

# Joint Institutes Colloquium

MPI for Social Anthropology and Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, MLU

Summer Semester 2016

Organisers: Sung-Joon Park, Sandra Calkins, Ronn Müller, Sylvia Terpe

## Boundaries, Bodies, and Politics: the 'refugee crisis' and the new Europe

Tragic scenes of hundreds of refugees cramped onto too small boats, washing up on Mediterranean coasts, and masses camping near borders, headed to cities in central Europe, have come to stand for the current "refugee crisis". This mass migration of refugees has raised fundamental debates about what holds Europe together – morally, politically, legally and historically. These debates are discussed controversially while national governments design their own piecemeal answers to inhibit, displace or absorb the moving masses as quickly as possible. Speaking of a refugee crisis should not only problematize the integration of refugees but also call attention to the humanitarian disasters unfolding in EU border regions as well as to more distant wars and catastrophes. More importantly, the current migratory momentum has to be considered to be at least coproduced by a technocratic apparatus, established in over 30 years of EU policy making, and put in place primarily to discern good from bad immigration. This apparatus promotes core values, such as freedom of movement and security, by implementing a restrictive and increasingly techno-scientific regime of border control. Recent events have shown that refugees act as political subjects regardless of their social and political status. They may claim recognition and rights while eschewing state institutions. This "migrant citizenship" indicates a transformation of the established political category of citizenship that is shaping border regimes. We bring together academics to discuss the ways boundaries and bodies have been made and remade in recent decades through this apparatus, comprising international laws on asylum, human rights, national and European immigration policies, technologies of border policing, and new techno-scientific forms of identification (biometrics, forensics etc.). We also invite scholars to present ethnographic material on how fear, insecurity, hope and aspirations for a better life intersect in these processes of boundary un/making, and to reflect on the political implications of the current mass immigration on the construction of Europe – or, shall we say, multiple Europes?

12.04.2016 | **Heidrun Friese** | TU Chemnitz, Germany  
**Limits of Hospitality**

26.04.2016 | **Ludger Pries** | University of Bochum, Germany  
**The European Refugee Crisis – Ugly Side of the 'European Space of Justice, Freedom and Security' or 'Common European Asylum System' in the Making?**

10.05.2016 | **Dawn Chatty** | University of Oxford, UK  
**Caught between a Rock and a Hard Place: understanding perceptions and aspirations among hosts, practitioners, and guests in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan**

17.05.2016 | **Serhat Karakayali** | Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany  
**Politics of Hospitality from Below**

07.06.2016 | **Amade M'charek** | University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
**Moving Bodies, Shifting Boundaries: the 'refugee crisis' and the European border management regime**

21.06.2016 | **Åsa Wettergren** | University of Gothenburg, Sweden  
**National Emotive-Cognitive Processes of Closed Borders: ontological security and the collective emotion work of denied empathy**

05.07.2016 | **Flüchtlingskrise oder Krise der Verwaltung? Eine Diskussionsrunde zur gegenwärtigen Lage**

Venue: Historischer Hörsaal, Löwengebäude, Universitätsplatz 11, 06108 Halle

**Walter Bartl** | Institute of Sociology, MLU Halle-Wittenberg

**Matthias Kaufmann** | Chair of Ethics, MLU Halle-Wittenberg

**Winfried Kluth** | Chair of Public Law, MLU Halle-Wittenberg

**Ronn Müller** | Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, MLU Halle-Wittenberg

**Reinhold Sackmann** | Chair of Social Structure Analysis, MLU Halle-Wittenberg

**Tuesdays 16:15–18:00 | Main Seminar Room  
Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology  
Advokatenweg 36 | 06114 Halle | [www.eth.mpg.de](http://www.eth.mpg.de)**



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Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg