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CITAS Newsletter - October 2020

Welcome to the October 2020 edition of the CITAS Newsletter. We are looking forward to the winter semester 2020/21, even if our events will take place largely online. We have a new **Lecture Series** coming up, exploring European-American relations over the past two centuries. **Two new members of staff** have joined CITAS. Our partners at the **Leibniz-ScienceCampus Europe and America** also have a number of exciting events coming up as well as a new Blog-Journal project, Frictions.

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Lecture Series

Special Relations Revisited: Europe and the USA since the 19th Century

organized in cooperation with the Leibniz ScienceCampus Europe and America

Mondays from 2 November, 1815-1945, via Zoom

The third edition of the CITAS Lecture series will start on 2 November. This winter semester it will examine European-American entanglements in topics such as foreign affairs and security policy, diplomacy and migration policy, and more. Moving in a mostly chronological order, the talks will shed light on two centuries of transatlantic connections and cover a variety of issues and fields such as popular culture, the fight against slavery, and European migration to the US.

The lecture series features a host of scholars from Regensburg, as well as guests from Germany and abroad.

The lectures will take place via Zoom and are open to all. Students of the University of Regensburg can register via the LSF system to receive credit for attending. Lectures will be in either English or German.



The first event in the new lecture series will see Prof. Dr. Hedwig Richter (University of the Bundeswehr, Munich) offer a comparative approach to the history of democracy in France, the USA and Germany. She will argue that nineteenth-century elections lead us back to the roots of modern democracies. She will consider questions including: How did such elections make claims to universality? What did the elections mean for the men who participated in them? What commonalties and differences were there in the three countries investigated here: France, Germany and the USA? And what do these comparisons tells us about the functions of elections and democracy in these particular cases and more generally? Find out more on 2 November, 1815, via Zoom.



New Staff Members

Dr. Joanna Moszczyńska Postdoctoral Researcher at CITAS

Dr. Moszczyńska has joined CITAS as a postdoctoral researcher. From January 2016 to December 2018 she was a doctoral student at the DFG-funded (German Research Foundation) International Research Training Group Between Spaces at the Institute for Latin American Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. In 2020 she defended her doctoral thesis on representations of the Holocaust in Jewish-Brazilian literature after 1985.

In Regensburg she will collaborate with CITAS to develop a project exploring the connections between Latin America and the Caribbean with East-Central Europe in relation to

travel writing and reportage.

Find out more about her here.

CITAS also has a new Research Assistant, Ivo Music. He is an MA student in public history at the University of Regensburg. He replaces Solveig Albrecht, who has moved to Eichstätt-Ingolstadt to join the MA programme in Conflict, Memory and Peace. We wish her all the best!



The Range and Limits of Travelling Concepts in Area Studies

Joint discussion involving CITAS (Regensburg) and Leibniz ScienceCampus Europe and America (Regensburg), GWZO (Leipzig) and the the Herder Institute Research Academy (Marburg).

Thursday 22 October 2020, 14:00 - 16:00 Uhr

Chair: Anna Veronika Wendland (Herder Institute, Marburg) Presentations by:

- Hana Rydza (GWZO, Leipzig) on Populism
- Agustín Cosovschi (visiting fellow at IOS Regensburg) Self-management as a travelling concept between Latin America and Yugoslavia
- Carmen Dexl (Universität Regensburg) Infrastructures and Performance
- Tatsiana Astrouskaya (Herder Institute Research Academy, Marburg) The Travels of the Concepts of Samizdat and Dissent

You are welcome to join the discussion via Zoom. For access to the readings, please email campus@europeamerica.de.

Abstract:

In this online meeting, doctoral researchers, postdocs and faculty in Leipzig, Marburg and Regensburg will discuss the significance and applicability of travelling concepts for area studies. As Mieke Bal suggests, concepts do offer a foundation for scholarly discussion across the humanities and social sciences, but they are not epistemically neutral analytical tools. They are

shaped both by their origins in certain disciplines, periods and geographical or institutions spaces and by their encounters with other disciplines, discourses and spaces as they travel. The discussion seeks to address this intersection of 'roots' and 'routes', to use James Clifford's distinction (Clifford 1997), in the emergence of increasingly salient travelling concepts following area studies' recent 'rebirth' (Multinovic, ed. 2019). How do concepts travel across disciplinary and regional boundaries? Do they move smoothly or face restrictions? Does area studies facilitate a productive translation of concepts or does it still perhaps reproduce epistemic asymmetries that have traditionally shaped the field as the sites of production of analytical theories and empirical data have often differed?

We propose to open the session with a discussion of two key texts addressing the place of travelling concepts in the humanities and social sciences. In the second part, colleagues will give short talks on particular travelling concepts drawng from their ongoing research that explores the potential for crossing regional and disciplinary boundaries.

Readings

Frank Bösch and Hubertus Büschel, 'Transnational and Global Perspectives as Travelling Concepts in the Study of Culture' in Travelling Concepts for the Study of Culture, Neumann and Nünning, eds. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2012, pp. 371-388. https://www.degruyter.com/view/title/36914

Boris Buden, 'Translation and the East There is No Such Thing as an "Eastern European Study of Culture", in The Trans/National Study of Culture: A Translational Perspective, Bachmann-Medick, Doris, ed., Berlin: De Gruyter, 2014, pp. 171-180. https://www.degruyter.com/view/title/304513



FRICTIONS: EUROPE, AMERICA AND GLOBAL TRANSFORMATIONS



New BlogJournal: Frictions

The Leibniz ScienceCampus has launched a new blog/E-journal hybrid format at www.frictions.europeamerica.de

The project discusses Europe and the Americas in the context of global transformations, past and present. It welcomes contributions from scholars based in Regensburg and around the world addressing the blog's core themes of social, cultural and economic relations within and between Europe and the America. Historical and present-focused discussions are equally welcomed.

- The Essays section publishes fully-referenced, peer-reviewed articles of around 3000-4000 words.
- The Notes section features comment pieces on salient current events and contributions outlining ongoing and developing research projects, including methodological, conceptual and theoretical explorations as well as findings from empirical and field research.
- The Debates section features interviews, conference reports, reviews of exhibitions, films and other cultural works, and discussions of recent publications.

For Notes and Debates more experimental formats including photo-reportages or video-reportages are very much welcome. Contributions can be in English or German.

To discuss submission for the project, contact the editorial team at frictions@europeamerica.de

CITAS Research Networks in Area Studies

Thanks to the funding awarded in the latest round of the target agreement (Zielvereinbarung), CITAS is funding two Research Networks in Area Studies. One network focuses on transnational knowledge production - KNOW-IN, the other on Mediterranean island areas - MS-ISLA. The networks encourage collaboration across disciplines in Regensburg, nationally and internationally, applying an area studies framework to cuttingedge and socially-relevant themes, including Science and Technology Studies, climate change, and migration. The networks are led by postdoctoral researchers, with collaborators including doctoral students, early career researchers and senior faculty from Regensburg and universities around the world.

The networks were launched online in May 2020 and since then have been active online, with kick-off meetings that should lead to further international collaboration and strengthening multidisciplinary collaboration in Regensburg.

Inaugural CITAS and Leibniz ScienceCampus Prize for the Best Master's Thesis in Area Studies at the University of Regensburg



Winners of 2019/20 will be announced shortly

The Boards of CITAS and the ScienceCampus were pleased by the quality of applications received. Several nominees are in contention for the three prizes and will be announced in November.

A second call will be launched next year for master's (or equivalent) theses submitted at UR in summer semester 2020, winter semester 2020/21 and summer semester 2021.

Research Colloquium of the Leibniz-ScienceCampus and Gradute School for East and Southeast European Studies



Literaturland > Jiddisch (| Efrat Gal-Ed (Düsseldorf) 5 November 2020, 1615 - online via Zoom

The artist, author and lecturer Efrat Gal-Ed will open the second edition of the joint Research Colloquium on 5 November at 1615. She will discuss Yiddish intellectuals' response to World War I and the formation of what was termed "Yiddishland". The lecture will be in German.

The dates for the rest of the series are:

3 December 2020 | 16:15

"Vorbei mit dem sonnigen Georgien! Kolonialität in Romanen über Georgien nach 1991" Mirja Lecke (Regensburg)

14 January 2021 | 16:15 Buchbesprechung: "Forging Global Fordism" Stefan Link (Dartmouth)

3 February 2021 | 16:15

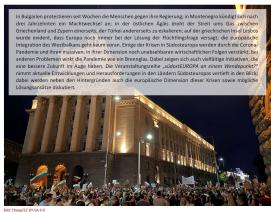
"Transatlantic and Comparative Perspectives on financial crises in the second half of the 19th century" Catherine Davies (Zürich)



Other area studies events in Regensburg



Die einzelnen Vorträge finden auf ZOOM statt, Zugangslinks siehe unten.



Online-Lectures "südostEUROPA an einem Wendepunkt? Aktuelle Krisen im Schatten der Pandemie"

Our colleagues at IOS, in collaboration with the Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft, the Graduate School and the ScienceCampus, have organized a series of lectures exploring the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on Southeastern Europe.

The next event is on 21 October at 16:00 via Zoom.

Alexander Andreev (Deutsche Welle, Bulgarische Redaktion); Kommentar von PD Dr. Petär Kehayov (LMU München): "Die Protestwelle in Bulgarien: Hintergründe und Zukunftsszenarien"

The full programme can be found here.

Lecture Series Decision 2020: Trump vs Biden

The Department of International and Transatlantic Relations at the University of Regensburg is organizing a lecture series this winter semester on the US presidential election. Decision 2020: Trump vs. Biden starts on 3 November with an introduction followed by a panel discussion featuring the President of the University and Professor of American Studies Prof. Dr. Udo Hebel and Dr. Gerlinde Groitl, coordinator of the Leibniz-ScienceCampus research module Transatlantic Political Transformations and former CITAS board member.

They will be joined by Prof. emerita Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz (University of Pittsburgh), while the discussion will be chaired by the Head of the Department, Prof. Dr. Stephan Bierling. The lecture will continue throughout the semester, reflecting upon the outcome of the election with further contributions from Prof. Bierling and Dr. Groitl, as well as by numerous renowned guests active in the policymaking, of journalism, academia and diplomacy. The event is open to all, with details of registration to follow shortly before the start of the series to be made available here.

Discussion Protest und Alltag in Belarus. Eine Gesellschaft im Wandel

10. November, 13:00 - via Zoom

Organized by the Graduate School for East and South East European Studies, the discussion features: Volha Bartash (IOS, Regensburg), Nina Weller (Viadrina, Frankfurt/O.), Andrey Vozyanov (Minsk)

Cooperation: Leibniz-Institut für Ost- und Südosteuropaforschung, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Osteuropakunde

e.V.

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