

## Detailed information about Panels and Round Tables

Africa Challenges

International conference of the „African Studies Association in Germany“ (VAD)

Johann Wolfgang Goethe University

Frankfurt am Main, 07 – 11 June 2021



Vereinigung für Afrikawissenschaften in Deutschland e.V. (VAD)  
c/o GIGA Institut für Afrika-Studien  
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20354 Hamburg  
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## Foreword

In June 2019, the idea of conceptualizing European-African relations as a 'challenge' was presented for the first time as a central conference theme. At that time, no one could have foreseen what dimensions the concept of 'challenge' would once again take on. Even when the conference concept was largely fixed and the calls for panel proposals and papers had been sent out, the special significance of this term could not have been imagined.



Since then, the whole world has had to deal with many other, initially pandemic challenges. Linked to this, there are new painful experiences of inequality, for example in terms of health care and access to vaccines. Certainly, in a less significant place is the challenge of finding a new event date and format for the VAD biennial conference.

Reflection on challenges has an essential aim: it should invite critical reflection of the questioner and - as is the case with any crisis - lead to a redefinition of those to whom talk of the challenge seems relevant! In this respect, too, the concept of challenge proved to be much more pertinent than expected at the time of its formulation. Indeed: European-African relations are a challenge, but not only in terms of how 'Africa' is perceived by the European public and academia, but very specifically in terms of whether and to what extent a professional association like the VAD plays a role in this. Feeling challenged undoubtedly also means a willingness to change oneself. What might the VAD represent in 10 or 20 years time? This is an absolutely worthwhile question! Possible answers to this should be significant for any form of participation in the biennial conference.

A little more than 50 years after its foundation, it is urgent for the VAD to look more deeply into the questions of its purpose and possibilities. Many things would not have been possible in the past if the VAD had not existed. The association was intensely active and experienced comparatively greater public awareness through public statements in the 1980s, especially with regard to the struggle against apartheid.

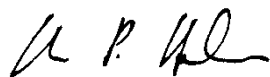
Today it is about issues of the African diaspora in Germany, discrimination of PoC and dealing with cultural diversity. In all these areas, there is an urgent challenge to find new and ethically responsible positionings, and to connect the long-established competences with the political agenda of the present. The VAD will have to reinvent itself if it still wants to play a significant

role in the medium term. The past two and a half years of board work have shown that focusing on societies in Africa is no longer sufficient, nor does it correspond with the self-image of the VAD. In this sense, it must be stated that with the end of the term of office of the current board, the greater challenges still lie ahead for the professional association. This clear diagnosis is not matched by a ready-made recipe on how exactly to tackle this task. Against the background of the imperative for self-transformation, the current conference also has a special significance. It is important to apply the concept of challenge to the broad spectrum of phenomena associated with 'Africa' and African issues in the broadest sense of the term as well as - more reflexively - to the positioning of the academics themselves and to the VAD.

In this sense, I wish all participants an interesting and content-rich conference, fruitful debates in the individual panels and new inspiration for the urgent research questions of the present.

Special thanks are due to the organisational team, Stefan Schmid, Harriet Annuscheit and Kira Kreft, who had to cope with a considerable amount of extra work due to the necessary double rescheduling. Thanks are also due to the panel convenors, most of whom were willingly accepting the imposition of multiple rescheduling. We would also like to thank the speakers, whose flexibility made the realisation of the conference possible in the first place. Finally, we would like to thank the German Research Foundation (DFG), the Association of Friends and Sponsors of the Goethe University (FuF), the Foundation for the Promotion of International Scientific Relations at the Goethe University Frankfurt/Main (IWBZ) and the Center for Interdisciplinary African Studies (ZIAF) at the Goethe University making the conference possible with their financial support. The sponsors also supported the idea of free registration for the online event.

Frankfurt/Main May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021



Hans Peter Hahn for the Board of Directors of the VAD

## Opening Ceremony and keynote

**June 07 16.30 – 18.30**

16.30 - 16.45 Welcome by Hans Peter Hahn,  
Goethe University Frankfurt

16.45 - 17.00 Welcome by Andreas Mehler,  
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

17.00 - 17.45 Keynote by Nanjala Nyabola, Nairobi

17.45 - 18.15: Live Q+A with Nanjala Nyabola



### **Africa is Not a Problem to be Solved: Decolonising the Way We Know Africa**

What's the point of African Studies? Every year scholars gather in North America and in Europe to discuss disparate themes untied loosely under the umbrella of "African studies". Yet every year, African scholars are excluded from these meetings by structural (their areas of study are not included), bureaucratic (visa regimes) or practical (access to resources like libraries or catalogues) limitations. The result is a skewed body of knowledge that routinely excludes the richness and fullness of communities on the continent. Similarly, primarily facing the Western academy as the consumer of knowledge about Africa, African studies is inclined to view Africa as a set of social, political, or economic problems to be solved, positioning the academic as an interlocutor between the academy and the policy makers, rather than a person giving a community deeper and richer knowledge about themselves. Simply, the way we know Africa through a distorted epistemology. An epistemology that begins with the problem necessarily leads to a methodology centred on problem-solving, by extension pathologising communities on the continent instead of working with them to build knowledge that is useful to us all.

Drawing from the speaker's own experiences of research and writing on the role of technology in politics in Kenya, this talk will challenge the epistemology that begins with the position that Africa is a set of problems to be solved. Having researched and published a book and several articles on the subject outside the academy, the speaker will highlight the importance of and opportunities for decolonisation that arise when the research begins without the presumption that African societies can only be understood through a set of problems. What changes when research begins without the presumption that the challenges that African communities face are somehow fundamentally different from those elsewhere? How different is the knowledge created when we assume that the primary audience for our knowledge creation is the communities, we engage with rather than the academy? Does an epistemology based on building communities of knowledge and practice rather than insulating knowledge within the academy and the academic lead to different outcomes? Does a decolonial purpose for African studies emerge when the point is to generate knowledge for Africans within Africa, rather than for the academy? These are some of the guiding questions this presentation hopes to address.

## Timetable

Time		Zoom Room 1	Zoom Room 2	Zoom Room 3	Zoom Room 4
<b>Monday June 7th</b>	10:30 - 12:00	FID Afrikastudien, GoetheUniversität: Research Data Day / Forschungsdatentag (in German)	P 08: Challenging the Rule of Law (I): The African Laboratory (Jonas Bens & Leonie Benker, Berlin)	P 27 (I): Governing African mobility: actors, institutions and practices (Johara Berriane, Berlin & Elieth Eyebiyi, Paris)	P 06 (I): Africa Plays: Leisure in Africa (Tom Michael Mboya, Eldoret & Florian Stoll, Bayreuth)
	12:30 - 14:00	FID Afrikastudien, GoetheUniversität: Research Data Day / Forschungsdatentag (in German)	P 08: Challenging the Rule of Law (II): The African Laboratory (Jonas Bens & Leonie Benker, Berlin)	P 27 (II): Governing African mobility: actors, institutions and practices (Johara Berriane, Berlin & Elieth Eyebiyi, Paris)	P 06 (II): Africa Plays: Leisure in Africa (Tom Michael Mboya, Eldoret & Florian Stoll, Bayreuth)
	14:30 - 16:00	FID Afrikastudien, GoetheUniversität: Research Data Day / Forschungsdatentag (in German)	P 13: Utopia(n) Challenges in Africa? Grinding Practices, Ethical Controversies (Antje Daniel, Wien & Melina C. Kalfelis, Bayreuth)	P 50: Writing a novel, or writing Africa? Recent fiction by writers from Africa and the challenge of addressing problems in African societies without reproducing hegemonic stereotypes about the continent (Anja Oed; Mainz)	
	16:30 - 19:00	<b>Opening ceremony / keynote</b> (Great Auditorium)			



Time		Zoom Room 1	Zoom Room 2	Zoom Room 3	Zoom Room 4
<b>Tuesday June 8th</b>	10:30 - 12:00	Plenary Panel P 51(I): Critical Reflections on Knowledge Production and Representation in African Studies (Alzbeta Sváblová, Bayreuth, Diana B. Kisakye, Bayreuth & Serawit B. Debele, Göttingen)	P 11: Challenging the institutional bias in research on education - multiplicities of learning processes in Africa (Iris Clemens & Erdmute Alber, Bayreuth)	P 09: Beyond the Nobel Prize for Peace - Turmoil and uneasy transformation in the Horn of Africa (Magnus Treiber, München & Sabine Mohamed, Göttingen)	P 44: An African perspective on associations and the bureaucratization process (Laure Carbonnel, Dakar & Kamina Diallo, Paris)
	12:30 - 14:00	Panel P 51 (II): Critical Reflections on Knowledge Production and Representation in African Studies (Alzbeta Sváblová, Bayreuth, Diana B. Kisakye, Bayreuth & Serawit B. Debele, Göttingen)	P 16 (I): Dying, death and burial – the ‘challenging’ functions of end-of-life rituals on the African continent (Isabel Bredenbröcker, Frankfurt (Main) & Joh Sarre, Bayreuth)	P 45 (I): The challenge of misunderstandings in longdistance interconnections: Encounters, exchange and disparities in African history (Susann Baller & Amadou Dramé, Dakar)	P 26 (I): Lands of the Future - Futuremaking with Pastoralists in Africa (Echi Christina Gabbert, Göttingen & Günther Schlee, Halle (Saale))
	14:30 - 16:00	P 35 (I): Challenges of the revolution: Making, living and keeping the Sudanese revolution (Valerie Hänsch, München & Mai Azzam, Bayreuth)	P 16 (II): Dying, death and burial – the ‘challenging’ functions of end-of-life rituals on the African continent (Isabel Bredenbröcker, Frankfurt (Main) & Johanna Sarre, Bayreuth)	P 45 (II): The challenge of misunderstandings in longdistance interconnections: Encounters, exchange and disparities in African history (Susann Baller & Amadou Dramé, Dakar)	P 26 (II): Lands of the Future - Futuremaking with Pastoralists in Africa (Echi Christian Gabbert, Göttingen & Günther Schlee, Halle (Saale))
	16:30 - 18:00	P 35 (II): Challenges of the revolution: Making, living and keeping the Sudanese revolution (Valerie Hänsch, München & Mai Azzam, Bayreuth)	RT 02: Providing Nuanced, Yet Coherent Assessments? Challenges for Social Science Research on Africa		Book launch Berghahn
	Whole Day	Film screening Arsenal Filmverleih			

Time		Zoom Room 1	Zoom Room 2	Zoom Room 3	Zoom Room 4
<b>Wednesday June 9th</b>	10:30 - 12:00	P 01 (I): Political participation and micro-politics in African states (Tareq Sydig, Marburg)	P 21 (I): In the shadows of autonomy: Decentralized state structures and local contexts in Africa (Matthew Sabbi, Bayreuth & Lamine Doumbia, Dakar)	P 24 (I): The 'Anglophone' Conflict in Cameroon: Causes, Consequences and Conflict Resolution? (James Kewir Kiven, London & Gordon Crawford, Freiburg)	P 41: The marketization of African wildlife encounter in safari tourism, conservation volunteering and trophy hunting (Antje Schlottmann, Frankfurt (Main) & Olivier Graefe, Fribourg)
	12:30 - 14:00	P 01 (II): Political participation and micro-politics in African states (Tareq Sydiq, Marburg)	P 21 (II): In the shadows of autonomy: Decentralized state structures and local contexts in Africa (Matthew Sabbi, Bayreuth & Lamine Doumbia, Dakar)	P 24 (II): The 'Anglophone' Conflict in Cameroon: Causes, Consequences and Conflict Resolution? (James Kewir Kiven, London & Gordon Crawford, Freiburg)	P 31: Sustainable investments in Africa: creating synergies of profits, people and planet (Karin Wedig, Bonn & Matthias Rompel, Eschborn)
	14:30 - 16:00	RT 03 (01): Futures Lost, Found, and Restituted: Archives, Curatorship and the Politics of Audiovisual Heritage in Africa	P 30: Questioning the Coloniality of Territory: the Case of Nineteenth Century Ethiopia (Felix Schürmann, Erfurt & Woldemariam Ambo Zegeye, Mekelle)	P 39: Seeing like a space: A methodological challenge for African Studies (Susann Ludwig, Leipzig & Julia Büchele, Basel)	P 42: Challenging Notions of Education and Knowing: Islamic Practices of Teaching and Learning across Africa (Anna Madeleine Ayeh, Bayreuth)
	16:30 - 18:00	RT 03 (02): Futures Lost, Found, and Restituted: Archives, Curatorship and the Politics of Audiovisual Heritage in Africa	RT 05: Social Security Coverage and Informal Employment - Implications of new Survey Data from six African Countries	RT 01: Germany and the Rwandan genocide: New evidence from the German Foreign Office's archives	Book launch Nomos
	Whole Day	Film screening Arsenal Filmverleih			

Time		Zoom Room 1	Zoom Room 2	Zoom Room 3	Zoom Room 4
<b>Thursday June 10th</b>	10:30 - 12:00	P 10 (I): Unpacking EU-West African migration governance: stakes, actors and colonial continuities (Leonie Jegen & Franzisca Zanker, Freiburg)		P 12: Moralities in an entangled world: On studying moral configurations and questions of change (Martina Drescher, Eberhard Rothfuß & Eva Spies, Bayreuth)	P 18: The impact of mobile technologies on social structures in Africa (Tamara Gupper, Frankfurt (Main) & Roos Keja, Utrecht)
	12:30 - 14:00	P 10 (II): Unpacking EU-West African migration governance: stakes, actors and colonial continuities (Leonie Jegen & Franzisca Zanker, Freiburg)		Meet the Editors: Julia Grauvogel (Africa Spectrum)	P 05 (I): Lifeworlds in Crisis: challenging notions of difference (Andrea Behrends & Tylor Zoanni, Bayreuth)
	14:30 - 16:00	P 36: Adaptation to climate change and demographic Change in Africa: exposure and vulnerability assessments across different scales (Gabriel Tati, Cape Town)	P 54: Opportunities and Challenges of Cooperative Provenance Research (Lars Müller, Hannover)	P 33 (I): Challenges of the future - care for the afterlife in Africa and its diaspora (Sophia Thubauville, Frankfurt (Main) & Sabine Klocke-Daffa, Tübingen)	P 05 (II): Lifeworlds in Crisis: challenging notions of difference (Andrea Behrends & Tylor Zoanni, Bayreuth)
	16:30 - 18:00	RT 07: The governmental crisis in Burkina Faso and in Mali (VAD Sahelausschuss)	P 47: Transnational anticolonial spaces: challenges to nationalism (Dmitri van den Bersselaar, Leipzig & Ngozi Edeagu, Bayreuth)	P 33 (II): Challenges of the future - care for the afterlife in Africa and its diaspora	
	Whole Day	Film screening Arsenal Filmverleih			

Time		Zoom Room 1	Zoom Room 2	Zoom Room 3	Zoom Room 4
<b>Friday June 11 th</b>	10:30 - 12:00	P 15: Conceptualising religious infrastructures in Africa (Yanti Hölzchen, Frankfurt (Main) & Benjamin Kirby, Leeds)		P 46: “Post-truth” politics: Potentials and challenges for African studies (Joschka Philipps, Basel)	P 52: African Universities or Universities in Africa? (Akiiki Babyesiza, Berlin & Susanne Ress, Bamberg)
	12:30 - 14:00	RT 04: Expertise of and for research funding policies: norms, ambivalences and the role of African Studies (Stefan Skupien, WZB)	P 37: Between Annexation and Appropriation or the Production of the Colonial Space (Ute Hasenöhl, Innsbruck & Nicole Wiederroth, Duisburg-Essen)		
	14:30 - 16:00	P 53: What does it take to decolonize the VAD (Association for African Studies in Germany)? (Hans Peter Hahn, Frankfurt (Main) & Abimbola O. Adesoji, Ile-Ife)			

## Meet the editors of *Africa Spectrum*

June 10 12.30 – 14.00

Africa Spectrum is a peer-reviewed open access journal dedicated to original research on the politics, societies, and economics of sub-Saharan Africa, both in contemporary and historical perspective. As a multidisciplinary journal committed to intellectual pluralism, Africa Spectrum welcomes submissions employing a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches from across the social sciences and humanities. Since 2003, the journal has collaborated closely with the African Studies Association in Germany (Vereinigung für Afrikawissenschaften in Deutschland, VAD). Learn more about the journal's aims and scope, meet the editors, and discuss your ideas for articles, analytical reports, book reviews or special issues. We share insights and answer questions to help demystify the submission and review process.

## Book Launch Berghahn

June 08 16:30 – 18.00

### About the book

Rangeland, forests, and riverine landscapes of pastoral communities in Eastern Africa are increasingly under threat. Abetted by states who think that outsiders can better use the lands than the people who have lived there for centuries, outside commercial interests have displaced indigenous dwellers from pastoral territories. This volume presents case studies from Eastern Africa, based on long-term field research, that vividly illustrate the struggles and strategies of those who face dispossession and also discredit ideological false modernist tropes like 'backwardness' and 'primitiveness'. This volume does not provide comfortable truths. On the contrary, while genuinely acknowledging the urgency of the obligation of governments to provide good living conditions for their citizens, it exposes, in anthropological detail, the painful, harmful, and deeply dissonant developments that first brought people together in the *Lands of the Future* Initiative. It will not curry favour with self-proclaimed modernizers. It takes a stand against power inequalities, harmful development, short-sighted growth paradigms and forms of repression on a global scale.

Read the introduction „Futuremaking with Pastoralists“ here:

[https://www.berghahnbooks.com/downloads/intros/GabbertLands\\_intro.pdf](https://www.berghahnbooks.com/downloads/intros/GabbertLands_intro.pdf)

### Reviews

*“Explains clearly how changes in pastoral and agro-pastoral land use/lease in East Africa lead to environmental degradation and depletion of resources... a very important book.”* Tadesse Berisso, Addis Ababa University

*„This book is a rare hybrid – timely as a sensitizing intervention, cutting in its analysis, generative in its suggestions, positioned in its judgment, while taking care to not burn bridges in its deliberate and delicate effort to make grounded insights accessible not only to other academics, but also to potential stakeholders involved in the transformation of land use in East Africa and beyond.“* Felix Girke, University of Konstanz

The editors

Echi Christina Gabbert is an anthropologist at the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, Göttingen University, Germany. She coordinates the *Lands of the Future Initiative*, that focuses on pastoralism, global investment, and local responses in East Africa in the 21st century.

Fana Gebresenbet is Assistant Professor at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. He has done extensive fieldwork on land investment in pastoral regions of Ethiopia.

John G. Galaty is Professor of Anthropology at McGill University, Canada. Focused on eastern Africa, his areas of specialisms are pastoralism and social change and rangeland development.

Günther Schlee is Professor of Social Anthropology at Arba Minch University, Ethiopia, and Director emeritus at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany. His main publications include *Identities on the Move: Clanship and Pastoralism in Northern Kenya* (Manchester University Press, 1989) and *How Enemies Are Made: Towards a Theory of Ethnic and Religious Conflict* (Berghahn Books, 2008).

Further Links

Link to the bookpage at Berghahn:

<https://www.berghahnbooks.com/title/GabbertLands>

## Book Launch Nomos

June 09 16:30 – 18.00

Book launch on a highly topical subject: Migration from the Global North to the Global South  
Reading Sample:

[https://www.nomos-shop.de/shopfiles/leseprobe\\_978-3-8487-8266-6\\_leseprobe.pdf](https://www.nomos-shop.de/shopfiles/leseprobe_978-3-8487-8266-6_leseprobe.pdf)

About the book

In this study, the author Dr. Asaf Augusto conceptualises Portuguese labour migration to Angola after the 2008 global economic crisis. The book will be of interest to those who want to understand, both theoretically and empirically, how labour migration from the Global North to the Global South operates in formerly colonised spaces.

The book will be introduced and discussed by Professor Russell King, Professor of Geography at the University of Sussex and Visiting Professor in Migration Studies at Malmö University in Sweden.

## Research Data Day / Forschungsdatenmanagement

Organized by the Fachinformationsdienst Afrikastudien, Goethe- Universität

Note: due to the topic of the day which closely relates to German legislation and the German university system all contributions will be in German only. There will be no translation.

### FORSCHUNGSDATEN UND FORSCHUNGSDATENMANAGEMENT

Fördereinrichtungen verlangen zunehmend von ihren Empfängern, ihre Forschungsdaten in Forschungsdaten-Repositoryn zugänglich und nachnutzbar zu machen. Jedoch ist das Management von Forschungsdaten in der Afrikaforschung von großen Unsicherheiten begleitet. Zum einen ist die Landschaft der bestehenden Infrastruktur-Angebote heterogen und unübersichtlich. Es fehlt zudem Wissen hinsichtlich der Rechtslage und den entsprechenden Erfordernissen im Umgang mit personenbezogenen Forschungsdaten. Außerdem wird gerade in der Afrikaforschung das Forschungsdatenmanagement unter forschungsethischen Perspektiven als besonders sensibel betrachtet. Dieser Workshop bietet die Möglichkeit mit Rechtsexpert\*innen und Expert\*innen der Datenarchivierung ins Gespräch zu kommen und wird speziell auf fachspezifische Fragestellungen eingehen.

### PROGRAMM 07.06.2021:

10.30 - 12.00

#### INFRASTRUKTUREN

Elisabeth Huber (Qualiservice, Universität Bremen): Datenarchivierung und Data Sharing  
Jonas Huisl (Universität Bayreuth): WissKI und easydb – Informationssysteme für eine digitale Forschungsinfrastruktur im Exzellenzcluster „Africa Multiple“

12.30 - 14.00

#### UMSETZUNGEN

Sabine Imeri (FID Sozial- und Kulturanthropologie, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin): Forschungsdaten in den ethnologischen Fächern  
Christoph Kümmel (DFG): Forschungsdatenmanagement aus Sicht der Forschungsförderung: Anforderungen und Qualitätskriterien

14.30 - 16.00

#### JURISTISCHE PERSPEKTIVEN

Elke Brehm (Technische Informationsbibliothek (TIB), Hannover): Juristische Perspektiven zu Datenschutz und Persönlichkeitsrechten  
Linda Kuschel (Bucerius Law School, Hamburg): Urheberrecht und Forschungsdaten

## Film Program

The accompanying film program from 8th – 10th of June 2021 is provided in cooperation with two projects at the film department of the Goethe-University Frankfurt – the DAAD project "Archival Studies Master Program Jos" and the BMBF project "CEDITRAA - Cultural Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation in Africa and Asia". The films are distributed by Arsenal - Institute for Film and Video Art in Berlin.

All films will be available by Vimeo link on the calendar day indicated. No fixed screening timings, you can watch the film throughout that day.

### **JUNE 8TH**

*REASSEMBLAGE* (USA 1982, D: Trinh T. Minh-ha)

In this documentary, director Trinh T. Minh-ha distills sounds and images from the everyday lives of villagers in Senegal, resisting the ethnological need to explain the "other" by resorting to explicit attributions. A critique of the ethnological viewpoint and documentary authority.

Running Time: 40 min. | Version: OmU - English with subtitles

Website: [http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object\\_id/10462/lang/en\\_US](http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/10462/lang/en_US)

*LA ZERDA ET LES CHANTS DE L'OUBLI* (DZA 1982, D: Assia Djébar)

For *LA ZERDA ET LES CHANTS DE L'OUBLI* Algerian writer Assia Djébar changed professions in order to recapitulate the colonialization of the Maghreb using French newsreels. The film employs montage to search for the truth in these "images of a killing gaze", a truth which they pointedly do not show: the "resistance behind the mask".

Running Time: 59 min, | Version: OmU – Arabic with English subtitles

Website: [http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object\\_id/14405/lang/en\\_US](http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/14405/lang/en_US)

### **JUNE 9TH**

*LES MISÉRABLES* (SDN 2006, D: Gadalla Gubara)

Despite his loss of sight, Gadalla Gubara continued to work and shot his final film at the age of 87 with the help of his daughter Sara. The experimental film is an adaption of Victor Hugo's famous novel. Gubara found the situation of the people in Sudan comparable to that portrayed in the novel.

Running Time: 105 min. | Version: OmU – Arabic with English subtitles

Website: [http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object\\_id/13997/lang/en\\_US](http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/13997/lang/en_US)



**JUNE 10TH**

*Mueda: Memoria e massacre (MOZ 1979, D: Ruy Guerra)*

The film depicts an anti-colonial work on memory, a re-enactment played by amateurs of the massacre of Mueda that was carried out by Portuguese soldiers on 16th June 1960 when they opened fire on demonstrators, killing hundreds. This was the catalyst for the anti-colonial movement and popular theater started exploring it in 1968, while the war of independence (1964 - 1974) was still going on.

Running Time: 75 min. | Version: OmU – Portuguese/ Makonde with English subtitles

Website: [http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object\\_id/14138/lang/en\\_US](http://films.arsenal-berlin.de/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/14138/lang/en_US)

**THE DAAD-TNB-PROJECT "ARCHIVAL STUDIES MASTER PROGRAM JOS"**

Since the end of 2018, the DAAD-funded project "Archival Studies Master Program Jos" has been running at the Institute of Theatre, Film and Media Studies (TFM) of Goethe University Frankfurt under the direction of Prof. Dr. Vinzenz Hediger (Professor of Film Studies) and in cooperation with the University of Jos as well as the Nigerian Film Corporation (NFC). Modeled on the Frankfurt Master's program "Film Culture: Archiving, Programming, Presentation", which the Institute for TFM has been offering together with the German Film Institute since 2013, the master's program "Film Culture and Archival Studies" in Jos, Nigeria, was launched at the end of 2019. In the future, up to 25 students per year will be trained in this program to become academic specialists for media archives and institutions of film culture.

Within the framework of the DAAD project, institutional partners in Germany and Nigeria are supporting the development of the program over the course of four years. In cooperation with the DFF – Deutsches Filminstitut und Filmmuseum, the Arsenal – Institute for Film and Video Art, the Lagos Film Society and the National Film, Video and Sound Archive in Nigeria (NFVSA), the development work includes fellowships for lecturers from Jos with institutional partners in Germany, co-teaching between lecturers from Goethe University and the University of Jos, as well as technical workshops by specialist staff from the film archives of the DFF and Arsenal for students and archive staff in Jos. Starting in 2021, up to three students from the program in Jos will also have the opportunity to study abroad in Frankfurt as part of a DAAD scholarship. In addition, up to six students in the master's program can be supported locally with scholarships.

Further information about the project can be found here:

[Website Goethe University](#)  
[Archive Ausser Sich](#)

*THE BMBF PROJECT CEDITRAA - CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA AND ASIA*

In April 2021, the joint project of Goethe University (GU) Frankfurt and Johannes Gutenberg University (JGU) Mainz titled "CEDITRAA - Cultural Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation in Africa and Asia" started under the project management of Prof. Dr. Vinzenz Hediger. In the project, which is funded by the BMBF, the regional studies centers from the Rhine-Main University Network are working together for the first time in an interdisciplinary research assignment – at Goethe University the Center for Interdisciplinary African Studies (ZIAF) and the Interdisciplinary Center for East Asian Studies (IZO), and at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, the Center for Intercultural Studies (ZIS).

The research team, which is composed of economists, African studies, Korean studies, sinology, ethnology, and film studies, is investigating how digitization is changing cultural production in sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia. This is done using music and film as examples of cultural expressions of an immaterial nature. Cultural production in Nigeria and South Korea – two countries whose cultural production is no longer dominated by the products of the U.S. culture industry – will be examined. The Frankfurt and Mainz researchers are interested in the extent to which the new cultural industries with supra-regional reach are becoming a factor in the economic development of their regions of origin.

(More information will be available soon on the project website at [www.ceditraa.net](http://www.ceditraa.net).)

## Panel Overview

### **P 01: Political participation and micro-politics in African states**

June 09 10:30 – 14:00

Convenor: Tareq Sydig, Center for Conflict Studies at the University of Marburg

#### Short abstract

This panel focuses on studies contributing to African micro-politics as rooted in communities and lifeworlds. It does so through case studies examining the relationship of micro-politics with the state's political and bureaucratic institutions.

#### Presenters Session I

01 Kairedin Tezera: Dynamics of Legal Pluralism and Hybridism: the case of customary, religious, and State legal systems among Muslim Siltie People southern Ethiopia

*Kairedin Tezera is an Assistant Professor of Social Anthropology at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.*

02 Christopher Appiah-Thompson, Jim Jose, Tod Moore: Examining the Role of Customary Institutions and Culture in the Resolution of Electoral Conflict in Ghana

*Christopher Appiah-Thompson is a Doctoral Candidate in Politics at Australia's University of Newcastle.*

03 Liliana Narvaez-Rodriguez: Namibia's trajectory of peace: A case for institutional hybridity

*Liliana Narvaez-Rodriguez is an HPL Lecturer at the Universidad de La Sabana in Bogotá, Colombia.*

04 Martina Santschi: Negotiating statehood and authority: Trajectories of (post-) civil war governance structures and practices in Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, South Sudan

*Martina Santschi is senior researcher at swisspeace in Bern and associated researcher at the University of Basel, Switzerland.*

Presenters Session II

05 Tim Glawion: How outsourced security and public goods support or undermine rebel governance: the case of Ndélé, Central African Republic

*Tim Glawion is a research fellow at the GIGA Institute in Hamburg.*

06 Nestor Zante: When the State fails to provide security: vigilantism and co-production of security in rural Burkina Faso

*Nestor Zante is a doctoral student in African Studies, affiliated to the Institute of Political Science and Sociology, at the university of Würzburg.*

07 Alzbeta Svablova: Early warning in Liberia: Fostering the disconnections between the state and its citizens

*Alzbeta Svablova is an associated lecturer at the University of Bayreuth.*

08 Kayode Onipede: Pelupelu: A Complementary Perspective to Governance in Nigeria (1900-1958)

*Kayode Onipede currently works at the Department of General Studies, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-01-i-political-participation-and-micro-politics-in-african-states/>

**P 05: Lifeworlds in Crisis: challenging notions of difference**

June 10 12:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Andrea Behrends, University of Bayreuth  
Tyler Zoanni, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

Short abstract

In this panel we look at so-called crises from the perspective of how people live through such situations in Africa. The aim of the panel is twofold: we explore how “Africa challenges” our notion of crisis while also considering how crises challenge well-established notions of difference.

Presenters Session I

01 Remadji Hoinathy: Vigilance committees facing the peril of Boko Haram

*Remadji Hoinathy is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Security Studies and member of the board of the Centre de Recherche en Anthropologie et Sciences Humaines (CRASH) in N'Djamena, Chad.*

02 Nina Haberland: Managing Everyday Crises: Negotiations of Care Responsibilities in a Tanzanian Social Welfare Office

*Nina Haberland is a university assistant and PhD student in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna.*

03 Christian Ungruhe: Youth Crisism. Reflections on the persisting victimization of young people in Africa

*Christian Ungruhe is a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow in Anthropology at the Erasmus University Rotterdam.*

04 Lotje de Vries: #CARcrisis: How one hashtag obscures shifting crises in the Central African Republic

*Lotje de Vries is assistant professor at the Sociology of Development and Change Group of Wageningen University.*

Presenters Session II

05 Catheline Bosibori Nyabwengi: Terrorism and Violence: Kenya's decolonization movements in challenging the intrinsic vulnerability of women in war

*Catheline Bosibori Nyabwengi is a PhD Student in African History at the University of Bayreuth.*

06 Janneke Tiegna: Security Crisis in Burkina Faso: (Re)actions of the population

*Janneke Tiegna is Doctoral Researcher at the Institute for African Studies, University of Leipzig, Germany.*

07 Clara Wiest: The art of life in Congo, Kinshasa

*Clara Luisa Wiest is a master's student of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the Goethe University Frankfurt and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-05-lifeworlds-in-crisis-challenging-notions-of-difference/>

**P 06: Africa Plays: Leisure in Africa**

June 07 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Tom Michael Mboya, Moi University, Eldoret  
Florian Stoll, University of Bayreuth

Short abstract

The panel examines leisure in Africa from multi-disciplinary perspectives. It has for its foundation the idea that leisure is more than just a footnote to social life, it is a dimension in its own right. The focus is on understanding African practices of meaning-making and African societies through the ways in which Africans engage in recreation.

Presenters Session I

01 Daniela Waldburger: Beer, cinema, sports, and women – masculinity and leisure in the nostalgic narratives of ex-mine workers in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo

*Daniela Waldburger is a Senior Lecturer/ Post-Doctoral Researcher in African Studies at the University of Vienna.*

02 Tom Michael Mboya: Cosmopolitan music consumption and popular conceptualizations of nationhood in a postcolonial African state – Rhumba Night in Eldoret, Kenya

*Tom Michael Mboya is Associate Professor of Literary and Popular Culture Studies at Moi University, Eldoret.*

03 Evans Mugarizi: The State and Leisure. The Kenya National Drama and Film Festival

*Evans Mugarizi is a Lecturer in Literature, Theatre & Film Studies at Moi University, Eldoret.*

04 Robin Frisch: Playing with money: Lotteries and the social meaning of money in Togo

*Robin Frisch is a PhD candidate in History at Bayreuth University.*

Presenters Session II

05 Sam Ndogo: Between Entertainment and Subversion: Performing the everyday life in Kenyan comedy shows

*Sam Ndogo is Senior Lecturer in Literature, Theatre & Film Studies at Moi University, Eldoret.*

06 Helena Funk: Language and Leisure – Speech Interactions in Nairobi

*Helena Funk is an MA student in Linguistics at Leipzig University.*

07 Hanna Lena Reich: Night as a space to play – nocturnal leisure activities in Nairobi

*Hanna Lena Reich is a Post-Doctoral Researcher in Anthropology at Bayreuth University.*

08 Ndiouga Benga: Mettre en scène le corps La lutte (làmb) à Dakar, Sénégal : perspectives locales et globales (1990-2012)

*Ndiouga Benga is Full Professor in History at Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-06-i-africa-plays-leisure-in-africa/>

**P 08: Challenging the Rule of Law: The African Laboratory**

June 07 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Jonas Bens, Freie Universität Berlin  
Leonie Benker, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Short abstract

Africa has been the main laboratory for international rule of law interventions. From different disciplinary perspectives papers explore how these interventions have challenged Africa and/or how Africa has challenged the understanding of “the rule of law” more generally.

Presenter Session I

01 Pnina Werbner: African Trade Unionism, ILO conventions and social citizenship: The case of Botswana

*Pnina Werbner is Professor Emerita in Social Anthropology at Keele University, UK*

02 Deginet Wotango Doyiso: Language and Legal Transplantation: The Wholesale Implantation of Western Modern Laws in Ethiopia

*Deginet Wotango Doyiso is a doctoral student conducting research on the topic of law and language in Ethiopia at the University of Cologne, Germany*

03 Leonie Benker: Northern Ugandan Perspectives on the International Criminal Court: Pluralizing Local Voices

*Leonie Benker is a doctoral student at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany*

04 Katrin Seidel: Constitutional Experiments in Post-Colonial Africa: In Search of ‘Unity in Diversity’?

*Katrin Seidel is a Senior Research Fellow at the Department of Law and Anthropology of the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany*

Presenter Session II

05 Sigurd D'hondt: Weaving the Treats of International Criminal Justice: The Double Dialogicity of Law and Politics in the ICC al-Mahdi case\*

*Sigurd D'hont is Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics at the Research Collegium for Language in Changing Society of the University of Jyväskylä, Finland*

*\*co-authored with Dupret, Baudouin (CNRS/IEP Bordeaux, France) and Bens, Jonas (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)*

06 Diana Kisakye: Challenging the Rule of Law in the East African Court of Justice

*Diana Kisakye is a doctoral researcher in political science in the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth, Germany*

07 Konstantinos Magliveras: The Rule of Law in Africa and the Quest for Continental Justice

*Konstantinos D. Magliveras is Professor of the Law of International Organizations at the Department of Mediterranean Studies of the University of the Aegean, Greece*

08 Jonas Bens: Africa as Laboratory of Legalized Modernity

*Jonas Bens is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Collaborative Research Centre "Affective Societies" at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-08-challenging-the-rule-of-law-i-the-african-laboratory/>



**P 09: Beyond the Nobel Prize for Peace - Turmoil and uneasy transformation in the Horn of Africa**

June 08 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Magnus Treiber, Institut für Ethnologie, LMU München  
Sabine Mohamed, Institut für Ethnologie, Heidelberg Universität & Max-Planck-Institut zur Erforschung multireligiöser und multiethnischer Gesellschaften, Göttingen

Short abstract

What is going on in Ethiopia, Eritrea, and the wider region? What looked like a promising path towards peace, democracy and regional reconciliation might turn into another complex impasse. We will analyse and discuss recent developments and explore their wider contexts.

Presenters

01 Gerrit Kurtz: The Diplomacy of Democratic Transition Processes in the Wider Horn of Africa

*Gerrit Kurtz PhD is a research fellow for conflict prevention and diplomacy at DGAP (German Council on Foreign Relations).*

02 Haile Akalu: Appraising the Ethiopian Democracy' And Multi-National Federalism: The Quest for Meritocracy

*Haile Muluken Akalu PhD is Assistant Professor of History in the Department of History and Heritage Management, College of Social Sciences and Languages, Mekelle University, and is currently based at the Meles Zenawi Leadership Academy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

03 Netsanet Weldesenbet: Memorializing - In Music That Circulates: Asmara in Songs and Music Videos in Ethiopia (DFG-Invitee)

*Netsanet Gebremichael Weldesenbet PhD is a lecturer at the Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University.*

04 Andrea Nicolas: Ethnopolitics, Democracy, and the Appropriation of Tradition: Oromo Gadaa-Organisation in Ethiopian State Politics

*Dr. Andrea Nicolas is a free-lance social anthropologist, affiliated with the Max-Planck-Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-09-beyond-the-nobel-prize-for-peace-turmoil-and-uneasy-transformation-in-the-horn-of-africa/>

## P 10: Unpacking EU-West African migration governance: stakes, actors and colonial continuities

June 10 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Leonie Jegen, University of Amsterdam  
Franzisca Zanker, Arnold-Bergstraesser Institute

### Short abstract

Since 2015 there has been a renewed push towards integrating West African states into European migration ‘management’. This panel discusses stakes, actors and colonial continuities in Eurafrikan migration governance processes.

### Presenters Session I

01 Eleonora Frasca: Is there a role for European law in regulating West Africans’ mobility to the EU? The European bias for soft law and non-transparent cooperation

*Eleonora Frasca is a PhD Candidate in European Immigration Law at UCLouvain in Belgium.*

02 Mante Makaускаite, Eugenija Kovaliova, Adaeze Soka: From high level political agenda to an unexpected grassroots initiative: creating legal pathways between Nigeria and Lithuania

*Mante Makaускаite and Eugenija Kovaliova are reflective practitioners running AfriKo a Lithuania based research and consultancy center and alumni of African Studies at the University of Copenhagen.*

*Adaeze Soka, is Director of Design and Strategy at Ventures Platform Foundation, Nigeria, and alumni of African Studies at the University of Copenhagen.*

03 Leander Kandilige, Thomas Yeboah: West African migration regimes in the context of EU externalised migration management policies

*Leander Kandilige is a lecturer at the Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana.*

*Thomas Yeboah is a research fellow at the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, UK.*

04 Rossella Marino, Ine Lietaert: The Gambia’s return migration management complex: From the global to the local

*Rossella Marino is a PhD Fellow attached to the Department of Social Work and Social Pedagogy of Ghent University and UNU-CRIS.*

*Ine Lietaert works at UNU-CRIS (Brugge) as assistant professor in global governance and regional integration, she is also affiliated to the Department of Social Work and Social Pedagogy of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences at Ghent University.*

Presenters Session II

05 Susanne Schultz, Almamy Sylla: Deportations as a post-colonial practice and its externalized extremes. The case of Mali

*Susanne Schultz is a doctoral researcher at the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology.*

*Almamy Sylla is a PhD student at the Université des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines de Bamako.*

06 Nadine Segadlo: Navigating through an external agenda and internal preferences: the case of Ghana's National Migration Policy

*Nadine Sigaldo is a PhD student at the Institute of Migration und Intercultural Studies (IMIS) and at the Institute of Social Sciences at Universität Osnabrück.*

07 Rhoumour Ahmet Tchilouta: International Organization in the Externalization Process of EU Border Policy: The Confusing Role of IOM in Niger's bordering process

*Rhoumour Tchilouta is a Phd Student at PACTE/ Grenoble Alpes University.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-10-unpacking-eu-west-african-migration-governance-stakes-actors-and-colonial-continuities/>

**P 11: Challenging the institutional bias in research on education - multiplicities of learning processes in Africa**

June 08 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Iris Clemens, General Education, University of Bayreuth  
Erdmute Alber, Social Anthropology, University of Bayreuth

Short abstract

In our interdisciplinary panel, we want to investigate learning processes in the African context in a broad sense and work out their necessary multiplicity. By stressing the relationality of any learning situation, we highlight the interwoven net of narratives, persons, artefacts, ideas, practices etc. that constitutes learning processes in Africa.

Presenters

01 Anna Madeleine Ayeh: Life-long religious learning among Muslim women in Benin – the true „Education for all“?

*Anna Madeleine Ayeh is a doctoral student in Social Anthropology at University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

02 Dele Layiwola: Pedagogy, Research, and the Post-colony in Africa

*Dele Layiwola is Professor of Performance & Cultural Studies and erstwhile Director of African Studies at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.*

03 Erdmute Alber: Behind the neo-liberal institutional setting: parents' perspectives on childrens' learning trajectory

*Erdmute Alber is professor for Social Anthropology at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-11-challenging-the-institutional-bias-in-research-on-education-multiplicities-of-learning-processes-in-africa/>

**P 12: Moralities in an entangled world: On studying moral configurations and questions of change**

June 10 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Martina Drescher, University of Bayreuth  
Eberhard Rothfuß, University of Bayreuth  
Eva Spies, University of Bayreuth

Short abstract

How can moralities be conceptualised and how can changing moral configurations be examined in the contexts of global entanglements? The panel invites submissions of conceptual and empirical papers that discuss emerging moralities linked to transformative projects in development, religion, security, arts, health or education and present ways of studying them.

Presenters

01 Ademola Fayemi: Reconfiguring Ethics Scholarship in African Studies: Reflections on the Limitations and Prospects of African Languages

*Ademola K. Fayemi (PhD) is a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Lagos, Nigeria.*

02 Gerda Kuiper: The shifting moral configurations of the trade in second-hand clothes in Tanzania

*Gerda Kuiper (PhD) is Senior Researcher in Cultural and Social Anthropology at the Global South Studies Center, University of Cologne, Germany.*

03 Magnus Echtler: “A woman who says ‘It is democracy! We are now equal’ belongs to hell”: Patriarchal morality in the Nazareth Baptist Church, South Africa

*Magnus Echtler (PhD) is Senior Researcher at the Kolleg-Forschergruppe “Multiple Secularities” in Leipzig and Habilitand in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

04 Seth Tweneboah: The Clash of Values and the Moralisation of Homosexuality in Ghana

*Seth Tweneboah (PhD) is a Lecturer at the Centre for Conflict, Human Rights and Peace Studies of the University of Education, Winneba, Ghana.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-12-moralities-in-an-entangled-world-on-studying-moral-configurations-and-questions-of-change/>

**P 13: Utopia(n) Challenges in Africa? Grinding Practices, Ethical Controversies**

June 07 14:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Antje Daniel, Universität Wien  
Melina C. Kalfelis, Universität Bayreuth

Short abstract

Concepts of utopia give meaning to imaginations in processes of social transformation. While actors claim for alternative futures, they also enact alternative norms and moralities. The panel invites presentations from all disciplines that investigate present utopias, and the way social struggles challenge the core of today's most essential pillars.

Presenters

01 Hanno Moegenburg: Democratic Infrastructuring and Technopolitical Utopias: Postapartheid, Activism and Ordinary Interventions for Technological Sovereignty

*Hanno Mögenburg is doctoral student at the Department for Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Konstanz.*

02 Emrah Yalci: Nicole Amarteifio's "An African City" as a Postfeminist / Diasporic Utopia in Ghanaian Audio-Visual Culture and an Alternative Narrative of Africa

*Emrah Yalcin defended his Ph.D. Thesis in July 2019. Since March 2020, he works in the social project "Empowerment of young Muslims through participatory media" by the Turkish Community in Schleswig-Holstein in Kiel.*

03 Amado Kabore: Utopian Security. Self-Defense Groups in Burkina Faso at the Margins of State Norms and Human Rights

*Dr. Amado Kabore is a postdoctoral researcher at the "Centre national de la recherche scientifique et technologique" in Ouagadougou.*

04 Isaac Osei-Tutu: The Utopia of Hope: Hope as (Underlying) Utopia-Motive in Neo-Pentacostal/ Charismatic Economy

*Isaac Osei-Tutu is a doctoral student at the Center for Religion, Economy and Politics (ZRWP/CREP) at the University of Zurich and a Junior Fellow at the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) of the University of Bayreuth.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-13-utopian-challenges-in-africa-grinding-practices-ethical-controversies/>

**P 15: Conceptualising religious infrastructures in Africa**

June 11 10:30 – 12:00

Convenors: Dr. Yanti Hölzchen, Frobenius-Institute for Research in Cultural Anthropology, University Frankfurt  
Dr. Benjamin Kirby, Centre for African Studies (Lucas), University Leeds

Short abstract

This panel explores “religious infrastructures” in African settings. It asks how religious forms of sociality and spirituality are configuring (and being configured by) infrastructural networks, spotlighting how their operations relate to wider dynamics unfolding in African countries and beyond.

Presenters

01 Murtala Ibrahim: Islam in the Digital Infrastructure: The Rise of Cyber Islamic Practices in Northern Nigeria

*Murtala Ibrahim is a Post-Doc Researcher in the ERC Consolidator Project "Sacralizing Security: Religion, Violence and Authority in Mega-Cities of the Global South" at the University of Utrecht, Netherlands.*

02 Patrick Desplat: Occult infrastructures and the (in)visibilities of religion, magic and sociality in urban Mahajanga/Madagascar

*Patrick Desplat is Assistant Professor at the Department of Social Anthropology at Georg August University Göttingen, Germany.*

03 Nelly Babere: Religious Infrastructure, Public Health, And The Politics Of Urban Development: The Case Of Sinza Ward In Dar Es Salaam City

*Nelly John Babere is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Ardhi University, Tanzania.*

04 Peter Lambertz: Enchanted Infrastructures: Risk, Promise and Progress on Congo's Inland Waterways

*Peter Lambertz is a Marie-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute für Anthropological Research in Africa (IARA) at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-15-conceptualising-religious-infrastructures-in-africa/>

**P 16: Dying, death and burial – the ‘challenging’ functions of end-of-life rituals on the African continent**

June 08 12:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Isabel Bredenbröker, Goethe Universität Frankfurt / UCL London  
Johanna Sarre, Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies

Short abstract

As crucial rites de passage, funerals are considered both conservative and innovative. They are as much about the dead as they are for the living. How can African funerary practices be read as challenging or reifying hegemonic discourses on good life and death? Who are the actors and what are the challenges in the context of dying, death, and burial?

Presenters Session I

01 Isabel Bredenbröker: The materiality of death in a Ghanaian Ewe town

*Dr. des. Isabel Bredenbröker is an adjunct lecturer at the Department of Ethnology (Anthropology) at Goethe University, Frankfurt.*

02 Joh Sarre: Practices surrounding the Kibra (Nubian) Muslim Cemetery, Kibera/Nairobi – challenging the Kenyan topos of the ‘rural homeland’

*Joh Sarre successfully defended her PhD thesis in anthropology in January 2021. Up until March 2021, Joh Sarre was a lecturer at Bayreuth University.*

03 Eva Serapim Tandoh Quansah: The impact of gendered roles during death ceremonies and its implications for the emergence of gender equality in Ghana

*Dr. des. Eva Serapim Tandoh Quansah is a faculty member at the Centre for African and International Studies, University of Cape Coast, South Africa.*

04 Tabea Häberlein: Dying and the challenge of achieving adulthood – for those remaining alive. A case study from rural Togo

*Dr. Tabea Häberlein is a lecturer at the chair of Social Anthropology, Bayreuth University.*



Presenters Session II

05 Shina Alimi: History, Memory and Social Construction of Class Boundaries of “Other Spaces”: Testimonies from a Graveyard

*Dr. Shina Alimi is a lecturer at the Department of History, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and a Catalyst fellow of the Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh.*

06 Stephanie Zehnle: From Secret Burials to Cannibal Murders: Colonial Criminalization of Sierra Leonean End of Life Rituals

*Jun. Prof. Dr. Stephanie Zehnle is assistant professor in Extra-European History at Christian-Albrechts-University, Kiel, Germany.*

07 Marc Engelen: The advent of Christianity in Rwanda and the contestation of funerary practices. A transculturation case study

*Marc Engelen is a Double Degree PHD candidate at the universities of Groningen and Bayreuth.*

08 Oluwasola Obisesan: Islamic Preaching of Resilience: Deconstructing the Mythology of Death in Nigeria's Boko Haram Theatre

Link:     <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-16-i-dying-death-and-burial-the-challenging-functions-of-end-of-life-rituals-on-the-african-continent/>

## P 18: The impact of mobile technologies on social structures in Africa

June 10 10:30 – 12:00

Convenors: Tamara Gupper, Goethe University Frankfurt  
Roos Keja, Goethe University Frankfurt and Utrecht University

### Short abstract

Since the rapid adoption of mobile technologies in Africa, the initial euphoria about their potential for development has been complemented with more ambiguous accounts. This panel focuses on the role of mobile technologies in Africa, inviting empirically informed contributions that challenge assumptions about their social and political impact.

### Presenters

01 Sarah Chiumbu: The public sphere is no longer rational: Mobile phones and the weaponisation of social media in urban Africa

*Sarah Chiumbu is an Associate Professor in the School of Communication, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.*

02 Dércio Tsandzana: Noise on the social networks, no action on the streets: how young people participate in Mozambique?

*Dércio Tsandzana is a doctoral student in Political Science, Sciences Po Bordeaux, France.*

03 Shephard Pondiwa: The Social Effects of the Use of Mobile Technologies in Education: The case of the Midlands State University in Zimbabwe

*Shephard Pondiwa is Director Records and Archives, Midlands State University, Gweru, Zimbabwe.*

04 Mira Demirdirek and Catherina Wilson: Restricting digital mobility among an already 'immobilized' population: How urban refugees circumvent spatial, legal and digital restrictions in their daily life in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

*Mira Demirdirek is a MA student in African Studies at Leiden University. She is currently writing her thesis on youth's usage of mobile communication for the navigation of livelihood uncertainties in Dar es Salaam. She is interested in questions of borders, mobility, and the securitization of migration.*

*Catherina Wilson works as a lecturer and post-doctoral researcher at the Institute for History, Leiden University. She is currently involved in TRAFIG, a project that looks at mobility and connectivity as solutions to protracted displacement amongst Congolese refugees in urban Tanzania and The Netherlands. Her interests include mobility, urban culture, youth, and refugee studies in Central and East Africa.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-18-the-impact-of-mobile-technologies-on-social-structures-in-africa/>

## P 21: In the shadows of autonomy: Decentralized state structures and local contexts in Africa

June 09 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Dr. Matthew Sabbi, University of Bayreuth  
Dr. Lamine Doumbia, Dhip-Dakar

### Short abstract

Decentralization processes in Africa are ordinarily supposed to enhance the autonomy of local institutions to deliver local services. Against the backdrop of a strong local arenas these processes also open up spaces and interfaces between different sets of actors inside and outside of the local bureaucracy. This creates particular challenges for processes of decentralisation. The interactions of local actors shape both public services and the character of the bureaucracy. This panel is interested in the diversity of actors, their logic of action and consequences for the activities of African municipal governments.

### Presenters Session I

01 Jane Ayeko-Kümmeth: In the Shadow of Institutionalality: Assessing Uganda's ad hoc Social Accountability mechanisms (DIPF and Barazas)

*Jane Ayeko-Kümmeth is Associate Researcher at Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS), University of Bremen.*

02 Aïdas Sanogo: Land Governance and Decentralized Entities in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire

*Aïdas Sanogo is Lecturer in Anthropology at Centre Universitaire de Manga, Burkina Faso.*

03 Antje Daniel: Multi-layered Encounters between Reclaim the City and the Capetonian municipality

*Antje Daniel is a substitute professor/ post-doc at the Department of Development Studies, University of Vienna, Austria.*

04 Oscarine Chimène Mela: Gouverner la route en ville à Yaoundé: Les motomen, awara et la régulation de la circulation

*Oscarine Chimène Mela est Doctorante en Sociologie à l'Université de Yaoundé I, Cameroun*

Presenters Session II

05 Anja Osei: Who talks to the chief? Who builds the Party? MPs and their Local Political Networks in Three African countries

*Anja Osei is Independent Research Fellow at the Dept. of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz, Germany.*

06 Ewald Eisenberg, Djibo Mamane, Harouna Diallo: Decentralisation, Subsidiarity and Local Government Empowerment in Francophone West Africa

*Ewald Eisenberg is professor in administrative sciences at the University of Applied Sciences Kehl, Germany.*

*Djibo Mamane is professor in law at the University Abdou Moumouni Niamey, Niger. Harouna Diallo is assistant professor at the University of Law and Political Sciences Bamako, Mali.*

07 Drissa Tangara, Lamine Doumbia: Municipal administration and Suburban Land Management: a case study of the Commune VI municipality of Bamako District

*Drissa Tangara is Doctoral student, Sociology of Education, IPU/ ISFRA and Point Sud, Bamako, Mali.*

*Lamine Doumbia is Postdoc Fellow, DHIP-CREPOS Dakar and University of Bayreuth.*

08 Thompson Kwarkye: Between Tradition and Modernity, Traditional Structures in Decentralization in Ghana

*Thompson Kwarkye is doctoral student in Ethnology at Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main Germany.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-21-in-the-shadows-of-autonomy-decentralized-state-structures-and-local-contexts-in-africa/>

**P 24: The ‘Anglophone’ Conflict in Cameroon: Causes, Consequences and Conflict Resolution?**

June 09 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: James Kewir Kiven, University of Buea and African Leadership Centre, Kings College London  
Gordon Crawford, Coventry University and University of Freiburg

Short abstract

The current ‘Anglophone’ conflict in Cameroon is an internationally neglected civil war, one having a devastating impact on civilian populations. This panel seeks to highlight the causes and consequences and possible means of conflict resolution, notably through the efforts of CSOs in a highly constrained environment.

Presenters Session I

01 James Kiven & Gordon Crawford: Shrinking Civic Space and the Role of Civil Society Organisations in Conflict Resolution in Cameroon

*Gordon Crawford is Research Professor in Global Development in the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations and the University of Freiburg.*

*Kiven James Kewir is Professor of Conflict Prevention and Research Hub Leader for Central Africa with the African Leadership Centre, Nairobi.*

02 Zoneziwoh Mbongdulo-Wondieh: Women and the Anglophone crisis

*Zoneziwoh Mbongdulo-Wondieh is the executive director at Women for a Change, a feminist organisation working with and for young women and girls sexual and reproductive health rights, leadership, and development. She is also a Ph.D Candidate in Conflict Resolution.*

03 Michaela Pelican: Impact of the Anglophone Crisis on the Mbororo ethnic minority

*Michaela Pelican is Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Cologne and Principal Investigator of the Global South Studies Center Cologne (GSSC).*

04 Guillaume Vadot: “The Cameroon Development Corporation cannot be left out!”. Anglophone Cameroon’s biggest parastatal and the ongoing crisis

*Guillaume Vadot is Doctor of Political Science (University of Paris Sorbonne, France) and Postdoctoral Researcher (MinErAL International Research Network).*

Presenters Session II

05 Gregory Fah Fombo: Neighbours in Two Different Worlds: Broken Promises, Broken Dreams, and the Descent to Violence in Cameroon's Anglophone Region

*Gregory Fah FOMBO is Doctor of Political Science and Senior Lecturer of in the Department of International Relations and Conflict Resolution in the University of Buea.*

06 Emile Sunjo: Economic opportunism versus self-determination in the anglophone secessionist conflict in Cameroon

*Emile Sunjo is Doctor of Political Science and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Conflict Resolution and International Relation in the University of Buea, Cameroon.*

07 Joseph Nfi: The Inhuman Phase of the Anglophone Struggle for Autonomy in Cameroon

*Nfi Joseph Lon is Associate Professor of History in the University of Bamenda, Cameroon.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-24-the-anglophone-conflict-in-cameroon-causes-consequences-and-conflict-resolution-london-freiburg/>

**P 26: Lands of the Future - Futuremaking with Pastoralists in Africa**

June 08 12:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Echi Christina Gabbert, Institut für Ethnologie, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
Günther Schlee, Max-Planck-Institut für Ethnologische Forschung, Halle/Saale

Short abstract

The panel will discuss the future role of agro-pastoralists in the 21st century within the rapidly changing challenges around land use, land investment, state-building, high modernism, biodiversity loss, and climate change.

Introduction: Echi Gaberrt, Günther Schlee, Asebe Regassa und Fana Gebresenbet: Setting the space, futuremaking with pastoralists. Our ongoing Journey

To prepare for the panel, we will reflect on our collaborative research and engagement with pastoralists.

Presenters Session I

01 Asebe Regassa: Confronting Insecurity: Pastoralist Communities' Resilience to Climate Change and State Intervention in South Omo, Ethiopia

*Asebe Regassa is currently a senior research and teaching fellow at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. His research foci are the politics of large-scale development projects, human-nature relations, conflict and peace building and indigenous peoples' rights with particular focus on East Africa.*

02 Addiswork Tilahun Teklemariam: How Ethiopia's new expropriation proclamation measure up in protecting the rights and participation of the pastoral society in the country's developmental agenda

*Addiswork Tilahun, Institute for Policy and Development Research, Hawassa University, Ethiopia*

03 Winny Chepkemai: Community Land Rights: An Opportunity for Maasai pastoralist women to restore the Mau ecosystem in Kenya

*Winny Chepkemai is a Gender specialist working with the Kenya Land Alliance. She has a wide experience mainstreaming gender justice in agriculture, Climate resilient agriculture, climate justice, land and natural resources.*

Presenters Session II

04 Elisabeth Keuten: The Africa they want. Pastoralist Women in Southern Ethiopia and the Agenda 2063

*Elisabeth Keuten is an undergraduate student of anthropology at the University of Göttingen. In her Bachelor Thesis she applies postcolonial theories to examine reasons for the dissonant representation of pastoral women's lifeworlds from southern Ethiopia in international development strategies.*

05 Melinda Kelly and Robert Hitchcock: Land, Livestock, and Livelihoods: The Herero and the State in Southern Africa

06 Shauna LaTosky and Oliserali Olibui: Wild-food plants and emic views of food shortages in Mun (Mursi), Southern Ethiopia

*Shauna LaTosky is a lecturer in anthropology at Thompson Rivers University (Canada). Her current research on Mun (Mursi) customary land-use practices and plant knowledge is part of the Guardians of Productive Landscapes initiative and film series.*

*Oliserali Olibui is a Mursi agro-pastoralist, filmmaker and educator from Southern Ethiopia. His current interests include indigenous theatre, language digitalization, oral history and customary land management.*

07 Sabine Tröger: Just societal transformation: perspectives of pastoralists in the lower Omo Valley in Ethiopia

*Sabine Tröger is professor emerita at the Department of Geography at the University of Bonn, Germany. She is social geographer and has worked in the Lower Omo Valley/Ethiopia and here especially with the Nyangatom pastoralist community since 2010 in the field of Climate Change Adaptation with the perspective of Fundamental Societal Transformations. She furthermore is first evaluator in the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) in the PostDoc ClimapAfrica project.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-26-i-lands-of-the-future-futuremaking-with-pastoralists-in-africa/>



**P 27: Governing African mobility: actors, institutions and practices**

June 07 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Dr. Johanna Berriane, Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin  
Dr. Elieth Eyebiyi, Deutsches Historisches Institut Paris, Centre de Recherche en Politiques Sociales Dakar and Lasdel

Short abstract

Based on historically and ethnographically informed contributions, this panel explores the diverse practices of migration and mobility regulation on the African continent in order to question and challenge, in a second time, the notion of « migration governance » that prevails today in public debates and migration scholarship.

Presenters Session I

01 Jochen Lingelbach: Governing refugee mobility – contrasting genealogies of encampment in Uganda and Kenya (1930s to 1960s)

*Jochen Lingelbach is a postdoctoral research fellow in African History at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

02 Betty Rouland: Health mobilities in practice: accounting for heterogeneous actors and scales in Tunisia

*Betty Rouland is a postdoctoral researcher in geography at the Institut de Recherche sur le Maghreb Contemporain (IRMC), Tunisia.*

03 Lotte Pelckmans: (Non-)governing internally displaced People in Mali: the case of fugitive post-slavery displacements

*Lotte Pelckmans is associate professor at the Centre for Advanced Migration Studies of the University of Copenhagen.*

04 Aissatou Seck: Endémo-épidémies et assistance médicale dans la rationalisation des mobilités de travail en AOF. Sénégal, 1920-1958.

*Aissatou Seck is doctoral student at the University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar and research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Paris and the Centre de Recherche sur les Politiques Sociales in Dakar.*

Presenters Session II

05 Makafui Kpedator: Re-conceptualization of the lives of female migrants from the Northern regions in Ghana

*Makafui Kpedator is a tutor at the University of Ghana distance education unit.*

06 Seun Bamidele: From the Margin to the Mainstream: Dealing with the Scourge of Insecurity of Transit Migrants in the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa

*Seun Bamidele is a doctoral student in Development Studies at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.*

07 Madeleine Christelle Njiki Bikoi: Politique publique de prise en charge des personnes vulnérables en situation de mobilité: cas des réfugiés de Garoua Boulai à l'Est du Cameroun

*Christelle Njiki Bikoi is researcher at the Centre National de l'Education, in Yaoundé (Cameroon).*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-27-i-governing-african-mobility-actors-institutions-and-practices/>

**P 30: Questioning the coloniality of territory: The case of Nineteenth Century Ethiopia**

June 09 14:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Dr. Felix Schürmann, University of Erfurt  
Woldemariam Ambo Zegeye, Mekelle University

Short abstract

Historians tend to explain territorial rule in Africa as a political technology introduced by colonial powers. This panel explores what insights the case of Ethiopia, which had not seen colonial rule until its annexation by Italy in 1936, adds to this debate.

Presenters

01 Admasu Abebe: Conceptualizing indigenous spatial knowledge and boundaries in the Dawuro Kingdom, before 1889: Research on the Great Dawuro Walls (Kati Halala Kella) Omo Valley, Ethiopia

*Admasu Abebe is a PhD candidate in Social Anthropology at Addis Ababa University, where his current research is focused on indigenous spatial knowledge in the Dawuro kingdom in southern Ethiopia.*

02 Iris Schröder: European Traveler's Itineraries and maps made in Gotha, 1860s to 1880s

*Iris Schröder is holding the chair of Global History and is the director of the research centre "Transcultural Studies" at the University of Erfurt, where her main areas of research are the cultural history of geography and the globalization of knowledge in the 19th century.*

03 Wolbert G. C. Smidt: A key-element for the interpretation of local territorial concepts in Ethiopia: In-teracting and overlapping concepts of territoriality

*Wolbert G.C. Smidt is a Senior Researcher at the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, working as an ethnohistorian in the Yeha Project in Tigray, Ethiopia, and in the same time is a full professor at the department of anthropology at Mekelle University, Ethiopia, as an adjunct member.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-30-questioning-the-coloniality-of-territory-the-case-of-nineteenth-century-ethiopia/>

**P 31: Sustainable investments in Africa: creating synergies of profits, people and planet**

June 09 12:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Dr. Karin Wedig, Regional Chief Economist Africa, GIZ  
Dr. Matthias Rompel, Head of Division Southern Africa, GIZ

Short abstract

Poverty rates are decreasing, but inequality is increasing in many African countries – aggravated also by the effects of climate change. The panel discusses different pathways to achieve synergies between investors' interest, local people's demands for decent jobs and the necessity for transforming economies in ecologically sustainable ways.

Presenters

01 Debelo Diyana Jetu: Land use, Utilization and Challenges of Real Estate Investments in Oromia Towns Surrounding Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

*Debelo Diyana Jetu (MA in Economics, MSc. in Land Administration and Management focusing to Real Property Valuation and Currently PhD candidate in Land Policy and Governance at Bahir Dar University and DAAD scholarship holder) is a Lecturer and Researcher of land Administration and Management at Ambo University, Ethiopia.*

02 Frauke Banse: Foreign direct and portfolio investments in Africa - a contribution to rising inequality and externally dominated development strategies

*Frauke Banse is a political scientist and lecturer at the University of Kassel. Her research and teaching addresses the political economy of development policies, especially on the African continent.*

03 Carolin Hulke: Unstable institutions - stable inequalities? The role of collective and state dynamics in the emerging horticulture value chain in Namibia's periphery

*Carolin Hulke is a research fellow at the University of Cologne, Institute of Geography since 2017 and associate to the multi-disciplinary research project "Future Rural Africa" (CRC-TRR228/1) where she is conducting her PhD research on southern African agricultural value chains and rural development.*

04 Dr. Umar Kabanda and Mr. Corti Paul Lakuma: Foreign direct and public private partnership investments for inclusive and sustainable reconstruction of Uganda amidst Covid-19 Pandemic

*Mr Corti Paul Lakuma is an adviser to governments and international organizations on macro-fiscal institutions, tax policy and administration and the impact of COVID-19 on Labour, Employment and Productivity. Dr. Umar Kabanda is a Research Associate at the Economic Policy Research Centre and an ad-hoc Advisory Working Group Member to Study the Social-Economic impact of Covid 19 for Africa under the Africa Scientific, Technical and Research Commission of the African Union Commission.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-31-sustainable-investments-in-africa-creating-synergies-of-profits-people-and-planet/>

**P 33: Challenges of the future - care for the afterlife in Africa and its diaspora**

June 10 14:30 – 18:00

Convenors: Sophia Thubauville, Frobenius-Institut, Universität Frankfurt  
 Sabine Klocke-Daffa, Universität Tübingen, Asien-Orient-Institut, Abt.  
 Ethnologie

Short abstract

In many African countries and diaspora communities funerals are figuring among the most elaborate and costly social events. This panel wants to discuss the creative way Africans on the continent and in the diaspora deal with the challenges they face due to the high cost of caring for the afterlife.

Presenters Session I

01 Geneviève Nrenzah: Contemporary Competitive Funeral Economy: Challenges and Changing Notions of Afterlife in Ghana

*Genevieve Nrenzah is Research Fellow at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana*

02 Erik Bähre: Finacialisation of belonging: Funeral insurance and new ways of caring for the dead in South Africa

*Erik Bähre is Associate Professor at the Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology of Leiden University, Netherlands.*

03 Sabine Klocke-Daffa: “When all is settled, then you can die”. Life insurances as double promise of care in Namibia

*Sabine Klocke-Daffa is Senior Researcher at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Tübingen, Germany.*

Presenters Session II

04 Worku Nida: The Cultural Politics and Shifting Meanings of Lekso (“Funerals”) in Ethiopia and the Ethiopian Diasporas

*Worku Nida is Assistant Professor at the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside*

05 Sophia Thubauville, Kim Glück and Elias Alemu: From neighborhood to virtual space: Self-help groups in the Ethiopian diaspora

*Sophia Thubauville is Researcher at the Frobenius Institute for Research in Cultural Anthropology, Frankfurt am Main*

*Kim Glück is Researcher at the Frobenius Institute for Research in Cultural Anthropology, Frankfurt am Main.*

*Elias Alemu is Vice President for Research and Community Services at Jinka University, Ethiopia.*

06 Tsedeniya Zerihun Teferi: Exploring the informal social system of Iddir: A common practice

*Tsedeniya Zerihun Teferi holds a MA degree in social work from the Alice Salomon Hochschule, Berlin.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-33-challenges-of-the-future-care-for-the-after-life-in-africa-and-its-diaspora/>

**P 35: Challenges of the revolution: Making, living and keeping the Sudanese revolution**

June 08 14:30 – 18:00

Convenors: Valerie Hänsch, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, LMU Munich  
Mai Azzam, Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies,  
University of Bayreuth

Short abstract

In this panel, we explore the ways in which the Sudanese revolution and its quest for change is kept ongoing by various actors in both everyday life and political actions across the country.

Presenters Session I

01 Mai Azzam, Valerie Hänsch: Aesthetic belonging: Utopia and aesthetic practices during and after Khartoum's sit-in

*Mai Azzam is an anthropologist and doctoral student at the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS), University of Bayreuth.*

*Valerie Hänsch is lecturer at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, LMU Munich.*

02 Tamer Abd Elkreem: Sudanese Revolutions: An ethnography of the sit-in barricades

*Tamer Abd Elkreem is assistant professor in Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, University of Khartoum.*

03 Liv Tønnessen, Samia al-Nagar: Women at the forefront of the revolution

*Liv Tønnessen is a political scientist and research director at the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), Bergen.*

*Samia al-Nagar is researcher at the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), Bergen.*

04 Katarzyna Grabska and Azza Aziz: Revolution and music: women singing out in Sudan

*Katarzyna Grabska is a social anthropologist, a senior researcher at the Peace Research Institute, Oslo and a visiting professor at the Institute of Ethnology, University of Neuchâtel.*

*Azza Aziz is a social anthropologist with a special interest in bodily experience and health as essential to the manifestations to multiple socio-cultural identities; she is affiliated with the Mycetoma research centre, University of Khartoum, Sudan and Brighton and Sussex Medical School, United Kingdom.*

Presenters Session II

05 Timm Sureau, Siri Lamoureaux: What makes a revolution “real”? A discussion on social media and al-thawra ثورث in Sudan

*Timm Sureau is research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle.*

*Siri Lamoureaux is post-doc researcher at Martin-Luther-University, LOST Group, Halle.*

06 Azza Mustafa Babikir Ahmed: Struggles Versus Hopes: A Glimpse of Post-Revolution Sudan

*Azza Mustafa is an anthropologist and doctoral student at the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS), University of Bayreuth.*

07 Sondra Hale and Gada Kadoda: What is lost, what is gained: Sudanese women in the Post-Revolution

*Sondra Hale is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Gender Studies, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) who specializes in African and Middle Eastern Studies.*

*Gada Kadoda is an academic from the computer sciences who, through social activism, crosses disciplines and links her field with problems on the ground.*

08 Munzoul Assal: Sudan uprising 2018 and the demise of political Islam

*Munzoul Assal is professor in Social Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, University of Khartoum.*

Discussant: Kurt Beck

*Kurt Beck is professor emeritus in Anthropology, University of Bayreuth.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-35-i-challenges-of-the-revolution-making-living-and-keeping-the-sudanese-revolution/>

**P 36: Adaptation to climate change and demographic Change in Africa: exposure and vulnerability assessments across different scale**

June 10 14:30 – 16:00

Convenor: Gabriel Tati, University of the Western Cape, Department of Statistics and Population Studies, South Africa

Short abstract

The panel provides an assessment of the adaptation strategies to mitigate the most dangerous impacts of climate change on people's well-being in Africa. It also discusses the degree of policy preparedness and responsiveness at local and national levels to the specific risks climate change poses to the most vulnerable groups such as older people.

Presenters

01 Anna Odur: Towards effective climate change adaptation in Uganda

*Anna Odur is Academic activist at the Association of Uganda Professional in Agriculture and Environment (AUPWAE), Uganda.*

02 Annie Beka Beka: Floods in the city of Libreville (Gabon): anarchic constructions, global warming and the resilience of urban actors

*Annie Beka Beka is Senior Lecturer at the School for Education Training of Libreville, Gabon.*

03 N' Dri Laurent Kouakou: Le Japon et les questions de l'environnement en Afrique

*D'ri Laurent Kouakou is Lecturer and Researcher at the Oualassane Ouatarra of Bouake, Ivory Coast.*

04 Fadzai Musakana: Adaption and mitigation strategies to the impacts of climate change in Africa: Vulnerability assessments

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-36-adaptation-to-climate-change-and-demographic-change-in-africa-exposure-and-vulnerability-assessments-across-different-scales-cape-town/>



**P 37: Between Annexation and Appropriation or the Production of the Colonial Space**

June 11 12:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Ute Hasenöhl, Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften und Europäische Ethnologie; Universität Innsbruck  
Nicole Wiederroth, Historisches Institut, Universität Duisburg-Essen

Short abstract

Drawing on historical examples from diverse African regions, the panel discusses the (trans)formation and appropriation of “colonial spaces” with a special focus on formerly neglected space and transient encounters.

Presenters

01 Nicole Wiederroth: The (In)Visible Transformation of (Colonial) Space

*Nicole Wiederroth is research assistant and lecturer for Extra-European History at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany.*

02 Ute Hasenöhl: The contentious shaping and appropriation of nocturnal spaces and (lighting) infrastructures in colonial Accra (Ghana) during the 1920s to 1940s

*Ute Hasenöhl is assistant professor for social and economic history at University of Innsbruck, Austria, at the Department of History and European Ethnology.*

03 Carl-Philipp Bodenstein: Imagined Morphologies - On urban aspirations and spatial ideologies in Livingstone (Zambia) during late colonialism

*Carl-Philipp Bodenstein is a PhD student at the Department of African Studies at the University of Vienna, focussing on the historical geography and social history of urban spaces.*

04 Francesca Vita: Unpacking colonial legacy in contemporary Guinea-Bissau. The case study of former military resettlements, built by the Portuguese army during the colonial war (1963-1974), and their post-independence layers of appropriation

*Francesca Vita, is a doctoral student in architectural heritage at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Porto (FAUP-PT), Portugal.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-37-between-annexation-and-appropriation-or-the-production-of-the-colonial-space/>

**P 39: Seeing like a space: A methodological challenge for African Studies**

June 09 14:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Susann Ludwig, University of Leipzig  
Julia Büchele, University of Basel

Short abstract

This panel explores the methodological challenge of a spatial perspective and seeks to go beyond the dichotomies such as urban and rural, center and periphery, global and local. How can we see like a space? And how does such a perspective challenge established concepts within African Studies?

Presenters

01 Babalola Joseph Balogun: Meanings as Perspectives: Towards the “Talking Drum” Deconstructionist Model of Meaning in African Studies

*Babalola Joseph Balogun is a philosopher at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.*

02 Bettina Engels: All good things come from below? Scalar constructions of the ‘local’ in conflicts over mining

*Bettina Engels is junior professor empirical conflict research Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.*

03 Cristina Strava: Maps, Plans, and Gameboards: Seeing like a Contested Space on the Urban Margins in Morocco

*Cristiana Strava is University Lecturer in Anthropology and Islamic Studies at Leiden University, the Netherlands.*

04 Alexandra Bell: Seeing from Space – Remote sensing as a means towards a successful evidence-based policy approach in West Africa

*Alexandra Bell is a doctoral researcher at the department of remote sensing, University of Würzburg.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-39-seeing-like-a-space-a-methodological-challenge-for-african-studies/>

**P 41: The marketization of African wildlife encounter in safari tourism, conservation volunteering and trophy hunting**

June 09 10:30 – 12:00

Convenors: Antje Schlottmann, University of Frankfurt  
Olivier Graefe, University of Freiburg

Short abstract

This panel seeks to excavate implications of the marketization of African wildlife encounter from various perspectives.

Presenters

01 Linus Kalvelage: Where does the money go? Commodification of wildlife and the geographical transfer of value in the tourism GPN in Namibia

*Linus Kalvelage is PhD student in Economic geography at the University of Cologne.*

02 Nina Schiegl: Logics of Affection and the Production of Encounter Value: Likes for Wildlife in Namibia

*Nina Schiegl is PhD student in Human geography at the Goethe University of Frankfurt.*

03 Bright Masocha: Perceptions to Human-Wildlife Conflicts, History, Challenges and Opportunities and Solutions in Great Limpopo Trans frontier Conservation Area.

*Bright Masocha in Social Anthropology is PhD student at the University of Cologne.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-41-the-marketization-of-african-wildlife-encounter-in-safari-tourism-conservation-volunteering-and-trophy-hunting/>

**P 42: Challenging Notions of Education and Knowing: Islamic Practices of Teaching and Learning across Africa**

June 09 14:30 – 16:00

Convenor: Anna Madeleine Ayeh, University of Bayreuth/Cluster of Excellence ‘Africa Multiple’

Short abstract

Islamic teaching and learning continue to challenge global perceptions of education and knowing. This panel explores epistemic, practical, and organizational aspects of Islamic knowledge transmission with a special interest in their underlying (gendered) moralities and concepts of future.

Presenters

01 Hassan Ndzovu: Competing Islamic-Integrated Schools and Madrasa Educational System: Standardization, Religious Authority and Islamic Knowledge

*Hassan J. Ndzovu is a Senior lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, Religion and Theology, Moi University, Kenya.*

02 Yasmin Ismail: Re-conceptualizing Maktab Education: Notes from Cape Town.

*Yasmin Ismail is a PhD student at Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.*

03 Sulaiman Adewale Alagunfon: Challenging Tasks: Dynamics of the Makondoro’s pedagogy in Western Nigeria

*Sulaiman A. Alagunfon is a doctoral researcher at Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies of Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.*

04 Benedikt Pontzen: “Speaking for Islam”: Three Malams and their Claims to ‘Ilm in a Zongo in Asante

*Benedikt Pontzen is a Postdoctoral Associate at the Center for Global Islamic Studies, University of Florida, USA.*

Discussant: Britta Frede

*Britta Frede is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-42-challenging-notions-of-education-and-knowing-islamic-practices-of-teaching-and-learning-across-africa/>

**P 44: An African perspective on associations and the bureaucratization process**

June 08 10:30 – 12:00

Convenors: Laure Carbonnel, Anthropology, IHA-CREPOS  
Kamina Diallo, Political Science, Sciences Po Paris-Ceri

Short abstract

The aim of this panel is to examine to what extent the bureaucratization of associations occurs in Africa and within its diaspora. How does Africa challenges bureaucratization processes through its different types of associations?

Presenters

01 Nicola Camilleri: Settlers and shooters. Political role and social function of shooting clubs in German colonies

02 Koly Fall: Bureaucratic association or associative bureaucracy? Example of the bambou-rang-ba association (Senegal)

03 Léo Montaz: Les associations villageoises de jeunesse à l'épreuve de la commune: le cas de Gagnoa, Côte d'Ivoire

04 Modou Niang: The functioning of socio-economic, sporting and cultural association of Walo farmers (ASESCAW): between bureaucratic practices and traditional logics

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-44-an-african-perspective-on-associations-and-the-bureaucratization-process/>

**P 45: The challenge of misunderstandings in long-distance interconnections: Encounters, exchange and disparities in African history**

June 08 12:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Susann Baller, IHA Paris-Dakar  
Amadou Dramé, UCAD Dakar

Short abstract

This panel considers situations of long-distance interconnections in African history which produced not only encounters and exchange, but also disparities and misunderstandings. The panel explores both “creative misunderstandings” in such contexts as well as the challenge of misunderstandings when incomprehension may turn into ignorance.

Presenters Session I

01 Lamine Faye: The Senegambian coast in 15th and 16th century: Early Euro-African contacts, conflicts and negotiation

*Lamine Faye is lecturer in Medieval History at Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal.*

02 Allan Yvart: Race, colonial praxis and caste-system: the “laptots” maritime workers in Senegal (17th-19th centuries)

*Allan Yvart is doctoral student in History at the University of Nantes, France.*

03 Amadou Dramé: When misunderstandings produce categorisation: On the concepts of Marabout and Islamism in French West Africa, 1895-1960

*Amadou Dramé is lecturer in History at Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal.*

Presenters Session II

04 Anne-Kristin Hartmetz: Lost (and found) in translation: Ghanaian and Soviet engineers and workers in northwestern Ghana, 1962-1964

*Anne-Kristin Hartmetz is doctoral student in Global History at Leipzig University, Germany.*

05 Susann Baller: The Challenge of Misunderstandings: Anglo-francophone Political Encounters in West Africa during early Independence

*Susann Baller is historian and academic director at the IHA-CREPOS research programme in Dakar, Senegal, affiliated with the German Historical Institute Paris.*

06 Anton Tarradellas: « Sink or swim »: Knowledge transfer, political radicalization and racial violence in the experience of African students in 1960s America

*Anton Tarradellas is doctoral student and assistant in Modern History at the University of Geneva, Switzerland.*

07 Ursula Logossou: Postcolonial (mis)understandings? Remembering intimate colonial encounters of the German colonial period in Togo

*Ursula Logossou is doctoral student at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.*

Discussant: Felix Schürmann

*Felix Schürmann is postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Transcultural Studies at Erfurt University, Germany.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-45-the-challenge-of-misunderstandings-in-long-distance-interconnections-encounters-exchange-and-disparities-in-african-history/http://vad-africachallenges.de/programme/panels3/p-45/>

**P 46: “Post-truth” politics: Potentials and challenges for African studies**

June 11 10:30 – 12:00

Convenor: Joschka Philipps, University of BaselShort abstract

This panel addresses how Africanists can engage with the debate on so-called “post-truth” politics: first, how they can contribute to a less Eurocentric understanding of the phenomena behind the catchphrase, and secondly, how their epistemological and methodological approaches are positioned in contemporary controversies about scientific truth and politics.

Presenters

01 Lerato Posholi: 'Post-truth' and decolonial arguments about knowledge

*Dr Lerato Posholi holds an MA in Philosophy and a PhD in Education from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. She is currently a post-doctoral fellow on the SNSF project “Reversing the gaze: Towards Post-Comparative Area Studies” with Prof. Ralph Weber at the Institute for European Global Studies, University of Basel.*

02 Patrick Dieudonné Belinga Ondua: The government of discontent and the politics of suspicion in Yaoundé, Cameroon

*Patrick Dieudonné Belinga Ondoua is a PhD candidate from the University of Geneva working on the relation between political violence and the urban fabric of the State in Cameroon. Precisely, his researchs aim at showing the complexity of both brutal and "smooth" violence in the construction of urban housings policies and controls in Cameroon.*

03 Emmanuelle Roth: Post-Truth Ecologies of Ebola: The Mysterious Hunt for Viruses in Forest Guinea

*Emmanuelle Roth is a PhD candidate in Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge. Her research interrogates the role of microbiology in shaping local narratives of disease emergence in post-Ebola Guinea.*

04 Joschka Philipps: After what truth? Potentials of African studies in a Eurocentric debate

*Joschka Philipps is a political sociologist at the University of Bayreuth's Africa Multiple Cluster. While his PhD from the University of Basel focused on social movements and urban youth, his current research project “Politics of the Unknown” combines artistic and scientific approaches to address contemporary questions of post-truth politics.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-46-post-truth-politics-potentials-and-challenges-for-african-studies/>



**P 47: Transnational anticolonial spaces: challenges to nationalism**

June 10 16:30 – 18:00

Convenors: Dmitri van den Bersselaar, Universität Leipzig  
Ngozi Edeagu, Universität Bayreuth

Short abstract

This panel challenges historiographies of anticolonial activities that have privileged nationalist perspectives despite our knowledge of transnational activities, including pan-Africanism and international socialist support for anti-imperialism. Panel contributions will connect these two ways of understanding the anticolonial process.

Presenters

01 Charles Ambler: Celluloid freedom: Cinema and decolonization in West Africa  
*Charles Ambler (PhD African history, Yale University; since 1984 at the University of Texas, El Paso), has published broadly on alcohol, labour, leisure, cinema, and popular culture in modern African history.*

02 Oliver Coates: The idea of ‘Africa’ in Nnamdi Azikiwe’s *Renascent Africa*  
*Dr Oliver Coates is a college supervisor in history at Cambridge University, and Senior Research at the University of Northampton.*

03 Ngozi Edeagu: Networks of Solidarity’ in the Print Media: A Transnational Anti-colonial Discourse, 1937-1957  
*Ngozi Edeagu is a lecturer at the Alex Ekwueme University Ndufu Alike in Nigeria and a PhD researcher in History at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

04 Abraha Weldu Hailemariam: Venturing into African Nationalism: A Shift in Ethiopia’s Foreign Relations and Domestic Scene  
*Abraha Weldu is a PhD student in History and Cultural Studies at Mekelle University, Ethiopia.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-47-transnational-anticolonial-spaces-challenges-to-nationalism/>

**P 50: Writing a novel, or writing Africa? Recent fiction by writers from Africa and the challenge of addressing problems in African societies without reproducing hegemonic stereotypes about the continent**

June 07 14:30 – 16:00

Convenor: Anja Oed, Institut für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz

Short abstract

This panel invites contributions exploring how recent fiction by writers from Africa negotiates, in many different ways, the challenge of addressing problems in African societies without “writing Africa” in negatively stereotypical ways.

Presenters

01 Susanne Gehrmann: Sexist dystopia or genuine deconstruction? The question of ‘poverty porn’ in contemporary Congolese fiction

*Susanne Gehrmann is a professor of African literatures and cultures at the Department of Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University Berlin.*

02 Ruth S. Wenske: Between faith and fraud: Christianity as (and beyond) stereotype in contemporary African realism

*Ruth S. Wenske is a postdoctoral researcher at the Martin Buber Society of Fellows and head of the Africa Unit at the Truman Research Institute at the Hebrew University, whose main research area is contemporary African realism.*

03 James Orao: Beyond the postcolony: post-historical poetics in the contemporary African urban novel

*James Orao is a lecturer at the Department of Linguistics and Languages at the University of Nairobi.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-50-writing-a-novel-or-writing-africa-recent-fiction-by-writers-from-africa-and-the-challenge-of-addressing-problems-in-african-societies-without-reproducing-hegemonic-stereotypes-about-the-contin/>

**P 51: Critical Reflections on Knowledge Production and Representation in African Studies**

June 08 10:30 – 14:00

Convenors: Alzbeta Sváblová, University of Bayreuth  
Diana B. Kisakye, University of Bayreuth  
Serawit B. Debele, Max-Planck-Institut for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen

Short abstract

By challenging dichotomies of the West and the rest, we call for critical reflections on the problematics that continue to permeate knowledge production within African Studies. We welcome theoretical and methodological approaches transcending the power imbued binaries while acknowledging alternatives on what constitutes knowledge on Africa.

Presenters Session I

01 Vanessa Wijngaarden: An integrated approach towards decolonisation of higher education: A perspective from Anthropology

*Vanessa Wijngaarden is a social anthropologist and affiliated as a Senior Research Associate with the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Johannesburg.*

02 Carole Ammann, Fiona Siegenthaler: Centring the Margins(s) – Marginalising the Centre(s). Reflections on Knowledge Production in and on Africa

*Carole Ammann is a postdoctoral researcher in social anthropology at the University of Amsterdam.*

*Fiona Siegenthaler is an adjunct professor and researcher at the University of Basel and a research associate at the University of Johannesburg.*

03 Margaret Babirye: South African anthropologists Jean and John Comaroff call for a “theory from the South”. But who can think “from” Africa?

*Margaret Babirye is a Fellow with the Third Generation Project: a climate and social justice think tank based in the school of International Relations at the University of St Andrews in Scotland.*

04 Joram Tarusarira: Critical Reflections on Knowledge Production with reference to African Studies and the Study of Religion

*Joram Tarusarira is an Assistant Professor in Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.*

Presenters Session II

05 Isabel Eiser: Becoming an Emblem. From Colonial Propaganda to Decolonial Movement. The Discursive Struggles on the ‘Benin Bronzes’

*Isabel Eiser is a doctoral student in global history at the research center „Hamburg’s (post-) colonial legacy“ at the University Hamburg.*

06 Anais Angelo: Decolonising and Africanising the history of presidentialism in postcolonial African countries

*Anais Angelo is a post-doctoral researcher in African Studies at the University of Vienna.*

07 Rose Kimani: Can participatory research transcend knowledge dichotomies? Some Reflections

*Dr. Rose N. Kimani is a lecturer in Journalism and Mass Communication at Chuka University, Kenya.*

08 Lyn Ossome: Feminist interdisciplinarity and decolonial possibilities in the study of violence

*Lyn Ossome is a senior research fellow at Makerere Institute of Social Research, Makerere University. She is the author of the book “Gender, Ethnicity, and Violence in Kenya’s Transitions to Democracy: States of Violence”.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/plenary-panel-p-51i-critical-re%EF%AC%82ections-on-knowledge-production-and-representation-in-african-studies/>

**P 52: African Universities or Universities in Africa**

June 11 10:30 – 12:00

Convenors: Dr. Akiiki Babyesiza, Higher Education Research & Consulting, Berlin

Short abstract

In this panel we ask whether universities in Africa are actually challenging western notions of higher education or whether western interventions challenge the notion of African universities. We invite papers that discuss consequences and challenges of these external influences on higher education in Africa.

Presenters

01 Patricio V. and Langa, Leonie Schoelen: The Challenge of the is-ought to gap in African higher education research

*Patricio V. Langa is associate professor at the Institute for Post School Studies, University of the Western Cape, South Africa and Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique.*

*Leonie Schoelen is a doctoral student at the Centre for Quality Assurance and Development, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany, and Paris University, France.*

02 Bakheit Nur: Knowledge Politics in Postcolonial Africa: Islam-oriented Universities in Sudan

*Bakheit Mohammed Nur is a postdoctoral fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation affiliated with the Department of Anthropology, University of Bayreuth, Germany.*

03 Oluwaseun Kugbayi: Conflict between academic staff and non-teaching staff in universities in Southwestern Nigeria: Causes and consequences

*Oluwaseun Kugbayi is a Master of Science student at the Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria.*

04 Andrea Noll: Challenges for African early career researchers in international academic co-operation

*Andrea Noll is a Postdoc at the Department of Anthropology and African Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-52-african-universities-or-universities-in-africa/>

**P 53: What does it take to decolonize the VAD (Association of Africanists in Germany)?**

June 11 14:30 – 16:00

Convenors: Hans Peter Hahn, Institut für Ethnologie, Goethe Universität  
 Abimbola O. Adesoji, Department of History, Faculty of Arts,  
 Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Short abstract

The VAD has the intent to support the decolonial movement and wants to be a proactive partner in this respect. This panel is open to academically grounded suggestions as to how the demands for decolonisation can be implemented within the framework of the professional association.

Presenters

01 Abimbola Adesoji: Thoughts on VAD, Decoloniality, Africanity and Scholarship

*Abimbola Adesoji is a Professor of History at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. He was Georg Forster Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the Institute of Ethnology, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany from 2009 to 2010, and in 2013 and 2017.*

02 Maria Grosz-Ngate: Transforming Practices, Changing the Balance of Power?

*Maria Grosz-Ngate is a research scientist at Indiana University, Bloomington (USA), and former associate director of its African Studies Program.*

03 Kokou Azamede: African Studies for intercultural dialogue

Kokou Azamede received in 2008 his doctorate at the University of Bremen in the Department of Cultural Studies - Historical anthropology. He is senior lecturer in the Department of German Studies of the University of Lomé. He is currently research fellow of the international project on “The 4Rs (restitution-return- repatriation-reparation) in Africa: Reality or Transcultural Aphasia?” (2021 in Accra).

04 Rüdiger Seesemann: Decolonization as a challenge to the white comfort zone

*Rüdiger Seesemann is professor of Islamic Studies chair and specializes in the study of Islam in Africa. His areas of interest include Sufism, Islam and politics, and theories and practices of Islamic knowledge. He is the spokesperson of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth.*

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-53-what-does-it-take-to-decolonize-the-vad-as-sociation-for-african-studies-in-germany/>

**P 54: Opportunities and Challenges of Cooperative Provenance Research**

June 10 14:30 – 16:00

Convenor: Lars Müller, Landesmuseum Hannover

Short abstract

The dealing with colonial collections is currently being challenged both by interest groups in Europe and by representatives of African countries. The panel will address the question of how to respond to this challenge collaboratively and what opportunities arise for future work.

Presenters

01 Isabella Bozsa, Bianca Baumann: Cooperation as method

*Isabella Bozsa (Städtisches Museum Braunschweig) und Bianca Baumann (Landesmuseum Hannover)*

02 Julia Binter, Golda Ha-Eiros: Challenging narratives about Africa through collaborative provenance research. The case of the Namibian collections at the Ethnologisches Museum Berlin

03 Mareike Späth, Syowia Kyambi: Absurdity@Amani. The joys of joint artistic and ethnographic explorations of a colonial collection

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/p-54-opportunities-and-challenges-of-cooperative-provenance-research/>

**RT 01: Germany and the Rwandan genocide:  
New evidence from the German Foreign Office's archives**

June 08 16:30 – 18:00

**Participants:**

Judence Kayitesi, Author (“A Broken Life”) and Rwandan genocide survivor  
Andreas Mehler, University of Freiburg  
Anton Peez, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF/HSFK)  
Antonia Witt (Chair), Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF/HSFK)  
Heinrich Böll Foundation

**Short abstract**

This roundtable will discuss insights from the first public study of German Foreign Office files on Rwanda before and during the 1994 genocide. The study examines how German authorities assessed the Rwandan political landscape leading up to the genocide, German contributions to UN peacekeeping, which decisions were made, and how they were internally justified.

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/rt-01-germany-and-the-rwandan-genocide-new-evidence-from-the-german-foreign-offices-archives/>



**RT 02: Providing Nuanced, Yet Coherent Assessments? Challenges for Social Science Research on Africa**

June 08 16:30 – 18:00

Convenor: Julia Grauvogel, Senior Research Fellow at the GIGA Institute of African Affairs

Short abstract

African Studies have challenged simplifying perceptions about the continent by exploring multifaceted realities. Yet, there is also political demand for coherent assessments. The roundtable will discuss challenges for social science research on Africa in light of current trends and constraints.

Presenters

Wisdom Akpalu is the Dean of the School of Research and Graduate Studies at Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration

Leonardo Arriola is Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for African Studies at the University of California, Berkeley

Matthias Basedau is Director of the GIGA Institute of African Affairs

Ulf Engel is a professor of “Politics in Africa” at the Institute of African Studies in Leipzig

Anke Hoeffler a Professor of Development Research at the Department of Politics & Public Administration at the University of Konstanz

Julia Leininger is the Head of the Research Programme Transformation of Political (Dis-)order at the German Development Institute

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/rt-02providing-nuanced-yet-coherent-assessments-challenges-for-social-science-research-on-africa/>

### RT 03: Futures Lost, Found, and Restituted: Archives, Curatorship and the Politics of Audiovisual Heritage in Africa

June 09 14:30 – 18:00

Convenor: Vinzenz Hediger, Theater-, Film- und Medienwissenschaft,  
Goethe-Universität Frankfurt

#### Abstract

This round table brings together artists, scholars, archivists and curators from Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe who currently work together on a series of archive-related projects in Nigeria, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, and Germany to discuss the current state and possible futures of audiovisual heritage politics in Africa. The current debate about the colonial legacy of African art in European and other Western Museums evolves around the question of the appropriate place and institutional frameworks for singular historical artefacts. It leaves out an important aspect of Africa's cultural heritage, and one that is possibly more relevant to Africa's future than the works of indigenous art collected and abducted by Western colonizers: Africa's audiovisual heritage.

While the focus in African film studies has long been limited to works of a relatively small number of auteurs, the shift to documentary and non-canonical film works such as the Nigerian video films has opened up new areas of inquiry, but also new challenges for film preservation and the presentation and curation of historical film materials. Initiatives such as the creation of the first academic training program for film preservation in Africa by the University of Jos and the National Film Corporation of Nigeria in Jos in 2019 and the institution of a national audiovisual heritage policy in Nigeria in 2020 promise to address these challenges through legislation and the training of highly qualified specialists in film archiving and film curatorship.

But a series of important questions remain. How can we repatriate Africa's audiovisual heritage, which to an important extent is currently still held in European and other archives of the Global North, and how can we make that heritage accessible and usable for future works of art and historiography? What are the opportunities, but also the pitfalls, of an audiovisual heritage policy aimed at restituting and making accessible Africa's audiovisual heritage? How, for instance, would the re-emergence of historical footage related to the civil war of the late 1960s affect the social fabric of Nigerian society, and how can artistic and curatorial practices overcome the obstacles of censorship and ease and contain social and political tensions?

Based on a discussion of case studies from Nigeria, Egypt, and Guinea-Bissau as well as of curatorial projects initiated by Arsenal Institut für Film und Videokunst and the Arsenal Archive in Berlin, this round table proposes to outline possible answers to these questions from both a scholarly, an artistic and a policy point of view.

The round table will be divided into two sessions, one devoted to issues of policy, infrastructure and training, the other devoted to issues of curatorship, distribution and the creative appropriation of archival footage in filmmaking.

Presenters

Añulika Agina teaches cultural analysis at the Pan- Atlantic University, Lagos, Nigeria. Her research interests include documentary film and social change, media effects, cinema- going audiences, representations of the past and conflict in film, as well as the links between film, history, politics, and social change. She is co- editor of *African Film Cultures* (2017) and has published articles in *Critical African Studies*, *Journal of Media Studies* and *Ibadan Journal of the Humanities* among others.

Filipa Cesar is a Portuguese artist and filmmaker based in Berlin. Her work has been exhibited at the Tate Modern, the SF MoMA and the Sao Paulo Biennale among others. Since 2008, she has been researching the origins of cinema in Guinea-Bissau. Through her work, the remnants of a brief period of militant cinema in the country have been secured in the Archive of INCA – Instituto Nacional de Cinema e Audiovisual of Guinea Bissau and the Arsenal archive in Berlin.

Didi Cheeka is an off-Nollywood filmmaker, critic, writer and curator. He is a co-founder of *AlternativCinema*, a production initiative which challenges the boundaries of Nollywood, and a founding member and current co-director of the Lagos Film Society, which initiated the first arthouse cinema in Nigeria in 2019. Recently, Didi's archival research led to the rediscovery of Adamu Halilu's "Shaihu Umar", a key work of 1970s Nigerian cinema, which was restored and screened at the Berlinale 2019.

Hyginus Ekwuazi is a professor of broadcasting and film at the University of Ibadan and at the Pan-Atlantic University in Lagos. He is a former managing director of the Nigerian Film Corporation, the founding rector of the National Film Institute in Jos, and the main author of the audiovisual heritage policy white paper for the Nigerian federal government.

Ellen Harrington is director of the Deutsches Filminstitut und Filmmuseum in Berlin.

Vinzenz Hediger is professor of cinema studies at Goethe Universität Frankfurt and project director of the DAAD-TNB project "Archival Studies Master in Jos", a cooperation between the Nigerian Film Corporation, the University of Jos, the Deutsches Filminstitut und Filmmuseum and Arsenal Institut für Film und Videokunst Berlin e.V.

Nancy King is a lecturer in film studies at the University of Jos, Nigeria, and one of the program organizers of the Master Film Culture and Archival Studies in Jos.

Sana Na N'Hada is a filmmaker, activist and archivist from Guinea-Bissau. He was the director of the National Film Institute of Guinea-Bissau from 1978 to 1989, and his most recent documentaries were shown in international festivals, including Cannes.

Stefanie Schulte Strathaus is co -Director of Arsenal – Institute for Film and Video Art and director of Forum Expanded which she co -founded with Anselm Franke in 2006. Since 2010 she works on archive and exhibition projects in Cairo. She is the curator of "Living Archive – Archive Work as a Contemporary Artistic and Curatorial Practice" (2011-2013) and "Archive außer sich" (since 2017). Her writings have been published in 'Frauen und Film', 'The Moving Image', 'Texte zur Kunst', among others.

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/rt-03-futures-lost-found-and-restituted-archives-curatorship-and-the-politics-of-audiovisual-heritage-in-africa/>

**RT 04: Forschungsfinanzierung in Afrika: Förderorganisationen und VAD - Ein neuer Dialog?**

June 11 12:30 – 14:00

Convenor: Stefan Skupien, WZBAbstract

Research funding is a central component of the way knowledge is generated, also in African studies. German public and private funding organisations have been increasingly involved in science policy in African countries for a decade. They provide funds for scholarships, mobility, doctoral programmes, financing of infrastructures and training of university management at African universities. There is a special relationship to the continent in the south of Europe. This is because many African researchers are still relatively dependent on foreign funding organisations to finance their research infrastructures and activities. With the exceptions of Egypt and South Africa, but also Tunisia, the share of investments in research and development is often less than 0.5% of the often already low gross national product. This is striking in view of the global focus on knowledge economies and the central role of (autonomous) research and development for the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

African studies in Germany has so far dealt with this aspect of research funding policies and related practices of knowledge generation rather marginally, although most of its scholars, as applicants, advisors and reviewers, have extensive experience with the funding conditions in Germany and with the conditions of teaching and research in African countries. In contrast, researchers in this field have produced a wide range of expertise, which can be applied to German (and European) Africa policy and global health policy in particular or to sociological analyses of development in Africa.

The panel invites speakers and guests to elaborate on the question of what kind of expertise is necessary to design, administer and foster funding programmes that are responsive to persistent challenges, norms of international research collaboration, and ambivalences of expertise in development contexts. Furthermore, the question arises whether there is a specific role for the expertise African Studies produces and what new (research) questions should be asked to contribute to adequate research funding policies.

Presenters

DAAD, DFG, Volkswagen Foundation

Prof. Dr. Makobetsa Khathi (National Research Foundation South Africa)

Dr. Susanne Baller (Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa, Ghana), tbc

Prof. Dr. Richard Rottenburg (University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa)

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/rt-04-forschungsfinanzierung-in-afrikaforderorganisationen-und-vad-ein-neuer-dialog/>

**RT 05: Social Security Coverage and Informal Employment - Implications of new Survey Data from six African Countries**

June 09 16:30 – 18:00

Convenor: Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Africa Department is conducting country-wide representative surveys on Informal Employment in sub-Saharan Africa. The surveys are organized in co-operation with the ILO and the German Development Institute (DIE) and implemented following the AfroBarometer approach for sample design and interview techniques (tablet questionnaires). A total of 8.400 households in 6 countries have so far participated in the survey: Kenya (Oct. 2018), Benin (Dec. 2018), Senegal (May 2019), Zambia (Aug. 2019), Ivory Coast (April 2020) and Ethiopia (Nov. 2020).

In this VAD-panel FES will present for the first-time survey data and results to the public by using a 6-country comparison (Kenya-Benin-Senegal-Zambia-Ivory Coast-Ethiopia). Of the various thematic clusters in the surveys we will focus on Social Security and Informal Employment with a particular focus on Health Security and Informal Employment.

For the presentation and discussion of the survey data FES has invited a data specialist from Kenya who acted as a senior data collection managers. He will comment on the application of the research protocol and how to assure sample representativeness and collection of quality data. While about half of the panel time will be used for presentation purposes, the other half is reserved for discussion.

Moderation:

Dr. Julia Leininger, German Development Institute - DIE

Presenters:

Henrik Maihack, FES: Overview on the FES-GDI-ILO survey project on informal employment

Abel Oyuke, IDS, Kenya: How to conduct country-wide representative opinion polls on the informally employed in Africa

Dr. Rudolf Traub-Merz, Researcher: Informal employment and social reproduction: Focus on Access to health

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/rt-05-social-security-coverage-and-informal-employment-implications-of-new-survey-data-from-four-african-countries/>

**RT 07: VAD Sahelausschuss: The governmental crisis in Burkina Faso and in Mali**

June 10 16:30 – 18:00

The Round Table will be held in French.

Moderation: Helmut Asche, Hans Peter HahnAbstract

The two francophone countries in the heart of West Africa have experienced a steady loss of control over animal territories and a dramatic increase in violent events over the past 10 years. With respect to both countries, there are also widespread perceptions that local conflicts and violent events have been imported by interested parties from neighboring countries. Both countries are thus considered as victims of freely meandering violence actors in the region. The roundtable participants will address the question of what role the respective governments could play in containing and preventing violence. In an unexpected rebellion, the population of the northern parts of Mali managed to temporarily declare an independent state of "Azawad" in 2012. In this situation, the country's government was forced to call in French troops to help regain control of its own territory. Despite changing governments and several elections between 2012 and 2020, the country still suffers from comparatively low acceptance by the people to this day. While violence has now spread to the entire territory (with the exception of Bamako), the national army and its European allies vainly strive to pacify the situation and regain administrative control. While interests of the northern neighbors as well as weapons imported from Libya are partly blamed for the long-lasting conflict, there are more and more voices that also see the government as co-responsible for the ongoing problems. The situation in Burkina Faso is different in several respects, although there, too, violence is steadily increasing and state control - especially in the northern parts of the country - is diminishing. While Mali accepted French and German troops at a very early stage, Burkina Faso pursues a strategy of fighting violence with its own forces. There is a widespread perception in Burkina Faso that violent actors are entering the country from neighboring Mali and Niger. In contrast, however, there is also an understanding that the national government is clearly not using all of its options to counter the violence. In both countries, the armies have proven incapable of protecting the population and are considered to be guilty of excessive use of military force against their own people. In both countries, the situation seems hopeless. The panel will discuss what options there are for pacification and what role the European powers could play in this.

Participants:

Justine Couliati-Kiélem

Gordon Kricke

Ornella Moderan

Raogo Antoine Sawadogo

Link: <https://vad-africachallenges.de/panel/rt-07-la-crise-etatique-au-burkina-faso-et-au-mali/>

## Publishers



Berghahn Books are pleased to have a virtual presence at the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD) Conference 7th to 11th June, 2021. Please stop by our virtual booth and explore our VAD offerings here: <https://www.berghahnbooks.com/vad>

To celebrate VAD, we are offering a 35% discount on all African Studies titles until June 30th, 2021: Use discount code VAD2021 on print and eBooks ordered through our website: <https://www.berghahnbooks.com/>.

The Frobenius Institute for Research Cultural Anthropology at the Goethe University Frankfurt am Main is one of the most important research institutes for social and cultural anthropology in the German-speaking world. It sees its tasks in expanding cultural anthropological knowledge and promoting a reflective approach to cultural difference through scientific dialogue. To achieve these goals, the Frobenius Institute regularly conducts field research worldwide, processes and expands its extensive archives and collections, publishes scholarly findings through its own series and the journal *Paideuma*, promotes informed reflection on the history of the discipline, and curates international exhibitions on a variety of topics. Link to the [Institute Introduction](#).

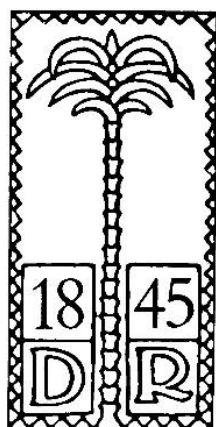
#### Links to Databases:

<http://bibliothek.frobenius-katalog.de/>  
<http://bildarchiv.frobenius-katalog.de/>  
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The publishing house Reimer Verlag was founded in 1845. Ethnology, African Studies and Linguistics are part of its multifaceted program. Among others Reimer publishes the *Studien zur Kulturkunde* in cooperation with the Frobenius Institute and Oswin Köhler's multi-volume edition *The World of the Khwe Bushmen in Southern Africa*. A self-portrait in their own language. Moreover, since 1910 the Reimer Verlag brought out the journal *Afrika und Übersee* (in future Open Access). Concerning Africa and its languages, the relevant series is *Sprache und Oralität in Afrika*, featuring lexicogrammars and specialized dictionaries. Furthermore, many other backlist-titles are available.



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[Studien zur Kulturkunde, issue 135](#)

[The World of the Khwe Bushmen in Southern Africa, vol. 4.1](#)

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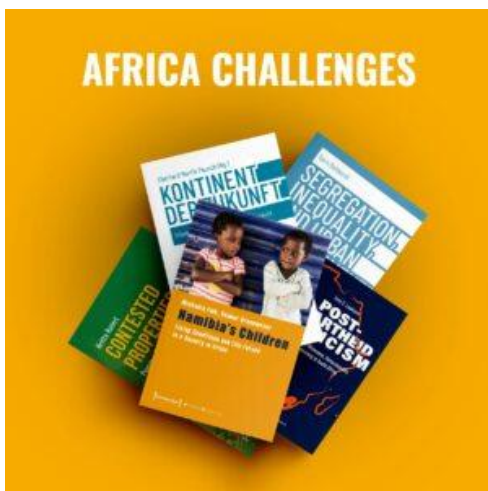
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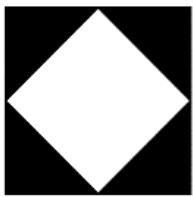
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