban Institute, the University of Sheffield; Research Associate at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity; and Visiting Professor of Urban Studies at the African Centre for Cities, the University of Cape Town. Simone has worked for a broad range of multilateral institutions and NGOs specializing in urban development, as well as held academic appointments at Medgar Evers College, the University of Khartoum, Cape Coast University, Witwatersrand University (Johannesburg), the New School, and Goldsmiths College, the University of London. For decades, he has travelled across the world working with various municipalities, research groups, and social movements on issues of urban transformation. At present, he is affiliated with the Urban Institute, the University of Sheffield.

## FORMS OF URBAN COLLECTIVE LIFE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

*Prof. Dr. Abdoumalik Simone*

This is a project of cross-institutional collaborative engagement that examines a broad fabric of relations, initiatives, efforts, and ways of paying attention, joining forces, and investing time and resources that take place as matters of intentional organization, but more importantly as a series of practices in which people engage so as to manage their everyday existence within cities. Focusing on Jakarta, Yangon, and Delhi, the project attempted to document and analyze a

wide range of complementary actions, and of people operating in concert without necessarily the objective of doing so. Therefore, the notion of collective life is explicitly distinct from the notion of community, and does not imply any idea of consensus. Rather, the project emphasizes that the collective is plural and not necessarily agreed upon, i.e., it is just shared in its contradictions, ambiguities, multiplicities, and partialities. Diversity is, in fact, one of its central resources.

**DR. CIHAN SINANOĞLU**

Aug 2010 – Mar 2012 | Apr 2015 – Sep 2015



Cihan Sinanoğlu was a Doctoral Research Fellow at MPI-MMG working on the project "Immigrants in the councils of German cities" headed by Prof. Dr. Karen Schöwälder. He acquired a university degree in social sciences (media and communication studies, political science, labor, human resources) at Georg-August University in Göttingen in October 2009. In 2017 he successfully defended a PhD-thesis on local councillors with immigrant backgrounds („Das Dilemma der BrückenbauerInnen: LokalpolitikerInnen mit Migrationshintergrund“) at Göttingen University. Cihan Sinanoğlu worked for the Türkische Gemeinde in Deutschland and is, from 2020, coordinator of the racism monitoring project at DeZIM.

## THE DILEMMA OF THE BRIDGE-BUILDERS: LOCAL COUNCILORS WITH MIGRATION BACKGROUND

*Dr. Cihan Sinanoğlu*

Approximately 200 councilors in large German cities now have a migration background. For whom does this matter, and in what ways? Why should membership in a primarily statistically defined group - people of a particular national origin - lead to political practices that differ from those of politicians who are not part of this statistical group? The Ph.D. project investigates the political practices of local councilors with migration backgrounds. It looks at the councilors themselves and their motivations and strategies, as well as the interactions between the immigrant councilors and citizens, and between the councilors and their political parties. The project assumes that ethnicity matters for politicians of minority backgrounds, but not always and not for everyone, and it does so in ways that must be understood more precisely. Indeed, situational triggers, contextual characteristics, and individu-

al traits may influence modes of ethnicity-making in the political context. In principle, this is shaped by three factors. The first factor is the existence of opportunities, such as communication networks and membership in migrant organizations and foreigner or integration councils. The second factor is the cognitive schemes and patterns of interpretation and perception, including individual and collective political experiences of ethnic identification, or motivations based on group loyalties. The third factor is the expectations or ascriptions of different actors, such as supporters, political parties, and the general public. The project employed a qualitative approach, which includes interviews, observations, and analysis of documents and the social media (Facebook). The project was concluded in 2017, and the Ph.D. was successfully defended at Göttingen University.



## DR. HANIA SOBHY

May 2017 – Aug 2021



Hania Sobhy, a Post-doctoral Fellow at SCD, works on the political economy of education, nationalism, and political change. Her first book manuscript (in press) focuses on education and lived citizenship before and after the Egyptian uprising. Her second major project examines electoral mobilization and voting behavior after the uprising. She completed her Ph.D. in Politics and International Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, the University of London, and her B.A. and M.A. in Economics and Political Science at McGill University. She has taught Middle East politics, international relations, international politics of economic relations, and comparative politics at SOAS, Exeter, and McGill. She has also been a Fellow at Phillips-University Marburg, Institut de Recherches et d'Etudes sur le Monde Arabe et Musulman, the Orient-Institut Beirut, and the Freie Universitaet Berlin/ EUME program. Hania writes regular public outreach pieces, and has taken up diverse policy, project evaluation, and research management roles.

### SCHOOLING THE NATION: EDUCATION AND EVERYDAY POLITICS IN REVOLUTIONARY EGYPT

*Dr. Hania Sobhy*

This book project, forthcoming with Cambridge University Press, investigates the transformations in the disciplinary and nation-building roles of schools in the context of disinvestment in education and increasing marketization, differentiation, and inequality. It weds political economy and anthropology of education approaches to study the everyday production of lived citizenship through disciplinary practices, as well as official discourses, rituals, and practices. It utilizes this approach to examine the official and lived projects of 'schooling the nation' in Egypt in the critical years before and after the 2011 uprising. Drawing on rare extensive research in schools with youth from different social classes and on analyses of school textbooks and nationalist rituals, it explores how schools reveal changing arrangements of power, legitimation, and contestation. It further dissects the gendered and classed constellations of violence, marketization,

and noncompliance that structure relations in schools. It also maps the articulation of the critical years surrounding the 2011 'revolution' in citizenship discourses and nationalist rituals in schools. As such, it addresses the idiosyncrasies of a 'neoliberal' project of citizenship and attempts at upgraded authoritarian legitimation as applied in the Egyptian case. It makes three sets of claims. First, it argues that these transformations in schools reflect a mix of laxity, violence, and marketization that I term 'permissive-repressive neoliberalism'. Second, it dissects the failures of nation-building and the fragilities of regime legitimation that culminated in the uprising, and feed into patterns of further repression and permissiveness. Finally, it reflects on the varieties of 'degraded citizenship' produced by schools under these patterns of governance and legitimation.

## NEGOTIATING RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC DIFFERENCE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF NORTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS

*Dr. Hania Sobhy*

This project comparatively examines the social organization of difference in urban schools in different North African contexts, especially as they relate to religious diversity and language policies. Unlike monarchical Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia are two republics that have undergone major popular uprisings in recent years, although only Tunisia has been able to shed its autocratic past. Schools and textbooks in all three contexts, however, constitute key arenas of conflict around religious difference in varying intensities, and reflect critical negotiations around secularism, traditionalism, and Islamism. Language policy also plays out differently with accommodation of minority languages in Morocco, different approaches to the legacy of instruction in French in Morocco and Tunisia, as well as shared dilemmas of instruction in Modern Standard Arabic in light of divergent local dialects. The project

situates the organization of religious and linguistic diversity in schools in the configurations of a broader historical, political, and social context in each case study. It is concerned with how textbooks and relevant education policies represent and address issues of diversity and difference. Critically, it examines the encounters and experiences of various education stakeholders (officials, teachers, students) with issues of religious and linguistic difference in everyday relations in schools. The project has a policy-relevant aspect, insofar as it seeks to draw lessons about the organization of difference, the promotion of equal citizenship, and the production of more equitable educational outcomes for young people in the region. This includes school and textbook reforms that foster more inclusive citizenship and temper extremist and discriminatory tendencies.

### DR. MICHAEL STASIK

Sep 2017 – Jul 2021



Michael Stasik is an anthropologist working at the intersection of urban cultures, economies, and mobilities in West Africa. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology (2017) from the University of Bayreuth and an MPhil in African Studies (2010) from the ASC Leiden. His Ph.D. dissertation analyzed the socio-cultural and economic significance of a major bus station in Accra, Ghana, examining the informal practices by which West African city dwellers shape infrastructures of mobility and exchange. His M.A. thesis explored the meanings that youth in Freetown, Sierra Leone, invest in popular music, especially in relation to love, fantasy, and the sexual economy. For his Ph.D. thesis, he was awarded the Dissertation Award of the University of Bayreuth and the Young Scholars' Award of the African Studies Association in Germany. From 2011 to 2017, he worked as a Researcher and Lecturer in Anthropology, University of Bayreuth.

## INDIVIDUAL MIGRATION IN WEST AFRICA

*Dr. Michael Stasik*

This project explores current dynamics of transnational migration in West Africa by considering trajectories of individual migration to urban Ghana. Its key question is how individual migrants from francophone West Africa master, or fail to master, the exigencies of immigrant life in the diverse and largely non-French speaking social environments of Ghanaian cities. As such, it does not introduce a new study subject, but rather seeks to rearrange descriptions and analyses of West African migrations in the face of changing empirical realities. Attending in particular to the relationship between migration-spurred dy-

namics of diversification, urbanization and individualization, it generates a new understanding of individual practices of transnational mobility, affiliation, and exchange. By reflecting on the anthropological entailments of individuality in relation to West African migration practices, the project contributes to comparative theory-building that achieves a better balance between the broader conditions of sociocultural realities, on the one hand, and on the other the distinct bearings of the socio-culturally situated, yet nevertheless discrete, autonomous and agentive individual.

### DR. MAGDALENA SUERBAUM

Oct 2017 – Aug 2021



Magdalena Suerbaum is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Department for Socio-Cultural Diversity. Her current research focuses on the social implications of legal statuses and determination processes among recent asylum-seekers in Germany. Her research project is part of the Max Planck Research Initiative “The Challenges of Migration, Integration, and Exclusion”. She is the author of “Masculinities and Displacement in the Middle East: Syrian Refugees in Egypt” (I.B. Tauris, in press). Magdalena holds a Ph.D. in Gender Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. She completed an M.A. at the University of Exeter in Middle East and Islamic Studies, and a B.A. at Philipps University Marburg in Islamic Studies.

## MASCULINITIES AND DISPLACEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST: SYRIAN REFUGEES IN EGYPT

*Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

In the aftermath of the outbreak of the Syrian uprising in 2011, many Syrians fled to Egypt. This ethnographic study traces Syrian men’s struggles in Cairo: their experiences in the Egyptian labor market and their efforts to avoid unemployment, their ambitions to prove their ‘groomability’ in front of potential in-laws in order to get married, and their discontent with being assigned the la-

bel ‘refugee’. In order to retain the image of the ‘respectable Syrian middle-class man’, they engaged in processes of Othering and the creation of hierarchies. Syrian men’s emotional struggles, the adaptability and elasticity of constructed masculinities, and the practice of combining various registers of manhood according to urgencies are pivotal elements of this book, which explores

Syrian men's memories and understandings of sectarianism and growing up in Syria, their interactions with the Egyptian and Syrian states, and their experiences during the uprising. The intersectional approach of this book enables close

attention to the 'refugee' as a classed and gendered person, to his position in the life cycle as a son, student or father, and sheds light on the emotions that contoured his experiences during forced migration.

## THE SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF LEGAL STATUSES AND DETERMINATION PROCESSES AMONG RECENT ASYLUM SEEKERS IN GERMANY

*Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

This project is an ethnographic study of the legal processes, conditions, and statuses encountered by newcomers in Germany. The project examines asylum seekers' legal trajectories, and how changing legal statuses and conditions have an impact on asylum seekers' access to resources, services, information and advice. It also investigates asylum seekers' understandings of these statuses. The aim of the project is to demonstrate relationships between different legal statuses and patterns in social outcomes, as well as

asylum seekers' ability to conduct some form of individual independence, engage in family life, and access jobs, education, training, and housing within the parameters set out by their respective legal statuses. In particular, this project focuses on the experiences of asylum-seeking mothers, and analyses the impact of different legal trajectories on their parenting practices. It further inquires into how legal precarity is entangled with, and affects, notions of motherhood.

## THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION, INTEGRATION, AND EXCLUSION (WISSENSCHAFTSINITIATIVE MIGRATION UND INTEGRATION) ["WiMi"]

*Dr. Susanne Becker, Dr. Annett Fleischer, Dr. des. Simona Pagano, Dr. Miriam Schader, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Dr. Shahd Seethaler-Wari, Dr. Magdalena Suerbaum*

[see entry under Vertovec]

### LISA SZEPAN Aug 2017 – Jul 2021



Lisa Szepan is a Doctoral Fellow at the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity and member of the research group "Cities and the Challenge of Diversity: A Study in Germany and France". She studied cultural anthropology and political science in Göttingen and Vienna with a special interest in tourism and migration research, social inequality and critical development studies, as well as the field of digital anthropology. In her master thesis, she analyzed practices and discourses of innovation in charities focusing on the magdas Hotel in Vienna, where the Caritas employs mainly refugees, referring to Muhammad Yunus' concept of a "social business". While studying, Lisa worked in governmental and non-governmental organizations (e.g., NETZ Bangladesh), as a Student Assistant at

the Max Planck Institute, and as her Institute's contact person for the reconciliation of family and university life. After completing her studies, she interned in an agency for trend- and management-consultancy.

## BUILDING CHARITABLE AUTHORITY: WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS IN HETEROGENEOUS URBAN SETTINGS

*Lisa Szepan*

Lisa Szepan explores how established welfare organizations position themselves within cities that are marked by a growing number of smaller civil society actors, as well as attempts to foster diversity-oriented policies. In Germany, these organizations have a strong legacy in contributing to the welfare state as privileged care-providers and political partners of state institutions. Being embedded in local politics, but also rooted in historically evolved (religious) communities and sometimes rigid value systems, they currently have to navigate a field of changing ways of social governance, as well as greater demands for recognition by various population groups. Taking the example of a German metropole, Lisa's doctoral research traces strategies of particularly

influential welfare organizations to retain their political and charitable authority, going beyond the often-employed notion of a 'managerialization' of their work. Instead, she attempts to understand how approaches towards sociocultural heterogeneity unfold within their charitable and political work, and how they position themselves as reliable, but innovative, partners for the city's good. Looking at various network and committee activities, as well as charities' public outreach, Lisa probes the dynamic field of governing care and claims around neediness in the city, focusing on organizational culture, contested understandings of solidarity, and an up-to-date charitable work within diverse urban societies. This is part of the "ZoMiDi" project.

## CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE ["CityDiv"]

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### DR. ALEXANDRE TANDÉ

Sep 2015 – Aug 2017



Alexandre Tandé was a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity. At the Institute, he worked on the "CityDiv" project, investigating in particular how French urban actors shape new dynamics of diversity. In the context of the "CityDiv" project, Alexandre conducted research on how urban cultural policies perceive and respond to the diversification of local populations, especially concerning migration. French public libraries are at the core of his research. At a time when public libraries are expanding their services and revising how they interact with the public, his research



explores whether and to what extent migration-related diversity is part of these evolutions. Alexandre received his Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences from the Université Libre de Bruxelles and the Université Lille 2 in 2013. His dissertation investigates the rise, meanings, and results of diversity as a new political objective within public policies originally aimed at combating discrimination in the labor market in Brussels. Alexandre studied political science and sociology in Rennes (IEP), Strasbourg (IEP), and Paris (Université Paris 7). Professionally, he also worked in the fields of migration, asylum, and diversity in both public and private organizations in France. His research interests also include the co-construction of public policies, organizational dynamics, and relationships between the state and economic actors.

## CITIES AND THE CHALLENGE OF DIVERSITY: A STUDY IN GERMANY AND FRANCE ["CityDiv"]

*Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Karen Schönwälder • Researchers: Christian Jacobs, Dr. Christine Lang, Dr. Michalis Moutselos, Dr. Maria Schiller, Lisa Szepan, Dr. Alexandre Tandé*

[see entry under Schönwälder]

### TAU TAVENGWA Feb 2019 – Jan 2021



Tau Tavengwa is the Founder and Co-Editor of [Cityscapes Magazine](#), a biannual print magazine focused on exploring and understanding cities in Africa, Latin America, and South Asia from the perspective of a broad array of actors that include academics, policy-makers, artists, photographers, architects, and activists who work in, and possess an on-the-ground understanding of, the many urbanisms of these regions. He was a 2018 Loeb Fellow at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. In addition to being an LSE Cities Associate at the London School of Economics, Tavengwa is also Curator-at-Large at the African Centre for Cities at the University of Cape Town. He has a background in architecture and museum design, and art and architecture publishing. His work in the last 10 years has been focused exclusively on urban issues in the Global South as part of the African Centre for Cities at the University of Cape Town, where he is still a member of the Urban Humanities cluster. Tavengwa has also curated several exhibitions on art, architecture and design, as well as exhibitions aimed at exposing the complex nature of life in cities. He was Guest Curator on the Rotterdam Architecture Biennale, and has contributed to various exhibitions, including the Chicago Architecture Biennale and Vitra's Making Africa exhibition. In addition

to his work with the Datarama team at the Max Planck Institute, he is currently exploring the establishment of a collaborative platform for policy-makers, activists, practitioners, and academics working to tackle various urban challenges in cities across the Global South. This will not only facilitate direct contact and familiarity with each other's work, but also seed ways to collaborate across borders and territories in parts of the world striving to overcome similar urban challenges.

## CompleXities: TRANSFORMATIVE URBAN IDEAS FROM THE (REST OF THE) WORLD

*Tau Tavengwa*

CompleXities is a collaboration between Cityscapes/African Centre for Cities (ACC) and the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity's Datarama. Comprising an exhibition, podcast, event series and publication, CompleXity is a three-year investigation and research project focused on: (1) exploring and presenting critical new urban ideas and practices from the Global South; (2) offering alternative ways to think about the complex nature of cities now and in the future; (3) highlighting approach-

es that have been effective in addressing the challenges and impacts of urbanization across the region; and (4) engaging voices of the Global South that are surprisingly still largely absent in the debates that are setting the global urban agenda. Using film, photography, sound, graphics and animation, the project engages communities, thinker-doers, academics, activists, entrepreneurs, policy-makers, and built environment experts from Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

## THE DATARAMA: ADVANCING IMMERSIVE DATA VISUALIZATION FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

*Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Steven Vertovec, Alexei Matveev, Dr. Norbert Winnige, Jonathan Portelli, and Tau Tavengwa*

[see separate designated chapter in this report]

### PD. DR. CHRISTINE WEINBACH

Nov 2016 – Apr 2017



Christine Weinbach is now a Research Associate at Bonn University. She is a sociologist with a particular interest in the relevance and shape of expectations concerning gender and difference in the functionally differentiated society. She received her doctorate degree from the University of Bielefeld in 2001, for a thesis in which she introduced the category of gender into the systems theory of Niklas Luhmann. In 2013, she was awarded her habilitation from the University of Potsdam on the basis of a number of articles dealing with ascriptive categories in the political system of the functionally differentiated society. During the last few years, she has focused on questions pertaining to the social organization of difference in public

institutions. The implementation of gender mainstreaming, as well as the concept of employability into German job centers, are taken as exemplary cases.

## HOLLOWING-OUT ASRIPTIVE PERSON CATEGORIES: THE CONCEPT OF 'EMPLOYABILITY'

*PD Dr. Christine Weinbach*

Employability is a powerful instrument passed on by politics to public employment services (PES) as 'people-processing organizations' (Hasenfeld 1972), which are seen as enablers dealing with expectations of the labor market. By enabling their clients to become employable individuals, these enablers impose expectations on their clients, and thus hollow-out expectations

linked to ascriptive person categories, such as gender and ethnicity. The present project focuses on the re-categorisation work of PES staff in German job centers. The empirical basis is qualitative data - expert interviews and transcribed mediation talks between staff and clients - which were collected as part of a DFG-funded research project at the University of Potsdam.

## DR. SAKURA YAMAMURA

Sep 2018 – Aug 2022



With her expertise in migration studies, urban and economic geography, Sakura's work focuses on the spatiality of migrant-led diversities in global cities, such as Frankfurt and Tokyo. Applying both quantitative and qualitative methods, she works on the geographical localization and conceptual concretization of transnational spaces, shedding new light on social-spatial urban transformations induced by the interaction of different transnational actors. She studied geography, sociology, and social/cultural anthropology at the University of Hamburg, Université de Paris 1 - Sorbonne and the University of California at Berkeley. She previously worked for the Migration Research Group at the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI), in the International Migration Division of the OECD, and at the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF). She was Junior Visiting Fellow at the Maastricht Centre for Citizenship, Migration, and Development (MACIMIDE) at Maastricht University, and lectured at the Geography Departments of the University of Hamburg and Kiel.

## ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPERDIVERSITY AND INTERSECTIONALITY

*Dr. Sakura Yamamura*

In collaboration with colleagues from the University of Strathclyde's Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship, this project explores pertinent issues

of super-diversity, along with intersectionality, in the context of ethnic minority and migrant entrepreneurship. Field research is carried out

throughout Europe, with site surveys, surveys, and qualitative interviews in cities, such as Glasgow, Amsterdam and Hamburg, but also in Poland and Scotland. Based on empirical research, these projects aim at concretizing, and respectively re-conceptualizing, the nature of superdiversity and transnationality in entrepreneurship research. Currently, projects are being finalized on the multi-scalar contexts of intersectional en-

trepreneurs (i.e., LGBTIQ\* ethnic minority entrepreneurs) in the aforementioned European cities, as well as on transnational entrepreneurship of return migrants in Poland. Previous research also entailed exploration of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the small-island state of Malta, which is characterized by the interrelatedness of locally closely-knit, but also extensively transnationally networked (circular migration), economic actors.

## INTERSECTING SPACES OF SUPERDIVERSITY

*Dr. Sakura Yamamura*

Drawing attention to the intersection of multidimensional variables of migrants, the concept of superdiversity is particularly relevant to increasingly diversifying global cities. Currently, since little is known about where and how superdiversity concerns spatial intersections, the core focus of this project is on the socio-spatial dimension of superdiversity in global cities. This project delves into the complexity of multiscale contexts of socio-spatial diversification in and of urban spaces, and the multidimensional socio-spatial constellation of transnational migrant groups in them. With a mixed-method approach, the project aims to capture the intersection of so-called 'transnationalism from below' and 'transnationalism from above' in global cities, commencing with Frankfurt as the initial case and including additional cities for a comparative analysis. The project entails a range of methods including: (1) qualitative interviews with migrant professionals of transnational corporations, on the one hand, and with low-skilled labor migrants on the oth-

er; (2) ethnographic observation; (3) site surveys; and (4) mapping based on statistical data. Furthermore, it also strives to visualize the data with innovative methods to make the otherwise abstract concept of spatial super-diversification more visible and tangible. Collaborations are planned with the City of Frankfurt's Office for Multicultural Affairs (AmkA) and its multi-purpose community and administrative center stadtRAUMfrankfurt. [Due to the CoVid19 pandemic, fieldwork in intersectional public spaces of encounters and interactions in Frankfurt, along with the case study of a spatial hotspot for organized encounters in the stadtRAUMfrankfurt, have to be postponed until further notice. In collaboration with AmkA, research accompanying the policy response to the spatial shift from physical to offline and virtual spaces, and assessing the impacts of such spatial dynamics on the practices of diversity and integration policy, will be conducted.]

## TRANSNATIONAL SPACES IN THE GLOBAL CITY TOKYO

*Dr. Sakura Yamamura*

The original Ph.D. project, entitled "Spatial Diversification in Global Cities: Transnational Spaces in Tokyo", co-supervised by Steven Vertovec and related to the "GlobaldiverCities" project, researched the socio-spatial patterns of transnational financial professionals within the network of Global Cities and particularly in the Global City of Tokyo. It shed new light on the transnational community of highly-skilled mobile professionals and concretized the transnational spaces within Tokyo, as well as the larger Global Cities network. On the one hand, these findings will be turned into a monograph, entitled "Spatial Diversity in

the Global City - Transnational Tokyo", which is under contract with Palgrave Macmillan and will be published as part of the "Global Diversity Series". On the other hand, this on-going project also aims to extend the empirical research on the spatial diversification to further areas and other transnational communities, in particular transnationals from below, and to take into account recent changes in the migration policies since April 2019 and urban development projects connected to the hosting of mega-events, such as the Rugby World Cup 2019 and the Olympic Games in 2020.

## GUESTS



**SABRINA AXSTER**  
Johns Hopkins University  
DEC 2016 – JUN 2018



**PROF. JANET BAUER**  
Stanford University  
MAY 2018 – JUL 2018 | MAY 2019 – JUL 2019



**PAUL BECKER**  
Minor – Projektkontor für Bildung und Forschung gemeinnützige GmbH - Fachstelle Einwanderung im IQ (Integration durch Qualifizierung) Netzwerk  
FEB 2017 – JUL 2017



**DR. KATIA BIANCHINI**  
University of York  
SEP 2015 – AUG 2018

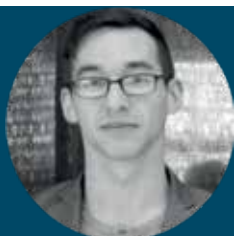


**PROF. PAUL BRAMADAT**  
University of Victoria, Canada  
SEP 2018 – DEC 2018



**DR. RUMA CHOPRA**  
San Jose State University  
JUN 2018 – JUL 2018





**COREY-LEVI CLOYD**  
University of Cincinnati  
SEP 2017 – AUG 2019



**DR. JULIEN DEBONNEVILLE**  
University of Geneva  
SEP 2017 – AUG 2018



**DR. FLORA FERATI-SACHSENMAIER**  
University Göttingen  
OCT 2015 – SEP 2020



**PROF. ALAN GAMLEN**  
Monash University  
MAY 2018



**PROF. DANIEL HIEBERT**  
University of British Columbia  
MAY 2018 | JUL 2019



**MEGHAN KELLY**  
University of British Columbia  
MAY 2018



**DR. SONJA MOGHADDARI**  
Swiss National Science Foundation  
FEB 2017 – JUL 2018



**GREG NIEDT**  
Drexel University, Philadelphia  
SEP 2017 – NOV 2017



**DR. YU QIU**  
Minzu University of China  
AUG 2018 – JUL 2019



**JESSICA ROSENFELD**  
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research  
AUG 2016 – DEC 2020



**PROF. FRANCINE SAILLANT**  
Laval University, Québec Canada  
MAR 2019



**PROF. KARIN SCHITTENHELM**  
University of Siegen  
MAR 2017



**PROF. PAUL SPOONLEY**  
Massey University, New Zealand  
**JUN 2019 – AUG 2019**



**PROF. SOPHIE WATSON**  
Open University (UK)  
**SEP 2018 – OCT 2018**



**LAURA WESTERVEEN**  
Institute for European Studies, Brussels  
**JAN 2018 – MAR 2018**



**PROF. BOB WHITE**  
University of Montreal  
**NOV 2018 – DEC 2018**



**DR. JUNJIA YE**  
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore  
**MAY 2018 – JUN 2018**

## MAX PLANCK FELLOW GROUP “COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONALISM”

**PROF. DR. RAN HIRSCHL**  
Max Planck Fellow



Ran Hirschl (Ph.D., Yale University) is a Professor of Political Science and Law at the University of Toronto, holder of the Alexander von Humboldt Professorship in Comparative Constitutionalism at the University of Göttingen, and heads the Max Planck Fellow Group in Comparative Constitutionalism. He is the author of several major books, including *City, State: Constitutionalism and the Megacity* (Oxford University Press, 2020); *Comparative Matters: The Renaissance of Comparative Constitutional Law* (Oxford University Press, 2014)—winner of the 2015 APSA Herman Pritchett Award for the best book on law and courts; *Constitutional Theocracy* (Harvard University Press, 2010)—winner of the 2011 Mahoney Prize in Legal Theory; and *Towards Juristocracy* (Harvard University Press, 2004), as well as over 120 articles and book chapters on public law and its intersection with comparative politics and society. Professor Hirschl has won academic excellence awards in five different countries; served as Co-President of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S); and held distinguished Visiting Professorships at Harvard, Stanford, NYU, and NUS. His work on the intersection of social science and public law has been translated into various languages, discussed in numerous scholarly fora, cited by jurists and in high court decisions, and addressed in media venues from the New York Times to the Jerusalem Post. In 2014, he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (FRSC)—the highest academic distinction in that country. The official citation describes him as “one of the world’s leading scholars of comparative constitutional law, courts and jurisprudence.”

### “THE SOUND OF CONSTITUTIONAL SILENCE: URBANIZATION, MEGACITIES, AND THE URBAN/RURAL DIVIDE”

*Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl*

More than half of the world’s population lives in cities; by 2050, this number will rise to more than three quarters. Projections suggest that megacities of 50 million, or even 100 million, inhabitants will emerge by the end of the century, mostly in the Global South. This shift marks a major and unprecedented transformation of the organization of society, both spatially and geopolitically. Our constitutional institutions

and imagination, however, have failed to keep pace with this new reality. Cities have remained virtually absent from constitutional law and constitutional thought, not to mention from comparative constitutional studies more generally. In this project, a new place for the city is carved in constitutional thought, constitutional law, and constitutional practice. To that end, the project combines rigorous empirical research of consti-

tutional texts and comparative constitutional jurisprudence; social, political, and economic data on urban expansion and its consequences worldwide; and insights from political and constitutional theory in order to achieve the following: (i) explore the reasons for the constitutional silence concerning the metropolis; (ii) probe the constitutional relationship between states and (mega)cities worldwide; (iii) examine patterns of constitutional change and stalemate in city status; (iv) consider the unique characteristics of large urban centers (e.g., extreme density, super-diversity, democratic stake-holding, systemic

political under-representation, deep socio-economic inequality) that may justify a *constitutional* realization of the right to the city and/or recognition of large urban centers as constituent units and as an autonomous order of government in both federal and unitary states; and (v) examine the possibilities of drawing on innovative institutional and constitutional designs to address one of the main challenges in contemporary politics: the resurgence of the rural/urban divide in the context of today’s rising populist nationalism and the accompanying threats to constitutional democracy.

## SPATIAL STATISM

*Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl*

In this project, conducted jointly with Ayelet Shachar, Director and Head of the Ethics, Law and Politics Department at the MPI-MMG, they examine the tremendous versatility and creativity of states as they extend their spatial and juridical tentacles in the new global environment. In an array of key policy areas that share strong territorial or spatial elements, they explore in considerable detail how state-centered public law defines, and where required redefines, space and territory in order to tame potential threats—local or global, vertical and horizontal—to the state’s territorial sovereignty. In a world in which the globalization narrative is associated with unrestrained flows of capital, ideas, and technologies, we track and identify a counter-narrative—

*spatial statism*—of reconfigured regulation of the mobility of people, the immobility of cities, the emplacement of natural wealth and resources, the withering expression of religious diversity in the public sphere, and the unheralded return of “us versus them” distinctions based on “true” belonging and place-based attachments to a particular patria, revealing through these illustrative examples the importance of a framework of analysis that takes heed of the spatial dimensions of public law. Taken in conjunction, these illustrations suggest that the disregard for, and dismissal of, the state as a potent actor in the public law arena is premature. Although state sovereignty may be metamorphosing, it is evidently not vanishing.

## WHO BELONGS? NATIONAL (BUT NOT INTERNATIONAL) JUDICIALIZED MEGA-POLITICS

*Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl*

In a follow-up project, we continue that line of inquiry by exploring the statist jurisdictional claim for monopoly over questions of immigration, naturalization and citizenship, and over narratives of collective identity more generally. Whereas such core questions of membership and belonging have been judicialized extensively at the national level, they seldom, if ever, are subject to judicialization at the international level. As such, they provide an effective test-case for assessing the limits of international adjudication of mega-politics. By delineating the “holes” in which judicialization of mega-politic generally does not occur at the international level, the analysis suggests that the strategic logic that Hirschl and others

have identified as fueling the judicialization of mega-politics at the national level may give way to a deeper sovereigntist-preservationist logic of upholding to the very essence of statehood as requiring a degree of control over a defined territory and its population. The latter is here translated into an endeavor to ultimately sculpt and regulate the boundaries of membership in the body politic. By corollary, these boundary-making powers, divisive and mega-political as they are at the national level, highlight the improbability of curbing trends of resurgent nationalist populism (and the exclusionary “us versus them” rhetoric that it frequently yields) through trans- or supra-national judicial bodies.

## RELIGION-INFUSED NARRATIVES OF MEMBERSHIP IN AN AGE OF POLITICAL POPULISM

Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl

A fourth area of research to which Hirschl has devoted significant time over the past couple of years is illiberal constitutionalism, in particular “mixed” constitutional identities that commit simultaneously to liberal and theocratic values, and the rise of religion-infused narratives of membership as part of the ethno-nationalist populism that is awaking worldwide. Specifically, Hirschl investigates the return of “religious talk” in exclusionary “us versus them” populist discourse and its impact upon the constitutional sphere. His research in that area spans the world, involving gathering of data and exploration of public debates, laws and constitutional court rulings from North America and Europe, as well as from less frequently studied constitutional settings, such as Israel, India, and Malaysia – all of which have undergone major religionization of public and constitutional discourse. A few recent examples that he researches include Israel’s existential deliberation of the new Nationality Law (2018) and the accompanying struggle over

“Who is a Jew?” (e.g., family unification case 2012; “Women of the Wall” case 2017) and its implications for the acquisition of citizenship prescribed by Israel’s Law of Return; the Supreme Court of India’s landmark rulings on the status of triple *talaq* divorce (2017), so-called “cow vigilantism” (2018), the Sabarimala Temple entry dispute (2018), and the Ayodhya temple dispute (2019), as Hindu-based nationalist exclusionary rhetoric is thriving under Narendra Modi and the BJP reign; Pakistan, where the Asia Bibi blasphemy case (2018)—passed on by politicians to the judicial sphere—brought millions of religious fundamentalists to the streets of Lahore, Islamabad, and Karachi; and the extensive judicialization of the status of Islam and Sharia-based law in Malaysia, as evidenced in a series of landmark rulings on certain issues, such as conversion, blasphemy, proselytism, and personal status, or the constitutionality of a ban on non-Muslims using the word “Allah” to refer to God.

DR. ALEX HUDSON  
Aug 2018 – Jul 2021

Alexander Hudson works in Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl’s fellow group on Comparative Constitutionalism as a Post-doctoral Fellow. He completed a Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of Texas at Austin in 2018. His research focuses on the role of public participation in processes of constitutional revision and replacement. His first book investigates the impact of public participation in constitution-making processes, with a particular focus on Brazil, South Africa, and Iceland. He also has ongoing research projects on public participation and minority rights, constitutional referenda, and the diffusion of language in national constitutions. He has also published work on law and courts in Canada and Brazil. Alexander has taught courses at the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Göttingen, and the Fundação Getulio Vargas in Rio de Janeiro, and worked for the Comparative Constitutions Project. His book *The Veil of Participation: Citizens and Political Parties in Constitution-Making Processes* is forthcoming with Cambridge University Press in April 2021.



**"EFFECTS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN CONSTITUTION MAKING"***Dr. Alex Hudson*

As public participation in the pre-drafting stages of constitution making has become *de rigueur*, there has been very little empirical research on the actual effects of this form of participation on the legal texts that constitute the primary outputs of such processes. Public participation could potentially have effects on the content of the constitution, public perceptions of the legitimacy of the constitution, the longevity of the constitution, and even judicial interpretation of

the constitution. All of these potential effects are normatively important, but the most basic potential impact of public participation is the extent to which the text of the constitution reflects input from the public. Therefore, the central explicanda in this project are the extent to which public participation affects the content of a new constitution, and the variation in this effect between cases. So far, this project has produced one book and three articles.

**"CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDA"***Dr. Alex Hudson*

Whether from a sincere belief in the ability of the body politic to arrive at optimal decisions, or from an instrumental attempt to generate legitimacy for policy choices, a large number of jurisdictions use referenda to settle political questions. This practice relies on assumptions about voter interest and competence that are subject

to empirical tests. This project considers both cross-national data on the use of constitutional referenda, and experimental work within a case study of the U.S. state of Texas. The project has so far produced one chapter in an edited volume, and an article draft.

**"COPIED TEXT IN CONSTITUTIONS"***Dr. Alex Hudson*

Is there ever such a thing as a *tabula rasa* in constitution drafting? Is the text of a constitution an original statement of a sovereign people? In reality, when writing a new constitution, drafters are usually heavily influenced by what has come before. While weighted toward the precedential texts of their own country, drafters also look abroad for guidance. This project seeks to estab-

lish the degree to which specific text has been copied between national constitutions, and to determine the factors that are most salient in predicting when copying will occur, and from which texts. This project has so far produced one article.

## LONG-TERM GUESTS



**DR. BERIHUN ADUGNA GEBEYE**  
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
AUG 2019 – NOV 2020

Berihun Adugna Gebeye holds an S.J.D. in Comparative Constitutional Law and an LL.M. in Human Rights with an International Justice Specialization from Central European University, an LL.M. in Human Rights Law from Addis Ababa University, and an LL.B. from Haramaya University. Previously, he was a Visiting Scholar at Columbia Law School, a Visiting Researcher at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies of the University of Oxford, a Global Teaching Fellow at the Department of Law, University of Yangon, Myanmar, and a Lecturer in Law at Jigjiga University Law School, Ethiopia.

## PROJECTS

His current work at the MPI looks at how constitutionalism influences, and is influenced by, cultural diversity in Africa. In addition, he is working on the nexus between constitutionalism and federalism, and the politics of citizenship and human rights in the African context. His work has appeared, among others, in the *Vienna Journal on International Constitutional Law*, *Africa Journal*

*of Comparative Constitutional Law*, the *Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law*, *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, *Human Rights Review*, *African Studies Quarterly*, *Queen Mary Law Journal*, and *Ethiopian Public and Constitutional Law Series*. His book, *African Constitutionalism: A New Theoretical Framework* is forthcoming with Oxford University Press (2021).



**DR. LISA HARMS**  
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
OCT 2019 – SEP 2020

Lisa holds a Master's degree in Political Sociology from the Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) Paris. She has completed her Ph.D. in Sociology and Political Science at the University of Göttingen and the IEP Paris. During her Ph.D., she was as a Doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Fellow Group Governance of Cultural Diversity. Her Ph.D. included extended research stays at the Centre d'Études Relations Internationales in Paris. Prior to joining the AvH Chair of Comparative Constitutionalism in October 2019, she was a Post-doctoral fellow at the MPI Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics.

## PROJECTS

At the MPI, Lisa has been working on her doctoral dissertation, which she defended in September 2019. The thesis, entitled “Fragmented Universalism: The Making of the Right to Freedom of Religion at the European Court of Human Rights”, investigates the influence of religious advocacy groups in international litigation. Examining litigation by a broad array of religious actors,

including Muslims, Sikhs, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Evangelicals, Christian conservatives and Russian Orthodox representatives, the dissertation contributes to elucidating the complex entanglements of religion and (secular) law. It argues that power-relations, in which religious actors are embedded, are crucial in order to understand how these actors shape the law.



**DR. MARIANA VELASCO RIVERA**  
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
OCT 2019 – AUG 2021

Mariana is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow under the Alexander von Humboldt Chair of Comparative Constitutionalism (held by Prof. Dr. Ran Hirschl) at the University of Göttingen and a guest researcher at the Max Planck Fellow Group in Comparative Constitutionalism. She holds a J.S.D. and an LL.M. from Yale Law School, and an LL.B. from Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM). During her J.S.D., she was a Yale Fox International Fellow and a visiting researcher at the Center for Global Constitutionalism at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center.

### “THE POLITICAL SOURCES OF AMENDMENT DIFFICULTY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO”

In her doctoral dissertation, Mariana developed a theory of constitutional change that explains the reasons for Mexico’s high formal amendment rate between 1917-2017. Said theory is based on the notion of the political construction of amendment difficulty. This notion’s core idea is that amendment difficulty is not institutionally

determined, but that it depends on certain factors, such as the party system, constitutional culture, and decisions by key political actors. Mariana’s current research is focused on applying her theory of constitutional change to the United States as a case study.

### “ON THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF A ‘PERMANENT’ CONSTITUENT POWER”

*with Joel Colón-Ríos*

There is a long tradition in constitutional theory, according to which the exercise of original constituent power is seen as a one-time event. Once a constitution is adopted, the legally unlimited

force that brought it into existence is exhausted. This not only means that there will be no legal mechanism in place for its future exercise, but that it must be treated as if it never existed. In

Latin America, the idea that the exercise of the original constituent power is a one-time event is not that influential. The Colombian Constitutional Court, for example, has grounded the doctrine of unconstitutional amendments on the view that the people, as the original constituent subject, have the exclusive jurisdiction to replace the existing constitution if they determine such a course of action desirable. Accordingly, those changes that go beyond a formal modification of the constitutional text and alter the fundamental content of the material constitution are outside the scope of the ordinary amendment power and fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of the constituent people. Moreover, several Latin American constitutions explicitly distinguish between the original constituent power and the ordinary power of constitutional reform, and place material limits on the latter.

Mexican constitutional jurisprudence is somewhat of an outlier in this respect. Mexican consti-

tutional scholars have long insisted in the ephemeral nature of the original constituent power. However, they also maintain that once the original constituent power is exhausted, a *permanent* constituent power emerges. According to them, in the Constitution of 1917, that permanent constituent power is located in a two-thirds majority of the Federal Congress and the majority of the State Legislatures (Article 135). This idea has had major legal implications. It has resulted, for example, in the judicial rejection of the doctrine of unconstitutional constitutional amendments, and in a lack of differentiation between ordinary amendments and changes that alter the content of the material constitution in important ways. In this paper, we examine the development of the notion of permanent constituent power in Mexican constitutional theory, as well as the impact that it has had in the country’s constitutional jurisprudence.

## GUESTS



**PROF. DR. ANTONIA BARAGGIA**  
University of Milan  
MAR 2019



**FAISAL KAMAL**  
University of Toronto  
SEP 2018 – DEC 2018



**DR. JACLYN L NEO**  
National University of Singapore  
DEC 2019



PROF. DR. SALVADOR SANTINO REGILME JR.  
University of Leiden  
JAN 2020



JULIUS YAM  
Oxford University  
JAN 2019 - MAY 2019



## MAX PLANCK FELLOW GROUP "GOVERNANCE OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY"

### PROF. DR. MATTHIAS KOENIG Max Planck Fellow



In December 2011, Matthias Koenig joined the Institute as a Max Planck Fellow. He was a Full Professor of Sociology/Sociology of Religion at the University of Göttingen until September 2020 and now holds the Chair for Empirical Macrosociology at the Max Weber Institute of Heidelberg University. He studied at the Universities of Hamburg, Princeton (U.S.A.), and Marburg, and has worked at UNESCO's Division of Social Sciences in Paris. He holds a Masters and a Doctoral degree in sociology from the University of Marburg, as well as a habilitation in sociology from the University of Bamberg in Germany. Koenig was repeatedly Visiting Professor at the École Pratique des Hautes Etudes (EPHE-Sorbonne) in Paris, held the Hannah Arendt Visiting Chair (DAAD) for German and European Studies at the University of Toronto, and was Visiting Scholar at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs of Harvard University.

He has also received several research grants and scholarships from the DAAD, DFG, the Volkswagen Foundation, Era-Net/NORFACE and Era-Net/RUS, and was a Member of the Junge Akademie at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (BBAW). His research on sociological theory, human rights, religion, and migration has appeared in major journals, such as *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Ethnicities*, *International Migration*, *International Migration Review*, *International Sociology*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Social Science History*. His book publications include "International Migration and the Governance of Religious Diversity" (co-edited with Paul Bramadat, McGill-Queen's University Press, 2009) and "Religion and National Identities in an Enlarging Europe" (co-edited with W. Knöbl and W. Spohn, Palgrave 2015).

### "CHANGING LEGAL DEFINITIONS OF MINORITY RIGHTS AND NATIONHOOD IN WRITTEN CONSTITUTIONS"

*Prof. Dr. Matthias Koenig*

The project examines how nation-states have defined nationhood and minority rights since the late 18th century. Existing comparative literature

on minority rights and multiculturalism has largely focused on the late 20th and early 21st centuries, comparing public policies across selected



countries, mostly within the OECD. By contrast, the project takes a *longue durée* and global comparative perspective by analyzing written constitutions. Constitutions are key legal documents communicating a polity's foundational principles to both internal and external audiences. To understand global trends and regional patterns in the constitutional governance of diversity, the project has constructed a unique dataset, in which more than 900 constitutions from around the world are coded with a three-dimensional scheme capturing provisions on cultural homogeneity, individual cultural rights, and cultural group rights. This allows describing how different models of minority incorporation have evolved over time and have become globally influential. Findings confirm that the cultural homogeneity model was dominant in the 19th century, but has declined since the mid-20th century, when individual cultural rights and, since the 1990s,

cultural group rights, have gained in prominence. Moreover, the data facilitate examining the driving forces of constitutional change. In addition to domestic factors, such as levels of economic development and power configurations, global factors, such as exposure to human rights discourse and linkage with transnational networks, are crucial in shaping the adoption of constitutional multiculturalism. Complementing the quantitative large-N analysis, the project has also engaged in qualitative case studies that inspect in greater detail the transnational diffusion processes and domestic contestations over ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity in the 1990s. The project is carried out in cooperation with Kiyoteru Tsutsui (Stanford University) and has received additional funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), as well as the Japan Foundation.

## "POST-IMPERIAL DIVERSITIES – MAJORITY-MINORITY-RELATIONS IN THE TRANSITION FROM EMPIRES TO NATION-STATES" (IMPDIV)

*Prof. Dr. Matthias Koenig and Dr. Artem Galushko*

The ImpDiv project, externally funded through the EraNet-RUS program, brings together researchers from the Institute, The Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, and the University of Eastern Finland. The overall aim is to examine the governance of ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity at times of transition from imperial to national polities in the Eurasian space. The project investigates domestic and international influences on conceptions of the status of minorities, as well as actual legal implementation of those concepts in a multidisciplinary and comparative manner. Conducting an in-depth analysis of the situation at the end of Empire, the project aims to draw conclusions regarding the influence of earlier legal institutions on the situation of minorities in post-imperial contexts. The project embarks on systematic comparisons across empires, historical time, and markers of cultural boundaries. The Russian Empire in the early 20<sup>th</sup>

century and the Soviet Union in the late 1980s make up the core case studies. These are supplemented for comparative purposes by involving scholars working on the Ottoman, Habsburg, and British Empires. International documents, including those associated with the League of Nations, the United Nations, and the Helsinki Final Act, as well as the monitoring mechanisms attached to them, are also included. Analysis of historical approaches to conflicts involving linguistic, religious, ethnic, and cultural minorities at times of intense political change, coupled with quantitative scrutiny of coded constitutional texts, are used to inform the interpretation of current conflicts over the status of minorities. The collaborative research project not only facilitates capacity-building and international cooperation between high profile research institutions, but also provides background knowledge for key issues of public policy-making in the contemporary period.

## "JUDICIAL POLITICS AND THE GOVERNANCE OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY"

*Prof. Dr. Matthias Koenig and Lisa Harms*

The project focuses on courts as arenas for struggles over the recognition of religious difference. Extant literature has highlighted that court conflicts affect the situation of religious minorities not only by creating opportunity structures for claims-making, but also by constituting the very meaning of "religion" through jurisprudence and case-law. Going beyond that literature, the project has empirically examined how such opportunities are utilized by religious actors, how claims-making varies between groups, and whether or not the rising mobilization ultimately contributes to processes of institutional secularization. Adopting a mixed-method design, the project has produced a dataset on religious litigation at the European Court of Human Rights that helps to assess the amount and success rate of legal mobilization across religious groups, including new religious movements, migration-related ethno-religious minorities, as well as religious majorities and humanists. Furthermore, the dataset allows identifying instances of religious group interest litigation which, unlike in the U.S., has hardly been studied in the European context.

Drawing on the latter finding, Harms has conducted qualitative research in her doctoral dissertation to comparatively map the strategies of legal mobilization of different religious groups (Jehovah's Witnesses, Sikhs, Muslims, Evangelicals, Catholics, and Orthodox churches). Adopting a field-theoretical approach, her research advances the claim that the unequal power positions of religious litigants within the transnational legal field has triggered different trajectories of legal mobilization, and led to conflicting strategies of framing the right to freedom of religion. Overall, findings suggest that court conflicts have acted as a motor of both organizational change in the religious field and institutional transformation in the relations between states, religious majorities, and religious minorities. The project has been conducted in collaboration with various international scholars, including Claire de Galember at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure, Cachan, and the ERC-funded GRASSROOTS project headed by Efi Fokas at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, Athens.

## "INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE POLITICS OF RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCE – A HISTORICAL SOCIOLOGICAL ACCOUNT"

*Prof. Dr. Matthias Koenig*

Religious freedom has been among the most contested norms in international human rights law. Recent scholarship has traced its genealogy to various critical junctures, including the Paris Peace Conference and the minority protection and mandate systems under the League of Nations. By contrast, this project focuses on slow-moving social processes in which international legal scripts on religion took shape over the long 19<sup>th</sup> century. Theoretically, the project attempts to integrate neo-institutionalist world polity and global field theory with insights from global (legal) history. Empirically, it has generated a novel relational dataset of more than 800 bilateral peace, amity, and commerce treaties between approximately 60 formally sovereign

countries. Formal network analysis of this data is enriched by archival work on socio-legal dynamics of treaty-making. This approach facilitates tracing how legal norms disseminate through the network of sovereign states and become discursively standardized. Designed to govern religious difference in the contexts of trade, ethnic nationalism and imperial competition, these norms contained different understandings of religious freedom that were promoted by distinctive actors – from Western governments to Christian missionaries and transnational minority activists. Elucidating these conflicting understandings and actor constellations is critical for reconstructing the global politics of religious difference in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**DR. MARIAN BURCHARDT**

Apr 2012 – May 2017



Marian Burchardt is a Professor of Sociology at Leipzig University. As a cultural sociologist, he is interested in how power and institutions shape social life in culturally diverse societies in Africa and Europe. In particular, his research explores, from a transregional and comparative perspective, how nation-states and urban actors regulate cultural differences and public space, and how these regulations affect the practices, socialities, and subjectivities of ordinary citizens. He earned his Ph.D. in sociology from Leipzig University, and in 2015 he received the Heinz Maier Leibnitz Award from the German Science Foundation (DFG). Prior to coming to Leipzig, he was a post-doctoral researcher at the Max Planck Fellow Group "Governance of Cultural Diversity" and a lecturer in African Studies at Bayreuth University. He is the author of "Faith in the Time of AIDS: Religion, Biopolitics and Modernity in South Africa" (Palgrave, 2015) and "Regulating Difference: Religious Diversity and Nationhood in the Secular West" (Rutgers University Press, 2020).

## **"SECLARITY, CULTURAL MEMORY, AND THE GOVERNANCE OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY – SPAIN AND CANADA IN COMPARISON"**

*Dr. Marian Burchardt*

Across the Western world, but also beyond it, religious diversification has produced severe challenges in recent decades for societies and nation states, in ways of accommodating new religious communities into existing institutions and the legal frameworks that define the place of religion in the public sphere. In this context, the dominant sociological approach has been to focus on discourses and practices of law-making as responses to religious diversity. Contributing to the research agenda of the Max Planck Fellow Group (Koenig), this project, by contrast, explores how the notion of religious diversity has itself come to inhabit the political and social imaginaries of political actors and ordinary people, has come to circulate in public discourses around the governance of cultural difference, and has thus become the premise of a wide range of regulatory practices. In raising a broad set of questions about religious diversity and secularism as administrative and regulatory practices, epistemic categories and normative discourses that are im-

portant for most contemporary Western societies, the project employs a Northern transatlantic comparison by focusing on two geographical settings: the Spanish region of Catalonia, and Canada's Quebec province. The project advances two arguments, one that is theoretical and another that is empirical-comparative. The theoretical argument is that secularism and secularity do not necessarily curb religious practices, but may shape them according to multiple, historically grounded logics that have arisen out of nationally specific experiences of modernity. The empirical-comparative argument is that the impact of concepts of nationhood on the governance of religious diversity depends on the dominant narratives of modernity, the impact of secularization on the religion-nation nexus, and national boundary work. The results of the project have been published in numerous articles and a monograph entitled "Regulating Difference: Religious Diversity and Nationhood in the Secular West" (Rutgers University Press 2020).

**DR. ARTEM GALUSHKO**

Aug 2019 – Jul 2021



Artem Galushko is a post-doctoral researcher in the Max Planck Fellow Group "Governance of Cultural Diversity", funded through the Era-Net/RUS project "Post-imperial Diversities – Majority-minority-relations in the Transition from Empires to Nation-states." He received a doctoral degree from the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, Hungary (2019). He also holds an M.A. degree in political science from the CEU. Due to a DAAD Scholarship, in 2013, he received an LL.M. degree in European and International Law at the Europa-Institut in Saarbrücken, Germany. He is also a recipient of a research fellowship of the Swedish Institute (2018-2019) and a Global Teaching Fellowship at the University of Yangon, Myanmar (2017). At UNICEF (2005-2009), he contributed to the campaign "Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS." As a Law Coordinator of the Soros Foundation (2009-2010), he conducted strategic litigation in the European Court of Human Rights. His duties at the National Democratic Institute (2011-2012) included organizing advocacy schools for civil society. During his doctoral studies, he wrote analytical reports for the Child Rights Foundation "Hintalovon" and the CEU School of Public Policy.

**"POST-IMPERIAL DIVERSITIES – MAJORITY-MINORITY-RELATIONS IN THE TRANSITION FROM EMPIRES TO NATION-STATES" (IMPDIV)***Prof. Dr. Matthias Koenig and Dr. Artem Galushko*

[see entry under Koenig]

**LISA HARMS**

Oct 2014 – Feb 2019



Lisa Harms was a post-doctoral researcher at the Alexander von Humboldt Chair of Comparative Constitutionalism at the University of Göttingen until July 2020 and is now post-doctoral researcher at the University of Münster. She holds a Master's degree in political sociology from the Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) Paris. In 2019, she com-

pleted her Ph.D. in sociology and political science at the University of Göttingen and the IEP Paris, receiving the Christoph-Friedrich-Dahlmann Prize of the Social Sciences Faculty in Göttingen. During her Ph.D. (2014-2019), she was as a Doctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Fellow Group "Governance of Cultural Diversity", and contributed to its research agenda on judicial courts as arenas for struggles over religious recognition. Her publications have appeared in *Comparative Migration Studies* and *Sociologie de travail*.

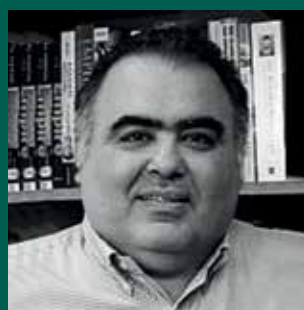
## "JUDICIAL POLITICS AND THE GOVERNANCE OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY"

Prof. Dr. Matthias Koenig and Lisa Harms

[see entry under Koenig]

## DR. NADER SOHRABI

Nov 2016 – Jul 2017



Nader Sohrabi holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago. As a historical sociologist, he studies early 20<sup>th</sup> century transformations in the Middle East, primarily in the Ottoman Empire, but also in Iran. He has taught at various U.S. universities, such as the Department of Middle East, South Asia, and African Studies in Columbia University, and was recently a Member at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton (Schools of Historical Studies, 2014-2015). His book "Revolution and Constitutionalism in the Ottoman Empire and Iran" was published by Cambridge University Press in 2011. With a writing fellowship at the Max Planck Institute, he finished a small book project on the religious and ethnic conflict in 1909 Adana, and used the remaining time to make further advances on a larger book project provisionally titled "Reluctant Nationalists, Imperial Nation State and Neo-Ottomanism: Antinomies of the End of Empire". Here, he comparatively investigates the development of ethnic nationalism within the Muslim communities of the Ottoman Empire, particularly among the Turks, Albanians, and Arabs in relation to one another and in dynamic interaction with the Balkan Wars and the First World War. He is now a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Leipzig.

## "THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF CONSTITUTIONALISM – ETHNIC CONFLICT DYNAMICS IN THE LATE OTTOMAN EMPIRE"

*Dr. Nader Sohrabi*

Sohrabi's work focused on the Ottoman Empire in the aftermath of the Young Turk Revolution of 1908 to explore the consequences of introducing constitutionalism and redefining citizenship in a multi-religious and multi-ethnic context. The first sub-project looked at the relation of the Turkish/Ottoman center with the Albanian and Arab territories. Implementing a centralist constitution aimed to transform the empire to a nation state, calling for a double transition that inadvertently pushed the empire to the brink of collapse. The first transition was to the ethnic model of national citizenship that intended to replace the empire's territorial subject-hood under Ottomanism. As a step toward greater equality, it sought to dismantle the empire's identity hierarchy along religious lines, but it also managed to introduce a novel hierarchy based on ethnicity that signaled the emergence of an ethnic (Turkish) core and intensified ethnic nationalism on all fronts (Turkish, Albanian, and Arab). The second transition was toward uniform administrative practices befitting a constitutional nation-state with "equal"

and "fair" relations with the subjects replacing the empire's variegated, *ad-hoc*, and contextually specific administrative practices. Resistance against both transitions produced a destabilizing effect that opened the way to wars and collapse of the empire. The second sub-project concerned the 1909 Armenian massacres in Adana, which preceded the ethnic cleansing of WWI. Constitutionalism's promise of equality among religions aimed to end Muslim superiority. Yet, a broad swath of the public that perceived the Armenians to have unfairly surpassed the Muslims economically, were now unhappy to be placed on par with them politically. Simultaneously, constitutionalism ushered in an unprecedented period of freedom for political parties, the press, and cultural-ethnic activity among the minorities, and this tremendous expansion of the Ottoman public sphere brought much visibility to the previously subdued populations. The combination proved fatal, as suggested by the dynamics of ethnic cleansing during the 1909 massacre and, later, during WWI.





## MAX PLANCK RESEARCH GROUP “AGEING IN A TIME OF MOBILITY”

### DR. MEGHA AMRITH

Research Group Leader, Oct 2017 – Jan 2023



Megha Amrith has been the leader of the Max Planck Research Group “Ageing in a Time of Mobility” at MPI-MMG since January 2018. Her research focuses on migrant labor, care, ageing, inequalities, belonging and citizenship, primarily in Southeast Asia, but also drawing upon comparative ethnographic perspectives. She is author of the monograph “Caring for Strangers: Filipino Medical Workers in Asia” (NIAS Press, 2017), Co-Editor of the volume “Gender, Work and Migration” (with Sahraoui, Routledge, 2018), and has published her work in journals, such as *Global Networks*, *Ethnos*, *Citizenship Studies*, and *Urban Studies*. Megha Amrith obtained a Ph.D. in Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge under a Gates Cambridge scholarship. Prior to joining MPI-MMG, she held a post-doctoral fellowship at the Centre for Metropolitan Studies at the University of São Paulo (2012-2013) and a research fellowship at the United Nations University Institute for Globalization, Culture and Mobility, Barcelona (2014 – 2017).

### RETIRING FROM TEMPORARY LIVES: AGEING MIGRANT LABOR IN ASIA

*Dr. Megha Amrith*

This project explores the ageing trajectories of low-wage migrant workers in Asia, with a focus on domestic workers. Migrant women from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and India, among other countries, are employed on temporary and renewable two-year contracts in cities, such as Singapore and Hong Kong, doing the everyday work of care and of maintaining households. Immigration policies in these places view migrant workers as temporary presences, who are denied long-term residence, citizenship, or family reunification rights. However, in a number of cases, stays abroad last significantly longer than expected – migrants continue to renew their contracts, or go home and return numerous times. The reasons are often tied to socio-economic precarity, yet migrants also build new friendships, communities and forms of be-

longing that play a role in prolonging their “temporary existences” abroad, sometimes over decades. While there is much public debate about the growing need for migrant domestic workers to care for Asia’s increasingly ageing populations, little is reported about the futures of domestic workers themselves who, due to their long-term “temporariness”, have to return to their countries of origin at retirement age. This is situated in a broader context of global and regional inequalities in transnational ageing care arrangements. What then does it mean to age abroad as a “temporary” migrant worker? How are retirement and returns imagined, and how do workers with limited social protection think about their futures? When returning home in later life, how do they re-establish ties with their families, communities, and the idea of home after years away? Who

cares for the ageing bodies of those who have long cared for their familial futures? As migration is often a project of self-realization and providing for a better future, this project reflects upon the

intersections between migration and time, and on how aspirations and inequalities are negotiated over the life-course.

## DR. VICTORIA K. SAKTI

May 2018 – May 2022



Dr. Victoria K. Sakti is a postdoctoral fellow at the Max Planck Research Group, "Ageing in a Time of Mobility" of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, since May 2018. She holds a Ph.D. in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany. Her doctoral research was a multi-sited ethnography of how communities in Timor-Leste deal with memories of violence and legacies of the Indonesian occupation. She grounds her approach in psychological anthropology, with research interests comprising emotion, memory, transnational and forced migration, social relations, resilience, justice, and reconciliation. Her experience working with displaced communities and survivors of violence spans beyond academia, working on these issues since 2004 with various non-governmental organizations in Indonesia and Germany. Her work has been published in academic journals, such as *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, *Social Identities*, as well as in interdisciplinary edited volumes. She holds an M.A. in Theory and Practice of Human Rights from the University of Essex, United Kingdom and a B.A. in Psychology from Atma Jaya Catholic University, Indonesia.

## AGEING IN DISPLACEMENT: EAST TIMORESE DIASPORAS IN INDONESIA

*Dr. Victoria K. Sakti*

Her research examines the experiences of ageing in displacement among elderly East Timorese diasporas in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. At MPI-MMG, Victoria Sakti has designed and is currently carrying out her post-doctoral research, entitled "Ageing in Displacement: East Timorese Diasporas in Indonesia". This project explores the lived experiences of older people in the context of protracted displacement. It examines the forced migration, and subsequent relocation, of East Timorese former refugees in Indonesia and considers the challenges that they face from a life-course perspective. Globally, older people are

among the most vulnerable groups of refugees and displaced persons. However, their needs and experiences specific to the conditions of growing old, such as the ageing body and declining mobility, among others, as well as the cultural expectations associated with ageing in a given context, are frequently overlooked.

At the heart of this study are older people's narratives and memories of conflict and displacement. It explores the ways that they reconstruct life away from, and in conjunction with, their ancestral lands and people back home, as well as with family members of different ages. It asks what it

means to grow old in this context, i.e., out of the preferred place and across transnational space. It also looks at the effect of time, and the gradual social and cultural changes that the elderly encounter in their new settings in the ways that

they navigate later life decisions, including on matters of death and burial. The study examines the intersections of ageing and mobility in people's movements across re-established national borders and the question of return.

## DR. DORA SAMPAIO

Jun 2018 – May 2022



Dora Sampaio (Ph.D. Human Geography, Sussex) is a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Previously, she was an Associate Tutor and Guest Lecturer at the University of Sussex, where she taught in the fields of human geography and migration studies, and Research Fellow at the Centre for Geographical Studies of the University of Lisbon, where she collaborated on a number of national and international projects in the field of migration studies. Her research interests lie at the intersection of ageing and transnational (im)mobilities, focusing on issues of care, intergenerational relationships, inequality, and strategy over the life course. She has published findings from her research in *Area*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Journal of Rural Studies*, *Finisterra*, as well as in a number of edited volumes.

### (IM)MOBILITIES OF TRANSNATIONAL AGEING CARE: NEGOTIATING SEPARATION, SOLIDARITY, AND CONFLICT WITHIN BRAZILIAN FAMILIES

*Dr. Dora Sampaio*

In her project at MPI-MMG, she looks at the (im)mobilities of transnational ageing care and family re-negotiations across borders with a focus on ageing Brazilian parents and their migrant offspring in North America and Europe. She concentrates on embodied and emplaced experiences of ageing and care constructed over distance. She interviewed and followed the lives of Brazilian migrants in London, U.K. and Boston, U.S. in connection to their ageing parents in Brazil. She traced and visually documented family negotiations, solidarities, and tensions in contexts in which physical mobility across borders or family reunion is not always possible. She seeks to shed light on three sets of questions with wider disciplinary relevance: first, *geographies and (im)mo-*

*bilities of ageing care*: how is transnational ageing care enacted and experienced in contexts of (im)mobility and (un)documented lived? What is the potential for new technologies to generate a presence in contexts of absence? Second, *intersectionalities and inequalities of ageing*: what new family and gender roles can be engendered in contexts of migration? What new intergenerational relationships can be contrived? What new care-related migration flows may emerge in response to children's emigration? How do gendered, classed, and racialized bodies and identities play into this? Third, *temporalities of ageing and migration*: to what extent are the temporalities of ageing and the temporalities of migration mutually inducing?

**NELE WOLTER**  
Oct 2018 – Sep 2022



Nele Wolter is a Doctoral Fellow in the research group on "Ageing in a Time of Mobility" led by Dr. Megha Amrith. After studying cultural sciences and economics at the University of Bremen, she obtained her M.A. in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the University of Göttingen. Her master's thesis examined how North German shepherds are affected by nature conservation guidelines in their working practices, and how they include (or do not include) the changing environmental influence into their everyday work. Since 2016, Nele has worked as a Student Assistant in the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity at the MPI-MMG.

**CONSTRUCTING LIVELIHOODS: OLDER CAMEROONIANS IN TIMES OF MOBILITY**

*Nele Wolter*

Nele Wolter is part of the research group "Ageing in a Time of Mobility". Her dissertation project "Constructing Livelihoods: Older Cameroonians in Times of Mobility" focuses on how im/mobilities, influenced by the current political upheaval, shape older Cameroonians everyday lives, and how they affect working practices and imaginaries

of care, home, as well as intergenerational relationships. During her fieldwork in francophone Bafoussam, Cameroon, Nele explores processes that older migrants and their children from English-speaking regions use to adapt to new places and how they improvise everyday practices to construct new routines.

## MAX PLANCK RESEARCH GROUP "EMPIRES OF MEMORY"

### DR. JEREMY F. WALTON

Research Group Leader, Mar 2016 – Sep 2021



Jeremy F. Walton is a cultural anthropologist whose research resides at the intersection of memory studies, urban studies, and new materialism. He leads the Max Planck Research Group, "Empires of Memory: The Cultural Politics of Historicity in Former Habsburg and Ottoman Cities," at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Dr. Walton received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Chicago in 2009. His first book, *Muslim Civil Society and the Politics of Religious Freedom in Turkey* (Oxford University Press, 2017), is an ethnography of Muslim NGOs, state institutions, and secularism in contemporary Turkey. Prior to his current position, he held research and teaching fellowships at the Center for Advanced Studies of Southeastern Europe at the University of Rijeka, the CETREN Transregional Research Network at Georg August University of Göttingen, Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, and New York University's Religious Studies Program. He has published his research in a wide selection of scholarly journals, including *American Ethnologist*, *Sociology of Islam*, *The Cambridge Journal of Anthropology*, *Die Welt Des Islams*, and *History and Anthropology*. He is also the Co-Editor of several volumes, including *Anthropology and Global Counterinsurgency* (University of Chicago Press, 2010) and *Art and Politics in the Modern Period* (University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2019). "Empires of Memory," which he designed, is an interdisciplinary, multi-sited project on post-imperial memory in post-Habsburg and post-Ottoman realms.

### CONSTELLATIONS OF EMPIRE: ON HABSBURG AND OTTOMAN SITES OF MEMORY

*Dr. Jeremy F. Walton*

An eccentric castle perched on a promontory overlooking the sea, the former residence of an equally eccentric emperor. An exhibit in a military museum centered on a car that once conveyed an heir to the throne on a provincial parade that ended in his assassination, the spark that led to a worldwide conflagration. A monument to a military man and icon to nationalism

whose history and biography obscure unsettling, less coherent narratives of the past. A partially-crumbling tower on a hill that commemorates a hero in frontier battles long ago, and once marked the southern frontier of an imagined empire. An art pavilion that was once a museum and, prior to that, a mosque that catered to a unique religious community that no longer exists.



A locked cemetery that houses more dead members of a religion than those who now live in the sprawling city. These sites, and those like them, are the crucibles for both hegemonic post-imperial memories and the repositories of neglected imperial legacies today. Jeremy’s research project, “Constellations of Empire,” draws together a

variety of post-imperial sites of memory and amnesia—monuments, museums, houses of worship, cemeteries, streets and squares, and ruins—to reflect on the contemporary images and possible futures of the Habsburg and Ottoman Empires.

## DR. GIULIA CARABELLI

Oct 2016 – Sep 2019



Giulia Carabelli was a member of the “Empires of Memory” Research Group for three years (October 2016– September 2019). From 1 October 2019, she has been a Lecturer in Sociology at Queen’s University Belfast. Her current project is a comparative and ethnographic study of “Viennese” coffeehouses in Vienna, Trieste, Budapest, and Sarajevo. Reflecting on the imperial imprint of these preserved establishments, the project explores how the legacies of the Austro-Hungarian Empire affect processes of identity formation and aspirations in these cities. Her first book, *The Divided City and the Grassroots. The (Un) Making of Ethnic Divisions in Mostar* was published in 2018 by Palgrave.

## WHERE TIME AND SPACE ARE CONSUMED, BUT ONLY COFFEE IS FOUND ON THE BILL

*Dr. Giulia Carabelli*

Dr. Carabelli’s project interrogated how memories of the Habsburg Empire reverberate in the present of cities that were key to imperial expansion: Vienna, Budapest, Trieste, and Sarajevo. She developed this comparative research conducting participant observation in one of the most popular spaces inherited from the Habsburgs: the Viennese coffeehouse. Her aim is to discuss how material and intangible legacies of empire are apprehended in the cafe to form relationships

with the imperial past that shape urban identities, the sense of belonging to history, and contemporary political discourses. In particular, she is interested in how burgeoning nationalist narratives and practices are energized by the historical reverberation of imperialism, and she traces the connections between the preservation of the coffeehouse as heritage, the celebration of empire, and nationalist discourses in these cities.

## ÇİÇEK İLENGİZ

Sep 2019 – Sep 2021



Çiçek İlengiz is a post-doctoral researcher in the “Empires of Memory” Research Group. Her academic interests lie at the intersection of the history of state violence, politics of memory, politics of emotions, secularism, and space-making practices. Çiçek received her first M.A. in the Cultural Studies program at Sabancı University (Istanbul, 2013), where she worked on the dispossession and transformation of a Levantine mention in Büyükada/Istanbul into a cultural center. She received her second M.A. degree at the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Central European University, where she worked on competing memory regimes around the first mad-man statue of Turkey (inaugurated in 1996) in Dersim/Tunceli. She received her doctoral degree from the Research Center for History of Emotions at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development (2019). Her doctoral research analyzes how holy-madness has been politicized, remembered, memorialized, and ritualized in a heavily militarized, racialized, and secularized landscape of Dersim.

### IMPERIAL HAUNTINGS, EXPANSIONIST DESIRES: THE POLITICS OF ‘LOVE AND PEACE’ IN CONTEMPORARY TURKEY

*Çiçek İlengiz*

This project elucidates the connection between material heritage sites and the cultivation of expansionist political visions in contemporary Turkey. It traces the political connotations of the popularization, and the different mobilizations of the image, of the Persian Sufi poet Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi (1207-1273), who has acquired global renown through the rediscovery of his teachings by neo-spiritual groups in the U.S. and in Europe. The liberal referencing of the teachings of Rumi on “love and peace” also became a common element in shaping both mainstream

and oppositional political discourses in Turkey. Analyzing diverse instrumentalizations of the figure of Rumi and his teachings, the project aims at drawing mutual influences and convergences of imperial and national fantasies of territorial expansionism through heritage practices in contemporary Turkey. Focusing on ways in which Rumi became a part of Anatolian/Ottoman/Turkish/Kemalist heritage, the project engages with the question of how heritage sites contribute to the cultivation of expansionist political imaginaries.

## DR. MILOŠ JOVANOVIĆ

Sep 2016 – Oct 2019



Miloš Jovanović is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Los Angeles. His research interests include the Balkans, Ottoman and Habsburg Empires, capitalism, Marxist theory and history, and visual methods. He was a member of the MPI Research Group „Empires of Memory“ from 2016-19. He holds a Ph.D. in History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, an M.A. in Central European History at Central European University, and a B.A. in History and International Affairs at Lafayette College. His Ph.D. thesis, “Bourgeois Balkans: World-building in Belgrade and Sofia, 1830-1912,” explored the post-Ottoman transformation of urban life in the two capital cities. Miloš’ primary research interests include urban history and theory, the history of capitalism “off-center,” and Balkan studies. He has developed and taught courses in modern urban history and global studies. Miloš has also held research and writing fellowships from the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, the Social Science Research Council, and the American Research Center in Sofia. He joined the “Empires of Memory” project in September 2016.

### EMPIRES ON THE DANUBE: EUROPEAN NARRATIVES AND URBAN ERASURE IN BELGRADE, BUDAPEST, VIENNA AND RUSE

*Dr. Miloš Jovanović*

Dr. Jovanović’s project at the Institute foregoes the bounded nature of individual urban histories in order to highlight the common structural forces and tensions of urban erasure, contemporary capitalism, and the production of “European” space on the banks of the Danube. He explores how imperial pasts structure and enable projects of erasure in Belgrade, Budapest, Vienna, and Ruse. In these four cities, narratives of empire deeply inform market competitiveness, national culture, and European progress. His project examines how memories of empire create am-

nesiac narratives, obscuring past and present dispossessions that make-up the Danubian cityscape. In Vienna and Budapest, projects of urban renewal center selective visions of the Habsburg past within contemporary discourses of Europeanness. In Belgrade and Ruse, claims to Central European heritage erase Ottoman pasts, rendering (post-)socialist transformation as a natural sequel to 19th century urban change. Empire haunts the borders of Danubian urbanity in profound, yet unequal, ways.

## ANNIKA KIRBIS

Sep 2016 – Feb 2021



Annika Kirbis is a Doctoral Research Fellow in the “Empires of Memory” Research Group and a Ph.D. candidate at the Institute for Cultural Inquiry at Utrecht University. She completed her Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and International Organization at the University of Groningen, Netherlands, and the University of Pretoria, South Africa (2013), followed by her Master’s studies in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna, Austria, and University of Maynooth, Ireland (2016). Her interdisciplinary research draws on critical heritage studies and memory studies, urban studies, environmental humanities, and post-humanism.

### DIVERSIFYING VIENNA’S HERITAGE THROUGH HISTORIES OF MIGRATION AND MULTISPECIES COLLABORATION

*Annika Kirbis*

In her doctoral research, Annika explores the musealization of the Siege of Vienna (1529, 1683) and its implications for the city’s memory narratives. She specifically engages with the figure of the “Turk” as the “eternal enemy” in order to examine how its commemoration has been instrumentalized for political goals of right-wing movements in Austria and their anti-immigrant rhetorics. Following her analysis of exhibitions dealing with the histories of migration to Vienna, Annika argues that when simply adding histories of migration to the city’s memory narratives, the Siege narrative remains intact. In order to debunk its potential to foster exclusion and xenophobia, Annika thus advocates for a critical distancing to the Siege narrative by critically engaging with its historiography and instrumentalization, and

by making explicit its implications for narrating histories of migration in Vienna. In her most recent research, she explores how xenophobic narratives on the Siege and the “Turk” can also be traced in conceptualisations of nature. Along with the evolution of an abandoned imperial wasteland into a natural monument, where a former Habsburg brickworks was once located, Annika investigates how empire employed “nature” as a border-making tool through the notion of domestic versus foreign and invasive species. Furthermore, she examines the role of multi-species collaboration in heritage-making and its potential to counter xenophobic narratives that hamper processes of diversifying Vienna’s heritage.

## JELENA RADOVANOVIĆ

Mar 2020 – Sep 2021



Jelena Radovanović is a historian of the Ottoman Empire and South-Eastern Europe focusing on the transformative period of nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. She relies on archival sources in Ottoman Turkish and Slavic languages to examine broader themes of legal encounters, state-making, and discourses of civilization and modernization. Her dissertation “Contested Legacy: Property in Transition to Nation-State in Post-Ottoman Niš,” recently defended at Princeton University, analyzes how Serbia implemented its property laws, based on Western models, in annexed territory where property had previously been regulated by a complex overlap of Islamic law, the Ottoman Land Code, local regulations, and custom. Her current research project addresses the Islamic religious endowments (*waqfs*)—a paramount Ottoman institution in which charity, faith, infrastructure, urban development, economic enterprise, hygiene, and legitimacy intersect—and traces their legacy in the post-Ottoman space.

### WAQF BETWEEN MEMORY AND FORGETTING IN BELGRADE, SARAJEVO, AND ISTANBUL

*Jelena Radovanović*

For several centuries, and across three continents, pious foundations (*waqfs*)—the quintessential Islamic institution—have been at the heart of city life. Today, scholars agree that *waqf* has profoundly shaped the urban, cultural, social, and economic development of Ottoman cities, and connected Ottoman citizens across religious, class, ethnic, and gender divides. However, there has been a real lack of systematic and comparative research on *waqf* after the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, both in terms of its actual destiny, and its legacy. Left to separate national(ist) narratives, the memory of *waqf* acquired strikingly different shapes in different nation states,

while the bigger picture of the complex legacy of the Ottoman/Islamic institution remains obscured. The aim of my project is to analyze how the differences in meaning, interpretation, and memory of *waqf* emerged in the post-Ottoman, nation-state contexts. Taking as a case study three post-Ottoman cities—Istanbul, Belgrade, and Sarajevo—this project analyzes various different possibilities in the reinterpretation of *waqf* institution. By doing so, it also addresses the issues such as the role of the state and non-state actors as providers of welfare and infrastructure, intercommunal relations, and the broader theme of Ottoman legacy.

## DR. PIRO REXHEPI

May 2016 – Jul 2018



Piro Rexhepi holds a Ph.D. in Politics from the University of Strathclyde, and has held research fellowships at the Centre for Southeast European Studies at the University of Graz, the Center for Advanced Studies of Southeastern Europe at the University of Rijeka, and teaching positions at the State University of New York, City University of New York, and New York University. Since 2018, he has held a position as an Assistant Professor in Global Studies at Northampton Community College. His research focuses on the politics of religion, sexuality and coloniality in international relations, with a particular emphasis on the relationship between the Balkans and the Middle East. Previously, his work has examined the intersection of EU enlargement politics with sexual rights, exploring the production of Islamophobia in Muslim-majority countries in the Balkans. His research at MPI-MMG interrogated the ways in which the politics of preservation in Sarajevo and Salonika fuel urban renewal, gentrification, and Europeanization, having drastic effects on the lives of migrant and marginalized urban communities.

### CONTESTING THE POLITICS OF ERASURE AND COLONIALITY: MULTICULTURALISM AND MARGINALIZATION IN SARAJEVO AND SALONIKA

*Dr. Piro Rexhepi*

This project explores the intersections of (post) socialist and (post)colonial politics of urban renewal in present day Salonika and Sarajevo. Through archival research and ethnographic field work, he examined how asymmetrical pasts are normalized and integrated into the re-making of these cities as national sites of multiculturalism. Specifically, the emergence of intersectional political movements that contest the exclusion-

ary tactics of neoliberal gentrification are explored by bringing attention to the exclusion and erasure of migrant and racialized communities and histories. In both cities, he is interested in exploring how imperial memories become the political battleground where projects of museification come to clash with an alternative historicity and vernacular living strategies of marginalized communities.





# 10 AWARDS

## SELECTION OF AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, AND GRANTS AT THE MPI-MMG

ELP Ethics, Law and Politics  
 RDD Religious Diversity  
 SCD Socio-Cultural Diversity  
 CCM Fellow Group "Comparative Constitutionalism"  
 GCD Fellow Group "Governance of Cultural Diversity"  
 ATM Research Group "Ageing in a Time of Mobility"  
 EOM Research Group "Empires of Memory"

### AWARDS 2017-2020

Staff	Depart- ment	Month/Year	Award
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Ran Hirschl CCM 05/2017

#### Alexander von Humboldt International Research Award 2017



Ran Hirschl received the Alexander von Humboldt International Research Award (AvH) in May 2017 from the then Federal Minister for Education and Research, Johanna Wanka, in a formal ceremony held in Berlin. The AvH Award recognizes Ran Hirschl as one of the world's leading scholars of comparative constitutional law.



Awarded by the Humboldt Foundation, based on a rigorous nomination and international adjudication process, the AvH International Research Award and the AvH Professorship, which are funded, are aimed at allowing international leaders in their respective fields to work and conduct their research in German universities and research institutes. Valued at 5 million Euros in the experimental sciences and 3.5 million Euros in the social sciences and humanities, the AvH International Research Award is the most highly endowed individual research award in Germany.

Alexander Hudson	CCM	05/2020	<b>Best Paper of the Participatory and Deliberative Democracy section at the 2019 Political Studies Association conference in Nottingham, UK (May 2020) for the paper "Potemkin Village Meetings: Public Participation in Constitution Making"</b>
Elisabeth Badenhoop	ELP	2019	<b>Council for European Studies (CES) Immigration Research Network (IRN) Best Paper Award</b>
Dana Schmalz	ELP	2018	<b>Shortlisted for the Deutscher Studienpreis 2018 Nominierte Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften for her Ph.D. dissertation, entitled "Kosmopolitische Auseinandersetzungen: Flüchtlingsrecht und die Bedingungen von Demokratie in einer globalisierten Welt"</b>

Ayelet Shachar      ELP      03/2019



**Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize 2019 of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)**

On March 13, 2019, Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar, Director at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, was awarded the prestigious [Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize](#). Awarded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), the Leibniz Prize is Germany's most prestigious research award, and it is endowed with up to 2.5 million EUR. The prize honors Ayelet Shachar for her ground-breaking work on citizenship and legal frameworks in multicultural societies.

The Leibniz Prize is Germany's highest and most prestigious research award. Honoring researchers who have distinguished themselves with extraordinary academic achievements, it offers them impetus to continue to produce outstanding work in the future. In order to fulfill the expectations associated with the award, Leibniz prize-winners receive a generous sum of money. There are no conditions attached to the financial awards, and the recipients are free to use these funds as they see fit to further the progress of their research.

Samuel Schmid	ELP	09/2018	<b>Best Article Prize 2017 for the article "Democratic Deficits in Europe: The Overlooked Exclusiveness of European Nation-States and the Positive Role of the European Union" in the Journal of Common Market Studies</b>
Samuel Schmid	ELP	07/2017	<b>Best Paper Award at the 1<sup>st</sup> Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies, Université de Neuchâtel, CH</b>
Martijn van den Brink	ELP	2019	<b>British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship for his research project "Religious Equality and Employment within the European Union"</b>

His British Academy Fellowship is held at the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford.



Lisa Harms	GCD	2020	<b>Friedrich-Christoph-Dahlmann Dissertation Award, Faculty of Social Sciences, Göttingen University, 2020</b>
Nicole Iturriaga	RDD	2020	<b>American Sociological Association's Human Rights Best Article Award 2020</b>
Lucas Drouhot	SCD	2017	<b>Sidney Tarrow Prize for Best Student Paper in European Politics for „Cracks in the Melting Pot? Religiosity and Assimilation in the Diverse Muslim Population in France“.</b> Institute for European Studies, Cornell University.
Lucas Drouhot	SCD	2018	<b>Aristide Zolberg Student Scholar Award for Best Paper in the Study of International Migration by a Graduate Student for “Cracks in the Melting Pot? Religiosity and Assimilation in the Diverse Muslim Population in France”. American Sociological Association.</b>
Michael Stasik	SCD	2017	<b>Dissertation Award, University of Bayreuth/city of Bayreuth</b> Prize awarded annually to a maximum of three candidates from different faculties of the University of Bayreuth for outstanding dissertations.
Michael Stasik	SCD	2018	<b>Young Scholars' Award of the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD)</b> Biannually-awarded prize for an excellent dissertation in the field of African Studies.



Vanessa Rau      SCD      2020



#### **Second Prize of the Körber Stiftung - Deutscher Studienpreis 2020**

With the German Study Prize, the Körber Foundation nominates excellent dissertations with great societal relevance. The German Study Prize is awarded annually to the best German doctoral students of all disciplines. The patron of the German Study Award is the President of the German Bundestag, Wolfgang Schäuble.



Christine Lang      SCD      2019



**The Best Dissertation Award 2019 of the Section Migration and Ethnic Minorities of the German Sociological Association (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie, DGS)**

**DGS DEUTSCHE  
GESELLSCHAFT  
FÜR SOZIOLOGIE**

Christine Lang      SCD      2019

**The Augsburg Science Award for Intercultural Studies 2019 (Augsburger Wissenschaftspreis für Interkulturelle Studien)**

The Augsburger Wissenschaftspreis für Interkulturelle Studien honors young researchers whose research deals with intercultural circumstances in Germany, and related questions and challenges.



Farhan Samanani      SCD      2018

**Inspiration Award, School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford (£5000)**

The Inspiration Award is awarded to scholars at any career stage whose research work shows the potential to make a meaningful public impact. The £5000 grant attached to the award is intended to enable scholars to realize this public impact.



## APPOINTMENTS 2017-2020

Staff	Department	Month/Year	Appointment
Dana Schmalz	ELP	2019	<b>Appointed as Senior Fellow at the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought, to work on a research project on international law and population growth</b>
Ayelet Shachar	ELP	2017	<b>Appointed as a Member of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities (Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen) - the oldest academy of sciences and humanities in Germany</b> 
Ayelet Shachar	ELP	2018	<b>Elected as a Member of the AMIAS (The Association of Members of the Institute for Advanced Study) Board of Trustees</b>
Barbara von Rütte	ELP	2020-2023	<b>Appointment as a Member of the Federal Commission on Migration (Eidgenössische Migrationskommission)</b> <p>The Federal Commission on Migration is an extra-parliamentary commission, elected by the Federal Council, with the mandate of addressing social, economic, cultural, political, demographic, and legal issues that arise from the residence of foreign nationals in Switzerland. The Commission advises the Federal Council and the public administration on questions of migration.</p>  <b>Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft</b> <b>Confédération suisse</b> <b>Confederazione Svizzera</b> <b>Confederaziun svizra</b>
Matthias Koenig	GCD	2020	<b>Appointment as the Chair of Empirical Macrosociology at the Max Weber Institute for Sociology at the University of Heidelberg</b>  <b>UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG</b> <b>ZUKUNFT</b> <b>SEIT 1386</b>
Tam Ngo	RDD	01/2020	<b>Appointment as Senior Researcher/Associate Professor (half-time) at the NIOD Institute of War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)</b>  <b>KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE</b> <b>AKADEMIE VAN WETENSCHAPPEN</b>



## Awards

Tam Ngo	RDD	2020	<b>Appointment as Adjunct Professor, Beijing Minzu Daxue/ Beijing Central Minority University</b>
Tam Ngo	RDD	2020-2024	<b>Appointment as a Member of the Ethics Advisory Board, ERC project "TransOcean"</b> "TransOcean" is a European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant project.
Peter van der Veer	RDD	2018-2021	<b>Appointed as a Member of the International Advisory Board, Ethnology Department, Yunnan University, China</b>
Peter van der Veer	RDD	09/2020	<b>Adjunct Professor, Beijing Minzu Daxue/Beijing Central Minority University</b>
Peter van der Veer	RDD	2019-2021	<b>Provost's Distinguished Visiting Professor, The University of Chicago</b>
Helen-Baykara-Krumme	SCD	2018	<b>Appointed to the Expert Commission on the 9<sup>th</sup> Family Report by the Federal Minister for Family Affairs, Dr. Franziska Giffey (Sachverständigenkommission zum Neunten Familienbericht)</b>
Christine Lang	SCD	2020	<b>Appointment as a Member of the "Junge Akademie Mainz"</b> The "Junge Akademie" is an interdisciplinary group of outstanding young scholars. Membership is granted for four years and includes networking opportunities, as well as organization of and participation in workshops, lectures, and further events.
Miriam Schader	SCD	10/2018-09/2020	<b>Elected as a Member of the Board of the Netzwerk Fluchtforschung (German Network of Forced Migration Researchers)</b> The network is the most important platform for researchers in the realm of forced migration, refugees and asylum in Germany, and also central for international academics focusing on these issues with regard to Germany.
Miriam Schader	SCD	01/2018-12/2020	<b>Elected as a Member of the Advisory Board (Projektbeirat) of the Research Consortium "Zukunft für Geflüchtete in ländlichen Räumen" (ZukunftGeflüchtete), which is funded by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) and brings together the Thünen-Institut, as well as the Universities of Chemnitz, Hildesheim, and Erlangen-Nürnberg.</b>
Karen Schönwälder	SCD	2017-2020	<b>Appointed as a Member of the Advisory Board of the Deutsches Institut für Urbanistik</b>



Steven Vertovec      SCD      2018      **Appointed as *Doctor Honoris Causa* (Social Sciences),  
Université de Liège**



Steven Vertovec      SCD      2018      **Distinguished Visiting Professor, Monash University**

Steven Vertovec      SCD      2019      **Visiting Professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam**

## GRANTS 2017-2020

Staff	Department	Funding Period	Funding Agency Grant	Funding
Maximilian Scholz	ELP	08/2020-10/2020	Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz	EUR 3.600
<b>Grant of the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz</b>				
Maximilian Scholz	ELP	05/2020-07/2020	DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)	EUR 6.000
<b>DAAD Grant</b>				
Patricia Ward	ELP	2017-2018	Council of American Overseas Research	USD 19.500
<b>Council of American Overseas Research (CAORC) Pre-Dissertation Fellowship</b>				
Funding to support dissertation research on humanitarian aid workers in Jordan.				
Patricia Ward	ELP	2019	Boston University	USD 4.000
<b>Human Resources Policy Institute Research Award</b>				
Research grant to conduct fieldwork on J-1 visa workers in the U.S.				
Patricia Ward	ELP	2017-2018	Boston University	USD 2.000
<b>Morris Dissertation Support Grant</b>				
Funding to support dissertation research on humanitarian aid workers in Jordan.				

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Matthias Koenig	GCD	2018-2020	ERA-NET RUS Program / BMBF (Federal Ministry of Education and Research)	EUR 105.416
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**“Post-imperial Diversities – Majority-minority Relations in the Transition from Empires to Nation-states” (IMPDIV) (in cooperation with the University of Eastern Finland and the National Research University, Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg)**

Post-imperial transitions are known to trigger intensive conflict and war, but it is less clear how imperial legacies and international frameworks have shaped the constitutional arrangements and political orders of post-imperial nation-states. IMPDIV aims, first, to study the cognitive classificatory systems, as well as the normative justificatory repertoires, evinced by discourses and practices of national mobilization and managing demographic diversity, which existed in multiethnic empires immediately prior to their breakdown. Second, it will trace continuities and discontinuities between these cognitive and normative frameworks, and those that emerged in constitutions and constitutional debates within the new states. Third, it will situate these historical transitions within international legal discourses and institutional regimes regulating conflicts surrounding issues of ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity. To achieve these aims, the project will collect original primary sources, interpret them in their respective historical context, and integrate them into macro-quantitative datasets on constitutional minority rights.

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Matthias Koenig	GCD	2017-2021	DFG (German Research Foundation)	EUR 543.600 (University)
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**“Recent Immigration Processes and Early Integration Trajectories in Germany” (ENTRA) (in cooperation with the University of Bamberg and the University of Konstanz)**

The project aims at analyzing the immigration and settlement dynamics, and integration trajectories, of recent immigrants in Germany. Building upon the international SCIP project (“Socio-cultural Integration Processes among New Immigrants in Europe”), the project aims at collecting two waves of panel data among different groups of recent immigrants in order to adequately describe recent inflows, to answer unsettled questions in immigration and integration research, and to provide relevant information for decision-makers in the field.

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Matthias Koenig	GCD	2020- 2023	DFG (German Research Foundation)	EUR 297.801 (MPI)
Steven Vertovec	SCD			plus 587.061 (University)

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**ORA-Project Encounters “Muslim-Jewish Encounters, Diversity, and Distance in Urban Europe: Religion, Culture, and Social Mode” (in cooperation with Birbeck College, Université de Strasbourg, Sciences Po Paris and Bordeaux)**

This transnational collaborative project explores the specificities of and commonalities between Muslim-Jewish encounters in urban Europe, shaped by different national histories of integration, including not only the place of religion in social and political life, but also local arrangements of diversity, to better elucidate how different types of relations might arise. At the national scale, this includes an examination of migration and colonial histories, and of classical models – British „pluralism“, French „republicanism“, German „federalism“ – that involve different settlements between the public sphere, national and ethnic identities, and confessional or religious diversity. However, as the picture can radically differ on the local level, the project will be grounded in urban sites: two diverse city-regions in each country, including significant Jewish and Muslim populations with distinctive histories and differing approaches to urban governance. The project advances interdisciplinary collaboration across six leading European research universities, involving sociologists, anthropologists, urbanists and migration policy experts, with a history of collaboration.

Tzu-Lung Chiu	RDD	2015-2018	Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange	USD 62.000
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**“Vinaya Revival in 20<sup>th</sup> Century China and Taiwan”** (Project Director: Ester Bianchi)

Jie Kang	RDD	2019-2024	Hong Kong Research Council	EUR 678.584
for a whole consortium of researchers for research and conferences in the period between 2019-2022				

**Collaborative Grant C7052 – 18 GF: “Infrastructure of Faith: Religious Mobility on the Belt and Road”**

This project seeks to explore the following research question: What is the religious impact of China's intensification of ties and infrastructures linking it to the rest of Asia, now subsumed by the Chinese government under the label of the “Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)”? An unintentional effect of the BRI is to facilitate and intensify religious circulations between the nations of Eurasia. Religion is central to the culture and national identity of most BRI and adjacent countries and, often, their political system and ideology, as well. Other than business, religion constitutes the main motivation for the sustained circulation of organized groups between Asian countries. In the past, the lasting impact of the Silk Road was primarily in the realms of commerce and religion. The project develops critically needed expertise for Hong Kong, China, and Asia on the religious dimensions of Belt and Road nations and their implications for relations with the Chinese world, with applications in the fields of public policy, education, and intercultural and interreligious understanding.

Scott MacLochlainn	RDD	2018	Wenner-Gren Foundation	USD 12.000-13.000
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**Wenner-Gren Post-Ph.D. Research Grant for a project, entitled “Rituals of Evidence: Media, Faith, and Death in the Philippines”**

Tam Ngo	RDD	2020-2024	Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research	EUR 800.000
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**VIDI Grant (Innovational Research Incentives Scheme) for a Project on DNA and Spiritual Forensics in Vietnam**

Facing the challenge of finding and identifying millions of missing war dead, Vietnamese families since the 1990s have resorted to “spiritual forensics”, which comprises a variety of spiritual techniques to locate and name the dead. The success of “spiritual forensics” challenged Communist atheism and the state's arbitrary control over whose bodies can be unearthed and repatriated, and whose cannot. To counter spiritual forensics, in 2013 the Vietnamese began to import first-rate DNA-based forensic technology, which is also only permitted in the identification of the remains of those who died fighting for, and not against, the communist government.

Using ethnographic fieldwork, the project focuses on two main questions. First, how are the two technologies of identification, spiritual forensics and DNA-based forensics, applied and discussed by families of the war dead and by state institutions? Second, how does the differential use of these technologies and respective discourses relate to Vietnam postwar reconciliation politics? The innovation and urgency of this research is the study of the production and reception of scientific methods and knowledge in a highly politicized social environment.



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Tam Ngo	RDD	2018-2021	Hong Kong Research Council	USD 109.668
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**"Daoism, Ethnic Identity, and State Socialism: The Lanten Yao on the China-Vietnam-Laos Borderland"**

This project will investigate the role of Daoism in the interaction between local society and the state, in the case of borderland ethnic minorities.

The research will focus on the Lanten Yao ethnic minority, which straddles the borders between Laos, China and Vietnam, and for whom Daoist ritual and cosmology are at the core of collective organization and culture. An international team of scholars specializing in the three countries, combining expertise in anthropology, history and Daoist studies, and mastery of the relevant languages and dialects (Lanten, Chinese, Lao, and Vietnamese), will collect ethnographic, textual, and oral history data to construct a systematic description of the ritual traditions of the Lanten Yao minority, and compare their evolution and socio-political role in an ethnic community that straddles the borders of three socialist regimes.



香港人文社會研究所  
Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences  
(Incorporating the Centre of Asian Studies)



THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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Tam Ngo	RDD	2019-2022	Hong Kong Research Council	USD 806.651
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**"Infrastructure of Faith: Religious Mobility on the Belt and Road"**

This project will seek to explore the following research question: What is the religious impact of China's intensification of ties and infrastructures linking it to the rest of Asia, now subsumed by the Chinese government under the label of the "Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)"? An unintentional effect of the BRI is to facilitate and intensify religious circulations between the nations of Eurasia. Religion is central to the culture and national identity of most BRI and adjacent countries and, often, their political system and ideology, as well. Other than business, religion constitutes the main motivation for the sustained circulation of organized groups between Asian countries. In the past, the lasting impact of the Silk Road was primarily in the realms of commerce and religion.

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Tam Ngo	RDD	09/2020	Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research	EUR 50.000
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**Aspasia Grant for Young Talented Female Scientist**

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Patrice Ladwig	RDD	2017-2018	Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation	USD 140.000
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**Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Research Fellowships in Buddhist Studies**

This project examines texts and laws that concern the governance and administration of the Sangha in Laos during the pre-modern and the colonial period (19<sup>th</sup> century - 1953). First, it will explore how legal and religious concepts borrowed (directly or not) from India were adapted to pre-modern Buddhist Lao kingdoms. Secondly, research will examine modern colonial legislations for controlling and administering the Sangha in French Laos. Synthesizing the results and focusing on the concept of 'localization', the ruptures and continuities of Buddhist law-making under different political regimes will be explored.

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Annelies Kusters    SCD    2017-2022    ERC (European Research Council)    EUR 1.5 million

**Research Council Starting Grant for the project “Deaf Mobilities Across International Borders: Visualising Intersectionality and Translanguaging (MobileDeaf)”**

Deaf signers' international mobilities are rapidly increasing. These mobilities are unique in a number of respects: while being biologically deaf leads to certain limitations, and to discrimination and inequalities, being skilled in visual language also creates possibilities and opportunities for communication across national and linguistic borders. There are two main research questions in the project. First, within contexts of international deaf spaces, how does the status of being deaf intersect with other statuses, particularly ethnicity, nationality, education, religion and gender, and which meaningful connections or accumulated inequalities occur? Second, how do deaf signers in these contexts practice and experience translanguaging, by making strategic use of multiple languages and language modalities, and International Sign? By scrutinizing and bridging the concepts of intersectionality and translanguaging, this research will contribute to the study of growing complexity in diversity and mobility; the production/delimitation of social spaces, particularly through language practices, strategies, and ideologies; while engaging with issues of researchers' embodiment, positionality and engagement, concerns which are central to the so-called 'third wave' in deaf studies.




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Sabine Mohamed    SCD    2020    Heidelberg University    EUR 7.200

**Dissertation Completion Grant, Heidelberg Graduate Academy at Heidelberg University**

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Farhan Samanani    SCD    02/2020    Wenner Gren Foundation    USD 20.000

**Grant by the Wenner Gren Foundation for the Workshop on “Irony and New Political Movements”**

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Karen    SCD    02/2018-    BMBF  
Schoenwaelder    01/2021

**Verbundprojekt “Zivilgesellschaftliche Organisatinnen und die Herausforderungen von Migration und Diversität” (ZOMiDi)**





# 11

# JOURNALISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

## JOURNALISTS-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

In 2019, the Institute set up a new Journalists-in-Residence program. This program is intended to provide journalists with an opportunity to learn about the ways that diversity-related issues are conceived, analyzed, and researched by social scientists from a variety of disciplines. It is hoped that insights into social scientific approaches will foster more comprehensive and complex treatments of diversity-related issues in the media. To support dialogue between journalists and researchers, each Journalist-in-Residence takes part in the departmental meetings and Institute events relevant to their areas of interest. They also engage informally with individual researchers during their stay.



**THOMAS MEANEY**

March - June 2019

Our first Journalist-in-Residence was **Thomas Meaney**, a writer and journalist who has written about literature, politics, and ideas for publications, such as *The Nation*, *The London Review of Books*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, and *The New York Times*. Meaney received his Ph.D. in History from Columbia University and has been a Fellow at the Einstein Forum in Potsdam, The American Council on Germany, and The Insti-

tute for Human Sciences in Vienna. During his time at the Institute, Meaney worked on a book project about the European political crisis concerning refugees since 2015. He took part in our work-in-progress meetings, presented his own work to our researchers, and delivered a talk in our Mass Media Science Communication Workshop on journalistic prose and how to successfully write an op-ed.





## STEFFI UNSLEBER

April - July 2019

Steffi Unsleber is an editor and researcher at the taz, a national left-wing oriented newspaper in Germany that provides critical and independent journalism. Her main areas of expertise are rural areas, Israel, Russia, and right-wing extremism. During her stay at the Institute, Unsleber continued her research on how right-wing violence changes small towns

and villages in Germany. In a work-in-progress presentation, she shared fascinating insights from her field visits in Eastern German villages, where she carried out research on an allegedly right-wing motivated murder. She completed this research during her stay at the Institute, which was subsequently published in the taz.



## AMR EZZAT

July - September 2019

Amr Ezzat stayed with us at the Institute as a Journalist-in-Residence from July-September 2019. He is a Cairo-based journalist, blogger, and activist who has written about religious diversity and freedom of belief for publications, such as Mada Masr, an independent Egyptian online Journal, and Al-Masry Al-Youm, Egypt's foremost Arabic-language independent daily. He is also a researcher at the "Freedom of Religion and Belief" program at the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, which is a Cai-

ro-based human rights organization, where he founded a monthly forum on religious affairs (The Religion and Freedoms Forum). Ezzat has degrees in structural engineering (2002) and philosophy (2009), both from Cairo University. During his stay at the Institute, Ezzat conducted research for a series of long-form articles about the status and forms of recognition of religious groups in Egypt and participated in the Institute's work-in-progress sessions.



# 12

## INTERDEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

The MPI-MMG has held a number of interdepartmental activities to foster exchange across disciplinary lines at our Institute. There are a multitude of formats with which we have been experimenting, including workshops, conferences, mini-seminars, and co-organized lectures. Below, we share a selected list of the highlights of interdepartmental activities that we have hosted between 2017 and 2020.

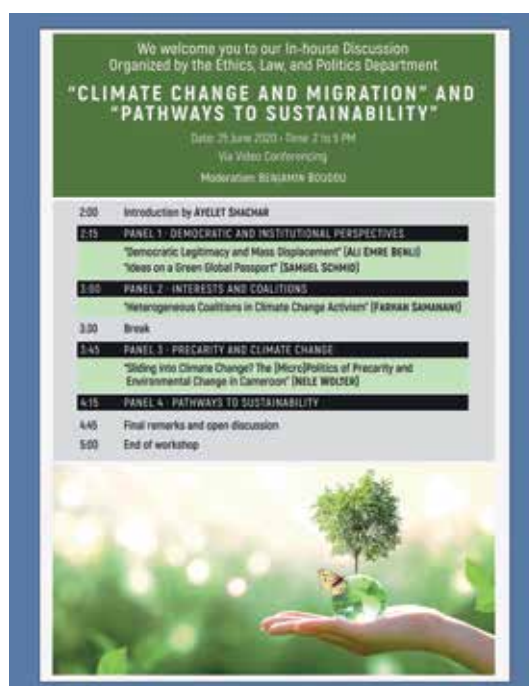
### Interdepartmental Seminar on “Borders, Constitutions, and Technology” and “Religions and the Politics of Difference” co-organized by ELP, SCD, and EOM, 8 July, 2020

In this interdepartmental seminar, we presented two panels, “Borders, Constitutions, and Technology” and “Religions and the Politics of Difference”, chaired by two Directors (Ayelet Shachar and Steve Vertovec), and moderated by the Research Group Leader of the Max Planck Research Group “Empires of Memory” (EOM), Jeremy Walton. We were delighted to have had a great number of participants from our different departments and research groups. The first panel dealt with a multitude of interlinked topics, such as the politics and practicalities of biometric technology used by the UN High Commission on Refugees (Marie-Eve Loiselle, ELP), how refugees utilize smart technologies to come to their desired host states (Jessica Rosenfeld, SCD), and the practices of online direct democratic debate in the drafting of a new Icelandic constitution (Alexander Hudson, MPFG CCM). The second panel discussed the role of local mosque activism in a comparative neighbourhood perspective (Arndt Emmerich, RDD), the legal and political dilemmas surrounding religiously-motivated circumcision in Germany (Mareike Riedel, ELP), and the emergence of an Israeli immigrant scene in Berlin (Vanessa Rau, SCD). The ample resonances between the topics discussed ignited a wide-ranging discussion among scholars from different

disciplines and departments that will certainly continue.

### “Climate Change and Migration” and “Pathways to Sustainability” organized by ELP, including invited speakers from other academic units at the MPI-MMG, 25 June, 2020

The topic of climate change is one of the most pressing topics of our times. At the MPI-MMG, climate change and sustainability are crucial at two levels: (1) at the scientific level, with regard to the nexus between climate change and migration, affecting international mobility, social cohesion, and diversity; and (2) at the practical, institutional, and more individual level with regard to our concrete commitments as researchers, employees, and members of the Max Planck Society to reduce our harmful emissions and to contribute to a more sustainable environment. The in-house discussion thus explored both of these lev-





els and generated active conversations on how we, as members of the Max Planck Society, can counter the global climate crisis by researching its consequences on migration and by becoming more aware of our individual and institutional responsibilities and opportunities for change.

The in-house discussion was organized by the ELP Department, including invited speakers from the Socio-Cultural Diversity Department (SCD) and the Max Planck Research Group “Ageing in a Time of Mobility” (ATM). The first panel discussed democratic and institutional perspectives on the global level that can assist us to shed light on how climate change and migration interrelate and mutually reinforce each other (Ali Emre Benli, Samuel Schmid, ELP). The second panel focused on the question of how climate change activism aligns with bringing together diverse interests and coalitions in global action against climate change (Farhan Samanani, SCD). The third panel then addressed the micro-politics of precarity and environmental change in Cameroon (Nele Wolter, ATM). The final panel presented a discussion that focused on sustainability measures and activities within the Max Planck Society and at our own Max Planck Institute (Norbert Winnige, Sakura Yamamura, SCD). Workshop participants then discussed various measures to improve the sustainability of our Institute, from green energy considerations in the “green” planning of the new Institute’s building to questions of sustainable academic travel and mobility, as well as the need to establish a formal local working group to represent the MPI-MMG in the broader sustainability network of the Max Planck Society. The event successfully brought together presenters and participants from the different departments,

including academic as well as administrative staff, who presented project ideas rather than fully developed research papers in order to explore avenues for further work on climate change and sustainability in both theory and practice.

### **Collaboration between the ELP Department and the Max Planck Fellow Group CCM**

The collaboration between the ELP Department, led by Ayelet Shachar, and the Max Planck Fellow Group on Comparative Constitutionalism (CCM), led by Ran Hirschl, has produced numerous co-organized conferences on interrelated topics. One highlight was the conference on “Welcoming Refugees: The Role of Religion” that took place on 12 October, 2018. It explored the centrality of religious justifications and religious organizations in the accommodation of refugees. Scholars from diverse disciplines scrutinized the relationship between religion and refugee accommodation in history, contemporary society, and political theory.

The conference opened with a panel focused on refugee churches and their importance for facilitating the accommodation of newly displaced individuals (Geert Janssen, University of Amsterdam). Next, research on refugee churches in present day Kampala, which establishes unequivocally the continued centrality of refugee churches for the accommodation of displaced peoples, was presented (Karen Lauterbach, University of Copenhagen). The second panel of the day explored the theoretical dimensions of religious justifications for refugee accommodation (Aurélia Bardon, University of Konstanz and Sara Silvestri, University of London). The third panel shed light on the then-recent ruling by Israel’s Supreme Court that suspended the deportation of African migrants (Gilad Ben-Nun, University of Leipzig). Afterwards, the impact of Catholic thinking on recent Italian laws and norms surrounding refugees was explored (Irial Glynn, University College Cork). The final panel of the day summarized some of the key characteristics of religion that animated the talks throughout the day (Diane Moore, Harvard Divinity School). Last, the conference was concluded with a provocative argument for a new legal standard for measuring asylum seekers’ claims of religious persecution (Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Northwestern University).

## Mini-Seminars

For several years, there has been a format at the MPI-MMG called the “mini-seminar”. As the Institute is organized around different departments and research groups, it can be challenging, especially for non-scientific staff, to keep abreast of the multiplicity of individual projects pursued by our research fellows. To fill this gap, the Mini-Seminars Series aims at introducing the work of selected scientists not only to their peers, but also to the administrative staff - a priority which is often neglected in larger research institutes. Most recently, Arndt Emmerich (RDD) presented his project on 11 December, 2019. Another seminar was hosted by Miriam Schader (SCD) on June 25, 2020. An additional presentation was given on 8 September, 2020, which featured the work of Mareike Riedel (ELP). The mini-seminars are held in the German language to ensure accessibility mainly to the German administrative staff working at the Institute. Below are descriptions of the mini-seminars, which were received with great enthusiasm by both researchers and administrative staff.

### **“Co-operation with Mosques: Language Flux, Youth Work, and Research Access” by Arndt Emmerich (RDD) 11 December, 2019**

Mosques manage to remain relevant for youth across generations, despite the individualization of society, the spread of social media, and the immense public pressures that they face. They achieve this by serving as multifunctional service providers, offering everything from vibrant social spaces in which to gather, language and Koran lessons, and mediation and counseling services.

### **“State in the ‘Refugee Crisis’? Lower Saxon Municipalities as Actors in the Reception of Refugees in 2015 and Beyond” by Miriam Schader (SCD), 27 May, 2020**

In her presentation, Miriam offered insights into her study about how Lower Saxony’s municipalities dealt with the rapid influx of refugees in 2015/16 and what consequences were drawn from this on the administrative side. In her project, Miriam examines three cities in Germany: Delmenhorst, Göttingen and Oldenburg, one medium-sized and two large cities, respectively, which each took in between 1,000 and 2,000 asy-



lum seekers in 2015/16. Her project focuses on how the three cities reacted to the situation in the short term. Questions, such as “Did they perceive it as a ‘refugee crisis’?” and “What longer-term, structural changes can be observed?” were critically raised and scrutinized. The comparison of the three cities shows that the state at the local level has not so much been in crisis during this period, as it has proven its efficiency in coping with uncertainty. At the same time, the concrete responses to the situation differ considerably and vary between externalization and structural change.

### **“(In)Visible Borders: Urban Space, Jewish Identity, and State Law” by Mareike Riedel (ELP), 8 September, 2020**

The Jewish Eruv is an installation in public space that makes it easier for Orthodox Jews to observe the commandments of Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest. By means of existing border structures, such as fences or walls, as well as inconspicuous poles and wires, an imaginary space in public space is created. Although the installation is almost invisible and fits into the existing architecture of the urban space, neighbors regularly vehemently resist the Eruv. In these legal conflicts, they argue that the Eruv violates the precept of the secularity of public space, segregates the city, and disfigures the neighborhood. Jewish communities, on the other hand, ask themselves



what role prejudice plays in this legal argumentation. Using an Australian Eruv conflict as an example, the seminar explores this question and shows how cultural values and the supposedly objective law interact.

**"Skills Workshop for Young Researchers",  
organized by RDD and GCD, 25 February, 2020**

To outsiders (and even insiders), German academia may appear to constitute a maze of organizations, rules, and practices. In order to provide up-to-date information on how to navigate effectively in German academia, this skills workshop aimed at targeting especially junior researchers working at the MPI-MMG who are at an early point in their academic career. Matthias Koenig, Professor of Sociology at the University of Göttingen and Head of the Max Planck Fellow Group Governance of Cultural Diversity (GCD) at MPI-MMG, disentangled historical trajectories and institutional frameworks that have shaped the academic field in Germany until today. This successful workshop provided both general orientation and practical advice for those considering to pursue their scholarly careers in German academia.

**"Mass Media Science Communication Workshop", organized by SCD, 21 November, 2019**

This interdepartmental workshop on communicating science to the broader public was organized by the Publications and Social Media Manager at the Institute (Chris Kofri, SCD). It aimed to encourage our researchers to engage in disseminating their research to a broader audience and offer some concrete media skills and tools. The workshop was chaired by Director Steve Vertovec, who also delivered the opening talk on the importance of sharing our research with the public. Eva Völker, an experienced radio and newspaper journalist who works for the Institute, followed with a discussion of how to successfully pitch research results to a journalist or editor in different journalistic formats (newspapers, radio, television). Our 2020 Journalist-in-Residence, Thomas Meaney, followed with his talk on how to write an op-ed. As an academic and a widely published freelancer who writes for The New Yorker and The Guardian, among others,

Meaney offered vast insights into the important differences between academic and journalistic writing. We were particularly delighted to have the workshop concluded by Christina Beck, who is Head of Communications at the Max Planck Society. She offered some crucial insights on the communication gap between scientists and the public, and introduced the many venues of public science communication that are offered by the Max Planck Society. The workshop was widely attended by our scientific staff and offered critical understandings of how the media works, what science journalism is all about, and how to interact successfully with the media as a researcher.

**"Interdepartmental Open Lecture Series"**

Given the thematic overlaps between departments at the MPI-MMG, we have also established an open lecture series that is co-organized by at least two departments of the Institute. These open, co-organized lectures bring together not only researchers from different disciplines, but also participants from outside of the Institute who are interested in the respective lectures. As a consequence, the MPI-MMG achieves a dual goal with co-organizing lectures with first-rate scholars: fostering interdepartmental exchange and reaching out to civil society. A great number of open, co-organized lectures have been given between 2017 and 2020, out of which we would like to highlight the lecture delivered by Philip Gorski on 6 November, 2019.

**Philip Gorski (Yale University and Lichtenberg Kolleg), "Goodbye Tocqueville? Christianity and Democracy in Trump's America", ELP and SCD, 6 November, 2019**

On 6 November, 2019, Ayelet Shachar welcomed Philip Gorski as Open Lecture Speaker. In his fascinating talk, Gorski reflected on Tocqueville's famous argument that the relationship of Christianity and democracy was complementary in the United States. He considered how Christianity has changed in the intervening centuries and reflected on whether these changes may be endangering American democracy. His lecture was received very positively by the audience, and we - as is seen in the pictures below - were appreciative to have had a full house!

# 13

# COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

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## Collaborative Activities of the MPI-MMG



The Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity is actively engaged in a multitude of collaboration projects with both international and German actors. This chapter first provides an overview of the international projects and collaborations (Part I). It then moves on to briefly describe the collaborations with German universities and research institutes (Part II), with a special focus on the close cooperation with the nearby University of Göttingen. Many of these modes of collaboration exist by way of individual projects and writing with external colleagues. Here, we provide a selection of activities that comprise large formal agreements and frameworks of collaboration.

## PART I: INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AND COLLABORATIONS

### Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science at the University of Toronto (2018 - 2020)

In December 2018, the ELP Department of the MPI-MMG and the Faculty of Arts and Science at the University of Toronto (A&S) established a Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program. The Fellowships are designed to provide advanced training to outstanding recent doctoral students working at the intersection of ethics, law, religion, and politics in relation to questions of citizenship, migration, and diversity. Furthermore, the fel-

lowships are allocated for a maximum of two years, within which participants have the opportunity to move to the MPI-MMG in Göttingen for a three- or six-month research visit. The goal of the cooperation is thus to intensify the already existing strong links between MPI-MMG and A&S by building networks among emerging scholars working in the above-mentioned topics.

### Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative, University of California, Berkeley (2016 - 2018)

Within the framework of the Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative, the ELP Department of the MPI-MMG collaborates with the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley.

The collaboration explores core questions about the manifestation of cultural diversity in immigrant-receiving societies and the value of citizenship in the context of a broader exploration of

future of membership in a globalizing world. This inter-disciplinary collaboration brings together empirical and normative perspectives. The col-

laboration has led to a joint-workshop, entitled “The Law and Politics of Diversity”, held at the MPI-MMG in Göttingen on 16 December 2016.

### Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University (since 2017)

Since 2017, the ELP Department has been collaborating with the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University on a new research project, entitled “Migration, Citizenship, and Democracy”. It aims at bringing together an international community of scholars to discuss the social and political transformations, as well as the ethical challenges, that arise from the accelerat-

ed speed and expanded scale of migration. The first conference of the collaboration was held on 22-23 March 2018 at Harvard University, where Ayelet Shachar delivered the keynote talk, entitled “Shifting Borders of Justice: Territory, Market, Migration,” which examines the changing nature of territorial, legal, and normative borders.

### Academy of African Urban Diversity (2017 - 2023)

The Academy of African Urban Diversity (AAUD) is a joint project of the Socio-Cultural Department of the MPI-MMG, the Department of Geography at Durham University, the African Centre for Migration and Society (ACMS) of the University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg), and the African Centre for Cities (ACC) of the University of Cape Town. As regional and global crossroads, African cities refract broader geo-economic and political trends, often in innovative, anticipatory, and unexpected ways. The Academy of Afri-

can Urban Diversity (AAUD) supports emerging scholars from across the social sciences who are attempting to provide answers to urgent questions related to Africa’s growing and diversifying cities. Within the scope of the AAUD, advanced doctoral students examine political, social, and economic processes which are driving the growth and diversification of African cities. Within a time period of six years, starting in 2017, five cohorts of 8-10 doctoral students each will gather for an annual workshop.

### Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa/New Zealand (2014 - 2020)

Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa/New Zealand (CaDDANZ) is a research program led by teams from the SCD Department of the MPI-MMG, the University of Waikato, and Massey University. The team also includes staff from Motu Economic and Public Policy Research in Wellington. Their key activity is to cooperate on the Global Diversity project hosted by the SCD Department with funding for 2014-2020 from the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment of New Zealand. The ‘face’ of New

Zealand is changing rapidly as a consequence of the settlement of migrants from throughout the world, temporary and circular international migration, growing ethnic diversity, population aging, changing fertility patterns, and urban growth. CaDDANZ is a research programme that will identify how New Zealand can better prepare for, and respond to, these demographic changes in order for the country to maximize the benefits associated with an increasingly diverse population.

### Superdiversity in Vancouver, Sydney, and Auckland

“Superdiversity in Vancouver, Sydney, and Auckland” is a joint project with the Department of Geography at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver), the Department of Human Geography at Monash University (Melbourne), and Massey University (Auckland). The aim of this project is to develop visualisations that illustrate

the consequences of global migration trends. By using interactive data visualisation tools, our understanding of the interconnections between migration, its characteristics, and its consequences is deepened. This innovative project will be extended to cover London and New York City, as well.

### Max Planck Cambridge Centre for Ethics, Economy, and Social Change

The Max Planck Cambridge Centre for Ethics, Economy, and Social Change is an innovative collaboration funded jointly by the University of Cambridge and the Max Planck Society, and was formally established as of 1 July 2017. The Centre is co-directed by James Laidlaw and Joel Robbins (Department of Social Anthropology, Cambridge

University), Chris Hann (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale), and Peter van der Veer, and is dedicated to pursuing fresh ethnographic research in fields of urgent concern to humanity today. The Centre's official launch took place in Cambridge on 6 March 2018.

### Research Centre for Ethnic and Cultural Diversity at the Minzu University of China (2013 - 2018)

In July 2013, Peter van der Veer and Wu Da (China Central Nationalities University: Minzu University of China) took the initiative to start a new research center at Minzu. It has been opened by a series of lectures given by Peter van der Veer. Ph.D. students and post-doctoral fellows were selected to work on research topics, such as: the conceptualization of hierarchy and slavery in In-

dia; relations between Miao and Yi in Southwest China and Vietnam; effects of the opening-up of Southwest China to Southeast Asia on ethnic minorities; Yi immigration and the relations between Yi and Tibetans in Muli; the linguistic diversity of Yi in Southwest China; and research on social networks beyond ethnicity in China.

### Spiritual Heritage in Contemporary Vietnam (2013 - 2018)

This project is a cooperation between the RDD Department of the MPI-MMG, Harvard University, and the Centre for Research and Promotion of Cultural Heritage (CCH) in Vietnam. It explores the complex and ambiguous revival of spirit possession and 'spirit writing'. Banned by the state as superstition until recently, these traditions are revived and practiced by a large number of Vietnamese within and outside of Vietnam. As the revival provokes scepticism among secular parts of the society, practitioners have begun to adopt

the concept of 'spiritual heritage' in an attempt to gain respectability and legitimacy. This project focuses on examining how aspects of identity politics are reflected in, and re-worked through, contemporary reconstruction and recollection of these traditions' myths of origins and legendary materials. The project involves exploratory fieldwork, as well as the making of two documentary films, which capture how the revival of spirit possession and spirit writing is taking place in various locations in Vietnam.

### Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University

Under a joint framework, the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Utrecht University (Prof. Birgit Meyer) and the MPI-MMG are organizing workshops on topics, such as religious materiality, religious practices in a secular

setting, and the governance of religious minorities. These workshops aim at regularly bringing researchers together from both the MPI-MMG and Utrecht University.

### Asia Research Institute, National University Singapore

Over a number of years, until 2020, a close collaboration has existed with the Asia Research Institute, NUS, and especially with Prof. Kenneth Dean. The topic was the comparative study of religious networks connecting Singapore with

China and India. The collaboration has led to a considerable number of publications and has involved several researchers in the Religious Diversity Department.

### Sociology, Hong Kong University

Prof. David Palmer at Hong Kong University (HKU) has received a large grant for a project on religious implications of the One Belt-One Road

Program of the Chinese Government. Dr. Tam Ngo and Dr. Jie Kang of the RDD department are participating in this project.

## PART II: COLLABORATIONS WITH GERMAN UNIVERSITIES AND GERMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTES

The MPI-MMG is one of eight non-university research institutes in Göttingen, and a member of the Göttingen Campus (GC) and represented in its Council (GCC). In addition, it collaborates with the Lichtenberg-Kolleg, which was founded by

the University of Göttingen, to foster intellectual exchange among scientists of both Institutes. There are also a number of other collaborations with German universities that are noteworthy.

### Max Planck Law Network (since 2019)

The MPI-MMG is one of 11 members of the newly founded Max Planck Law Network, and will thus participate in the programmes and initiatives organized by the Network. The inaugural conference of the Max Planck Law Network took place between 21 and 23 October 2019 in Berlin.

Given the diversity of topics that each of these 11 Max-Planck-Institutes covers, the Network provides stimuli for new collaboration projects, both inter-institutional and with partners beyond the Max Planck Society.

### Center for Global Migration Studies, University of Göttingen (since 2018)

In 2018, the MPI-MMG co-founded the Center for Global Migration Studies (CeMig) at the University of Göttingen, and is thus an Associate Member of the CeMig's Board of Directors. CeMig establishes a forum for exchange of scholars of the Göttingen Campus from six different faculties and the MPI-MMG. By engaging in interdisciplinary scholarly exchange, CeMig is able

to develop innovative approaches to the opportunities and challenges posed by migration. CeMig aims to establish new formats of knowledge transfer, in addition to strengthening research and teaching in the area of migration. It endeavors to contribute to public debates, and to facilitate inclusion of stakeholders from civil society, politics, industry, and business in the discussion.

### Zivilgesellschaftliche Organisationen und die Herausforderungen von Migration und Diversität: Agents of Change (2018 - 2021)

The collaborative project "Zivilgesellschaftliche Organisationen und die Herausforderungen von Migration und Diversität: Agents of Change" (ZOMiDi) examines why and how civil society organizations change in the process of dealing with migration and social diversity. The project is

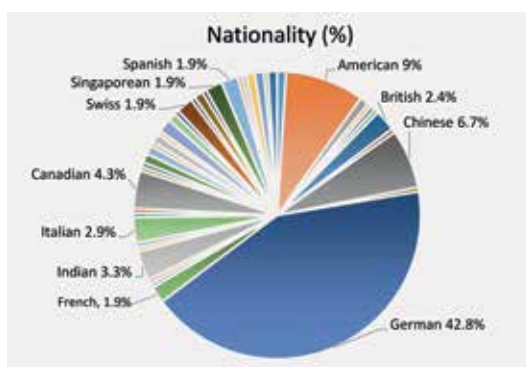
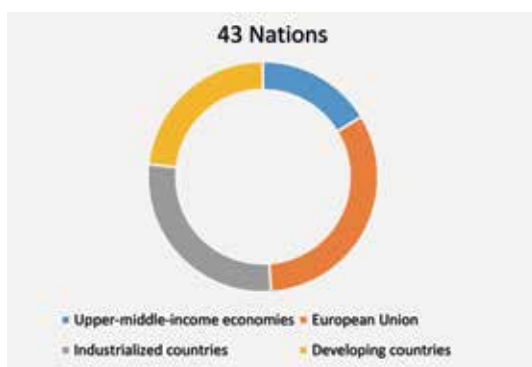
funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) from 2018-2021, and is led by Prof. Karen Schönwälder with partners at Humboldt University in Berlin and Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich.

# 14 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND DIVERSITY AT MPI-MMG

Under the leadership of Ayelet Shachar, the Institute's first female director, significant attention has been given to promote the critical value of gender and diversity equality. This has translated into the development and adoption in 2019 of an Equal Opportunity Plan for the MPI-MMG, which is designed to create equal opportunities for women, men, and LGBTQ+ people in both scientific and non-scientific areas. In accordance with the MPG's principles of equal opportunities, the MPI-MMG fully supports the diverse life models of its employees. Upholding mutual respect and tolerance in interactions with one another is of

the utmost importance to the Institute's culture and community. Diversity, in terms of international background (note that there is no tracking of racial and ethnic identity at the MPG) and gender balance of the Institute's employees, is not only a central topic of research for our Institute, but a core value thereof. Between 2017 and 2019, the MPI-MMG had employees coming from 43 different countries. Currently, 57.2% of the staff are international. In 2018, for example, the staff was composed of 134 persons from 43 different countries, as shown in the figure below.



Based on the efforts for creating a respectful working environment, the Institute also assigns great value to supporting gender diversity. Therefore, we welcome all genders - women, men, gender non-conforming, and LGBTQ+ people - and foster a community in which equality and diversity are celebrated, starting as early as in the selection procedure.

At the MPI-MMG, although women are actually overrepresented in the doctoral and post-doctoral stage, they are underrepresented at more advanced career levels. Whilst identifying the latter as a concern at our Institute, it is nevertheless not a unique phenomenon to the

MPI-MMG, but visible in many research institutes, in particular, those in the fields of social sciences and humanities. Being aware of this delicate issue, we aim to promote women into higher career positions. Moreover, we explicitly encourage women to enroll in MPG-wide competitive programs designed to promote female leadership in academia and to set their goals high toward applying for leadership positions at the MPI-MMG, and beyond. Our commitment to the advancement of gender diversity and equality appears in all vacancies published by the MPI-MMG and is also highlighted on our website.



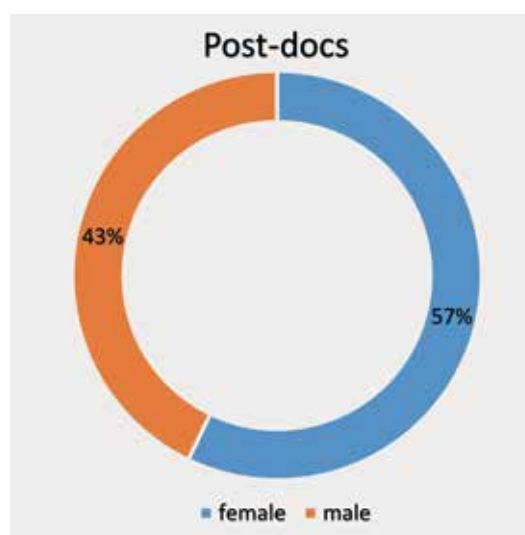
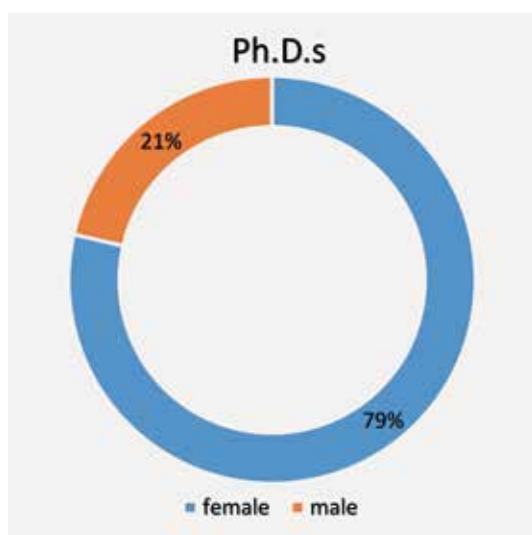
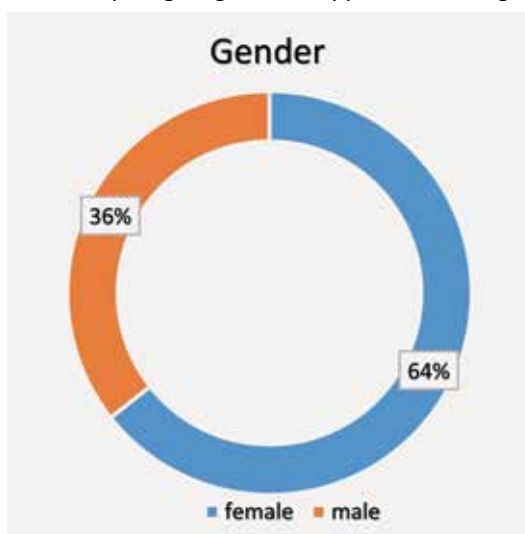
## MEASURES TAKEN AT MPI-MMG TO FOSTER GENDER DIVERSITY AND GENDER EQUALITY

The importance of respecting and supporting gender diversity and gender equality has been documented on the Institute's homepage since April 2017, and its most recent updates are from September 2019. The intranet site, which was been maintained for several years, can be accessed by all employees, and is regularly updated with new information on the topic.

Furthermore, the Institute has adopted an Equal Opportunity Plan in September 2019. Accordingly, diverse life situations of different genders shall be treated equally and with full respect. In this way, we aim to provide optimal conditions for our employees to accommodate different life stages and situations while taking advantage of the opportunities available to them at the Institute. Let us provide concrete examples from the Equal Opportunity Plan. First, we are committed to advancing excellence and gender equality by promoting junior scientists to apply for third-party grants, national and international awards, and to promote female researchers to advanced pay-scale positions open to scientists at the Institute. Second, information on local childcare, as well as eldercare facilities, as provided on the Institute's intranet, is provided to employees of all genders, and will be further extended in the near future as part of our new partnership with the Göttingen International Welcome Centre at the University of Göttingen. Third, since December 2019, we have published a bi-annual newsletter

on equal opportunities. This includes information on events and training opportunities, which raise awareness of gender equality and provide skills training to advance gender equality in daily life and in the workplace.

Regarding the reconcilability of family and working life, the Institute works closely with the "pme Familienservice". The pme Familienservice Group (located in the nearby city of Kassel) supports employees in successfully combining their work and their private lives, and informs about the practical tools available to employees to assist to create a successful work-life-balance, by, for example, giving them support in finding a



babysitter, Granny to go, or au pair. The costs incurred for counselling and organizing are borne by the Max Planck Society; whereas, the costs for the respective care measure are to be borne by the parents themselves and, in the case of elder-care, by the relatives themselves.

The Institute further ensures compliance with the diversity charter ("Charta der Vielfalt") and the work and family audit ("berufundfamilie") signed by the Max Planck Society. The latter is a strategic management tool that supports companies and institutions in implementing a sustainable family- and life-phase-conscious personnel policy. The "Charta der Vielfalt" promotes recognition, appreciation, and integration of diversity with regard to gender, nationality, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, ethnicity, and disability in our working culture.

In terms of invitees, the Institute strives to maintain an equitable gender balance when inviting internationally-renowned scientists to come to our Institute as guest lecturers. More-

over, the Institute pays the utmost attention to applying a gender-neutral language to both internal and external communications, which can be seen, for example, in the wording of our employment advertisements, website texts, and official documents.

As in previous years, several female post-doctoral research fellows from the Institute have successfully participated in the career-building program offered by the Max Planck Society, "Sign Up!". The aim of this program is to support women with leadership potential in their career planning and prepare them for leading positions in science. We are pleased to report that a significant number of women from our Institute have succeeded in reaching such leadership positions.

With regard to local networks on gender equality, the Institute is well connected with the numerous other Max-Planck-Institutes in the city of Göttingen to exchange on the topic. Moreover, the Institute also collaborates actively with the local Göttingen campus on this matter.







# 15 OUTREACH OF THE INSTITUTE

The MPI-MMG is actively involved in initiatives beyond its scientific scope, and we aim to take active part in civil society and the intellectual life of the region. The Institute realizes various events in cooperation with agents on-site and maintains networking in the political, cultural, legal, and economic sphere. It is of the utmost importance to the Institute to communicate the results, techniques, and essence of its research fields to a wide audience. While our research is strictly curiosity- and scientifically-driven, such interaction with the general public and relevant stakeholders makes research activities and their outcomes visible, and strengthens the bond between science and various sectors of society. The Institute's aspiration is that such interaction between science and society will lead to more and better-informed public debates, and open up new research directions.

From 2017 to 2020, the MPI-MMG engaged in various initiatives, such as the IdeenExpo in Hannover. Here, the MPI-MMG presented the Datarama, which was frequently visited and scrutinized by, among others, political luminaries, such as Petra Pau (Vice-President of the Bundestag) and Gesine Lötzsch (Die Linken/Left Party). Established in 2007, the IdeenExpo aims at inspiring young people about natural sciences and technology. A collaborative initiative of the political and the economic sector, companies, universities, and research institutes exhibit innovations of the MINT-fields (mathematics, informatics, natural sciences, and technology) every two years on the exhibition grounds in Hannover. As Germany's largest youth event of its kind, the IdeenExpo took place for the sixth time from June 10 to 18, 2017.





On 15 December, 2017, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Goethe-Göttingen Critical Exchange took place, which was co-organized by Rainer Forst (Normative Orders, Frankfurt) and Ayelet Shachar (MPI-MMG) as a round-table discussion moderated by Ayelet Shachar, with Gertrude Lübbe-Wolff (Bielefeld, former Justice of the Federal Constitutional Court), Hiroshi Motomura (UCLA), and François Crépeau (McGill University, former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants). An important and vibrant public discussion of innovative views on the refugee crisis was a key part of the event. A statement by François Crépeau can be viewed at the following url: <https://www.mmg.mpg.de/151861/statement-by-francois-crepeau>

On 18 May, 2018, a [labor migration conference](#) was organized by Ayelet Shachar, and Olaf Deinert, Dean of the Faculty of Law, the University of Göttingen. Keynote speakers were Justice Christine Langenfeld of the Federal Constitutional Court and Holger Kolb, Head of the Research Unit at the Expert Council of the German Foundations on Integration and Migration - the leading non-governmental advisory commission in Germany on the topic of migration. The conference commenced with a panel centered on the theme of precarity in labor migration. The second panel of the conference examined the interconnections between labor migration and global economic integration, and interdependence more generally. The closing panel explored the subject of high skilled migration. In the follow-up of the conference, [Christine Langenfeld was interviewed by Ayelet Shachar](#). This constituted a rare occasion, as judges are required to receive special permis-

sion from the court to engage in such public lectures and interviews.

Another exciting event in which the MPI-MMG participated was the "Göttinger Literaturherbst" from 18 to 27 October, 2018. On Saturday, 21 October 2018, the British author, Patrick Kingsley, presented his book "The New Odyssey. A History of the European Refugee Crisis" to a wide audience in the Paulinerkirche. In his book, he traces the path of Arab and African refugees from their homes to Europe. In his reportage-like, sometimes oppressive, texts, he gives individual refugees, smugglers and local politicians a face, and provides a view of the political and social contexts that make the business of human smuggling possible and sustain it. The discussion following the book presentation was moderated by Steven Vertovec, Director of the MPI-MMG.

Ayelet Shachar's new book, *The Shifting Border: Legal Cartographies of Migration and Mobility*, will be featured at the Göttinger Literaturherbst 2020 in the main event at the Paulinerkirche. She will be interviewed by Patrick Cramer of the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry (<https://www.literaturherbst.com/programm/festivalkalender/2020/shifting-borders-in-the-time-of-covid-19/>)

During the period of this research report, Shachar delivered named lectures and keynote lectures at leading universities, including Harvard University, University of Amsterdam, University of Glasgow, ZIF Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, New York University, University of Graz, University of Valencia, Goethe University Frankfurt, and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW), among others. She also presented her research to the Max Planck Society's Scientific Council. She further delivered papers and talks in workshops, conferences, and lecture series held at the following universities (partial list): The University of Chicago School of Law, University of Zurich Law Institute, University of Copenhagen, European University Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Princeton University, University of Toronto, Freie Universität Berlin, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, University of California, Berkeley, Tel Aviv University, Universität Hamburg, University of Edinburgh, University of Hong Kong, and Sciences Po, Paris.

Together with Marie-Claire Foblets, Director, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology at

Halle/Salle, Shachar co-founded the *Research Initiative on Migration of the Max Planck Society: The Challenge of Migration, Integration and Exclusion* (2017-2020). In 2018, Steven Vertovec joined this research initiative.

As part of her scholarly and outreach activity, Shachar also presented her work at the annual conferences of the leading professional associations in her field: Association of American Law Schools (AALS); American Political Science Association (APSA); Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA); European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR); International Society of Public Law (ICON-S); and International Studies Association (ISA).

On the occasion of the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Max Planck and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Max-Planck Society, the MPI-MMG participated, in cooperation with the other four MPIs situated in Göttingen, in the “Max-Planck-Tag” (Max-Planck-Day) on 14 September, 2018. In the morning, doctoral and post-doctoral researchers from the MPI-MMG - Lisa Harms, Simona Pagano, and Shad Wari - visited individual classes at secondary schools in Göttingen and delivered school lectures in the framework of the “Max Planck Goes to School” format, reporting on their research topics and their daily work.



The campaign was a great success: scientists from the five Max Planck Institutes in Göttingen visited a total of 44 school classes, and consequently reached more than 1,000 pupils. The feedback from the schools was very positive throughout. In the evening, Michalis Moutselos and Stefan Schlegel participated in a “Science Slam.” Within a time limit of only five minutes, they presented their research projects to the public.

From 29 October to 2 November, 2018, the International Metropolis Conference took place in Sydney. The event was established to explore complex narratives around migration, diversity and integration, and their relationship with political, economic, and social trends at global, regional, and local levels. As well as keynote addresses from global thought leaders and experts, concurrent dialogues and workshops at the Conference also explored topics through debates, arts and cultural exhibitions, and programmed satellite events. Steven Vertovec, Director of the MPI-MMG, was one of the experts who spoke about “Visualizing Urban Superdiversity”. The MPI-MMG has released a unique new set of interactive data visualization tools that facilitate exploration of the interrelations between migration flows, traits, and outcomes. The tools include innovative cartography which shows how complex patterns are evident in cities, producing conditions of ‘super-diversity’. The tools were produced by a leading team of migration scholars, including Prof. Vertovec, Prof. Dan Hiebert (University of British Columbia), Prof. Alan Gamlen (Monash University), and Prof. Paul Spoonley (Massey University) in collaboration with Stamen Design and the Immersive Visualization Platform at Monash University.

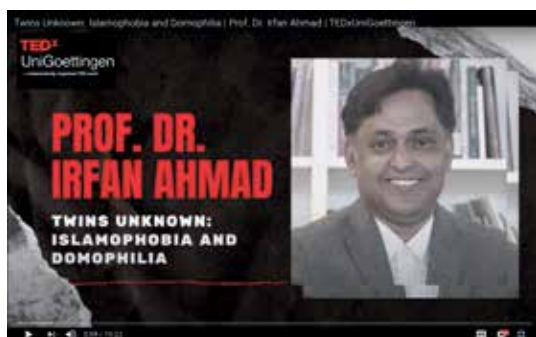
On 26 January, 2019, the “Nacht des Wissens” (Night of Knowledge) took place at the University





of Göttingen. The “Nacht des Wissens” in Göttingen is a public event organized by the University of Göttingen and other institutions from the Göttingen Campus, such as the five MPIs on-site. Birgitt Sippel, Sakura Yamamura, and Norbert Winnige supervised the stand of the MPI-MMG, informing about the research projects and the research outcomes of the MPI-MMG.

In his TEDx Talk on 16 November, 2019, at the MUSA Cultural Centre at Göttingen University, Indian anthropologist, Prof. Irfan Ahmad (RDD), unveiled the nexus between Islamophobia and homophobia vis-a-vis global politics and the war on terror. This talk was given at a TEDx event using the TED conference format, but was organized by



the University of Göttingen. TEDx is a grassroots initiative, created in the spirit of TED’s overall mission to research and discover “ideas worth spreading.” TEDx brings the spirit of TED to local communities around the globe through TEDx events. These events are organized by passionate individuals who seek to uncover new ideas and to share the latest research in their local areas that catalyze dynamic conversations in their communities.

On 9 January, 2020, a panel discussion on the role of migration researchers in the public

debate took place in cooperation with the local University of Göttingen and the Center for Global Migration Studies (CeMig). Since the „long summer of migration“ in 2015 at the latest, the migration issue has polarized the public. While, on the one hand, great social demand exists for assured scientific expertise, on the other hand, the findings of migration research are hardly heard in the media and political debate. In an emotionally charged and frequently oppositional discussion, migration researchers face the challenge of invalidating populist myths and objectively differentiating simplified theses. The debates about migration control, as well as the causes of flight or sea rescue, challenge them to explain complex interrelationships in a comprehensible way and to defend their answers definitively. The moderator Elisabeth Badenhoop (post-doctoral researcher, ELP) discussed with Prof. Dr. Petra Bendel (Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration), Prof. Dr. Thomas Faist (Council for Migration), Dr. Yasemin Shooman (German Centre for Integration and Migration Research, Berlin), and Dr. Mehmet Ata (Integration Media Service) what role researchers can play in the current debate on migration, flight, and integration.

SCD Director Steven Vertovec was very active in his outreach activities during this reporting period, using various channels of dissemination to explore superdiversity and related issues with various public audiences around the globe.

Vertovec delivered the Keynote Lecture at the Pathways, Diversity, and Inclusion Conference held at Massey University (February 2018) in New Zealand, one of the most super-diverse nations in the world. He explained superdiversity as a dynamic interplay of variables among an increased number of new, small and scattered, multiple-origin, transnationally connected, socio-economically differentiated, and legally stratified immigrants who have arrived to the country over the last decade. He explained how the notion of superdiversity underlines the level and kinds of complexity currently experienced in the country as surpassing anything that it has previously experienced.

In the Conference on World Affairs at the University of Colorado Boulder (April 2017), Vertovec took part in a discussion with Michael Franc, the Director of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University and a Republican strategist, and Maurizio Geri, an international relations analyst, on



the marked rise in nationalism in many countries around the world. The panelists agreed that nationalism can assume various forms, but that it always creates a division of “the people”, with nationalist leaders only feeling accountable to certain groups.

In the Global Britain Beyond Brexit Public Lecture Series at the University of Norwich, Vertovec delivered a talk (May 10, 2018) on “Communication in Global Britain: The Language Gap”, which focused on the challenges of communication that we face and the role of language in superdiverse societies, such as Britain. He addressed the challenges and benefits of the increasing number of languages spoken in today’s Global Britain, and explored the effects of Brexit concerning the need to communicate across a growing number of languages.

At the Zurich Migration Conference (September 2018), Vertovec delivered the Keynote Speech to the Zurich Department of Integration: “Zurich: A City without a Majority Society”. He

talked about the age group of 30 to 39-year-olds living in the city as being extremely diverse; Zurich is representative of a „superdiverse“ society, the majority of which is comprised of minorities. He discussed questions that arise about affiliations, cohesion, joint commitment to the future, and the importance of integration work. The talk was followed by an accompanying interview in the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* (29 September, 2018), in which Vertovec pleaded for a new way of dealing with migrants: instead of a guiding culture, he would like to see a guiding concept of decency to which all population groups adhere.

Another keynote speech was delivered by Steven Vertovec at the Liveable Diversity Summit in Melbourne, Australia (November 2018). This summit brings to Victoria a delegation of experts from the International Metropolis Conference, the world’s largest gathering of experts on migration and diversity, to share experiences and best practices surrounding diversity with their senior Victorian counterparts in public policy, research, and civil society. Vertovec spoke on Victoria as one of the most diverse and liveable places on Earth, despite populist voices that claim that we cannot live with more migration and diversity.

Steven Vertovec was also at the European Parliament as part of the “Science Meets Parliaments” initiative that focused on the question of how science can play a larger role in 21<sup>st</sup> century policy-making. He spoke on the ERC “GlobaldiverCities” project, which analyzed the urban effects of new migration in Singapore, Johannesburg and New York, and was premised on the fact that





global migration today is bringing far more diversity to cities around the world than has ever existed. He highlighted some of the key lessons for policy-makers, including the crucial message that integration is not just a matter of labor market and language, but also about everyday small encounters in public spaces. These sorts of encounters can be enhanced by social policies and urban planning to integrate migrants to a greater extent and to prevent modes of exclusion that the GloDiv team found in cities around the world.

Steven Vertovec has also been actively present in various channels on the COVID-19 pandemic and how it increases xenophobia and exclusion worldwide. He has given interviews on Deutsche Welle and Deutsche Welle together with PBS America, where he comments on the coronavirus pandemic, xenophobia and group stigmas, and on how the pandemic fuels racism. He was also featured in an article in the *taz* (April 2020), a national left-wing oriented newspaper in Germany, where he highlighted the vulnerabilities faced by various super-diverse groups in the pandemic, and the need to view such groups as risk-bearers and not risk-carriers.

SCD Research Group Leader Karen Schönwälder has taken part in several highly visible outreach activities. In April 2017, she was featured in a series on current developments in science by Karsten Schwanke on ARD-alpha, a German educational channel on national television. In his program, Schwanke meets leading scientists to exchange ideas on what the researchers are working on, their greatest challenges, and what generally drives their work. Schönwälder spoke about research findings on the themes of immigration and incorporation in Germany as an expe-

rienced immigration country. The topics were explored in historical perspectives, but also in light of contemporary challenges.

As a member of the Scientific Advisory Board that oversees a large empirical study on cultural diversity in public administrations in Germany, Schönwälder in 2019 met Annette Widmann-Mauz, who is the Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees, and Integration. The results of the study are intended to provide an important basis for developing options for action to achieve the goal of increasing the proportion of people with a migration background in public administration and a productive approach to cultural diversity. The project is being conducted in cooperation with the Integration Commissioner and the Federal Institute for Population Research.

Schönwälder also took part in a podium discussion of the ZEIT Forum Wissenschaft on “Flight and Migration - How Do We Shape Living Together in a Diverse Europe?”. The ZEIT Forum Wissenschaft is a series of events organized by the ZEIT-Stiftung and the weekly newspaper DIE ZEIT, in cooperation with Deutschlandfunk and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Four times per year, outstanding experts are brought together with a large audience to debate and intensely explore important topics in all areas of science. New findings from migration research and current migration policy were discussed from a scientific, social, and political perspective. Schönwälder argued that migration is a necessity for Germany and also a positive aspect of a more open world.

In September 2018, she delivered a talk for citizens of Duisburg-Marxloh, a neighborhood that is well-known for its diversity, regarding Germany’s immigration experience.

In October 2017, Schönwälder discussed with participants of a conference organized by the Social Democratic Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung how political life could become more diverse.

In October 2019, she spoke to staff in a major hospital in Düren about attitudes towards diversity in the German population.

Senior Research Fellow Miriam Schader (SCD) participated in four large outreach events. In November 2019, Miriam gave a presentation and participated in the ensuing round-table discussion at the 8<sup>th</sup> “Integration Congress” in North Rhine Westphalia (Integrationskongress NRW),



which brought together 700 politicians, officials, practitioners, and activists in the city of Solingen. For many years, the Integrationskongress NRW has served as an important instrument for dialogue between the federal and state government, the integration policy infrastructure of North Rhine-Westphalia, and researchers and practitioners.

As part of a public workshop targeting officials and practitioners in North-Rhine-Westphalia (July 2018), Miriam discussed the reception of asylum-seekers in Germany in a round-table discussion, together with Aladin El-Mafaalani (Head of the Department for Integration in the Ministry for Children, Family, Refugees, and Integration of North Rhine-Westphalia) and others.

A policy meeting organized by the Max Planck WiMi Research Consortium and Population Europe brought together stakeholders in the realm of refugee migration in June 2018. Challenges of Migration, Integration, and Exclusion (WiMi) is

a three-year research initiative (2017-2020) financed by the Max Planck Society and led by Prof. Dr. Marie-Claire Foblets (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale), as well as our Directors Prof. Dr. Steven Vertovec and Prof. Dr. Ayelet Shachar. Politicians, representatives of non-governmental organizations (e.g., Pro Asyl), important political party-related foundations (e.g., Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung), and other central actors were invited by WiMi and Population Europe to a meeting in Berlin in order to discuss current German and European migration and asylum policies based on presentations by Tino Hruschka and Tim Rohmann (MPISOC) and Miriam Schader (MPI-MMG).

In October 2017, Miriam was invited to deliver a talk on refugee migration at the annual meeting of the Association of German Cemetery Administrations and Managers, concerning the consequences of recent refugee immigration for an increasingly diverse society and for their work.





## 16

# THE DATARAMA

## ADVANCING IMMERSIVE DATA VISUALIZATION FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

The DATARAMA offers an immersive 360° projection environment for up to 25 people, enabling interactive exploration and simultaneous management of diverse types of data. These include research materials, which combine photography, film and video, archival sources, geo-coded maps, statistics, data visualizations, and websites (see <https://player.vimeo.com/video/193830420>).

Within this walk-in tool, research teams can select and simultaneously juxtapose, analyze and present different types of data, as well as virtually recreate research settings. In this way, the DATARAMA facilitates unique insights and understandings of the way that different forms of social science data are interrelated and spatially conditioned. Within the DATARAMA, researchers and lecturers can combine, analyze, and present research materials in powerful and unprecedented ways.

This unique and exciting new technology holds great potential for fundamental breakthroughs in the social sciences (and other disciplines). Current technologies, such as monitors, video projectors and traditional multi-display arrays, do not provide adequate resolution and display capacities needed for dealing with large and complex datasets. Capturing, analyzing, and presenting massive datasets present a considerable methodological challenge: besides indexing, segmenting and comparing complex information, users without a computer science background are often overwhelmed by workflows involving multiple data formats. Authoring of presentations requires effective amalgamation of interactive elements, such as field notes, videos, real-time data sources, Internet resources, and printed materials. The DATARAMA software facilitates the handling of a large number of audio-visual data sources with



The DATARAMA. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebl





The DATARAMA. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebiel

the assistance of intelligent automation and data processing, and opens up access to interaction with these by means of innovative input and control concepts. By removing technological barriers to the creation of immersive content, the DATARAMA offers unprecedented opportunities for researchers to organize, analyze, and present their research.

The DATARAMA is comprised of two parts. The first is the rotunda, an all-round, self-supporting projection screen (2.8 m high with a radius of 6 m). The projection cylinder consists of 102 deep-drawn Corian modules and is spanned by an aluminum truss, which carries the projection unit consisting of six video projectors and a server PC. A 1.2 m high control panel is located in the middle of the rotunda and allows alternative forms of data interaction by means of a touch-sensitive surface and gesture control.

The second component is the hardware-agnostic software stack. This software, developed at the Institute, consists of several web applications connected by means of an event-driven architecture:

- ▼ Immersive panoramic views of photographs and videos, as well as simulated environ-

ments and 3D-objects (these can also be complemented by soundscapes);

- ▼ Support of geographic metadata and geo-referenced photo and video material;
- ▼ Support for diverse formats and types of visual data: Photographs, diagrams, maps, video and audio material, animations, simulations, text-based sources, and websites;
- ▼ Various interaction modes, including an intuitive, gesture-based user interface for selecting, commenting, and filtering data by time, context, and location;
- ▼ Faceted browsing for drilling-down and focusing on selected data or visual details;
- ▼ Enhanced ability to encode and query information by tags/metadata;
- ▼ Real-time visualization of ongoing research and data collection, providing new opportunities for project management and development;
- ▼ Event-based server-client architecture that allows multiple clients, including remote clients, to create, modify, and interact with the same datasets;
- ▼ Hardware agnostic capacity, i.e., the software can be used on other viewing devices, such

as computer monitors and trays, digital projectors, and new formats (e.g., VR headsets like Oculus Rift and Google Cardboard);

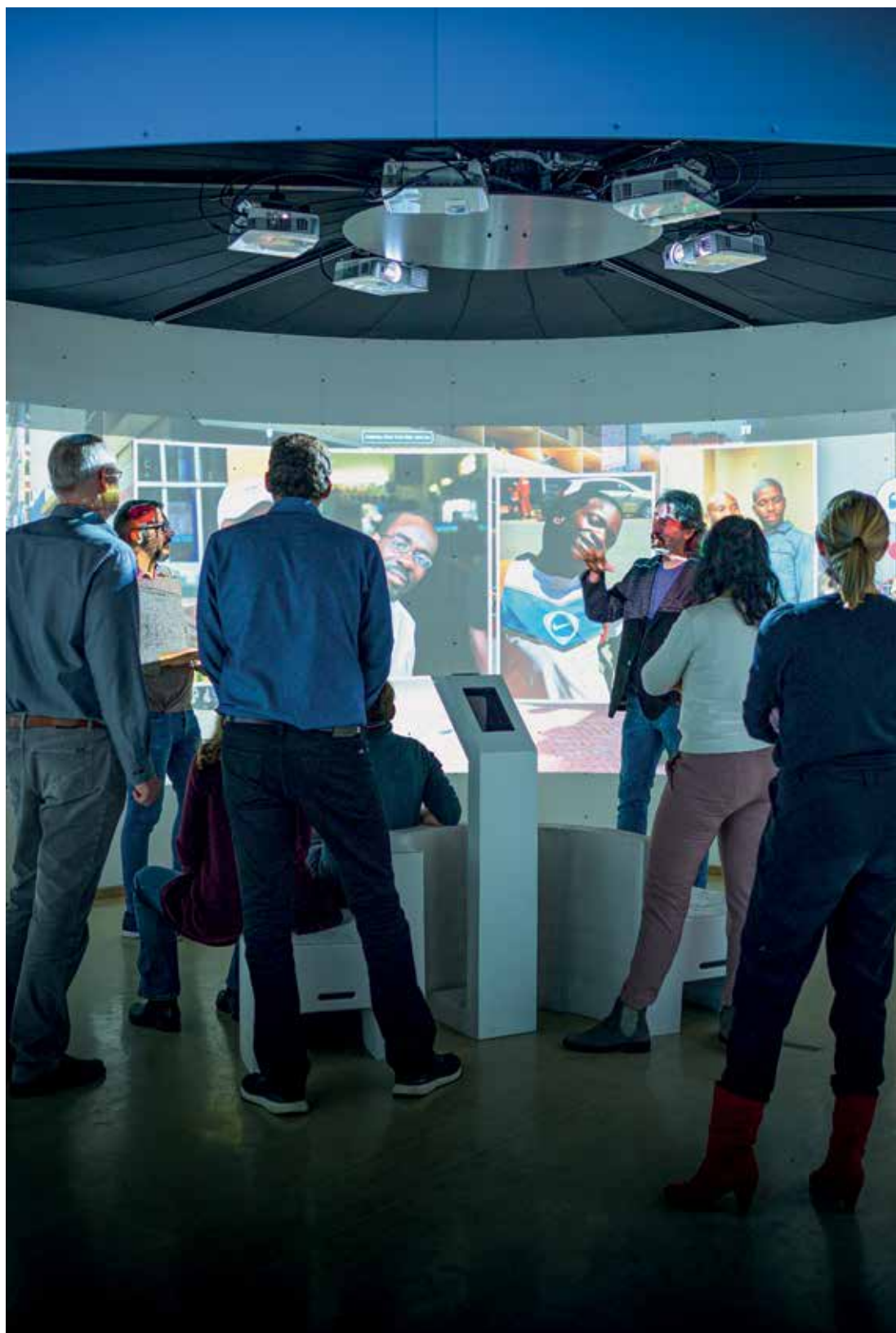
- ▼ Graphics driver providing calculations of the transformational matrix for distortion-free projection of visual data onto a curved surface.

The DATARAMA arises out of an ERC Advanced Investigator award to Prof. Vertovec. The Max Planck Society granted an additional €1.4 million to develop the DATARAMA in multiple ways.

This includes further technical innovation, and the development of the project and exhibition **Complexities: Transformative Urban Ideas from the (rest of the) World**, which examines ways that major urban challenges are being tackled in numerous cities of the Global South. The DATARAMA team at MPI-MMG is also working with colleagues at several external institutions to create DATARAMA exhibitions and research capacities, including the Senckenberg Naturkundemuseum Görlitz, the Landesmuseum Hannover, and the Futurium in Berlin.



The DATARAMA at the "Nacht des Wissens". © MPI-MMG, 2017.



The DATARAMA. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebiel

# 17 LIBRARY

The library is of central importance to the Institute. It is the main venue for all of the literature and information needs of the Institute's researchers, doctoral students and academic guests, to whom we provide high-quality collections, licenses, and information services. We are developing collections of sufficient quality, size, and diversity to support the research requirements of the Institute's academic community. Our purpose is to assist users in the process of transforming information into knowledge. This requires materials that embrace the full spectrum of information media.

Social science and legal research still use a large amount of print media, increasingly supplemented, but not at all replaced, by electronic media. As a consequence, we anticipate collection needs in a broad range of formats. We also facilitate access to collections owned by other institutions or provided by the Max Planck Society that serve as a gateway to global networked information resources, e.g., AnthroSource, HeinOnline, JSTOR, and Web of Science.

In addition to acquiring the important works of the fields that the Institute covers, we also fulfil the information needs of each individual researcher and her/his research topic, e.g., cities and diversity, minority rights, religious groups in global contexts, super-diversity, multicultural jurisdiction or laws, and citizenship.

The task of filling gaps in the research areas of the Department of Ethics, Law, and Politics (ELP) has been accomplished at the time of writing this report. In 2016, we started by collecting major works on international law, in general, and on human rights and minority rights, in particular, and then we moved on to more specific research areas of interest by the Department's scholars. Therefore, our focus is now again equally on all three departments and the individual foci of each researcher.

With our specific collection of field-related print media and abundant electronic information resources, the MPI-MMG library is receiving in-

creasing recognition as a place to study and work from scholars worldwide.

## **Service Developments**

Using the open source software VuFind, we provide ELISA, a resource discovery system that we developed together with our hosting partner, the Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund. This research portal contains a broad range of selected sources in the areas of research covered by the Institute. This means that our books, ebooks, selected journal articles, and open-access publications can be searched simultaneously. Several filters can also be utilized to specify and restrict the results. We are always endeavoring to analyze further resources and load them into ELISA to make a great number of resources searchable through one portal.

In March 2019, the part of the MPI building where most of the collection is being held has been shut down due to building safety concerns. We have quickly developed different means of continuing to get this literature to the researchers, e.g., through agreements in which we can loan from other libraries, although we own the items ourselves.

## **Collaborations**

We participate with external networks, consortia and other partners, such as the Deutscher Bibliotheksverbund and the Max Planck Digital Library, to maximize access to the world of information and to build resources for the Institute. We work together with other Max Planck libraries on areas, such as open access or ebook acquisition, as well as with the Max-Planck-wide Institutional Repository PuRe. The head librarian, Dr. Kristin Futterlieb, collaborates regularly with other academic librarians in her fields in the special subject groups for Religious Studies and Language Studies of the Regensburger Verbundklassifikation and with Knowledge Unlatched (KU). Bringing together library and research skills, she has also





MMG library. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebiel

collaborated with Dr. Astrid Biele-Mefebue of the Diversity Department at Georg-August-University Göttingen on a project on diversity management in libraries, as well as with the Kerstin Schoof of the MPI for Empirical Aesthetics on a paper about special libraries as academic hubs of research institutes.

### Staff

The work of specialized libraries, such as ours, is exceptionally diverse, and our staff perform this work extremely well in terms of quantity as well as quality. Our success in managing the constantly increasing range of tasks is due to our excellent library team. Our core principle is to provide distinguished service to MPI researchers, and in all of our activities we seek to meet or exceed our users' expectations. We especially value the diversity of perspectives and unfettered access to information. We recognize the critical contribution that we make to the effectiveness of the research and believe that these values are central to realizing the Institute's goals.

To meet future challenges, our staff endeavor to be resourceful, innovative, and flexible professionals. To achieve this, we are constantly improving our skills. In 2017-2019, we attended, among other events, training sessions and conferences, such as the Deutscher Bibliothekartag and MPG-Bibliothekstagung, as well as trainings on ebooks in academic libraries, research data management, open science, librarian skills for today's world, etc. We are proud that our former staff member, Nadine Schröder, has acquired an M.A. degree in Information and Knowledge Management alongside her work, and is now an expert on open research data. Library personnel seek to build personal connections with researchers to ensure the best possible provision of information and literature. Library staff members also reach out to academic staff through services, such as library introductions, interlibrary loans, the electronic ordering system, Ask-A-Librarian, and other instructional and consultative services. We are dedicated to making ourselves accessible to the Institute's researchers.



### Statistics 2017-2019

	2017	2018	2019
Active users	174	153	87
New persons at the Institute	28	54	44
New acquisitions	3,237	4,022	2,604
Total collection	39,000	43,000	46,000
Other media (films, CD-ROMs, etc.)	424	439	440
Print-journals	260	267	250
E-journals	27,000	28,500	30,000
E-books	81,500	85,700	88,200
Expenses for acquisitions in €	253,500	300,500	216,500

### Access to print media currently in the temporarily closed building

The major part of the MPI's print media is not accessible for the moment due to building safety issues. The library staff is using all means at their disposal to continue to provide these books to the academic staff, e.g., loaning from other libraries, e-book purchases, etc.

At the same time, we have negotiated for space with the Göttingen University library. As part of the agreed cooperation on the "Göttingen Campus", the collection of the MPI-MMG will move to the Historical Building of the Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek (SUB Göttingen) for the duration of the building process. The Historical Building is located in the city center near the market place and can easily be reached on foot or bike, as well as by bus, from both MPI locations Hermann-Höge-Weg and Bunsenstraße. As soon as the collection is relocated, not only will MPI researchers be able to fully use it, university students will also be able to consult this important reference collection, albeit without lending privileges.

To make space for this collection in the Historical Building, we have updated our contract with

the SUB Göttingen that allowed us to use the space for the collection of the former MPI for History (MPIH). This collection has been inherited by the MPI-MMG and curated by the Head Librarian of the MPI-MMG. Since 2009, the MPIH collection of 102,000 volumes has been accessible for all interested researchers at the Historical Building as a reference library only. The updates contract now enables us to give those parts of this collection, which are also available at the SUB Göttingen, to other interested libraries and institutes.

To ensure the continuity of historical research with this collection, we give those books that are singular in Göttingen as a permanent loan to the SUB Göttingen. The SUB Göttingen will create a virtual catalogue of the collection of the MPIH, and thus make the entire collection searchable and usable to all interested researchers. All titles printed after 1900 will also be accessible for lending. This ensures that not only will historical research continue with the MPIH collection, but also the MPI-MMG collection will be fully accessible again.



MMG library. © MPI-MMG, 2019. Photo: die drehen | benjamin klingebiel

# 18

## FROM THE INSIDE OF THE INSTITUTE

In the reporting period from 2017–2020, the Institute was affected by a series of incidents, one of which was less severe than the ones that would follow. In June 2017, we had a very uncommon and unusual guest residing in the mansion of the Institute, i.e., a raccoon who was creating his new habitat. Although the raccoon seemed to be potentially interested in our research topics, she or he was lacking the ability to grasp the scientific depth and importance of academic life, and, therefore, was politely asked to leave – as you will see in the picture. We have not heard back from him since she/he left, but we assume that she/he took a position in one of the other MPIs on-site...



In July 2018, another more serious incident occurred. When the communal kitchen was renovated in the building in Hermann-Föge-Weg 11, which was built in the 1970s, construction workers discovered that the steel girders were not equipped with fire protection material. In addition to the kitchen of the 1970s building, the building from 1954 on the south side was about to be renovated because new offices were to be created in the basement. Therefore, a fire protection expert was tasked to critically evaluate the buildings' safety standards. The expert inspected



the building permit from 1970 which required that all steel girders be wrapped in fire protection material, which unfortunately was not the case. Indeed, the requirements of the building were not met!

Due to the defects of the building, which were discovered almost 50 years after its construction, several meetings took place with the building code office, the fire department, and the construction department. Finally, a decision was made: The 1970s building would not be renovated, but instead, major conversion measures would be implemented to make use of the building possible again. The conversion is still pending.

Against this background, the Institute was partially closed in early 2019 as the fire prevention measures did not comply with the current regulations. The 1970s buildings in Hermann-Föge-Weg 11 were shut down completely due the lack of fire protection measures. Since it was not possible to use the building on the south side constructed in 1954 for the same reasons, an extensive rebuild was made to enable its use, which was completed in September 2019.



While the scientists working in Hermann-Föge-Weg 11 had to leave their offices and work remotely at that time, the non-scientific staff used the apartments of the Guesthouse in Bunsenstrasse as new office spaces. Given the fact that future use of the 1970s building was uncertain and there was a resultant shortage of available office space, a container structure was built next to the mansion in Hermann-Föge-Weg 12 during August 2019 and February 2020.

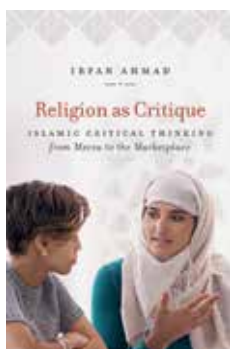
After the construction works in the building on the south side from 1954 in Hermann-Föge-Weg 11 were completed in September 2019, the staff of the Institute slowly started to return to their offices. In February/March 2020, the scientific staff was able to move into their new offices in the container. It was just at that time when COVID-19 reached Germany, which forced everyone to work remotely from home – again.



# 19 PUBLICATIONS

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## BOOKS AND EDITED VOLUMES



Ahmad, I. (2017). *Religion as critique: Islamic critical thinking from Mecca to the marketplace*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.

Irfan Ahmad makes the far-reaching argument that potent systems and modes for self-critique as well as critique of others are inherent in Islam--indeed, critique is integral to its fundamental tenets and practices. Challenging common views of Islam as hostile to critical thinking, Ahmad delineates thriving traditions of critique in Islamic culture, focusing in large part on South Asian traditions. Ahmad interrogates Greek and Enlightenment notions of reason and critique, and he notes how they are invoked in relation to "others," including Muslims. Drafting an alternative genealogy of critique in Islam, Ahmad reads religious teachings and texts, drawing on sources in Hindi, Urdu, Farsi, and English, and demonstrates how they serve as expressions of critique. Throughout, he depicts Islam as an agent, not an object, of critique.

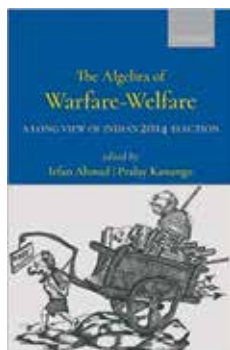


Ahmad, I., & Doyle, N. J. (Eds.). (2018). *(Il)liberal Europe: Islamophobia, modernity and radicalization*. London: Routledge.

Europe sees itself as embodying the ideals of modernity, especially in relation to democracy and the respect for human rights. Faced on the one hand with the need for public recognition of a new population of Muslim identity, and the threat of violent radicalization on the other, Europe is falling prey to the politics of fear and is tempted to compromise on its professed ideals. Reflecting on the manifestations and causes of the contemporary fear of Islam gaining ground in contemporary Europe, as well as on the factors contributing to the radicalization of some Muslims, *(Il)liberal Europe: Islamophobia, Modernity and Radicalization* offers a diversity of perspectives on both the

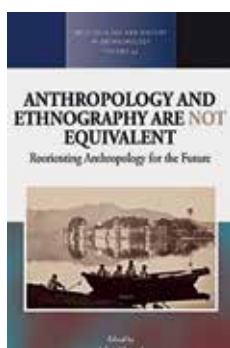


challenges to social cohesion, and the danger of Islamophobia encouraging a spiral of co-radicalization. Combining empirical studies of several European countries with a comparative account of India and Europe, the book analyzes vital issues such as secularity, homophobia, de-politicization, neo-nationalism, the European unification project and more. Spanning a variety of disciplinary approaches, the volume offers novel insights into the complex landscape of identity politics in contemporary Europe to widen the scope of intellectual inquiry. This book was originally published as a special issue of *Politics, Religion & Ideology*.



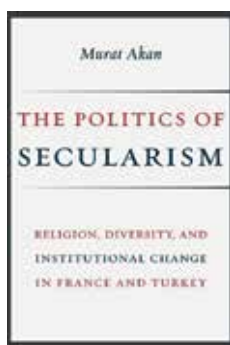
Ahmad, I., & Kanungo, P. (Eds.). (2019). *The algebra of warfare-welfare. A long view of India's 2014 election*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

This volume explores how the Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) won the 2014 Parliamentary elections with such an unprecedented majority, and what that victory means for politics in general and Indian politics in particular. It opens up space for new theoretical and methodological reflections on electoral democracy, critically taking on such salient issues as development, terrorism, charisma, media, new mechanisms of mobilization, nationalism, rumour, religion, regionalism, polarisation, space, Muslim vote, and caste. This volume is distinct in its ability to focus squarely on the empirical acts of voting. It sociologically and historically examines the enduring as well as changing institutional, social, political, and cultural landscapes in which voting takes place. Unlike most other studies on elections in India, this book puts human subjectivity at the centre of election studies. The anthropological-sociological perspective the volume places before readers draws on political-social theory whereby the volume also examine the larger and changing contours of modernity, democracy and elections being its key faces. As such the volume situates the 2014 elections in relation to changing nature and forms of elections and democracy globally, in particular in conversation with those in the democratic nation-states in the West.



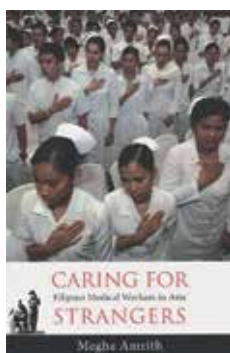
Ahmad, I. (Ed.). (2021). *Anthropology and ethnography are not equivalent: reorienting anthropology for the future*. New York: Berghahn Books.

In recent years, crucial questions have been raised about anthropology as a discipline, such as whether ethnography is central to the subject, and how imagination, reality and truth are joined in anthropological enterprises. These interventions have impacted anthropologists and scholars at large. This volume contributes to the debate about the interrelationships between ethnography and anthropology and takes it to a new plane. Six anthropologists with field experience in Egypt, Greece, India, Laos, Mauritius, Thailand and Switzerland critically discuss these propositions in order to renew anthropology for the future. The volume concludes with an Afterword from Tim Ingold.



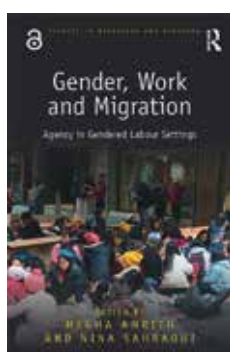
Akan, M. (2017). *The politics of secularism: Religion, diversity, and institutional change in France and Turkey*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Discussions of modernity—or alternative and multiple modernities—often hinge on the question of secularism, especially how it travels outside its original European context. Too often, attempts to answer this question either imagine a universal model derived from the history of Western Europe, which neglects the experience of much of the world, or emphasize a local, non-European context that limits the potential for comparison. In *The Politics of Secularism*, Murat Akan reframes the question of secularism, exploring its presence both outside and inside Europe and offering a rich empirical account of how it moves across borders and through time.



Amrith, M. (2017). *Caring for Strangers: Filipino Medical Workers in Asia*. Copenhagen: NIAS Press.

Today, the Philippines has become one of the largest exporters of medical workers in the world, with nursing in particular offering many the hope of a lucrative and stable career abroad. This timely volume narrates their stories in a multi-sited ethnography that follows aspiring migrants from Manila's vibrant nursing schools, where they dream of glamorous, cosmopolitan lives abroad, to a different reality in Singapore's multicultural hospitals and nursing homes. It also accompanies nurses' off-duty activities in shopping malls and churches and their rich online lives, where they connect with friends and family around the world and search for future opportunities. Finally, *Caring for Strangers* follows them back home on a visit to a Filipino village.



Amrith, M., & Sahraoui, N. (Eds.). (2018). *Gender, work and migration: Agency in gendered labour settings*. London: Routledge.

While the feminisation of transnational migrant labour is now a firmly ingrained feature of the contemporary global economy, the specific experiences and understandings of labour in a range of gendered sectors of global and regional labour markets still require comparative and ethnographic attention. This book adopts a particular focus on migrants employed in sectors of the economy that are typically regarded as marginal or precarious – domestic work and care work in private homes and institutional settings, cleaning work in hospitals, call centre labour, informal trade – with the goal of understanding the aspirations and mobilities of migrants and their families across generations in relation to questions of gender and labour. Bringing together rich, fieldwork-based case studies on the experiences of migrants from the Philippines, Bolivia, Ecuador, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Mauritius, Brazil and India, among others, who live and work in countries within Europe, Asia, the Middle East and South America, *Gender, Work and Migration* goes beyond a unique focus on migration to explore the implications of gendered labour patterns for migrants' empowerment and experiences of social mobility and immobility, their transnational involvement, and wider familial and social relationships.



Arnaut, K., Karrebæk, M. S., Spotti, M., & Blommaert, J. (Eds.). (2017). *Engaging superdiversity: Recombining spaces, times and language practices*. Bristol: Multilingual Matters.

This book is the fruition of five years' work in exploring the idea of superdiversity. The editors argue that sociolinguistic superdiversity could be a source of inspiration to a wide range of post-structuralist, post-colonial and neo-Marxist interdisciplinary research into the potential and the limits of human cultural creativity and societal renewal under conditions of increasing and complexifying global connectivity. Through case studies of language practices in spaces understood as inherently translocal and multi-layered (classrooms and schools, youth spaces, mercantile spaces and nation-states), this book explores the relevance of superdiversity for the social and human sciences and positions it as a research perspective in sociolinguistics and beyond.



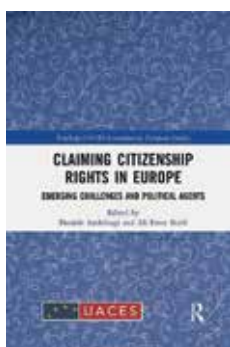
Arnaut, K., Meeus, B., & Heur, B. v. (Eds.). (2019). *Arrival infrastructures: migration and urban social mobilities*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This volume introduces a strategic interdisciplinary research agenda on arrival infrastructures. Arrival infrastructures are those parts of the urban fabric within which newcomers become entangled on arrival, and where their future local or translocal social mobilities are produced as much as negotiated. Challenging the dominance of national normativities, temporalities, and geographies of "arrival," the authors scrutinize the position and potential of cities as transnationally embedded places of arrival. Critically interrogating conceptions of migrant arrival as oriented towards settlement and integration, the volume directs attention to much more diverse migration trajectories that shape our cities today. Each chapter examines how migrants, street-level bureaucrats, local residents, and civil society actors build—with the resources they have at hand—the infrastructures that accommodate, channel, and govern arrival.



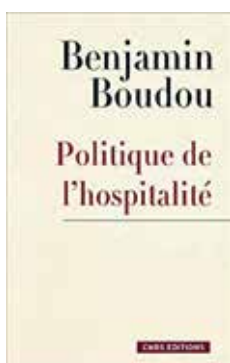
Becker, S. (2018). *Sprechgebote: Wie das Sprechen über Sprache soziale Ungleichheiten reproduziert*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

Susanne Becker geht der Frage nach, wie Sprechweisen alltäglich bewertet werden und wie diese Bewertungen mit ökonomischen Ungleichheiten in Verbindung stehen. Mittels empirischer Ergebnisse aus ihrer ethnografischen Forschung in zwei Stadtteilen illustriert die Autorin Wechselwirkungen von symbolischen und ökonomischen Ein- und Ausschlüssen durch Sprache(n). Die Studie nimmt einerseits Sprachhierarchien und Sprachideologien in den Blick. Zum anderen setzt sie sich mit der Kommodifizierung („Warenwerdung“) von Sprache(n) kritisch auseinander. Dabei schlägt die Autorin eine Brücke zwischen der soziolinguistischen Forschung zu Linguistic Landscapes und Sprachregimen und der soziologischen Ungleichheitsanalyse. Das Buch ist ein Plädoyer für die Berücksichtigung sprachlicher Verhältnisse in der Ungleichheitsforschung.



Benli, A. E., & Archibugi, D. (Eds.). (2018). *Claiming citizenship rights in Europe: emerging challenges and political agents*. London: Routledge.

While the European integration project is facing new challenges, abandonments and criticism, it is often forgotten that there are powerful legal instruments that allow citizens to protect and extend their rights. These instruments and the actions taken to activate them are often overlooked and deliberately ignored in the mainstream debates. This book presents a selection of cases in which legal institutions, social movements, avant-gardes and minorities have tried, and often succeeded, to enhance the current state of human rights through traditional as well as innovative actions.



Boudou, B. (2017). *Politics of hospitality: A conceptual genealogy* [in French: *Politique de l'hospitalité: une généalogie conceptuelle*]. Paris: CNRS éditions.

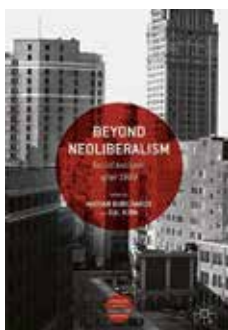
L'hospitalité est une pratique en apparence simple et universellement partagée. Il serait donc tentant d'en fournir une définition générique : l'hospitalité est l'institution qui règle l'interaction entre un accueillant (chez lui) et un accueilli (nouveau venu), consistant en un processus de familiarisation réciproque (faire connaissance, entretenir une relation, etc.). Elle a comme fonctions la dispensation de bienfaits, l'amorçage de la socialité, l'identification de l'étranger, ou l'intégration temporaire de l'invité. L'hospitalité ne saurait néanmoins être réduite à une vertu privée. Elle est au contraire une pratique politique : elle institue des règles, des frontières, et des dispositifs d'intégration ou d'exclusion. Cet ouvrage expose les différentes formes qu'elle a pu revêtir, des sociétés traditionnelles à nos jours en explicitant les relations de pouvoir qui se jouent dans le langage vertueux de l'hospitalité. Une telle généalogie permet de retrouver les moments et les lieux clés qui ont façonné ce concept en le transformant, le déplaçant et le recomposant selon sa fonction politique. Cet ouvrage, tout en répondant à une actualité brûlante et souvent tragique ouvre à une réflexion distanciée mais active afin de démocratiser les frontières. Benjamin Boudou a enseigné à Sciences Po, il est chercheur à l'institut Max Planck et rédacteur en chef de *Raisons politiques*.



Boudou, B. (2018). *The dilemma of borders: ethics and politics of immigration* [in French: *Le dilemme des frontières: Éthique et politique de l'immigration*]. Paris: Editions de l'EHESS.

Aujourd'hui, les psychiatres intervenant auprès des tribunaux exposent de plus en plus les malades mentaux criminels à la sanction pénale et à la prison. Ces experts confient ainsi à la justice la responsabilité d'un patient potentiellement dangereux et dont la prise en charge peut être problématique. Passant au crible un ensemble d'expertises psychiatriques, Caroline Protais analyse comment a évolué le discours professionnel dominant : à l'humanisme des premiers aliénistes du xix<sup>e</sup> siècle s'est substituée à partir des années 1960 une tendance punitive sans cesse accrue et toujours d'actualité. Entre histoire et sociologie, cet ouvrage offre non seulement une rétrospective originale des pratiques psychiatriques depuis les années 1950, mais également une réflexion sur une problématique qui travaille nos sociétés depuis toujours : celle de la responsabilité humaine face aux errements de la raison.





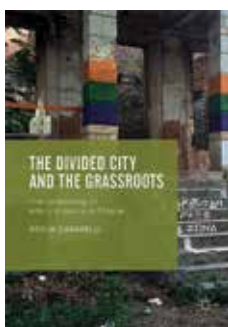
Burchardt, M., & Kirn, G. (Eds.). (2017). *Beyond neoliberalism: Social analysis after 1989*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book explores how changes that occurred around 1989 shaped the study of the social sciences, and scrutinizes the impact of the paradigm of neoliberalism in different disciplinary fields. The contributors examine the ways in which capitalism has transmuted into a seemingly unquestionable, triumphant framework that globally articulates economics with epistemology and social ontology. The volume also investigates how new narratives of capitalism are being developed by social scientists in order to better understand capitalism's ramifications in various domains of knowledge. At its heart, *Beyond Neoliberalism* seeks to unpack and disaggregate neoliberalism, and to take readers beyond the analytical limitations that a traditional framework of neoliberalism entails. This book is a result of discussions at and support from the Irmgard Coninx Foundation.



Burchardt, M. (2020). *Regulating difference: religious diversity and nationhood in the secular west*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

Transnational migration has contributed to the rise of religious diversity and has led to profound changes in the religious make-up of society across the Western world. As a result, societies and nation-states have faced the challenge of crafting ways to bring new religious communities into existing institutions and the legal frameworks. *Regulating Difference* explores how the state regulates religious diversity and examines the processes whereby religious diversity and expression becomes part of administrative landscapes of nation-states and people's everyday lives. Arguing that concepts of nationhood are key to understanding the governance of religious diversity, *Regulating Difference* employs a transatlantic comparison of the Spanish region of Catalonia and the Canadian province of Quebec to show how processes of nation-building, religious heritage-making and the mobilization of divergent interpretations of secularism are co-implicated in shaping religious diversity. It argues that religious diversity has become central for governing national and urban spaces.

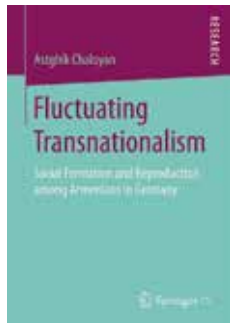


Carabelli, G. (2018). *The divided city and the grassroots: The (un)making of ethnic divisions in Mostar*. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan.

Focusing on Mostar, a city in Bosnia Herzegovina that became the epitome of ethnic divisions during the Yugoslav wars, this cutting edge book considers processes of violent partitioning in cities. Providing an in-depth understanding of the social, political, and mundane dynamics that keep cities polarized, it examines the potential that moments of inter-ethnic collaboration hold in re-imagining these cities as other than divided. Against the backdrop of normalised practices of ethnic partitioning, the book studies both 'planned' and 'unplanned' moments of disruption; it looks at how networks of solidarity come into existence regardless of identity politics as well as the role of organised grassroots groups that attempt to create more inclusive; and it critically engages with urban spaces of resistance. Challenging the representation of the city as merely a site of ethnic divisions, the author also explores the complexities arising from living in a city that validates its citizens solely through



ethnicity. Elaborating on the relationships between space, culture and social change, this book is a key read for scholars, students, and urban practitioners studying ethnically divided cities worldwide.



Chaloyan, A. (2017). *Fluctuating transnationalism: Social formation and reproduction among Armenians in Germany*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

This book concerns various modes of being transnational among a diasporic population—Armenians in Germany—by drawing parallels between the first and second generation migrants. It puts forth the questions as to whether or not, and which kind of transactional activity/ties/practices survive over generations, and to what extent transnational engagements influence self-identification and the sense of belonging. It also examines how various modes of transnationalism, in turn, impact the sense of belonging. The book fleshes out new perspectives and interpretations of transnationalism, by revealing specific aspects of border-spanning ties, and by showing that connections to the country of origin do not necessarily need to be sustained or intensive in order to survive. They can, instead, fluctuate depending on various factors but still have the “right” to be called transnational.



Dean, K., & Hue, G. T. (2017). *Chinese Epigraphy in Singapore 1819-1911 = Xinjiapo Hua wen ming ke hui bian 1819-1911*. Singapore: NUS Press.

The history of Singapore’s Chinese community has been carved in stone and wood throughout the country. This book looks specifically at sixty-two temples, native-place associations, and guildhalls where epigraphs made between 1819 and 1911 are still found today. These early inscriptions provide first-hand historical information on the aspirations and contributions of the early generation of Chinese settlers in Singapore and reveal the many ways that the epigraph’s chosen structures—and the institutions they represent—have evolved over the years. These epigraphs, newly translated into English, open a window into the world of Chinese communities in Singapore, offering an important source for the study of both Chinese overseas as well as the place of Buddhism and Taoism within the political and social climate of colonial and postcolonial Singapore.



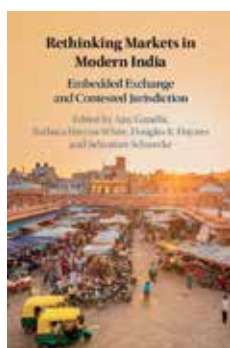
Debele, S. B. (2019). *Locating politics in Ethiopia's Irreecha ritual*. Leiden: Brill.

In *Locating Politics in Ethiopia's Irreecha Ritual* Serawit Bekele Debele gives an account of politics and political processes in contemporary Ethiopia as manifested in the annual ritual performance. Mobilizing various sources such as archives, oral accounts, conversations, videos, newspapers, and personal observations, Debele critically analyses political processes and how they are experienced, made sense of and articulated across generational, educational, religious, gender and ethnic differences as well as political persuasions. Moreover, she engages Irreecha in relation to the hugely contested meaning making processes attached to the Thanksgiving ritual which has now become an integral part of Oromo national identity.



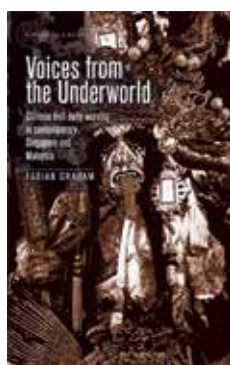
Emmerich, A. (2020). *Islamic movements in India: moderation and its discontents*. London: Routledge.

This book analyses the emerging trend of Muslim-minority politics in India and illustrates that a fundamental shift has occurred over the last 20 years from an identity-dominated, self-serving and inward-looking approach by Muslim community leaders, Islamic authorities and social activists that seeks to protect Islamic law and culture, towards an inclusive debate centred on socio-economic marginalisation and minority empowerment. The book focuses on Muslim activists, and members and affiliates of the Popular Front of India (PFI), a growing Muslim-minority and youth movement. Drawing on qualitative fieldwork undertaken since 2011, the author analyses recent literature on Muslim citizenship politics and the growing involvement of Islamist organisations and movements in the democratic process and electoral politics to demonstrate that religious groups play a role in politics, development, and policy making, which is often ignored within political theory. The book suggests that further scrutiny is needed of the assumption that Muslim politics and Islamic movements are incompatible with the democratic political framework of the modern nation state in India and elsewhere.



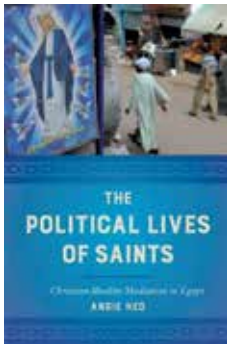
Gandhi, A., Harriss-White, B., Haynes, D. E., & Schwedde, S. (2021). *Rethinking markets in Modern India: embedded exchange and contested jurisdiction*. Cambridge University Press.

To people operating in India's economy, actually existing markets are remarkably different from how planners and academics conceive them. From the outside, they appear as demarcated arenas of exchange bound by state-imposed rules. As historical and social realities, however, markets are dynamic, adaptive, and ambiguous spaces. This book delves into this intricate context, exploring Indian markets through the competition and collaboration of those who frame and participate in markets. Anchored in vivid case studies – from colonial property and advertising milieus to today's bazaar and criminal economies – this volume underlines the friction and interdependence between commerce, society, and state. Contributors from history, anthropology, political economy, and development studies synthesize existing scholarly approaches, add new perspectives on Indian capitalism's evolution, and reveal the transactional specificities that underlie the real-world functioning of markets.



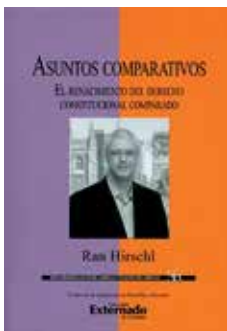
Graham, F. (2020). *Voices from the underworld: Chinese hell deity worship in contemporary Singapore and Malaysia*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

In Singapore and Malaysia, the inversion of Chinese Underworld traditions has meant that Underworld demons are now amongst the most commonly venerated deities in statue form, channelled through their spirit mediums, tang-ki. The Chinese Underworld and its sub-hells are populated by a bureaucracy drawn from the Buddhist, Taoist and vernacular pantheons. Under the watchful eye of Hell's 'enforcers', the lower echelons of demon soldiers impose post-mortem punishments on the souls of the recently deceased for moral transgressions committed during their prior incarnations.



Heo, A. (2018). *The political lives of saints: christian-muslim mediation in egypt*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Since the Arab Spring in 2011 and ISIS's rise in 2014, Egypt's Copts have attracted attention worldwide as the collateral damage of revolution and as victims of sectarian strife. Countering the din of persecution rhetoric and Islamophobia, *The Political Lives of Saints* journeys into the quieter corners of divine intercession to consider what martyrs, miracles, and mysteries have to do with the routine challenges faced by Christians and Muslims living together under the modern nation-state. Drawing on years of extensive fieldwork, Angie Heo argues for understanding popular saints as material media that organize social relations between Christians and Muslims in Egypt toward varying political ends. With an ethnographer's eye for traces of antiquity, she deciphers how long-cherished imaginaries of holiness broker bonds of revolutionary sacrifice, reconfigure national sites of sacred territory, and pose sectarian threats to security and order. A study of tradition and nationhood at their limits, *The Political Lives of Saints* shows that Coptic Orthodoxy is a core domain of minoritarian regulation and authoritarian rule, powerfully reversing the recurrent thesis of its impending extinction in the Arab Muslim world.



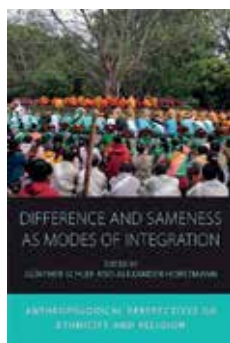
Hirschl, R. (2019). *Asuntos Comparativos: El Renacimiento del Derecho Constitucional Comparado*. Bogotá: Universidad Externado de Colombia.

Los estudios comparados se han posicionado como una nueva frontera de la academia en derecho constitucional, así como un aspecto importante de la adjudicación constitucional. Cada vez más juristas, académicos y constituyentes en el mundo aceptan la idea de que “todos somos comparatistas ahora”. Sin embargo, a pesar de aquel tremendo reconocimiento, el aspecto “comparativo” como proyecto y método aún permanece difuso e insuficientemente teorizado.



Hirschl, R. (2020). *City, state: constitutionalism and the megacity*. New York: Oxford University Press.

More than half of the world's population lives in cities; by 2050, it will be more than three quarters. Projections suggest that megacities of 50 million or even 100 million inhabitants will emerge by the end of the century, mostly in the Global South. This shift marks a major and unprecedented transformation of the organization of society, both spatially and geopolitically. Our constitutional institutions and imagination, however, have failed to keep pace with this new reality. Cities have remained virtually absent from constitutional law and constitutional thought, not to mention from comparative constitutional studies more generally. As the world is urbanizing at an extraordinary rate, this book argues, new thinking about constitutionalism and urbanization is desperately needed. In six chapters, the book considers the reasons for the “constitutional blind spot” concerning the metropolis, probes the constitutional relationship between states and (mega)cities worldwide, examines patterns of constitutional change and stalemate in city status, and aims to carve a new place for the city in constitutional thought, constitutional law and constitutional practice.



Horstmann, A., & Schlee, G. (Eds.). (2018). *Difference and sameness as modes of integration: anthropological perspectives on ethnicity and religion*. New York; Oxford: Berghahn.

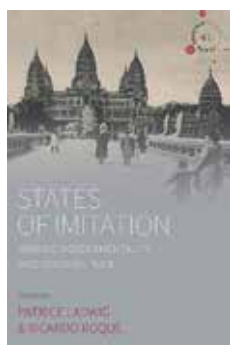
What does it mean to “fit in”? In this volume of essays, editors Günther Schlee and Alexander Horstmann demystify the discourse on identity, challenging common assumptions about the role of sameness and difference as the basis for inclusion and exclusion. Armed with intimate knowledge of local systems, social relationships, and the negotiation of people’s positions in the everyday politics, these essays tease out the ways in which ethnicity, religion and nationalism are used for social integration.

Hudson, A. (in press). *The veil of participation: Citizens and political parties in constitution-making processes* (forthcoming 2021-02). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.



Kusters, A., De Meulder, M., & O'Brien, D. (Eds.). (2017). *Innovations in deaf studies: The role of deaf scholars*. New York: Oxford University Press.

What does it mean to engage in Deaf Studies and who gets to define the field? What would a truly deaf-led Deaf Studies research program look like? What are the research practices of deaf scholars in Deaf Studies, and how do they relate to deaf research participants and communities? What innovations do deaf scholars deem necessary in the field of Deaf Studies? In *Innovations in Deaf Studies: The Role of Deaf Scholars*, volume editors Annelies Kusters, Maartje De Meulder, and Dai O'Brien and their contributing authors tackle these questions and more.



Ladwig, P., & Roque, R. (Eds.). (2020). *States of Imitation. Mimetic Governmentality and Colonial Rule*. New York/Oxford: Berghahn.

Late Western colonialism often relied on the practice of imitating indigenous forms of rule in order to maintain power; conversely, indigenous polities could imitate Western sociopolitical forms to their own benefit. Drawing on historical ethnographic studies of colonialism in Asia and Africa, *States of Imitation* examines how the colonial state attempted to administer, control, and integrate its indigenous subjects through mimetic governmentality, as well the ways indigenous states adopted these imitative practices to establish reciprocal ties with, or to resist the presence of, the colonial state.



Lang, C., Pott, A., & Schneider, J. (2018). *Erfolg nicht vorgesehen: Sozialer Aufstieg in der Einwanderungsgesellschaft – und was ihn so schwer macht* (2. aktualisierte und gekürzte Auflage). Münster: Waxmann.

Erfolgreiche Karrieren werden von Kindern aus Einwandererfamilien nur selten erwartet. Auch für die Kinder der sogenannten Gastarbeiterinnen und Gastarbeiter waren sie weder wahrscheinlich noch vorgesehen. Trotzdem haben viele von ihnen den sozialen Aufstieg geschafft, einige sogar den Weg bis in Spitzenpositionen in der Wirtschaft und im Öffentlichen Dienst. Sie sind Pioniere einer lange überfälligen Öffnung der Gesellschaft und ihrer Führungsseta-

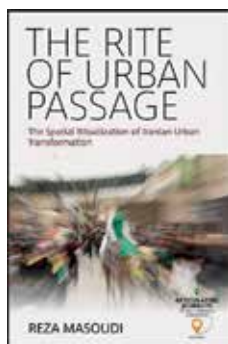


gen. Auf der Basis von zahlreichen Interviews zeichnet das Buch die Wege dieser Pioniere nach: Sie führten sie durch ein äußerst selektives Bildungssystem, hinein in Berufe, in denen ihre ethnische, aber auch ihre soziale Herkunft noch immer alles andere als selbstverständlich sind. Welche Hindernisse mussten sie überwinden und was hat ihren Erfolg möglich gemacht? Was können wir aus ihren Werdegängen für zukünftige soziale Aufstiege in der Einwanderungsgesellschaft lernen?



Lang, C. (2019). *Die Produktion von Diversität in städtischen Verwaltungen. Wandel und Beharrung von Organisationen in der Migrationsgesellschaft*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

Wie reagieren öffentliche Organisationen auf die migrationsbedingte Diversität? Das Buch untersucht städtische Verwaltungen und die Beschäftigung von Einwanderern und ihren Nachkommen. Anhand einer organisationssoziologisch basierten Studie zu Berliner Verwaltungen fokussiert es das Zusammenspiel verschiedener Praktiken, Strukturen und Kontexte, in dem Zugänge zur Beschäftigung hervorgebracht werden und sich unter Umständen verändern. Das Buch zeigt sowohl Triebkräfte organisationalen Wandels als auch Beharrungskräfte, die der Öffnung von Verwaltungen entgegenstehen und den Abschluss von bestimmter ‚Diversität‘ zur Folge haben.



Masoudi Nejad, R. (2018). *The rite of urban passage: The spatial ritualization of Iranian urban transformation*. New York: Berghahn.

The Iranian city experienced a major transformation when the Pahlavi Dynasty initiated a project of modernization in the 1920s. *The Rite of Urban Passage* investigates this process by focusing on the spatial dynamics of Muharram processions, a ritual that commemorates the tragic massacre of Hussein and his companions in 680 CE. In doing so, this volume offers not only an alternative approach to understanding the process of urban transformation, but also a spatial genealogy of Muharram rituals that provides a platform for developing a fresh spatial approach to ritual studies.

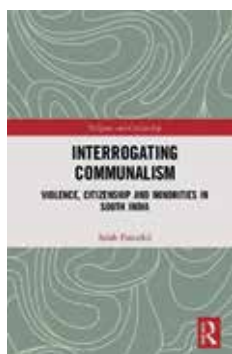


Pagano, S. (2019). *„Nomadin-Sein“ im „Dorf der Solidarität“: eine kritische Ethnografie zu Camps für Rom\_nja in Rom*. Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Göttingen.

Als Dörfer der Solidarität werden insbesondere in Rom, meist mit Wohncontainern ausgestattete, eingezäunte Camps bezeichnet, in denen Rom\_nja und Sint\_izze institutionell untergebracht werden. Medial sind diese vielbeachtet, die Bewohner\_innen werden stereotypisiert noch immer als „Nomaden“ kategorisiert, die als solche spezifischer Wohnmöglichkeiten – nämlich ihrer Halteplätze – bedürfen. Doch sind diese Camps weniger Halteplätze und kulturell spezifische Wohnform, als vielmehr Orte der Segregation sowie Konflikt- und Aushandlungsräume. In ihnen verdichten sich unterschiedliche Machtverhältnisse, wie Rassismus und Sexismus, aber auch ein spezifischer Umgang mit Armut und Migration. Ausgehend von der Ausrufung des Notstands in Bezug auf die Anwesenheit der „Nomaden“ im Jahre 2008, untersucht Simona Pagano in dieser Monographie die Auswirkungen dieser Machtverhältnisse insbesondere auf den Alltag der bislang zu gering berücksichtigten weiblichen Bewohnerinnen dieser Camps

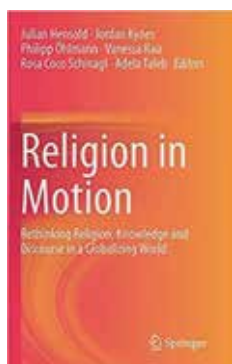


in Rom. In der alltäglichen Begleitung der Frauen, in Gesprächen, Interviews mit zivilgesellschaftlichen Organisationen und institutionellen Akteuren sowie durch das Nachzeichnen der Entstehung dieser Orte vermittelt die Autorin anhand einer intersektionalen Perspektive ein komplexes Bild dieser Camps. Sie kann dabei zeigen, dass diese zwar Orte der Segregation und Kontrolle, der Profitgenerierung und Gewalt, aber auch Räume der Solidarität, der Beheimatung und der Freundschaft sein können.



Punathil, S. (2018). *Interrogating communalism: violence, citizenship and minorities in South India*. London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

This book examines conflict and violence among religious minorities and the implication on the idea of citizenship in contemporary India. Going beyond the usual Hindu-Muslim question, it situates communalism in the context of conflicts between Muslims and Christians. By tracing the long history of conflict between the Marakkayar Muslims and Mukkuvar Christians in South India, it explores the notion of 'mobilization of religious identity' within the discourse on communal violence in South Asia as also discusses the spatial dynamics in violent conflicts. Including rich empirical evidence from historical and ethnographic material, the author shows how the contours of violence among minorities position Muslims as more vulnerable subjects of violent conflicts.



Rau, V., Hensold, J., Kynes, J., Öhlmann, P., Schinagl, R. C., & Taleb, A. (Eds.). (2020). *Religion in motion: Rethinking religion, knowledge and discourse in a globalizing world*. Cham: Springer International Publishing.

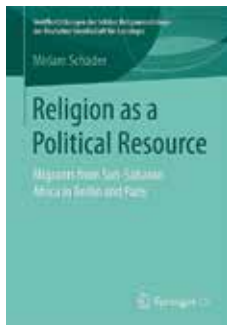
This volume offers innovative approaches to the study of religion. It brings together junior and senior scholars from the Global North and South. The contributors also explore the context-specific formations of religion and religious knowledge production in an increasingly instable and incalculable, globalized world. In the spirit of the challenging slogan, "Religion in Motion. Rethinking Religion, Knowledge and Discourse in a Globalizing World," the book bundles voices from a great variety of cultural and academic backgrounds. It offers readers a cross-continental exchange of innovative approaches in the study of religion. Coverage intersects religion, gender, economics, and politics. In addition, it de-centers European perspectives and brings in perspectives from the Global South.



Samanani, F., & Lenhard, J. (2019). *Home: ethnographic encounters*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

How are notions of 'home' made and negotiated by ethnographers? And how does the researcher relate to forms of home encountered during fieldwork? Rather than searching for an abstract, philosophical understanding of home, this collection asks how home gains its meaning and significance through ongoing efforts to create, sustain or remake a sense of home. The volume explores how researchers and informants alike are always involved in the process of making and unmaking home, and challenges readers to reimagine ethnographic practice in terms of active, morally complex process of home-making. Contributions reach across the globe and across social contexts, and

the book includes chapters on council housing and middle-class apartment buildings, homelessness and migration, problems with accessing the field as well as limiting it, physical as well as sentimental notions of home, and objects as well as inter-human social relations. Home draws attention to processes of sociality that normally remain analytically invisible, and contributes to a growing and rich field of study on the anthropology of home.



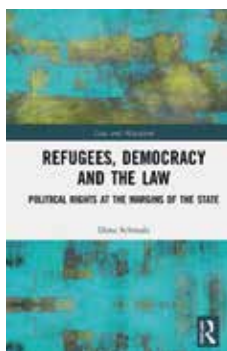
Schader, M. (2017). *Religion as a political resource: Migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa in Berlin and Paris*. Heidelberg: Springer.

Miriam Schader shows that migrants can use religion as a resource for political involvement in their (new) country of residence – but under certain circumstances only. The author analyses the role religious networks and symbols play for the politicization and participation of Muslim and Christian migrants from sub-Saharan Africa in Berlin and Paris. Against the widely held belief that Islam is a 'political religion' in itself, this study demonstrates that Christian migrants draw on their religion for political action more easily than their Muslim counterparts. It also highlights that it is not religion in general which helps migrants get politically active, but particular forms of religious organisations and particular theological elements.



Schlegel, S. (2017). *Der Entscheid über Migration als Verfügungsrecht: Eine Anwendung der Ökonomischen Analyse des Rechts auf das Migrationsrecht am Beispiel der Schweiz*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck.

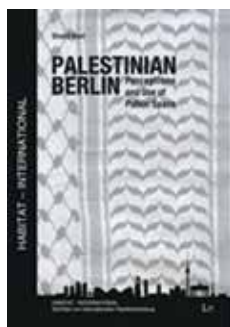
Stefan Schlegel wendet die Theorie der Verfügungsrechte auf das Migrationsrecht an und illustriert deren Erkenntniswert für das Migrationsrecht am konkreten Beispiel des Schweizer Rechts. Nach der Theorie der Verfügungsrechte besteht die Aufgabe der Rechtsordnung in erster Linie darin, Verfügungsrechte über Güter in der Gesellschaft zuzuordnen und festzulegen, nach welcher Transaktionsregel das Verfügungsrecht übertragen werden kann. Die Kontrolle über die Migration einer bestimmten Person an einen bestimmten Ort ist die Kontrolle über ein Gut und damit ein Verfügungsrecht. Die Rechtsordnung muss es zuweisen und Transaktionsregeln festlegen.



Schmalz, D. (2020). *Refugees, democracy and the law: political rights at the margins of the state*. Abingdon: Routledge.

The book provides an in-depth discussion of democratic theory questions in relation to refugee law. The work introduces readers to the evolution of refugee law and its core issues today, as well as central lines in the debate about democracy and migration. Bringing together these fields, the book links theoretical considerations and legal analysis. Based on its specific understanding of the refugee concept, it offers a reconstruction of refugee law as constantly confronted with the question of how to secure rights to those who have no voice in the democratic process. In this reconstruction, the book highlights, on the one hand, the need to look beyond the legal regulations for understanding the challenges and gaps in refugee protection. It is also the structural lack of political voice, the book argues, which shapes the refugee's situation. On the other hand, the book opposes a view of law as mere expression of power and points out the dynamics within the law which reflect

endeavors towards mitigating exclusion. The book will be essential reading for academics and researchers working in the areas of migration and refugee law, legal theory and political theory.



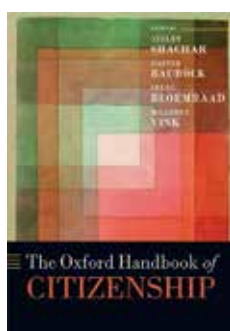
Seethaler-Wari, S. (2017). *Palestinian Berlin: Perceptions and use of public space*. Berlin: LIT Verlag.

How do Palestinian immigrants perceive and use the public space in the city of Berlin? Is their perception and use of space homogenous as a group? What are the main patterns of their socio-spatial practices in public spaces? How do they influence the urban landscape of the neighborhoods in which they live? Which factors play a role in their perception and use of public space and how do the hybrid identities of the second and third generations affect their socio-spatial behavior in comparison to the first generation? This book aims to present a study about Palestinian immigrants in Berlin and answer these questions and more about Palestinian identity, socio-spatial practices and use of public space.



Levey, G.B and A. Shachar (Eds.). 2017. *The Politics of Citizenship in Immigrant Democracies: The Experience of the United States, Canada, and Australia*. London: Routledge.

This book brings together scholars from various disciplines to explore current issues and trends in the rethinking of migration and citizenship from the perspective of three major immigrant democracies – Australia, Canada, and the United States. These countries share a history of pronounced immigration and emigration, extensive experience with diasporic and mobile communities, and with integrating culturally diverse populations. They also share an approach to automatic citizenship based on the principle of *jus soli* (as opposed to the traditionally common *jus sanguinis* of continental Europe), and a comparatively open attitude towards naturalization. Some of these characteristics are now under pressure due to the “restrictive turn” in citizenship and migration worldwide.



Shachar, A., Bauböck, R., Bloemraad, I., & Vink, M. (Eds.). (2017; 2020). *The Oxford handbook of citizenship*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Contrary to predictions that it would become increasingly redundant in a globalizing world, citizenship is back with a vengeance. The *Oxford Handbook of Citizenship* brings together leading experts in law, philosophy, political science, economics, sociology, and geography to provide a multidisciplinary, comparative discussion of different dimensions of citizenship: as legal status and political membership; as rights and obligations; as identity and belonging; as civic virtues and practices of engagement; and as a discourse of political and social equality or responsibility for a common good. The contributors engage with some of the oldest normative and substantive quandaries in the literature, dilemmas that have renewed salience in today’s political climate. As well as setting an agenda for future theoretical and empirical explorations, this *Handbook* explores the state of citizenship today in an accessible and engaging manner that will appeal to a wide academic and non-academic audience.



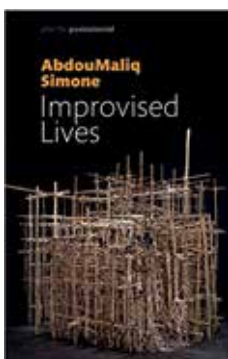
Shachar, A. (2020). *The shifting border: Legal cartographies of migration and mobility, Ayelet Shachar in dialogue*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

The border is one of the most urgent issues of our times. We tend to think of a border as a static line, but recent bordering techniques have broken away from the map, as governments have developed legal tools to limit the rights of migrants before and after they enter a country's territory. The consequent detachment of state power from any fixed geographical marker has created a new paradigm: the shifting border, an adjustable legal construct untethered in space. This transformation upsets our assumptions about waning sovereignty, while also revealing the limits of the populist push toward border-fortification. At the same time, it presents a tremendous opportunity to rethink states' responsibilities to migrants. This book proposes a new, functional approach to human mobility and access to membership in a world where borders, like people, have the capacity to move.



Simone, A., & Pieterse, E. (2017). *New urban worlds: Inhabiting dissonant times*. Cambridge, UK; Malden, MA: Polity Press.

It is well known that the world is transitioning to an irrevocable urban future whose epicentre has moved into the cities of Asia and Africa. What is less clear is how this will be managed and deployed as a multi-polar world system is being born. The full implications of this challenge cry out to be understood because city building (and retrofitting) cannot but be an undertaking entangled in profound societal and cultural shifts. In this highly original account, renowned urban sociologists AbdouMaliq Simone and Edgar Pieterse offer a call for action based fundamentally on the detail of people's lives. Urban regions are replete with residents who are compelled to come up with innovative ways to maintain or extend livelihoods, whose makeshift character is rarely institutionalized into a fixed set of practices, locales or organizational forms. This novel analytical approach reveals a more complex relationship between people, the state and other agents than has previously been understood. As the authors argue, we need adequate concepts and practices to grasp the composition and intricacy of these shifting efforts to make visible new political possibilities for action and social justice in cities across Asia and Africa.



Simone, A. (2019). *Improvised lives: Rhythms of endurance in an urban South*. Cambridge, UK; Malden, MA: Polity Press.

The poor and working people in cities of the South find themselves in urban spaces that are conventionally construed as places to reside or inhabit. But what if we thought of popular districts in more expansive ways that capture what really goes on within them? In such cities, popular districts are the settings of more uncertain operations that take place under the cover of darkness, generating uncanny alliances among disparate bodies, materials and things and expanding the urban sensorium and its capacities for liveliness. In this important book AbdouMaliq Simone explores the nature of these alliances, portraying urban districts as sites of enduring transformations through rhythms that mediate between the needs of residents not to draw too much attention to themselves and their aspirations to become a small niche



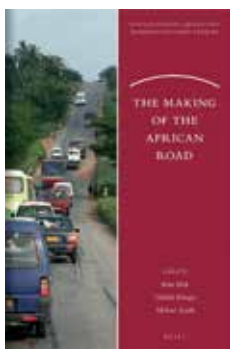
of exception. Here we discover an urban South that exists as dense rhythms of endurance that turn out to be vital for survival, connectivity, and becoming.

Sobhy, H. (submitted). *Schooling the nation: Education and everyday politics in Egypt*.



Sorrentino, P. (2018). *À l'épreuve de la possession: Chronique d'une innovation rituelle dans le Vietnam contemporain*. Nanterre: Société d'ethnologie.

Dans ce livre il est question de conversations fragiles avec les morts, d'une cassette funéraire déterrée au beau milieu d'une bananeraie, de séances de possession organisées par des associations scientifiques, de tiges de bambou qui attirent les âmes, d'expéditions menées secrètement à la recherche des corps égarés de milliers de soldats, d'un exorcisme difficile, de lutte contre la superstition et d'expérimentations sur « l'extra-sensorialité », de corps dont on ne sait plus très bien par qui ils sont animés.



Stasik, M., Beck, K., & Klaeger, G. (Eds.). (2017). *The making of the African road*. Leiden: Brill.

*The Making of the African Road* offers an account of the long-distance road in Africa. Being a latecomer to automobility and far from saturated mass mobility, the African road continues to be open for diverging interpretations and creative appropriations. The road regime on the continent is thus still under construction, and it is made in more than one sense: physically, socially, politically, morally and cosmologically. The contributions to this volume provide first-hand anthropological insights into the infrastructural, economic, historical as well as experiential dimensions of the emerging orders of the African road.



Stasik, M., & Cissokho, S. (Eds.). (2018). *Bus Stations in Africa (Special Issue)*. Africa Today.

Bus stations are among the most prominent sites of everyday social and economic activity in Africa. The lorry park, motor park, garage, gare routière, parkazy, or terminal rodoviário—to cite but a few of the names used in Anglophone, Francophone, and Lusophone contexts, respectively—is an essential hub in the organization of mobility. The role that bus stations play in everyday life stems from the primacy of collective road transport in providing motorized mobility. Other means of motorized transport are largely restricted, either in capacity and functionality, as with railway travel, or in access and affordability, as with air travel and private motorcars.



Suerbaum, M. (2020). *Masculinities and displacement in the Middle East: Syrian refugees in Egypt*. New York: Bloomsbury.

Following the outbreak of the Syrian uprising in 2011, many Syrians fled to Egypt. This ethnographic study traces Syrian men's struggles in Cairo: their experiences in the Egyptian labour market and efforts to avoid unemployment; their ambitions to prove their 'groomability' in front of potential in-laws in order to get married; and their discontent with being assigned the label 'refugee'.

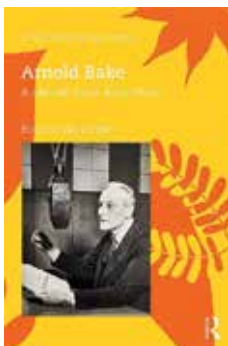


The book reveals the strategies these men use to maintain their identity as the 'respectable Syrian middle-class man' - including engaging in processes of 'Othering' and the creation of hierarchies – and Magdalena Suerbaum explains why this proved so much more difficult for them after Morsi was toppled in 2013.



Udupa, S., & McDowell, S. (Eds.). (2017). *Media as politics in South Asia*. London: Routledge.

The dramatic expansion of the media and communications sector since the 1990s has brought South Asia on the global scene as a major center for media production and consumption. This book is the first overview of media expansion and its political ramifications in South Asia during these years of economic reforms. From the puzzling liberalization of media under military dictatorship in Pakistan to the brutal killings of journalists in Sri Lanka, and the growing influence of social media in riots and political protests in India, Nepal and Bangladesh, the chapters analyse some of the most important developments in the media fields of contemporary South Asia. Attentive to colonial histories as well as connections within and beyond South Asia in the age of globalization, the chapters combine theoretically grounded studies with original empirical research to unravel the dynamics of media as politics.



Van Der Linden, B. (2018). *Arnold Bake: A life with South Asian music*. London: Routledge.

Arnold Bake (1899–1963) was a Dutch pioneer in South Asian ethnomusicology, whose research impressed not only the most renowned Indologists of his time but also the leading figures in the emerging field of ethnomusicology. This long overdue biography sheds light on his knowledge of the theory and practice of South Asian music, as well as his legacy on the intellectual history of ethnomusicology. Bake spent nearly seventeen years in the Indian subcontinent and made numerous, irreplaceable recordings, films and photographs of local musicians and dancers. As a gifted Western musician, he studied Indian singing with Bhimrao Shastri, Dinendranath Tagore and Nabadwip Brajabashi, and successfully performed Rabindranath Tagore's compositions and South Asian folk songs during hundreds of lecture-recitals in India, Europe and the United States. For the last fifteen years of his life, Bake taught Indian music at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London; he was the first to do so at a Western university. Besides his numerous writings and radio presentations, he advanced his subject through his activities in British and international research associations. The history of ethnomusicology, especially as applied to South Asia, cannot be fully understood without regard to Bake, and yet his contribution has remained, until now, unclear and unknown.



van der Veer, P. (2017). *Prayer and politics*. London: Routledge.

Prayer and politics: unlikely, but intimate bedfellows. This publication explores everything from the Pentecostal religious battle – where prayer is both sword and shield against the Satanic Other – to the exchange between Islam and Christianity, demonstrating the relationship between prayer and politics in a

wide spectrum of religious traditions, from all across the globe. This book was originally published as a special issue of the *Journal of Religious and Political Practice*.



van der Veer, P. (2020). *Zongjiao minzu zhuyi—yindu jiaotu yu musuln zai yindu: Religious nationalism: Hindus and Muslims in India*. Beijing: Minzu chubanshe.

Chinese translation of:  
Religious nationalism: Hindus and Muslims in India. (1994)



van der Veer, P. (2021). *Refugees and Religion. Ethnographic Studies of Global Trajectories*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

Disputing a hard and fast distinction between migrants and refugees, this book highlights how changing legal arrangements as well as people's varying statuses make the concept of 'refugee' a dynamic one.

The book assesses the multiple ways in which religion plays a role in prompting people to flee and seek refuge as well as in their accommodation. Understanding religion from a material and corporeal angle, the chapters address the ways in which refugees practice their religion – Islam, Christianity, Buddhism – convert or develop new faiths, as well as how secular institutions in Europe frame and determine what is religion and what is not religion according to the law, delineate the limits of religious authority, religious practice and religious speech. Politically the issue of refugees has been responded to by a nationalist upsurge across Europe, where the question of nationalism and migration has been shaping the political landscape for more than a decade. This volume places the current trajectories of people who flee from oppression, conflict and a host of other reasons and who are seeking refuge in Europe in a broader historical and comparative perspective. In so doing, it addresses past experiences with accommodating refugees, in the aftermath of the Peace of Westphalia, World War II and in the context of the Cold War, which are usually barely discussed and tend to be 'forgotten' in current debates.

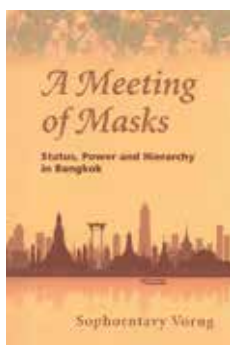
Vertovec, S., Meissner, F., & Signa, N. (Eds.). (in press). *The Oxford handbook of superdiversity. (contracted)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.



Volkert, D. (2017). *Parteien und Migranten: Inkorporationsprozesse innerhalb der SPD und der französischen PS*. Bielefeld: Transcript.

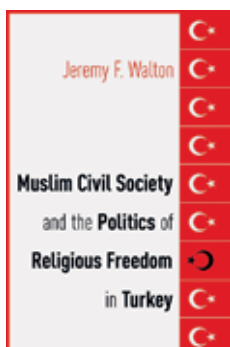
Parteien bemühen sich seit geraumer Zeit verstärkt um Menschen mit Migrationshintergrund – als Wähler\_innen, Parteimitglieder oder politisches Personal. Wann und warum kam es zu dieser Öffnung? Welche Widerstände gehen damit bis heute einher? Lassen sich vergleichbare Phänomene in unterschiedlichen Migrationsgesellschaften und Städten feststellen – oder dominieren die Unterschiede?

Am Beispiel der Sozialdemokratischen Partei in Deutschland und der französischen Parti socialiste geht Daniel Volkert diesen Fragen erstmals nach. Seine Studie legt die Unterschiede und Gemeinsamkeiten in der Art der Inkorporation offen, die durch eine feinteilige Analyse der nationalen, lokalen und parteispezifischen Rahmenbedingungen nachvollziehbar gemacht werden.



Vorng, S. (2017). *A meeting of masks: Status, power and hierarchy in Bangkok*. Copenhagen: NIAS Press.

Beneath the protest marches, rallies and sieges dividing Thailand in recent times are more subtle pressures that emerge from everyday encounters involving cultural notions of rank and hierarchy. These are the focus of this highly accessible ethnographic study, which ventures beyond the barricades to explore the connections between inequality, space and social life in modern-day Bangkok. The author argues that the notion of an urban–rural divide obscures a far more complex reality linking city and countryside in reciprocal relations within both urban and national systems of status and class. Global market forces have increased the emphasis on material wealth in contemporary status relations and exacerbated pre-existing inequalities informed by a premodern system of status ranking called *sakdina*. This has compounded the challenges facing the growing urban middle classes and further marginalised rural and economically disadvantaged Thais.



Walton, J. F. (2017). *Muslim civil society and the politics of religious freedom in Turkey*. New York: Oxford University Press.

The sway of Islam in political life is an unavoidable topic of debate in Turkey today. Secularists, Islamists, and liberals alike understand the Turkish state to be the primary arbiter of Islam's place in Turkey—as the coup attempt of July 2016 and its aftermath have dramatically illustrated. Yet this emphasis on the state ignores the influence of another field of political action in relation to Islam, that of civil society. Based on ethnographic research conducted in Istanbul and Ankara, *Muslim Civil Society and the Politics of Religious Freedom in Turkey* is Jeremy F. Walton's inquiry into the political and religious practices of contemporary Turkish-Muslim Nongovernmental Organizations. Since the mid-1980s, Turkey has witnessed an efflorescence of NGOs in tandem with a neoliberal turn in domestic economic policies and electoral politics. One major effect of this neoliberal turn has been the emergence of a vibrant Muslim civil society, which has decentered and transformed the Turkish state's relationship to Islam. Muslim NGOs champion religious freedom as a paramount political ideal and marshal a distinctive, nongovernmental politics of religious freedom to advocate this ideal. Walton's study offers an accomplished, fine-grained perspective on this nongovernmental politics of religious freedom and the institutions and communities from which it emerges.



Walton, J. F., Damjanović, D., Magaš Bilandžić, L., & Miklošević, Ž. (2019). *Art and politics in the modern period*. Zagreb: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb.

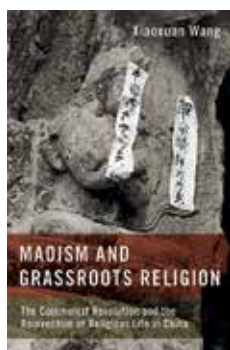
From the Bamiyan Buddhas to Christoph Büchel's *Barca Nostra*, from "Rhodes Must Fall" to Kehinde Wiley's *Rumors of War*, both the politics of art and artistic reflections on politics have becoming strikingly public in recent years. This is

no surprise – in the age of mass culture, images and representations of politics are inseparable from political life itself. However, complex, multifaceted interactions between art and politics are certainly not new. Our aspiration in this volume is to explore the genealogy of this re-relationship in modern Europe broadly construed. Although scholarly interrogations of art and politics should not be limited to this era and geography, many fundamental features of the relationship between the political and the artistic took shape in conjunction with European modernity.



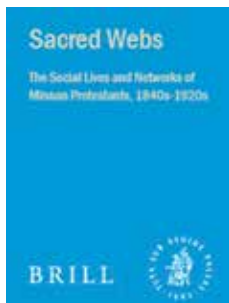
Walton, J. F., Carabelli, G., Jovanović, M., & Kirbis, A. (Eds.). (2020). *Sharpening the haze: visual essays on imperial history and memory*. London: Ubiquity Press.

This volume presents ten visual essays that reflect on the historical, cultural and socio-political legacies of empires. Drawing on a variety of visual genres and forms, including photographs, illustrated advertisements, stills from site-specific art performances and films, and maps, the book illuminates the contours of empire's social worlds and its political legacies through the visual essay. The guiding, titular metaphor, sharpening the haze, captures our commitment to frame empire from different vantage points, seeking focus within its plural modes of power. We contend that critical scholarship on empires would benefit from more creative attempts to reveal and confront empire. Broadly, the essays track a course from interrogations of imperial pasts to subversive reinscriptions of imperial images in the present, even as both projects inform each author's intervention.



Wang, X. (2020). *Maoism and grassroots religion: the Communist revolution and the reinvention of religious life in China*. New York: Oxford University Press.

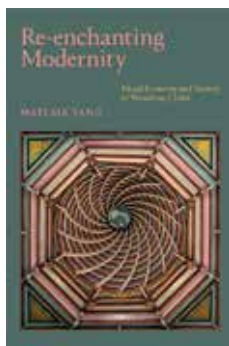
This book explores grassroots religious life under and after Mao in Rui'an County, Wenzhou, in southeastern China, a region widely known for its religious vitality. Drawing on hitherto unexplored local state archives, records of religious institutions, memoirs, and interviews, it tells the story of local communities' encounters with the Communist revolution, and their consequences, especially the competitions and struggles for religious property and ritual space. It demonstrates that, rather than being totally disrupted, religious life under Mao was characterized by remarkable variance and unevenness and was contingent on the interactions of local dynamics with Maoist campaigns—including the land reform, the Great Leap Forward, and the Cultural Revolution. The revolutionary experience strongly determined the trajectories and development patterns of different religions, inter-religious dynamics, and state-religion relationships in the post-Mao era. This book argues that Maoism was destructively constructive to Chinese religions. It permanently altered the religious landscape in China, especially by inadvertently promoting the localization and even (in some areas) the expansion of Protestant Christianity, as well as the reinvention of traditional communal religion. In this vein, the post-Mao religious revival had deep historical roots in the Mao years, and cannot be explained by contemporary economic motives and cultural logics alone. This book calls for a renewed understanding of Maoism and secularism in the People's Republic of China.



White, C. (2017). *Sacred webs: The social lives and networks of Minnan protestants, 1840s-1920s*. Leiden: Brill.

In *Sacred Webs*, historian Chris White demonstrates how Chinese Protestants in Minnan, or the southern half of Fujian Province, fractured social ties and constructed and utilized new networks through churches, which served as nodes linking individuals into larger Protestant communities. Through analyzing missionary archives, local church reports, and available Chinese records, *Sacred Webs* depicts Christianity as a Chinese religion and Minnan Protestants as laying claim to both a Christian faith and a Chinese cultural heritage.

Yamamura, S. (submitted). *Spatial diversity in the global city – transnational Tokyo*.



Yang, M. (2020). *Re-enchanting Modernity. Ritual Economy and Society in Wenzhou, China*. Durham: Duke University Press.

In *Re-enchanting Modernity* Mayfair Yang examines the resurgence of religious and ritual life after decades of enforced secularization in the coastal area of Wenzhou, China. Drawing on twenty-five years of ethnographic fieldwork, Yang shows how the local practices of popular religion, Daoism, and Buddhism are based in community-oriented grassroots organizations that create spaces for relative local autonomy and self-governance. Central to Wenzhou's religious civil society is what Yang calls a "ritual economy," in which an ethos of generosity is expressed through donations to temples, clerics, ritual events, and charities in exchange for spiritual gain. With these investments in transcendent realms, Yang adopts Georges Bataille's notion of "ritual expenditures" to challenge the idea that rural Wenzhou's economic development can be described in terms of Max Weber's notion of a "Protestant Ethic". Instead, Yang suggests that Wenzhou's ritual economy forges an alternate path to capitalist modernity.



## BOOK SERIES "GLOBAL DIVERSITIES"

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The age of diversity in which we are living is characterized globally by, among other things, increasing flows of people, images and cultural forms, new permutations of identity politics, and the intensification of transnational social, religious and cultural connections. Consequently around the world we have witnessed growing public debates and burgeoning academic research surrounding modes and processes of social differentiation – often summarized under the broad notion 'diversity'. Indeed over the past decade, the concept of 'diversity' has gained a leading place in academic thought, business practice, politics and public policy across the world. However, local conditions and meanings of 'diversity' are highly dissimilar and changing. For these reasons, deeper and more comparative understandings of pertinent concepts, processes and phenomena are in great demand.

The Palgrave Book Series on 'Global Diversities' examines:

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- how different processes of inter-ethnic or inter-religious encounter unfold;
- how conflicts arise and how political solutions are negotiated and practiced;
- what truly convivial societies might actually look like.

Reflecting this multi-disciplinary field, the Palgrave Book Series 'Global Diversities' includes works from Anthropology, Political Science, Sociology, Law, Geography and Religious Studies.



Kankonde Bukasa, P., Wilhelm-Solomon, M., Núñez, L., & Malcomess, B. (Eds.). (2017). *Routes and rites to the city: mobility, diversity and religious space in Johannesburg*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This thought-provoking book is an exploration of the ways religion and diverse forms of mobility have shaped post-apartheid Johannesburg, South Africa. It analyses transnational and local migration in contemporary and historical perspective, along with movements of commodities, ideas, sounds and colours within the city. It re-theorizes urban 'super-diversity' as a plurality of religious, ethnic, national and racial groups but also as the diverse processes through which religion produces urban space. The authors argue that while religion facilitates movement, belonging and aspiration in the city, it is complicit in establishing new forms of enclosure, moral order and spatial and gendered control. Multi-authored and interdisciplinary, this edited collection deals with a wide variety of sites and religions, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism. Its original reading of post-apartheid Johannesburg advances global debates around religion, urbanization, migration and diversity, and will appeal to students and scholars working in these fields.



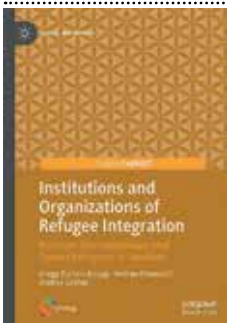
Bakewell, O., & Landau, L.B. (Eds.) (2018). *Forging African communities*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book draws renewed attention to migration into and within Africa, and to the socio-political consequences of these movements. In doing so, it complements vibrant scholarly and political discussions of migrant integration globally with innovative, interdisciplinary perspectives focused on migration within Africa. It sheds new light on how human mobility redefines the meaning of home, community, citizenship and belonging. The authors ask how people's movements within the continent are forging novel forms of membership while catalysing social change within the communities and countries to which they move and which they have left behind. Original case studies from across Africa question the concepts, actors, and social trajectories dominant in the contemporary literature. Moreover, it speaks to and challenges sociological debates over the nature of migrant integration, debates largely shaped by research in the world's wealthy regions. The text, in part or as a whole, will appeal to students and scholars of migration, development, urban and rural transformation, African studies and displacement.



White, B. W. (Ed.) (2018). *Intercultural cities policy and practice for a new era*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

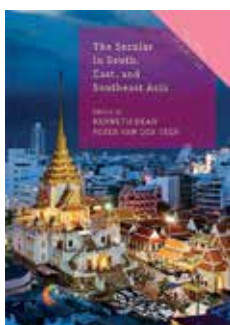
This book sets out to explore the political and social potential of intercultural policy for cities by bringing together advances in the areas of urban planning and intercultural theory. In recent years, demographic changes in cities in many parts of the world have led to increasing concerns about inter-ethnic tensions, social inequality, and racial discrimination. By virtue of their intermediate status, cities are in a particularly good position to design policy and programs that contribute to the well-being of all citizens, regardless of their origins. Certain cities have made significant advances in this domain, but until now very little work has been done to understand the specificity of work in the area of intercultural policy frameworks. The overall goal of this volume is to facilitate conversations between researchers and practitioners in their efforts to make cities more inclusive. This volume is the result of a series of on-going collaborations between academics and practitioners and it includes a number of original case studies that explain the evolution of intercultural policy from the point of view local actors. This collection will be of interest especially to policymakers and urban planners, but also to scholars and students in the areas of urban studies, public policy, anthropology, sociology, globalization and social sciences more generally. By leveraging recent advances in the field of intercultural policy and practice, this volume sheds light on the conditions and strategies that make intercultural cities a part of a common future.



Bucken-Knapp, G., Omanovic, V., & Spehar, A. (2019). *Institutions and organizations of Refugee Integration. Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Syrian refugees in Sweden*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

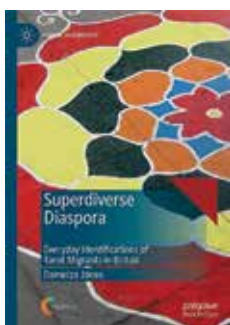
This book examines the integration experiences of refugees to Sweden from Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1995), and more recently from Syria (2014-2018) - two of the largest-scale refugee movements in Europe for the last thirty years. It focuses on refugees' interactions with key institutions of integration including language training, civic orientation, validation of previous

educational experience, organizations and multiple labour market initiatives targeting refugees. Drawing on interviews with the refugees themselves, it offers a nuanced analysis of how the institutions of integration operate on a daily basis, and the effects they have on the lives of those who take part in them. The authors' comparative approach highlights the particularities of each refugee movement while also revealing developments and persistent issues within institutions of integration in the intervening years between the Bosnian-Herzegovinian and Syrian conflicts. Its conclusion, which situates the Swedish case within the broader European context, demonstrates the wider significance of this timely study. It will provide a valuable resource for policymakers in addition to students and scholars of migration studies, social policy, and public policy and business administration.



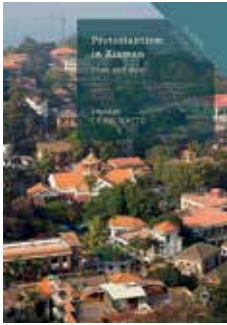
Dean, K., & van der Veer, P. (Eds.). (2019). *The secular in South, East, and Southeast Asia*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This innovative edited collection provides a comprehensive analysis of modern secularism across Asia which contests and expands prevailing accounts that have predominantly focused on the West. Its authors highlight that terms like 'secular', 'secularization', and 'secularism' do not carry the same meanings in the very different historical and cultural contexts of Asia. Critiquing Charles Taylor's account of secularism, this book examines what travelled and what not in 'the imperial encounter' between Western secular modernity and other traditions outside of the West. Throughout the book, state responses to religion at different points in Chinese and South-East Asian history are carefully considered, providing a nuanced and in-depth understanding of post-secular strategies and relations in these areas. Particular attention is given to Catholicism in the Philippines, Vietnam, and Singapore, and Hinduism and Chinese religion in Malaysia, Singapore, and India. This theoretically engaged work will appeal to students and scholars of Asian studies, anthropology, religious studies, history, sociology, and political science.



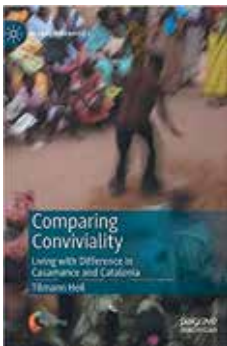
Jones, D. (2019). *Superdiverse diaspora. Everyday identifications of Tamil migrants in Britain*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

Drawing on in-depth qualitative research, this book provides a nuanced picture of the everyday identifications experienced and expressed among the superdiverse Tamil migrant population in Britain. It presents the first detailed analysis of the narrative and experiences of Tamils from a diversity of backgrounds – including Sri Lankan, Indian, Singaporean and Malaysian – and addresses the question of their identification with a 'Tamil diaspora' in Britain. Theoretically informed by Brubaker's conception of 'diaspora as process' and Werbner's notion of diasporas as both 'aesthetic' and 'moral' communities, Jones examines political engagements alongside other, less studied, 'frames' of Tamil migrants' lives: social relationships (local and transnational), the domestic space of home, and performances of faith and ritual. Considering diaspora as a process or practice allows the author to reveal a complex landscape upon which 'being Tamil' and 'doing Tamil-ness' in diaspora are diversely enacted. Combining original ethnographic research with a theoretical engagement in the key debates in migration, diaspora, ethnicity and superdiversity studies, this book makes a novel contribution to scholarship on Tamil populations and will advance critical understandings of the concept of 'diaspora' more generally.



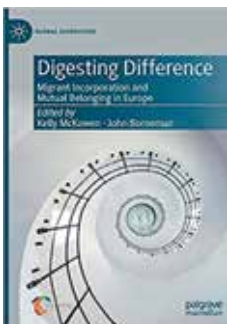
White, C. (2019). *Protestantism in Xiamen: then and now*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This interdisciplinary volume represents the first comprehensive English-language analysis of the development of Protestant Christianity in Xiamen from the nineteenth century to the present. This important regional study is particularly revealing due to the unbroken history of Sino-Christian interactions in Xiamen and the extensive ties that its churches have maintained with global missions and overseas Chinese Christians. Its authors draw upon a wide range of foreign missionary and Chinese official archives, local Xiamen church publications, and fieldwork data to historicize the Protestant experience in the region. Further, the local Christians' stories demonstrate a form of sociocultural, religious and political imagination that puts into question the Euro-American model of Christendom and the Chinese Communist-controlled Three-Self Patriotic Movement. It addresses the localization of Christianity, the reinvention of local Chinese Protestant identity and heritage, and the Protestants' engagement with the society at large. The empirical findings and analytical insights of this collection will appeal to scholars of religion, sociology and Chinese history.



Heil, T. (2020). *Comparing conviviality: living with difference in Casamance and Catalonia*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

In a world where difference is often seen as a threat or challenge, *Comparing Conviviality* explores how people actually live in diverse societies. Based on a long-term ethnography of West Africans in both Senegal and Spain, this book proposes that conviviality is a commitment to difference, across ethnicities, languages, religions, and practices. Heil brings together longstanding histories, political projects, and everyday practices of living with difference. With a focus on neighbourhood life in Casamance, Senegal, and Catalonia, Spain - two equally complex regions - *Comparing Conviviality* depicts how Senegalese people skillfully negotiate and translate the intricacies of difference and power. In these lived African and European worlds, conviviality is ever temporary and changing.



McKown, K., & Borneman, J. (Eds.). (2020). *Digesting difference. Migrant incorporation and mutual belonging in Europe*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

Migration across Europe's external and internal borders has introduced unprecedented sociocultural diversity, and with it, new questions about belonging, identity, and the incorporation of others into extant and emergent groups and communities. Bringing together leading cultural anthropologists, *Digesting Difference* offers a series of ethnographic studies that show incorporation to be a process rooted in the everyday encounters and exchanges between strangers, friends, lovers, neighbors, parents, workers, and others. Rich in ethnographic detail and ambitious in its theorizing, the volume tells the stories of Europe's transformative engagement with sociocultural difference in the wake of migration associated with EU expansion, the Eurozone meltdown, and the 2015-2016 refugee crisis. It promises to be essential reading for scholars and students of cultural anthropology, migration, integration, and European studies.



Moghaddari, S. (2020). *Internal diversity: Iranian Germans between local boundaries and transnational capital*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book explores the interrelation between diversity in migrants' internal relations and their experience of inequality in local and global contexts. Taking the case of Hamburg-based Iranians, it traces evaluation processes in ties between professionals – artists and entrepreneurs – since the 1930s, examining migrants' potential to act upon hierarchical structures. Building on long-term ethnographic fieldwork and archival work, the book centers on differentiation, combining a diversity study with a focus on locality, with a transnational migration study, analysing strategies of capital creation and anthropological value theory.

The analysis of migrants' agency tackles questions of independence and cooperation in kinship, associations, transnational entrepreneurship and cultural events within the context of the position of Germany and Iran in the global politico-economic landscape. This material will be of interest to scholars and students of anthropology, sociology, migration, urbanism and Iranian studies, as well as Iranian-Germans and those interested in the entanglement of global and local power relations.



Scholten, P. (2020). *Mainstreaming versus alienation. A complexity approach to the governance of migration and diversity*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book explores the role of complexity in the governance of migration and diversity. Current policy processes often fail to adequately capture complexity, favouring 'quick fix' approaches to regulation and integration that result in various forms of alienation: problem alienation, institutional alienation, political alienation and social alienation. Scholten draws on literature from gender and environmental governance to develop 'mainstreaming', an approach that reframes migration as a contingent and emergent process made up of complex actor networks, rather than a one-size-fits-all policy model. By ensuring actors understand and respond to complexity, migration research can contribute to reflexivity in policy processes, help to promote mainstreaming, and prevent alienation. The result will be of interest to students and scholars of migration and governance studies, with a focus on policymaking and integration.



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- WP 18-05 Michael Trebilcock: "The international movement of people: the fourth economic freedom"
- WP 18-03 Fran Meissner: "From integration mainstreaming to convivial disintegration: how superdiversity shows the pitfalls of (mainstreaming) immigrant integration"
- WP 18-02 Susanne Frieze, Jacks Soratto and Denise Pires: "Carrying out a computer-aided thematic content analysis with ATLAS.ti"
- WP 18-01 Megha Amrith: "Ageing in a time of mobility: a research agenda"
- WP 17-12 Lisa Björkman and Chitra Venkataramani: "Mediating Mumbai: ethnographic explorations of urban linkage"
- WP 17-11 Xiaoxuan Wang: "Christianity and religious syncretism in early twentieth-century China"
- WP 17-10 Marian Burchardt (MPI-MMG), Zeynep Yanasmayan (MPI for Social Anthropology), Matthias Koenig (University of Goettingen): "The judicial politics of 'burqa bans' in Belgium and Spain – Socio-legal field dynamics and the standardization of justificatory repertoires"
- WP 17-09 Michalis Moutselos, Christian Jacobs, Julia Martínez-Ariño, Maria Schiller, Karen Schönwälder, Alexandre Tandé: "Cities and the challenge of diversity (CityDiv): the survey, technical report"
- WP 17-08 Fabian Graham: "Visual anthropology: a temple anniversary in Singapore"
- WP 17-07 Jili Zhu: "Han Jie (1894-1960): a Christian and intellectual Miao"
- WP 17-06 Sajide Tursun: "Gender and urban aspirations: the case of highly educated Uyghur women in Shanghai"
- WP 17-05 Steven Vertovec, Susanne Becker, Annett Fleischer, Miriam Schader, Shahd Wari: "Addressing the diversity of asylum-seekers' needs and aspirations. A Report to the Volkswagen Foundation"
- WP 17-04 Peter van der Veer and Wu Da: "Dumont's hierarchy among the Nuosu of China"
- WP 17-03 Chris White: "Counting Christians in China: a critical reading of A star in the East: The rise of Christianity in China"
- WP 17-02 Weidong Zhang: "Bridging Hmong/Miao, extending Miaojiang: divided space, translocal contacts, and the imagination of Hmongland"
- WP 17-01 Susanne Wessendorf "Being new and unconnected. Pioneer migrants in London"

## JOURNAL "GLOBAL NETWORKS"

Edited By: ALISDAIR ROGERS  
STEVEN VERTOVEC  
ROBIN COHEN

Online ISSN: 1471-0374

*Global Networks* is devoted to the social scientific understanding of global flows and connections, transnational affairs and practices and their relation to wider theories of globalization.

In the twenty-first century emerging transnational actors are playing an ever more important role in both global and local affairs. They represent the human face of globalization. Such actors enter into the spaces opened up by the intersection of corporate capital, labour mobility and the new information, communication and transportation technologies. A feature of globe-spanning interactions of all kinds is the building, sustaining and enlivening of social, economic, political and cultural networks.



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MAGNUS MARSDEN

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Volume 20, Issue 4, Pages: 746-765

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**Special theme introduction: methodological cosmopolitanism across the socio-cultural sciences**

Volume 20, Issue 3, Pages: 489-499

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**'Refugee resettlement, social media and the social organization of difference'**

Volume 20, Issue 2, Pages: 274-291

MIHAELA NEDELCU and MALIKA WYSS

**'Transnational grandparenting: an introduction'**

Volume 20, Issue 2, Pages: 292-307

FIONA B. ADAMSON

**'Non-state authoritarianism and diaspora politics'**

Volume 20, Issue 1, Pages: 150-169

## JOURNAL "NEW DIVERSITIES"

NEW DIVERSITIES is an online journal publishing high quality, peer-reviewed articles concerning multiple forms of diversity. The thematic scope of the journal includes the different categories of social difference that become relevant in particular situations or contexts, including ethnicity, religion, language, gender, sexuality, disability, social status and age. In particular, the journal is interested in original articles addressing how these notions are socially constructed, how they unfold in different contexts and how they are addressed in policy and practice. The main defining characteristic of the journal is that it is devoted to publishing special issues that gather thematically coherent original articles.

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**Enabling Diversity Practices in Istanbul**

SEMAHAT CEREN SAY and BAŞAK DEMİREŞ ÖZKUL (Istanbul Technical University)

New Diversities • Vol. 21, No. 2, 2019

**Populism Beyond the West: Dissonant Diversities and Fragmented Politics**

SINEM ADAR (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik) and GÜLAY TÜRKMEN (University of Göttingen)

New Diversities • Vol. 21, No. 1, 2019

**New Solidarities: Migration, Mobility, Diaspora, and Ethnic Tolerance in Southeast Europe**

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**Contexts of Respectability and Freedom: Sexual Stereotyping in Abu Dhabi**

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**The Influence of Ethnic-Specific Networks on Turkish Belgian Women's Educational and Occupational Mobility**

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**Mobilities – Migratory Experiences Ethnographically Connected**

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**Indigenous Politics of Resistance: From Erasure to Recognition**

MANUELA L. PICQ (Amherst College and Universidad San Francisco de Quito-USFQ)

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**The Transnational Infrastructures of Luso-Pentecostal Mega-Cities**

LINDA VAN DE KAMP (University of Amsterdam)

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## WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Date	Title	Department*
11.01.2017 - 12.01.2017	InCoLaS Workshop "Language and Inequality in the Age of Superdiversity"	SCD
23.01.2017 - 25.01.2017	The Seoul Lab Workshop "Urban Aspirations in Seoul: Religion and Megacities in Comparative Perspectives"	RDD
06.03.2017 - 07.03.2017	"A Secular Age in South, East, and Southeast Asia?"	RDD
08.03.2017	"Deaf Spaces on Mumbai Trains". A Film by Annelies Kusters	SCD
09.03.2017 - 10.03.2017	"Workshop in Visual Ethnography"	EOM
26.04.2017 - 28.04.2017	"Ambivalent Legacies: Memory and Amnesia in Post-Habsburg and Post-Ottoman Cities"	EOM
10.05.2017	"Islam as an Ethical and Material Practice"	RDD
17.05.2017	"The 2017 French Presidential Election: Results and Prospects"	SCD
06.06.2017	"Skopje 2014: Monumentalizing the Past for a Majoritarian Present?"	EOM
23.06.2017	"Making Vietnamese History: Popular and Scholarly Perspectives"	RDD
23.08.2017 - 25.08.2017	"Migration, Citizenship, and Democracy: Contemporary Ethical Challenges"	ELP
14.09.2017	"Is 'That's Enough About Ethnography' Enough? Re-Orienting Anthropology for the Future"	RDD
28.09.2017 - 29.09.2017	"Through the Looking Glass of the Local: Rereading Istanbul's Heterogeneous Pasts"	EOM
19.10.2017 - 20.10.2017	"Borders, Fences, Firewalls. Assessing the Changing Relationship of Territory and Institutions"	ELP

\* ELP Ethics, Law and Politics  
 RDD Religious Diversity  
 SCD Socio-Cultural Diversity

CCM Fellow Group "Comparative Constitutionalism"  
 GCD Fellow Group "Governance of Cultural Diversity"  
 ATM Research Group "Ageing in a Time of Mobility"  
 EOM Research Group "Empires of Memory"

08.11.2017 - 10.11.2017	"Serendipity and Sociality: Conversations with Michael Herzfeld"	RDD
09.11.2017	"Religion as Critique: Islamic Critical Thinking from Mecca to the Marketplace"	RDD
15.11.2017 - 16.11.2017	"The Politics of Uncertainty: Producing, Reinforcing and Mediating (Legal) Uncertainty in Local Refugee Reception"	SCD
30.11.2017	"Launching Your Professional Life: How to Publish, Get a Job, and Write Grant Proposals"	RDD
14.12.2017 - 15.12.2017	"Refugees and Religion"	RDD
15.12.2017 - 16.12.2017	"Changing Legal Definitions of Minority Rights and Nationhood in Written Constitutions"	GCD
15.12.2017	"The Politics of Migration: Testing the Boundaries of Membership"	ELP
11.01.2018 - 12.01.2018	"The Ethics of Migration Beyond the Immigrant-Host State Nexus"	ELP
25.01.2018 - 26.01.2018	"European Cities and Diversity: New Policies, Changing Relations Between Societal Actors?"	SCD
05.02.2018	"Digital Media and Chinese Aspirations in Global Capitalism"	RDD
15.03.2018	"Methods and Research Design in Comparative Constitutional Studies"	CCM
22.03.2018 - 23.03.2018	"Migration, Citizenship, and Democracy: Contemporary Ethical Challenges - Part II"	ELP
03.05.2018 - 04.05.2018	"Fantasies, Anxiety, Difference. The Figure of the Other in the Aftermaths of a Violent Political Transformation"	SCD
18.05.2018	"Labor Migration. Global and Comparative Dimensions"	ELP
28.05.2018	"Between Dystopia and Utopia: Ethnographies, Knowledge, Diversities in and from Africa"	SCD
06.06.2018 - 07.06.2018	"Chinese Religions in the Age of Massive Urbanization"	RDD
28.06.2018 - 29.06.2018	"Ask the 'Experts'? Positionalities of Researchers and Public Figures of Migrant Background in European Debates About Immigration"	SCD
12.09.2018 - 13.09.2018	"Visual Expressing" with Dörte Ulka Engelkes (Audi Film)	ATM
27.09.2018 - 28.09.2018	"Refugees and Religion"	RDD
12.10.2018	"Welcoming Refugees: The Role of Religion"	ELP + CCM
16.10.2018 - 17.10.2018	"Reactions to Exclusion"	SCD
18.10.2018	"Die Botschaft der Aquarius. Über SOS Mediterranee und die Verteidigung Solidarischer Werte"	SCD
23.10.2018 - 24.10.2018	"Ageing across Borders: Care, Generations, Citizenship"	ATM
30.10.2018	"Biographical Methods and Life-Story Interviews" with Gabriele Rosenthal (University of Göttingen)	ATM
31.10.2018 - 01.11.2018	"Empire Off-Center"	EOM
01.11.2018 - 02.11.2018	"The Sociopolitical Lives of the Dead"	RDD
02.11.2018 - 03.11.2018	"The Family, Human Rights and Internationalism"	GCD



07.12.2018	"Public Law and Spatial Governance: New Frontiers"	ELP + CCM
24.01.2019 - 25.01.2019	"INSIDE OUT - OUTSIDE IN. Shifting Architectures of Refugee Inhabitation"	SCD
07.02.2019	"Voice, Sound, and Atmospheres: Religious Feelings and Beyond"	RDD
12.03.2019	"Interrogating Communalism: Violence, Citizenship and Minorities in South India"	RDD
15.03.2019	"The Contours of Citizenship"	ELP
22.03.2019	"Studying Muslim Social Formations: The Importance of the Islamicate"	RDD
12.04.2019	"Border Landscapes: Material Boundaries of Stasis and Mobility"	ELP
07.06.2019	"Equality at Stake: Constitutional Approaches in Comparison"	CCM
13.06.2019 - 14.06.2019	"Transnational Giving. Evolving Paths of Religion, Community and Citizenship in Globally Connected Asia"	RDD
14.06.2019	"Solidarity and Mutual Respect in the Domain of European Union Citizenship"	ELP
17.06.2019 - 18.06.2019	"Religion and Nationalism"	RDD
12.09.2019 - 13.09.2019	"Striking Back? On Imperial Fantasies and Fantasies of Empire"	EOM
26.09.2019	"Inclusive Parliaments. Representation, Mobility, Disability"	ELP
03.10.2019 - 05.10.2019	"Comparative Constitutional Development"	CCM
08.11.2019	"The Law and Political Economy of Citizenship"	ELP
13.11.2019 - 15.11.2019	"Gastro-Politics and Gastro-Ethics of the Sacred and Secular in Contemporary Plural Societies"	RDD
21.11.2019	"Mass Media Science Communication"	SCD
28.11.2019	"How Do Organisations Shape Migration and Inclusion?"	SCD
12.12.2019 - 13.12.2019	"Refugee and Migration Law Workshop"	ELP
09.01.2020	"Zu Wort melden?! Zur Rolle von Migrationswissenschaftler*innen in der öffentlichen Debatte"	ELP
23.01.2020 - 24.01.2020	"Material Temporalities"	EOM
25.02.2020	"Finding one's way in German academia"	RDD + GCD
30.03.2020	CANCELLED - "Islamic Movements in India: Moderation and Its Discontents"	RDD
26.04.2020 - 27.04.2020 [Postponed]	"Constitutional Design and the Urban/Rural Divide"	CCM
16.06.2020	WriteLab	RDD
25.06.2020	"Climate Change and Migration" and "Pathways to Sustainability"	ELP + SCD
30.06.2020	WriteLab	RDD
22.10.2020 - 23.10.2020	"The Here and Now in Forced Migration: Everyday Intimacies, Imaginaries and Bureaucracies"	SCD + ATM

## LECTURES

Date	Lecturer	Title	Department*
11.01.2017	James Collins (University at Albany/SUNY)	"Registers and Racialization in South Africa"	SCD
17.01.2017	Fabian Graham (MPI-MMG)	"Competing Cosmologies of Post-Mortal Existence in Chinese Vernacular Religion: Diametric Oppositions from Within an Evolving Religious Tradition"	RDD
19.01.2017	Gabriele Rosenthal (University of Göttingen)	"Migration out of Poverty or Flight from Collective and Individual Violence? Biographic Self-Presentations of Migrants and Refugees from and in Africa"	SCD
24.01.2017	Jifeng Liu (MPI-MMG)	"Old Pastor and Local Bureaucrats: Recasting Church-State Relations in Contemporary China"- Coauthored by Jifeng Liu and Chris White"	RDD
24.01.2017	Laurent Dissard (University College London)	"Arapgir's 'Culture of Memory' in Eastern Turkey and the Presence-Absence of Ottoman Armenians"	EOM
31.01.2017	Ying Diao (MPI-MMG)	"Ethnic Minority's New Voices: Music Making and Religious-Social Changes Among the Nujiang Christian Lisu on China's Southwest Borders"	RDD
31.01.2017	Andreas Cassee (Freie Universität Berlin)	"The Moral Right to International Freedom of Movement"	ELP
06.02.2017	Thomas J. Csordas (University of California San Diego)	"Beings Without Bodies: Contemporary Catholic Exorcism and the Discourse of Evil"	RDD
14.02.2017	Sudheesh Bhasi (MPI-MMG)	"Remembered and Forgotten Gods: The Transnational Worship of Ancestral Deities Among Malaysian Hindus"	RDD
21.02.2017	Sophorntavy Vorng (MPI-MMG)	"Morality, Discipline, and Religious Addiction Treatment in Thailand"	RDD
22.03.2017	Sara Wallace Goodman (University of California, Irvine)	"Tolerance at what Cost? The Consequences of Redistribution on Multicultural Support"	ELP
30.03.2017	Nando Sigona (University of Birmingham)	"The Politics of Naming and Counting in the Refugee Crisis"	SCD
30.03.2017	Deborah Kapchan (New York University)	"Listening Acts: Sounding the Sufi Sublime in Secular France"	RDD
09.05.2017	Kenneth Dean (National University of Singapore)	"Religious Space in Singapore"	RDD
16.05.2017	Cathie Carmichael (University of East Anglia)	"The Habsburg Official as Ethnographer: A Case Study of Trebinje"	RDD EOM

23.05.2017	Lisa Björkman (University of Louisville)	"Publics vs Customers: Mass Assembly as Political Speech in Mumbai"	RDD
13.06.2017	Yanfei Sun (Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China)	"Twists of Fate: Growth Trajectories of Catholicism and Protestantism in Modern China Compared"	RDD
14.06.2017	Dingxin Zhao (University of Chicago)	"Collective Actions in Post-Mao China: Between Chaos and Discipline"	RDD
15.06.2017	Peter Scholten (Erasmus University Rotterdam & IMISCOE)	"From Migrant Integration Towards Diversity Mainstreaming? Between Concept and (Urban) Reality"	SCD
19.06.2017	David Palmer (University of Hong Kong)	"Poly-Ontology: Rethinking Religious Pluralism Through a Chinese Lens"	RDD
20.06.2017	Adam Chau (University of Cambridge)	"From the Household to the Individual? Towards Religious Subjectification in Contemporary China"	RDD
12.07.2017	William Mazzarella (University of Chicago)	"Approximately 52 Seconds: The Time of Prior Commitment"	RDD EOM
13.07.2017	Ben Kaplan (University College London)	"The Legal Rights of Religious Refugees in the 'Exulantenstädte' of the Holy Roman Empire"	ELP
26.09.2017	Zhen Ma (MPI-MMG)	"The Bulang Today"	RDD
23.10.2017	Darshan Vigneswaran (University of Amsterdam)	"Migration Control and Global Governance: An Emergent International Regime?"	SCD
25.10.2017	Jingyang Yu (MPI-MMG)	"Every Weekend is a War: Inter-Generational Conflicts and Negotiations over Language and Identity Among Chinese Immigrants in Berlin"	RDD
26.10.2017	Han Xiaorong (Hong Kong Polytechnic University)	"The Chinese Community in North Vietnam Before and After 1978"	RDD
02.11.2017	Mayfair Yang (University of California, Santa Barbara)	"Religious Environmentalism in the Anthropocene: Potentialities and Actualities in Coastal China"	RDD
07.11.2017	Tzu-Lung Chiu (MPI-MMG)	"Body Movement and Sport Activities in Contemporary Chinese Buddhism"	RDD
09.11.2017	Mpho Matsipa (Wits City Institute)	"Soft Infrastructure: Recalibrating Aesthetics, Economies, and Urban Epistemologies"	SCD
13.11.2017	Irfan Ahmad (Melbourne)	"Ethnic Democracy: An Ethnographic Account of Terror of India's Counter-Terror Agencies"	RDD
15.11.2017	Barbara Oomen (Utrecht University)	"Cities of Refuge and Those That Refuse: The Policy, Politics and Praxis of Local Refugee Reception in Europe"	SCD
28.11.2017	Sana Ghazi (MPI-MMG)	"Marriage, Love, and Religion Among Young Muslim Women in Mumbai"	RDD
04.12.2017	Rolf Schieder (Humboldt University, Berlin)	"Discussion on the Lutheran Reformation: Historical Context and Contemporary Impacts"	RDD

05.12.2017	Magnus Marsden (University of Sussex)	"Supplying Haji's: Afghanistan's Central Asian Emigres in China and Beyond"	RDD
12.12.2017	Hans Steinmüller (London School of Economics)	"Tribes, Guerillas, De-Facto States: Militarism in the China-Burma Borderlands, and Militarism in Anthropology"	RDD
14.12.2017	Justin Gest (George Mason University, Arlington/VA)	"The Market Model: Convergence and Variation in Immigration Regimes Worldwide"	SCD
18.01.2018	Alessandro Monsutti (Graduate Institute Geneva)	"Homo Itinerans: An Essay Towards a Global Ethnography of Afghanistan"	SCD
15.02.2018	Pamela E. Klassen (University of Toronto)	"Telepathy, Empire, and Public Memory"	ELP SCD
01.03.2018	Andrew Selee (Migration Policy Institute)	"Vanishing Frontiers: The Blurring of the US-Mexico Border"	ELP SCD
08.03.2018	John Wrench (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim)	"Contested Understandings of Concepts of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination: A Critical Exploration"	SCD
19.03.2018	Peter van der Veer (MPI-MMG)	"Refugees and Religion"	RDD
16.04.2018	Patrice Ladwig (MPI-MMG)	"Buddhism and Colonial Governmentality in Laos and Indochina: From French Orientalism to Anti-Communism (1893-1953)"	RDD
03.05.2018	Rosalind C. Morris (Columbia University)	"Eyes of the Storm: Reflections on Sacrifice, Alterity and Political Violence in (De-Industrializing) South Africa"	SCD
14.05.2018	Nga Mai (MPI-MMG)	"Coping with Uncertainty Through Partnership: An Ethnographic Study on Vietnamese Migrant Women in Berlin"	RDD
23.05.2018	Alice von Bieberstein (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin)	"In Search for Trees and Treasures"	EOM
31.05.2018	Phillip M. Ayoub (Drexel University, Philadelphia)	"When States Come Out: Transnational Movements and the Diffusion of LGBT Rights in Europe"	ELP SCD
04.06.2018	Michael Feener (Oxford University)	"Engineering Transformations in the 'Religion-Development Nexus': Islamic Law, Reform, and Reconstruction in Aceh"	RDD
05.06.2018	Julia Vorhölder (University of Göttingen)	"Crazy Times: New (Dis)Orders and the Emergence of Psychotherapy in Uganda"	SCD
05.06.2018	Liza Wing Man Kam (MPI-MMG)	"Underneath the Grand Yellow Imperial Roofs Of Martyrs' Shrines: Taiwan's Colonial Past and Onwards and the Political Symbolisms at Play"	RDD
07.06.2018	Maura Hametz (Old Dominion University)	"Everyone (Secretly) Loves Sisi/Sissi: The Charismatic Empress in Italy and Beyond"	EOM

08.06.2018	Kenneth Dean (Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore)	"The Transmission of Chinese Civilizational Techniques to Southeast Asia: Networking, Daoist Rites, Spirit Possession, and Hybrid Ritual Forms"	RDD
11.06.2018	Berna Turam (Northeastern University)	"Muslim Diaspora and Sanctuary Cities: Safe Places and Politics of Fear"	RDD
19.06.2018	Serawit Bekele (MPI-MMG)	"The Emergence of Irreecha into the Political Scene in Post-1991 Ethiopia"	SCD
19.06.2018	Helen Baykara-Krumme (MPI-MMG)	"Aging and Migration: An Insight into the German- European Context"	ATM
03.07.2018	Léonie Newhouse (MPI-MMG)	"Uncertainty, Sociality and Value: Mediating Indeterminacy in South Sudan and Kenya"	SCD
04.07.2018	Jeremy F. Walton (Max Planck Research Group Leader at MPI-MMG)	"Morbid Fascinations: On the Textured Historicity of Zagreb's Mirogoj Cemetery"	EOM
10.07.2018	Annika Mayer (Film Uni- versity Babelsberg Konrad Wolf) and Jakob Gross	"Elderscapes: Ageing in Urban South Asia"	ATM
13.09.2018	Abdoumalik Simone (MPI-MMG)	"No More Proletariat, or Unhappy People, or Oppressed. Living Besides & the Collective Sensibilities of an Urban Majority"	SCD
24.09.2018	Ton Robben (Utrecht University)	"The Matter of Death: Destruction and Loss in Rotterdam During World War Two"	RDD
25.09.2018	WANG Hui (Tsinghua University)	"The Voices of Good and Evil: What is Enlightenment?"	RDD
26.09.2018	Tabea Häberlein (Bayreuth University)	"Complexities of Elder Care: Migration Patterns, Housing, and Daily Needs of Elderly People in Three West African Villages"	ATM
08.10.2018	Susan Bayly (Cambridge University)	"Beyond 'Propaganda': Images and the Moral Citizen in Late-Socialist Vietnam"	RDD
15.10.2018	Netsanet Gebremichael Weldesentbet (Makerere University Uganda)	"Reminiscing through Words and Things: Asmara as Life Stories, Rumor, Proverb, Objects and Photographs"	SCD
22.10.2018	Sam Williams (Max Planck – Cambridge Centre for Ethics, Econ- omy, and Social Change ▪ Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology)	"Politics in the Piyasa: Marching, Marketing, and the Emergence of Gay Identities in Istanbul"	RDD
23.10.2018	Russell King (University of Sussex)	"Unpacking the Ageing-Migration Nexus"	ATM
23.10.2018	Sarah Lamb (Brandeis University)	"Ageing and Mobility: Care, Generations, and Citizenship beyond the Views of the West"	ATM
12.11.2018	Peter Pels (Leiden University)	"Data Management in Anthropology: The Next Phase in Ethics Governance?"	RDD



19.11.2018	Matthew Carey (Copenhagen University)	"[Mis]Trust, (Un)Certainty and Intention: Can One Trust an Inscrutable God?"	RDD
26.11.2018	Scott MacLochlainn (MPI-MMG)	"The God of American Bureaucracy: Religion and the Rise of the Corporation in the Philippines"	RDD
17.01.2019	Hiroshi Motomura (UCLA, Los Angeles)	"The New Migration Law: A Roadmap for an Uncertain Future"	ELP SCD
04.02.2019	Nicole Iturriaga (MPI-MMG)	"At the Foot of the Grave: Challenging Collective Memories of Violence in Post-Franco Spain"	RDD
18.02.2019	Liana Chua (Brunel University London)	" 'If God is with Us, Who Can Be Against Us?': Christianity, Cosmopolitics, and Living with Difference in Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo"	RDD
20.02.2019	Nora Lafi (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin)	"Reflecting on Post-Imperial and Post-Colonial Legacies: The 2015 Berlin 'Refugee Crisis' as a Mirror of the History of the Middle East"	EOM
27.02.2019	Andreas Reckwitz (Europa Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder)	"Hypertexture and Cultural Essentialism: Two Modes of Culturalization in Late Modernity"	SCD
04.03.2019	Tam Ngo (MPI-MMG / Radboud University Nijmegen)	"Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Sacred Geography and Spiritual Warfare in Today's Vietnam"	RDD
18.03.2019	Brian Arly Jacobsen (University of Copenhagen)	"The Mosque as a Vehicle of Muslim Political Participation in Denmark"	RDD
19.03.2019	Miriam Cooke (Duke University)	"Syrian Revolutionary Culture at Home and in Germany"	RDD
19.03.2019	Zeynep Devrim Gürsel (Rutgers University) and David Low (AGBU Nubar Library, Paris)	"A Ghostly Red Line: the Hand of the State" and " 'The Noise of Time': The Spatial, Temporal and Semantic Migrations of Ottoman Armenian Photographs"	EOM
25.03.2019	Danilyn Rutherford (President, the Wenner- Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research)	"The Sovereignty of Vulnerability"	EOM
01.04.2019	Girish Daswani (University of Toronto)	" 'Sakawa': A Moral Critique of Corruption in Ghana"	RDD
06.05.2019	Rupa Viswanath (University of Göttingen)	"The Duty to Feed: Religion, Racial Democracy, and Welfare in Malaysia"	RDD
09.05.2019	Rainer Bauböck (Lichtenberg Kolleg)	"Urban Citizenship: History, Presence and Future"	SCD
16.05.2019	Éléonore Lépinard (Université Lausanne)	"Feminist Trouble. Intersectional Politics in Post-Secular Times"	SCD
20.05.2019	Deirdre de la Cruz (University of Michigan)	"Perspectives on Philippine Psychic Surgery"	RDD

03.06.2019	Angie Heo (University of Chicago)	"Missionary, Hostage, Ransom, Spy"	RDD
18.06.2019	Ward Keeler (University of Texas)	"Comparative Queer Southeast Asian Studies"	RDD
11.07.2019	Elaine Ho (National University of Singapore) and Tuen Yi Chiu	"Transnational Ageing and Care Technologies: Mainland Chinese Grandparenting Migrants"	ATM
16.07.2019	Loretta Baldassar (University of Western Australia)	"Digital Kinning And the Role of Intergenerational Care Support Networks in Ageing"	ATM
17.09.2019	Jarrett Zigon (University of Virginia)	"How is it Between Us? Relational Ethics and Transcendence"	RDD
07.10.2019	Annalisa Buttici (MPI-MMG)	"Father Samba. Politics of Nerves and Catholic Redemptive Psychiatry in Colonial Senegambia"	RDD
10.10.2019	Elizabeth DeLoughrey (University of California, Los Angeles)	"(Caribbean) Space is the Place: Revisualizing Afrofuturisms"	EOM
14.10.2019	Alessio Mazzaro (IUAV University Venice)	"EDINOST & EUROPEAN EDINOST. Co-writing and Art Platforms for Dialogue on Memory Politics, Migration & Antifascism"	EOM
04.11.2019	Mahmood Kooriadathodi (Leiden University)	"When Men Get No Share: Matrilineal Muslims and Sharia of Succession"	RDD
06.11.2019	Philip Gorski (Yale University · Lichtenberg Kolleg)	"Goodbye Tocqueville? Christianity and Democracy in Trump's America"	ELP SCD
13.11.2019	Tamar de Waal (University of Amsterdam)	"Conditional Belonging"	ELP
19.11.2019	Franck Düvell (German Institute for Integration and Migration Research, Berlin)	"Quo Vadis, Migration Studies? Towards a Migratory Epistemology. A Critical Reflection of the Conventional Concepts Used in Migration Studies"	SCD
03.12.2019	Sara Bonfanti (University of Trento)	"Brown Struggles and Hoary Settlers: The Fragmented Chronicles of Panjabis in Southall"	ATM
04.12.2019	Jaclyn L. Neo (National University of Singapore)	"Managing Religious Diversity: The Law of 'Religious Harmony'"	ELP
09.12.2019	Huwy-min Lucia Liu (George Mason University)	"Ritual and Pluralism: Religious Variations on Socialist Death Rituals in Urban China"	RDD
16.12.2019	Noah Salomon (Carleton College)	"The Art of Memory: A Sudanese Mystery"	EOM
14.01.2020	Rijk van Dijk (Leiden University)	"Interconnected Mobilities: Social Mobility, Pentecostalism and Marriage in Africa"	SCD
22.01.2020	Hiroshi Motomura (UCLA, Los Angeles)	"The Current State of Immigration Law and Policy in the United States"	ELP

30.01.2020	Katarzyna Elzbieta Grabska (Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University in the Hague)	"Eritreans and Ethiopians in Sudan: Feminist Perspectives on Migration, Gender and Transitions to Adulthood"	SCD
06.02.2020	Caterina Froio (SciencesPo Paris)	"The Mainstreaming of Far Right Politics. How Fringe Groups and Ideas Become Popular in France and Italy"	SCD
17.02.2020	Peter van der Veer (MPI-MMG)	"Religion and the Nation-Form"	RDD
17.02.2020	Nanlai Cao (Renmin University)	"Exporting Chinese Christianity to Europe: The Transnational Sacralization of Urban Space"	RDD
02.03.2020	Ajay Gandhi (Leiden University)	"Shock and Shove: The Embodied Politics of Force in India"	RDD
30.03.2020	Filippo Osella (University of Sussex)	CANCELLED - "The Unbearable Lightness of Trust: Trade, Masculinity and the Life-World of Indian Export Agents in Yiwu, China"	RDD
20.04.2020	Shen Yang (MPI-MMG)	"The Appearance of History: Approaching Lottery Divination in Chinese Buddhist Temples in China Today"	RDD
11.05.2020	Arndt Emmerich (MPI-MMG)	"Setting Up a Muslim-Christian Kindergarten – Interfaith Dialogue at the Local Level in Germany"	RDD
25.05.2020	Peter van der Veer (MPI-MMG)	Discussion on Theoretical Writings on Death and Mourning, and on Personhood, Individualism, and the Porosity of the Self	RDD
08.06.2020	Frank Korom (Boston University)	"Sacred Matters"	RDD
15.06.2020	Irfan Ahmad (MPI-MMG)	"Terrorism in Question: Toward a New Public Anthropology"	RDD
22.06.2020	Eijiro Hazama (University of Tokyo)	"Rethinking Gandhi's Secularism: How Did Gandhi's Brahmacharya Relate to His Last Political Vision?"	RDD
08.07.2020	Steven Vertovec, Karen Schönwälder, & Lucas Drouhot (MPI-MMG)	"Has the Covid-19 Pandemic Led to Reduced Support for Diversity? Experimental Evidence from German Cities"	SCD

# 21

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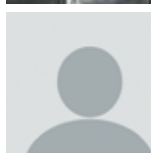
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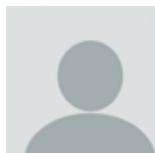
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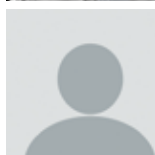
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