

**Institut für Weltgesellschaft**  
Institute for World Society Studies



**Report**  
**2015–2017**



# **Institute for World Society Studies**

**Working Report 2015 – 2017**



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### **Imprint**

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## Introduction

Founded in 2000, the Institute for World Society Studies at Bielefeld University's Faculty of Sociology is an interdisciplinary research center seeking to contribute to the understanding of the formation and development of world society. The Institute encourages research on a wide range of topics in global and transnational studies.

The Institute has pursued research, research training, outreach and networking activities on a range of issues in the broad thematic fields of globalization, transnationalization and international relations, often from the perspective of sociological theories of world society. Research at the Institute is open to a broad range of theoretical and methodological approaches, ranging from discourse theories and analysis to quantitative approaches and including modern systems theory and sociological neo-institutionalism. The Institute's emphasis on strong theoretical foundations serves as one of its hallmarks in an international research environment.

In the still developing field of globalization research, the distinctive feature of the work carried out at the Institute for World Society Studies lies in combining empirical investigation with theoretical analysis. To

remain a source of theoretical innovation, the Institute encourages international and interdisciplinary orientation in a broad range of activities. Past and current interdisciplinary projects include, for example, cooperation between history, political science and sociology ('Transnational political spaces'), between political science and geography ('Geopolitical images of aid organizations'), between sociology, law and spatial planning ('Human Rights'; 'FLOOR'), between sociology, law and political science ('Understanding Southern Welfare. Ideational and historical foundations of social policies in Brazil, India, China and South Africa, ZiF Research Group) and between sociology, economy and history ('In search of the global labour market. Actors, structures and policies', ZiF Research Group).

The Institute's activities have been oriented towards fostering intellectual exchange and excellent research output regarding publications and research training. This includes individual and collective research projects, with or without third party-funding, conferences and workshops, colloquia and seminars. In addition to its role as an active research institute, the Institute for World Society Studies also serves as a thematic focus point for a range of

doctoral dissertations and post-doc research projects. A major current result of these activities is the DFG funded Research Training Group “World Politics” (GK 2225), which, starting in 2017, has already established itself as an important new focal point of academic activities and intellectual exchange within the Institute.

In the future, the Institute will build on and extend the interdisciplinary character of its work by exploring possibilities for the development of larger collaborative projects. In the coming years, the executive board is planning to put a particular

emphasis on collaboration between sociology of world society, international relations and global history studies. The collaboration has started with a series of workshops, titled “World society and its history”, which are organized by Mathias Albert and Tobias Werron between June 2018 and summer 2019. Simultaneously, we are preparing a proposal for a Research Group at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research to explore the potential of this topic for larger collaborative projects with a number of nationally and internationally renowned scholars from all three disciplines.

## Directors

### Mathias Albert

Mathias Albert is Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Sociology of Bielefeld University. He works on various aspects of international relations and world society theory. He is currently leading principle investigator for the Research Training Group (GK 2225) 'World Politics' and principle investigator on a project of the history of military force comparisons. A more recent research interest pertains to the politics of the polar regions. In addition, he is also active in research on youth (Shell youth studies). Recent books include *A Theory of World Politics* (Cambridge University Press 2016), *Zur Politik der Weltgesellschaft* (ed. with Nicole Deitelhoff and Gunther Hellmann, Springer 2018), and *The Politics of International Political Theory* (ed. with Ariella Lang, Palgrave, forthcoming 2018).

### Ulrike Davy

Ulrike Davy is professor for constitutional and administrative law, German and international social law, and comparative law at the Faculty of Law of Bielefeld University. Additionally, she is member of the University Council of Bielefeld University, principle investigator in the Collaborative Research Center (SFB) 1288 Practices of Comparison, principle investigator in the Research Training Group (GK 2225) 'World Politics', and principle investigator in the NRW Forschungskolleg Herausforderungen und Chancen globaler Flüchtlingsmigration für die Gesundheitsversorgung in Deutschland. Ulrike's research concentrates on migration and refugee law, history and theory of the welfare state, European social policy, and universal human rights law, in particular, social rights and the right to equality and non-discrimination. Recent publications: *How Human Rights Shape Social Citizenship*. *Washington University Global Studies Law Review* 2014, 201–263; *Sozialpolitik der Union*. In: Niedobitek, Matthias (Ed.): *Die Politiken der Union*, 2014, 775–916; *Der „Universalismus“ der Allgemeinen Erklärung der Menschenrechte – die Arbeit am Konsens, 1945–1948*. In: Heintz, Bettina, and Leisering, Britta (Eds.): *Menschenrechte in der Weltgesellschaft*, 2015, 198–235; *Sicherung des Lebensunterhalts durch das AsylbLG – ein Verfassungsproblem!* In: Beichel-Benedetti, Stephan, and Janda, Constanze (Eds.): *Festschrift für Klaus Barwig*, 2018, 133–152.

### **Alexandra Kaasch**

Alexandra Kaasch is Junior Professor in Transnational Social Policy at the Faculty of Sociology of Bielefeld University. Her research interests are in the fields of comparative and global social policy and governance. She is principle investigator in the Research Training Group (GK 2225) 'World Politics', co-editor of the journal 'Global Social Policy' and the book series 'Research in Comparative and Global Social Policy'. Among her most important publications are *Actors and Agency in Global Social Governance* (2015, co-edited with Kerstin Martens, Oxford University Press), *Shaping Global Health Policy* (2015, Palgrave Macmillan), and *Transformations in Global and Regional Social Policy* (2014, co-edited with Paul Stubbs).

### **Ralf Rapior**

Working as an instructor in political sociology and political science at Bielefeld University, Ralf Rapior is currently completing his dissertation project „Between Empires and World Society - Global Dynamics of Political Modernization“. The project seeks to understand the social requirements for and processes of the formation of a specialized and autonomous political sphere in modernity from the vantage point of a postcolonial and global historical sociology. Therefore, it rejects the predominant Eurocentric methodologies in the field of sociological modernization and globalization studies, focusing instead on global interrelations, entangled histories and imperial expansion as frames of reference and prime movers for the making of modern politics.

Along this line of research, Ralf is also devoted to two subsequent projects: elaborating on a sociological or more precisely societal theory of empires, as well as the development of ways and means to meet actual postcolonial and global historical challenges of Eurocentric resp. “Western” sociological knowledge and methodologies in/with World Society Studies.

His main research interests lie in the fields of World Society and Globalization Studies, (Global) Historical Sociology of (World) Societies, Empires and States, Sociological Theory and Postcolonial Sociology, (Global) Political Sociology.

Publications in the field of World Society Studies are “Globalisierung der Funktionssysteme” (*Soziale Systeme* 17, 2011), a review article which reflects on the cur-

rent state of understanding the globalization of world society, and “Expansion und Ausdifferenzierung der Weltgesellschaft. Neue Perspektiven aus der postkolonialen und globalhistorischen Forschung” (to be published in “Globale Beobachtungs- und Vergleichspraktiken“ edited by H. Benanni, M. Bühler, S. Cramer, A. Glauser), a research article which combines contemporary postcolonial and global historical thought with World Society Studies.

### **Tobias Werron**

Tobias Werron is Professor of Sociological Theory at the Faculty of Sociology of Bielefeld University. His main current areas of research are globalization and world society theory, sociology of competition, media sociology, and the sociology of sport. He is currently working on two books: one about the sociology of competition and another about the new” nationalism in a historical-sociological perspective. Recent publications in the area of world society studies include the article book *From Globalization to World Society* (2014, ed. together with Boris Holzer and Fatima Kastner) and the articles *Violent Conflicts. Armed Conflicts and Global Competition for Attention and Legitimacy* (*International Journal for Politics, Culture and Society*, Online First, 2017, together with Teresa Koloma Beck), *Worum konkurrieren Nationalstaaten? Zu Begriff und Geschichte der Konkurrenz um ‘weiche’ globale Güter* (*Zeitschrift für Soziologie* 41, 2012, 338–355; awarded with the 2nd price by the “Fritz Thyssen Stiftung für sozialwissenschaftliche Aufsätze”, 2012); *Schlüsselprobleme der Globalisierungs- und Weltgesellschaftstheorie* (*Soziologische Revue* 35, 2012, 99–218), and *Wie ist Globalisierung möglich? Zur Entstehung globaler Vergleichshorizonte am Beispiel von Wissenschaft und Sport* (*Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* 41, 2011, 359–394, together with Bettina Heintz).

## Research Projects

- Between Stability and Transformation: Regional and Transnational Cooperation in Central Asia and between Central Asia and Europe – A Research-Based Professionalization Project
- Chinese Foreign Direct Investment in Germany. Strategies – Processes – Consequences
- Comparing Forces and the Forces of Comparison: Comparisons of military forces as comparisons of power in the international system from the eighteenth to twentieth century
- The discursive construction of conflict and international organizational decision-making processes between normative frameworks of peacebuilding and securitization – the case of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI)
- Expatriate Managers: A New Cosmopolitan Elite? Habitus, Everyday Practices, and Networks
- Global Perceptions of Inequality in World Society
- „Going Global“ or „Short-Term Adventures“? The Conditions and Consequences of the Globalization of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
- How ‘social’ is Turkey?. Turkey’s social security system in a European context
- Microdynamics of Political Communication in World Society. The Social Life of the Democracy Concept in Bangladesh and Senegal.
- Opus Magnum, A Theory of World Politics
- Order in diversity: Practices of comparing in cross-cultural jurisprudence (17th–19th centuries)
- Outlawing racial discrimination – Making practices of comparison illegitimate
- Polar (Geo-)Politics: How does Global Environmental Change (GEC) cause a transformation of political relationships between and within the circumpolar Argentina, Canada, Chile and the U.S.?
- Social Security as a Human Right. The Global Construction and Diffusion of Civic Minima (FLOOR = Financial Assistance, Land Policy, and Global Social Rights)
- UNRISD New Directions in Social Policy: Transnational Social Policy Development: The Case of Indonesia

**Between Stability and Transformation: Regional and Transnational Cooperation in Central Asia and between Central Asia and Europe – A Research-Based Professionalization Project**

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**Funded by:**

Volkswagen Foundation

**Project leaders:**

Prof. Dr. Andreas Vasilache

Dr. Chiara Pierobon

**Project Duration:**

2017–2019

**Project Description:**

The project builds on the recently completed project “Exploring Patterns of Regional and Interregional Cooperation” and is directed by Andreas Vasilache and Chiara Pierobon, both Bielefeld University, in cooperation with TU Dortmund University, German-Kazakh University (DKU) in Almaty/Kazakhstan, OSCE Academy Bishkek/Kyrgyzstan, and University of Central Asia/Aga Khan Foundation, Dushanbe/Tajikistan. It addresses the academic successor generation of Central Asian scholars and aims at their further qualification through a specific “professionalization-through-research”-approach. More precisely, the project focuses on strengthening research capacities in Central Asia through research-oriented professionalization and training measures in the field of regional and inter-regional studies. The thematic emphasis lies on the simultaneity and tensions between transformation and stability patterns in the region and on the

interrelation between institutional structures and societal initiatives and dynamics. The following interrelated conference activities are planned during the project: 1.) an international summer school at OSCE Academy in Bishkek/Kyrgyzstan, 2.) a seminar-series of three succeeding training seminars/workshops at the German-Kazakh University (DKU) in Almaty/Kazakhstan, and 3.) an international conference at University of Central Asia in Dushanbe/Tajikistan.

The research activities conducted at Bielefeld University deal with the examination of the stability-transformation continuum looking at civil societal dynamics and the contribution of international actors to the empowerment of civil society in Central Asia. At the one hand, by employing an interregional perspective, the study analyzes the influence exercised by the European Union in strengthening the non-profit sector by evaluating the extent to

which its support fosters sustainable development in the target region. On the other hand, by employing a regional lens, the project analyzes state-civil society relations in a comparative way. In particular, it is concerned with similarities and diver-

gences in the ways in which Central Asian regimes are engaged in preserving their stability through the establishment of more or less conducive environment for the development of the non-profit sector.

**Publications:**

Mäder, Susanne, Burfeind, Miriam, Gehre, Annekatriin, Pierobon, Chiara, and Ulrich, Angela (2016). Bericht über das Forschungs- und Praxiskolloquium am 21. Mai 2016 im Rahmen der Frühjahrstagung des AK Methoden der DeGEval. *Zeitschrift für Evaluation* 2, 266–270.

Pierobon, Chiara (2017): Musik und Jugendbewegungen in Russland. *Religion und Gesellschaft in Ost und West – RGOW* . 1.

Pierobon, Chiara (2017): German Political Foundations in Central Asia: Promoting Democracy Through Civil Society. *European Journal of Social Sciences Education and Research* 9 (1), [ISSN 2411-9563].

Pierobon, Chiara (2017): Civil Society in the EU development and human rights agenda: The case of DG DEVCO-EIDHR. In: Marchetti, Raffaele (Ed.): *Partnership in International Policy Making: Civil Society and Public Institutions in Global and European Affairs*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 195–213 [ISBN 978-1-349-94938-0].

Pierobon, Chiara (2017): The European Union and Sustainable Development in Kyrgyzstan: the Role of Civil Society. In: *Contemporary Global Trends: Challenges and Risks for Central Asia*, Kazakh-German University, Almaty, 41–52 [ISBN 978-601-80343-0-5].

Pierobon, Chiara (2016): The European Union and the empowerment of Civil Society in Kazakhstan: an evaluation of the EIDHR and NSA/LA. *Central Asian Policy Review* 2 (2).

Pierobon, Chiara (2016): The Development of state-civil society relations in Kazakhstan. *Eurasianica* 6, 203–223 [ISBN 978-88-6969-078-5].

Vasilache, Andreas (2017): *Authoritarianism and Security in Central Asia*. Neue Gesellschaft/Frankfurter Hefte: *International Quarterly Edition* 1, 25–29.

Vasilache, Andreas (2017): Die europäische Krise als generalisierte Unsicherheitsmaschine. In: Kopke, Christoph, Kühnel, Wolfgang (Eds.): Demokratie, Freiheit und Sicherheit. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 17–32.

Vasilache, Andreas (2016): Autoritarismus und Sicherheit in Zentralasien. Neue Gesellschaft, Frankfurter Hefte 63(11), 25–30.

## Chinese Foreign Direct Investment in Germany. Strategies – Processes – Consequences

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### Funded by:

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

### Project Coordinator:

Prof. Dr. Ursula Mense-Petermann

### Members of the Project Team:

Christoph Seidel

Junchen Yan

### Project Duration:

2016–2018

### Project Description:

Beginning with the opening up of the Chinese economy in the 1970s, Chinese foreign direct investments (FDI) have steadily been rising. During the past decade, however, China's FDI have developed extraordinary dynamically and Chinese investments have become one of the largest sources of FDI in emerging economies. Nowadays, the advanced industrialized economies of the West increasingly become targets of Chinese FDI, too. Chinese firms do not see themselves as extended workbenches for MNCs from the USA, Western Europe and Japan anymore. Many of them – state-owned enterprises as well as private-owned enterprises – have become 'global players' themselves and their globalization strategies drive Chinese FDI to ever higher levels.

The largest proportion of Chinese FDI in Europe goes to Germany. In Germany,

Chinese FDI mostly targets the mechanical engineering and automotive supply industry. Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) are regarded as the most suitable means to acquire production technologies, management knowhow and access to European markets and global brands.

International business and management literature has labeled Chinese FDI "emerging market firms' globalization", pointing to the fact that acquisition of firms in advanced industrialized home countries by firms from emerging economies is quite a new phenomenon and cannot be analyzed with the theoretical frameworks developed from Western MNCs' globalization. Scholars have pointed to the specific challenges for Chinese firms acquiring Western firms, namely their lack of international experience and management knowhow as well as cultural differences and imag-

ined hierarchies (post-colonialism) that may lead to conflict. Post-merger “task integration” and “human integration”, hence, were expected to cause substantial conflicts and were deemed prone to failure.

While the Chinese M&A activities in Germany were first considered very skeptical, press articles and research on Chinese acquisitions in Germany surprisingly reported smooth negotiations, well-functioning collaboration and a high degree of mutual respect and recognition between the two parties in most of the cases. However, existing research mainly

relies on survey data or on single interviews with top managers. There is no in-depth investigation into the day-to-day operations and collaboration and into the post-merger processes of “task integration” and “human integration” at the shop-floor and office level. Our research project aims to filling this gap. Adopting a case study approach targeting M&As in mechanical engineering, automotive supply and the photovoltaics industry we aim to delivering “thick descriptions” of the post-merger processes and thereby also intend to contribute to theory building on “emerging market firms globalization”.

**Comparing Forces and the Forces of Comparison: Comparisons of military forces as comparisons of power in the international system from the eighteenth to twentieth century**

Project A01 of the Collaborative Research Center 1288 Practices of Comparing. Ordering and changing the world

**Funded by:**

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

**Principal Investigator:**

Mathias Albert

**Post-Doctoral Researcher:**

Thomas Müller

**Doctoral Researcher:**

Kerrin Langer

**Project Duration:**

2017–2020

**Project Description:**

The project studies two interrelated questions: firstly how and through which practices did states compare themselves and others regarding their military capabilities and power, and secondly: how did these practices of force comparisons interact with the evolution and globalization of the international system? Combining approaches from History and International Relations the project conceptualizes force comparisons as part of broader practices of power comparisons through which the international system and its evolution was structured, assessed and interpreted in terms of comparative orders such as the balance of power.

Empirically, the project seeks to reconstruct the co-evolution of force comparisons and the international system from

the middle of the 18th century to the end of the Cold War. During this period, the co-evolution was in particular characterized by three transformative phases: the emergence of the modern European system of great powers since the middle of the 18th century, its gradual development into a global system of powers in the late 19th and early 20th century, and the trends towards more sophisticated and institutionalized practices of force comparisons in the context of the superpower competition in the Cold War. Additionally, the project highlights the new and growing role of think tanks – notably the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and the Stockholm Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) – as influential producers of force comparisons in the Cold War.

**The discursive construction of conflict and international organizational decision-making processes between normative frameworks of peacebuilding and securitization – the case of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI)**

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**Funded by:**

German Foundation for Peace Research

**Principal Investigator:**

Prof. Dr. Mathias Albert

**Project Team:**

Dipl. Soz. Kerstin Eppert, Bielefeld University

Mitja Sienknecht, M.A., Bielefeld University/Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder

**Project Duration:**

2012–2014

**Project Description:**

The current project focuses on the impact which a ‘security overlay’ may have on the implementation of an international intervention. Using the case of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI), the project comprises two main areas of research. Connecting organizational and sociocultural dimensions of international interventions, the project asks, firstly, how contextual frameworks of securitization and peacebuilding shape and guide decision-making processes of international interventions in (post-) conflict environments. It analyzes decision-making strategies that are used in order to manage contextual uncertainty that emerges from the conflictive logics of securitization and peacebuilding. Secondly, the findings will be

contextualized in view of the interrelation between world society (theory) and the construction of the ‘Other’.

The primary aim of the project is to contribute to a better understanding of the interdependence between the international political context, the parameters and operations of international assistance missions and the relevance of the normative frameworks of securitization and peacebuilding for the implementation of the missions. The secondary aim is to provide concrete input to the improvement of oversight mechanisms of international organizations involved in the missions by explaining the interdependence of the ‘re’- or ‘deconstruction’ of conflict and organizational decision making.

**Publications:**

Albert, Mathias, Eppert, Kerstin, and Sienknecht, Mitja (2017): The discursive construction of conflict and international organizational decision-making processes between normative frameworks of peacebuilding and securitization – the case of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI), (in German). DSF Forschungsberichte no. 41.

Albert, Mathias, Eppert, Kerstin, and Sienknecht, Mitja (2015): UN-Missionen als Strukturen internationaler Interventionen – organisationale Autonomisierungsprozesse aus weltgesellschaftstheoretischer Perspektive. Politische Vierteljahresschrift (Special Issue), 81–104.

Eppert, Kerstin, and Sienknecht, Mitja (forthcoming): Engaging with the “Threat”? Tracing De-securitization between UN Security Council and the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI).

Eppert, Kerstin, and Sienknecht, Mitja (2017): Engaging with the “Threat”? Tracing Desecuritization between the UN Security Council and UN Mission. In: Bonacker Thorsten, Distler Werner, and Ketzmerick Maria (Eds): Securitization, Intervention and State-Building. Politiken der Sicherheit | Politics of Security, no. 1. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 105–126.

Eppert, Kerstin, Sienknecht, Mitja, and Albert, Mathias (2015). UN-Missionen als Strukturen internationaler Interventionen – organisationale Autonomisierungsprozesse aus weltgesellschaftstheoretischer Perspektive. In: da Conceição-Heldt, Eugénia, Koch, Martin, and Liese, Andrea (Eds.): Internationale Organisationen: Autonomie, Politisierung, interorganisationale Beziehungen und Wandel. Politische Vierteljahresschrift, Sonderheft 49 (with financial support from the German Foundation for Peace Research).

## **Expatriate Managers: A New Cosmopolitan Elite? Habitus, Everyday Practices, and Networks**

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### **Funded by:**

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

### **Central Project Coordination (Bielefeld University):**

Prof. Dr. Ursula Mense-Petermann (Project Leader)

### **Principal Investigators:**

Dr. Anna Spiegel, Bielefeld University

Dipl.-Soz. Yan Junchen, Bielefeld University

Kathleen M. Park, PhD, Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### **Members of the Project Team:**

Franziska Richter (Research Assistant)

### **Project Duration:**

2011–2015

### **Project Description:**

The project considers a social figure that has increasingly become an object of attention in recent times, whenever questions of economic globalization, the development of transnational social spaces and questions of social inequalities on a global scale are discussed: the expatriate manager. Notwithstanding the growing interest in global assignments and the figure of the global manager in the International Business and Management Literature, little is known to date of how expatriates deal with the exacting demands in their everyday work and life at their places of assignment. Under which circumstances do globally mobile managers develop a cosmopolitan habitus – if at all? How do they arrange their everyday life? What

kind of networks do they establish in order to cope with the professional and private challenges connected with a global assignment? And last but not least: Are there differences in the ways in which expatriates deal with the challenges of a global assignment connected with their national origin or with their place of assignment (home country and host country effects)? These questions are addressed by a systematic comparison of two different groups of expatriate managers from different national business cultures – German managers and US American managers – at three different locations of assignment (Germany, USA and China), which are differently positioned in global constructions of cultural difference. This

project – taking a critical look at the ‘strong’ theses concerning the ‘global manager’ as protagonist of a new global elite (Sklair, Kanter) – aims at an in-depth

study into the processes of structuration of the life worlds and of (re-)shaping of the habitus of expatriate managers abroad.

**Publications:**

Mense-Petermann, Ursula (2014): ‘Bridging the Differences’ – Die Arbeit des ‘boundary spanning’ und ihre Regulierung in Transnationalen Unternehmen. In: Löw M (Ed.): Vielfalt und Zusammenhalt. Verhandlungen des 36. Kongresses der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie in Bochum und Dortmund 2012, Teil 1.. Frankfurt/New York: Campus, 297–311.

Mense-Petermann, Ursula, and Spiegel, Anna (2016): Global mobility policies, social positioning and boundary spanning work of expatriate managers. 1. Bielefeld: Bielefelder Beiträge zur Wirtschafts- und Arbeitssoziologie (bi.WAS).

Spiegel, Anna, Mense-Petermann, Ursula, and Bredenkötter, Bastian (2018): Expatriate Managers: The Paradoxes of Working and Living Abroad. New York: Routledge.

Spiegel, Anna, and Mense-Petermann, Ursula (2016): Verflochtene Mobilitäten und ihr Management. Mobilitätspraktiken von Expatriate-Managern und ihren ‘trailing spouses’ im Auslandseinsatz. Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie 41 (1), 15–31.

## **Global Perceptions of Inequality in World Society**

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### **Funded by:**

Project Segment of SFB 882 (Collaborative Research Centre) “From Heterogenities to Inequalities“

### **Principal investigators:**

Prof. Dr. Mathias Albert (Bielefeld University)

Dr. Martin Koch (Bielefeld University)

### **Project member:**

Dr. Katja Freistein

### **Project Duration:**

2011–2015

### **Project Description:**

The project traces the emergence of the semantics of global inequality in world society. It empirically reconstructs the ways and means in which, in the context of the discourse on development, ideas of global inequality were formed within international organizations, understood as

the entrepreneurs of global semantics. Within this framework, the project is particularly interested in the question of whether semantics of global inequality were primarily formed through discourses on, for example, global justice, climate change, environment, or security.

### **Publications:**

Freistein, Katja (2015): Effects of Indicator Use. A Comparison of Poverty Measuring Instruments at the World Bank. *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis*.

DOI:10.1080/13876988.2015.1023053 (Published online: 27 May 2015).

Freistein, Katja, and Mahlert, Bettina (2016): The Potential for Tackling Inequality in the Sustainable Development Goals. *Third World Quarterly* 37 (12), 2139–55.

Freistein, Katja, and Mahlert, Bettina (2016): Ungleichheit in den Sustainable Development Goals: Das transformative Potential einer Idee. In: Sondermann, Elena, and Lepenies, Philipp (Eds.): *Globale politische Ziele. Bestandsaufnahme und Ausblick des Post-2015 Prozesses*. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 61–80.

## **„Going Global“ or „Short-Term Adventures“? The Conditions and Consequences of the Globalization of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises**

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### **Funded by:**

Hans Böckler Foundation (Hans-Böckler-Stiftung (HBS))

### **Central Project Coordination (Bielefeld University):**

Prof. Dr. Ursula Mense-Petermann (Principal Investigator)

### **Project Team:**

Dipl.-Soz. Christoph Seidel, Bielefeld University

Dipl.-Soz. Andre Meyer, Bielefeld University

### **Project Duration:**

2012–2015

### **Project Description:**

This project considers the long-term impact of globalization on the organizational structure, human resource management and employees' interest representation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME). Although SMEs do have a high relevance for the German economy, so far the consequences of their globalization for the whole SME and their employees have been understudied. In particular, this project explores how SMEs cope with the challenges of long-term globalization processes despite their limitations in organizational knowledge and capital. Various studies, however, have already shown that SMEs choose unique paths of entering into foreign markets. This and the observable high degree of informal reconciliation of interests between employers and employees within SME structures, points to peculiarities of the globalization practices of

SMEs as compared to "global players". This research project aims to reconstruct the special logics and typical paths of SME globalization in its own complexity and in its implications for the employees and their representation of interests. The three questions that guide this project are: (1) What are the specific risks and chances of the globalization of SMEs? Can we understand SME globalization as an "ongoing Globalization" (i.e. as an extension of the economic processes of globalization by the involvement of more and more SMEs), or is SME globalization only a "short-term adventure" which eventually leads to a re-location of foreign direct investment back home? (2) What are the typical resources that SMEs use for this process of globalization? (3) What are the consequences of this unique globalization path for the employees and their representa-

tion of interest within SMEs? How do these process of globalization transform the typical “social world“ (Kotthoff/Reindl 1990) of SMEs? To answer these questions, we compare SMEs from machine

builder and automobile supplier industries within the framework of a qualitative case study approach. As an exemplary field for our research, we choose to analyze the establishment of subsidiaries in China.

**Publications:**

Meyer, Andre (2017): Die Internationalisierung von KMU und ihre Folgen für die Betriebliche Sozialordnung. *Industrielle Beziehungen* 24 (3), 347–371.

Seidel, Christoph, and Meyer, Andre (2016): Unsicherheitsvermeidend oder opportunistisch: Internationalisierungsverläufe von KMU. *WSI Mitteilungen* 69 (6), 426–435.

## How ‘social’ is Turkey?. Turkey’s social security system in a European context

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**Funded by:**

Stiftung Mercator

**Principal Investigator:**

Prof. Lutz Leisering PhD

**Project Partner:**

Asst. Prof. Dr. H. Tolga Bölükbaşı (Bilkent University, Ankara)

**Postdoctoral Researcher:**

Kerem Gabriel Öktem

**Research Assistant:**

Cansu Erdogan

**Project Duration:**

2017–2019

**Project Description:**

Social security and welfare state are key institutions of Western post-war societies, absorbing 20–30% of GDP and shaping basic social structures like labor markets, socio-economic inequality, gender, and the relationship between state, markets and civil society (Castles et al. 2010; Leibfried/Mau 2008; Esping-Andersen 1990; T.H. Marshall 1950). Social policy is about fundamental normative understandings of society, constituting a social contract and underpinning social cohesion. Moreover, social policy may impact on a country’s international economic competitiveness. At the level of the European Union, the notion of a ‘social Europe’ is seen by some as an essential element of Europeanization and the ‘European model’ (Kaelble/Schmid 2004). As a pre-accession

country that has graduated to the ranks of upper middle-income countries, Turkey is increasingly exposed to Europeanization pressures. Standing between Europe and Asia, Turkey remains at the intersection of the developing world and advanced industrialized countries, and has not conventionally figured in comparative welfare state research which centers on either advanced or developing countries.

The project brings together leading social policy researchers from Germany and Turkey in order to put Turkey on the map of comparative welfare state research, and to broaden the scope of Turkish studies in Germany. The project uses state-of-the-art theories and quantitative as well as qualitative research methods to pursue three

main research goals: 1) It uses descriptive statistics and cluster analysis to locate Turkey's experience in the field of social security in the broader world of welfare states. 2) It employs qualitative content analysis and semi-structured (topic-guided) expert interviews to trace specific social policies and their political and ideological backgrounds in four key areas of social security (social assistance, health, pensions and unemployment). 3) Finally, insights gained from this research will be used to depict the overall shape of the Turkish welfare state and explain its rise. Academically, the case of Turkey will also enrich existing data and refine conceptual tools of comparative welfare state analysis, and add to the more recent global research on middle income countries (for welfare statism beyond its European origins see Gough/Therborn 2010; Gough 2008). In particular, the project inquires whether Turkey is a welfare state in a strict sense.

Outside academia, the project aims to contribute to a better understanding of

**Publication:**

Bölükbaşı, H. Tolga, and Öktem, Kerem Gabriel (2017): Conceptualizing and operationalizing social rights: Towards higher convergent validity in SCIP and CWED. *Journal of European Social Policy*, 095892871770056. doi:10.1177/0958928717700565.

Turkey's society, economy and politics in Germany. There is a dearth of knowledge on Turkey's social policy in German academia and public. Although the country declared itself a welfare state in the 1961 Constitution, and more than a third of all government expenditure is spent on social provisions, such as healthcare and pensions, popular imagination in Germany would not normally associate Turkey with welfare statism. But besides political and civil rights, the state of social rights in Turkey, too, is a crucial factor for the accession process of Turkey to the EU and for German-Turkish relationships. Can Turkey relate to the European family of welfare states and to 'social Europe'?

The project is part of the programme 'Contemporary Turkey Studies. Strengthening research on Turkey in Germany' ('Blickwechsel. Studien zur zeitgenössischen Türkei'), launched and funded by Stiftung Mercator.

[www.blickwechsel-tuerkei.de](http://www.blickwechsel-tuerkei.de)

## **Microdynamics of Political Communication in World Society. The Social Life of the Democracy Concept in Bangladesh and Senegal.**

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### **Funded by:**

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

### **Central Project Coordination:**

Bielefeld University, Faculty of Sociology, Transnationalisation and Development Research Centre, Research Group Social Anthropology

### **German Partner:**

Ruhr-Universität Bochum

### **Principal Investigators:**

Prof. Dr. Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka (Bielefeld)

Prof. Dr. Eva Gerharz (Bochum)

PD Dr. Christian Meyer (Siegen)

### **Members of the Project Team, Bielefeld, Germany:**

Dr. Sandrine Gukelberger (researcher & project coordinator), Bielefeld University

Sambalaye Diop (PhD student), project: “The participating audience: the notion of democracy in the appropriation of media in Senegal”, Bielefeld University

Éva Rozália Hölzle (PhD student), project: “Dynamics of land politics and the hermeneutics of democracy in Bangladesh”, Bielefeld University

Katrin Renschler (research assistant), project: “Challenges of Diversity – Practices of Conviviality in Northeast India”, Ruhr-University Bochum

### **Project Duration:**

2011–2015

### **Project Description:**

The project “Microdynamics of Political Communication in World Society. The Social Life of the Democracy Concept in Bangladesh and Senegal” examines the global spread of the terms democracy/democratization on the basis of their local appropriation. It is assumed that the concept of democracy has penetrated remote regions of the world, where it ex-

periences unexpected enrichment due to specific connotations. Such reinterpretations are negotiated in interactions, characterized by different positioning acts, and in constellations of actors, shaped by asymmetries of power. The main interest of the project is to explore how the global norm of democracy generates local realities through social practices: To what ex-

tent and in which ways are the globally circulating notions of democracy and democratization – for example through development channels – re-interpreted in local contexts, debated, modified, used strategically, appropriated or rejected? To answer these questions, the project fo-

cuses on culturally embedded notions of the “good life”, that is happiness, law and handling violence. The comparative analysis investigates the negotiation processes of the local understanding of democracy and in particular their relevant current domains in both research regions.

**Publications:**

Gerharz, Eva (forthcoming): Conflict, Peace, and Development in the Chittagong Hill Tracts: Indigenous Visions of a Good Life?, Uddin, N. (Ed.): The State against Indigeneity. Peace and Conflict in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Delhi: Orient Blackswan.

Gerharz, Eva (2016): Indigenität, Nationalismus und Benennungspolitiken in Bangladesch. *Psychosozial* 39 (4), 11–26.

Gerharz, Eva (2015): What is in a Name? Indigenous Identity and the Politics of Denial in Bangladesh South Asia Chronicle 4, URL: <http://edoc.hu-berlin.de/suedasien/band-4/115/PDF/115.pdf>.

Gerharz, Eva, and Pfaff-Czarnecka, Joanna (2017): Spaces of Violence in South Asian Democracies. *Asian Journal of Social Sciences* 45 (6), Special Focus.

Gerharz, Eva and Gardner, Katy (Eds.) (2016): Land, Development and Security in South Asia, special issue of *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal (SAMAJ)* (April 2016).

Gukelberger, Sandrine (forthcoming): *Urban politics after Apartheid*. London: Routledge.

Gukelberger, Sandrine (2016): *Contrasting Women’s Activism in Urban Senegal and South Africa: In-Between Autonomy and State Capture*. *Canadian Journal of African Studies/Revue canadienne des études africaines* (submitted).

Gukelberger, Sandrine (2016): *La chercheuse en prise avec les différentes formes de violences sur le terrain au Cap*. In: Perera, Éric and Beldame, Yann (Eds.): *In Situ: situations, interactions et récits d’enquête*, Paris: L’Harmattan.

Gukelberger, Sandrine (2015): Being young in the Rainbow's Nation past: the social generation of the Soweto uprising in 1976. *Ateliers d'anthropologie journal, Revue "Ateliers d'anthropologie"*, Pour une anthropologie critique de la jeunesse en Afrique, (accepted).

Gukelberger, Sandrine (2015): Essay Resilienz und Protestkultur zwischen Beharrung und Innovation, Blog zu Das Paradox der Resilienz, *medico international*.

Meyer, Christian (2015): Grassroots Rhetorics in Times of Scarcity: Debating the 2004 Locust Plague in Northwestern Senegal and the World. In: Harriman, Robert and Cintron, Ralph (Eds.): *Culture, Catastrophe, and Rhetoric. The Texture of Political Action*. New York: Berghahn Books, 194–219.

Meyer, Christian (2015): Mikroethnographie: Praxis und Leib als Medien der Kultur. In: Bender, Cora, and Zillinger, Martin (Eds.) *Handbuch der Medienethnographie*. Berlin: Reimer, 57–76.

Pfaff-Czarnecka, Joanna (2015): Demokratische Designs der In- und Exklusion: Zur Vernakulisierung indigener Rechte in Nepal., In: Hauck, Gerhard, Lenz. Ilse, and Wienold, Hanns (Eds.): *Entwicklung, Gewalt, Gedächtnis*. Münster: Westfälisches Dampfboot, 177–197.

Renschler, Katrin (2015): Processes of boundary (un)making and practices of conviviality in Northeast India., In: Alex, Gabriele, Joshi-Parkin, Vibha, and Wouters, Jelle (Eds.): *Borderlands as a resource*. Tübingen: SFB publication series.

## **Opus Magnum, A Theory of World Politics**

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**Funded by:**

Volkswagen Foundation and Fritz-Thyssen Foundation

**Principal Investigator:**

Mathias Albert

**Project Duration:**

2013–15

**Project Description:**

The aim of the project was to support the production of an ambitious theoretical framework that describes world politics as a specific social system set within the wider political system of world society. Albert's analysis of the historical evolution and contemporary form of world politics takes the theory of social differentiation as its starting point. World politics is a specific, relatively recent form of politics and Albert shows how the development of a distinct system of world politics first be-

gan during the long nineteenth century. The book goes on to identify the different forms of social differentiation that underlie the variety of contemporary forms of organizing political authority in world politics. Employing sociological and historical perspectives, *A Theory of World Politics* also reflects critically on its relation to accounts of world politics in the field of international relations and will appeal to a wide readership in a range of fields.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/a-theory-of-world-politics/05DD4685E1C85FEE57D6214E320862C8>

**Publication:**

Albert, Mathias (2016): *A Theory of World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## **Order in diversity: Practices of comparing in cross-cultural jurisprudence (17th–19th centuries)**

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Project B01 of the Collaborative Research Center 1288 Practices of Comparing. Ordering and changing the world

### **Funded by:**

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

### **Principal Investigators:**

Prof. Dr. Antje Flüchter

Dr. Christina Brauner

### **Doctoral Researchers:**

Andreas Becker

Anna Dönecke

### **Project Duration:**

2017–2020

### **Project Description:**

This project, headed by Antje Flüchter and Christina Brauner, is part of Bielefeld University's Collaborative Research Centre on Practices of Comparison (SFB 1288 "Praktiken des Vergleichens"). It takes up two case studies pursued by two PhD candidates, Anna Dönecke and Andreas Becker. Focusing on jurisprudence in early modern contact zones, we explore the role practices of comparing played in cultural encounters, how such practices were transformed, and how they were appropriated by different actors. When temporary cultural encounters evolve into more permanent contact zones, rules must be established to handle conflicts and enable a working social order of everyday life. In such contexts, the act of comparing plays

a central role – to make the unfamiliar familiar, to create categories in diversity, to draw boundaries but also to question these boundaries and earlier established perceptions. The field of jurisprudence provides illuminating insights into the complex interdependencies between practices of comparing and social dynamics: For instance, it allows to probe into the formation of new groups as they are typical of early modern contact zones, such as religious conversion and mixed marriages. Two PhD-candidates pursue this general set of questions in two in-depth case studies which focus on two different contact zones: Anna Dönecke explores institutions and practices of jurisprudence evolving in the French settlement of Pondichéry in

India. Andreas Becker studies the role of jurisprudence and processes of group formation in the Swedish expansion to Lapland and in the Atlantic World.

The project sets out to tackle the following questions: How did different actors establish a basic comparability of differing norms, institutions and conceptions of justice? Which laws applied to new groups like convertes and descendants of mixed marriages? Did the simultaneous existence of multiple systems of law provide leeway for strategic action such as “forum shopping”? Practices of comparison in these contexts contribute to stabilize an existing order of things but also can help to question established boundaries and foster change.

The project pursues a long-term perspective and also bridges the traditional caesura between the early modern and modern period. This allows us, or so we hope, to reconstruct practices of comparing and notions of (in)comparability and the trans-

formations they underwent in a long-term perspective. Not least, we set out to critically discuss if there is such a thing as a ‘modern’ mode of comparing.

A workshop in September 2017 set out to discuss relevant concepts and “best practice” examples. It brought together scholars both from legal studies and history and from across the periods, also providing a forum for the PhD researchers to discuss first case studies and the general outline of their projects:

<https://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-7552>

There was also a first joint presentation of the project at the 5th workshop on crime and criminal justice in modern history (5. Kolloquium für Kriminalität und Strafjustiz in der Neuzeit), held in Gauting in September 2017, by Antje Flüchter and Andreas

Becker:

<https://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-32723>.

**Publications:**

Brauner, Christina, and Flüchter, Antje (Eds.) (2014): Dimensions of Transcultural Statehood (Comparativ), Leipzig.

Brauner, Christina (2017): Wie die Papisten bei ihrer Meß. Wahrnehmung religiöser Rituale und konfessionelle Polemik im europäischen Diskurs über Westafrika. In: Linnemann, Dorothee, and Meier, Christel (Eds.): Intertheatralität – Die Bühne als Institution und Paradigma der frühneuzeitlichen Gesellschaft. Münster, 207–230.

Flüchter, Antje (2018, in print): Die Nairen der Malabarkaste zwischen Adelsstand und Kriegerkaste. Praktiken des Vergleichens und die europäische Weltaneignung. In: Festschrift für Gita Dharampa-Frick, Heidelberg .

## **Outlawing racial discrimination – Making practices of comparison illegitimate**

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Project B06 of the Collaborative Research Center 1288 Practices of Comparing. Ordering and changing the world

**Funded by:**

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

**Principal Investigator:**

Prof. Dr. Ulrike Davy;

**Doctoral Researcher:**

RA'in Malika Mansouri

**Project Duration:**

2017–2020

**Project Description:**

In December 1965, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. When the process of decolonization was at its height, human rights law moved to delegitimize practices of comparison that were deeply rooted in what is called European modernity or the European expansion. We assume that racial discrimination – outlawed by the convention – is intrinsically linked to practices of comparing, in particular comparisons that mark a difference implying less worth and backwardness. Therefore, we investigate: Was there, in the run-up to the convention, a phase where certain practices of comparing came under critique and became unacceptable? We also assume that the convention, by prohibiting racial discrimination, indeed aims to undercut certain

practices of comparing for the time to come. If so, what are the practices of comparing that are meant to be eliminated, because they constitute racial discrimination? Finally, we investigate the methods the committee (established under the convention) takes resort to when it seeks to identify whether or not an act of racial discrimination has occurred in the particular setting of a case. We assume that the committee, when assessing the facts of a case, needs to rely on comparisons and that, when doing so, the committee creates practices of comparing of its own kind. Hence, we shall face two different sets of practices of comparing. For one, practices that ought not be. For another, practices that are necessary to identify the practices that ought not be. The former will help us clarify and structure the notion of racial discrimination, the latter will

contribute to theorizing judicial review in discrimination cases. In a historical perspective, we will give an account on the

rise of a global standard that links post-colonial thinking with the human rights discourse.

**Publications:**

Davy, Ulrike (2018): Refugee Crisis in Germany and the Right to a Subsistence Minimum: Differences that ought not be. In: Georgia Journal for International and Comparative Law (accepted for print).

Davy, Ulrike (2018): Sozialleistungen für Nicht-Deutsche: Zugang durch globale Gleichheitsrechte, in: Christian Rolfs (Hg.), Migration und Sozialstaat. Schriftenreihe des Deutschen Sozialrechtsverbandes (in print).

**Polar (Geo-)Politics: How does Global Environmental Change (GEC) cause a transformation of political relationships between and within the circumpolar Argentina, Canada, Chile and the U.S.?**

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**Funded by:**

Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung

**Project Coordinator:**

Prof. Dr. Mathias Albert

**Doctoral Researcher:**

Dorothea Wehrmann

**Project Description:**

Environmental change caused by continuing global warming and the melting of sea ice has precipitated growing political interest on the part of various state and non-state stakeholders in the polar regions. With new access to formerly ice-covered areas, economic opportunities (particularly the prospect of resource extraction and the use of new seaways) have arisen. This has put policy makers in a double bind: While, on the one hand, collective measures are needed to protect the environment; on the other hand, the exploitation of valuable and limited resources serves national economic interests.

Against this background the research project deals with the question of whether this political challenge is leading to more cooperation between pivotal political actors in the Arctic and in the Antarctic region or supports the return to and/or development of stronger national “Polar identities” in four selected countries.

In a first step, the main political actors involved in polar politics will be identified. Due to their geographic proximity to both regions, the project focuses on actors from Argentina, Chile, Canada, and the USA that are particularly affected by the impact of global warming and on developments in the Arctic and the Antarctic. In a next step follows the examination of their positions as explicated in official documents (laws, strategy and policy papers, campaigns). The comparison of their diverse national interests (also considering assumed legitimations) will reveal if political actors are envisaging cooperation in the polar regions or not. Moreover, comments on far-reaching governmental decisions by important national print media will be examined in order to, first, clarify the perception of polar politics in the media and, second, to compare how specific mental images are used by political actors and the media with regard to polar politics.

**Publications:**

Albert, Mathias, and Vasilache, Andreas (2018) Governmentality of the Arctic as an International Region. *Cooperation & Conflict* 53 (1), 3–22.

Albert, Mathias (2015): The polar regions in the system of world politics: social differentiation and securitization. *Geographische Zeitschrift* 103 (4), 217–230.

Albert, Mathias, and Wehrmann, Dorothea (2017): Zwischen Kooperation und Konflikt, zwischen Zentralität und Marginalität: Die Arktis im Spiegel politikwissenschaftlicher Forschung. Schriftenreihe Geoinformationsdienst der Bundeswehr/Jahresheft Geopolitik 2, 15–24.

Albert, Mathias, and Wehrmann, Dorothea (2015): Polarpolitik. Ein Bericht zur politikwissenschaftlichen Arktis- und Antarktisliteratur. *Neue Politische Literatur* 60 (1), 63–89.

Wehrmann, Dorothea (2017): Non-State Actors in Arctic Council Governance. In: Keil, Kathrin, and Knecht, Sebastian (Eds.): *Governing Arctic Change: Global Perspectives*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 187–206.

Wehrmann, Dorothea (2016): Shaping changing circumpolar agendas: The identification and significance of ‘emerging issues’ addressed in the Arctic Council. *Arctic Yearbook*, 109–121.

Wehrmann, Dorothea (2016): The Polar Regions as Barometers in the Anthropocene: Towards a New Significance of Non-State Actors in International Cooperation? *The Polar Journal* 6(2), 379–397.

## **Social Security as a Human Right. The Global Construction and Diffusion of Civic Minima (FLOOR = Financial Assistance, Land Policy, and Global Social Rights)**

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### **Funded by:**

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

### **Principal Investigators:**

Prof. Lutz Leisering PhD (Bielefeld University)

Prof. Dr. Benjamin Davy (Dortmund University of Technology)

Prof. Dr. Ulrike Davy (Bielefeld University)

### **Project Team:**

- Moritz von Gliszczynski
- Michael Leutelt
- Katrin Weible
- John Berten
- Tobias Böger
- Anne Casprig
- Michael Kolocek
- Luise Buschmann
- Nina-Claire Himpe
- Aylin Alexandra von Radzwieski
- Jens Hanschmidt
- Tao Liu
- Tim Vitic

### **Project Duration:**

2010–2015

### **Project Description:**

Towards global social citizenship? The research group FLOOR aims to advance the new field of research 'Global Social Policy' in theoretical, empirical and methodological terms from an interdisciplinary perspective, encompassing sociology, land policy studies, and law. The group comprises three research projects:

- a project on social cash transfers, directed by Prof. Lutz Leisering PhD, Institute for World Society Studies and Faculty of Sociology, Bielefeld University;

- a project on socio-ecological land policy, directed by Prof. Dr. Benjamin Davy, School of Spatial Planning, Dortmund University of Technology; and
- a project on global social (human) rights, directed by Prof. Dr. Ulrike Davy, Institute for World Society Studies and Faculty of Law, Bielefeld University.

Additionally, FLOOR is associated with a cooperation group funded by the Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung (ZiF) in Bielefeld (April through June 2011).

The FLOOR group starts from the assumption that social policy and, even more, ‘welfare state’ are concepts which originated in European nation states, expressing a formal responsibility of governments for individual welfare. Can we expect that social policy in this sense will also emerge in the global arena, even in the face of cultural diversity, economic globalization and the absence of a world state? We enquire into the rise of global social policy: What does ‘global social policy’ mean? What is ‘global’ and what is ‘social’ in global social policy? For our study we choose social security as a key field of social policy, especially basic social security which is a test case because it represents the moral minimum in social welfare (‘social floor’): Is there a global social minimum? We assume that three forms of basic social security have gained importance in world politics in recent years but are under researched and normally not analyzed together: social rights in a human rights context; social cash trans-

fers; and socio-ecological land policy which aims to secure access to vital land use by individuals.

The overarching question is whether the move towards a global social floor in these three dimensions can be seen as a step towards global social citizenship. Regarding the more modest goal of fighting poverty, social cash transfers are often associated with the hope to reduce poverty in the short term, thus contributing to the Millennium Development Goal of halving global poverty till 2015. Land rights are a sensitive issue in global discourses because they involve territorial sovereignty and the distribution of wealth. Still, the Millennium Development Goal 7.11 aims at tenure security when it demands that, by 2020, a ‘significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, as proposed in the “Cities without slums” initiative’ be achieved. Social (human) rights are perceived as conceptual framework for combating global poverty.

### **Publications:**

Berten, John (2017): Evaluation and simulation: Producing evidence in the global politics of social cash transfers. In: Littoz-Monnet, Annabelle (Ed.): The politics of expertise in international organizations. How international bureaucracies produce and mobilize knowledge. New York: Routledge, 148–166.

John Berten, and Leisering, Lutz (2017): Social policy by numbers. How international organisations construct global policy proposals. *International Journal of Social Welfare* 26, 151–167.

Böger, Tobias, and Leisering, Lutz (2017): Social citizenship for older persons? Measuring the social quality of social pensions in the global south and explaining their spread. *Social Citizens Discussion paper no. 1703*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.

Davy, Benjamin (2017): Human dignity and property in land – A human rights approach. In: Pellissery, Sony, Davy, Benjamin Jacobs, Harvey (Eds.): *Land policies in India. Promises, practices and challenges*. Singapore: Springer Nature:, 1–33.

Davy, Benjamin, Pellissery, Sony, and Jacobs, Harvey (Eds.) (2017): *Land policies in India. Promises, practices and challenges*. Singapore: Springer Nature:.

Davy, Benjamin (guest ed.) (2014): Raumplanung und die Politik der Würde. In: Blaas, Wolfgang, Bröthaler, Johann, Getzner, Michael, and Gutheil-Knopp-Kirchwald, Gerlinde (Eds.): *Perspektiven der staatlichen Aufgabenerfüllung. Zwischen budgetärer Knappheit und integrativem Anspruch. Für Wilfried Schönböck zum 70. Geburtstag*. Wien: Verlag Österreich, 51–76.

Davy, Benjamin (2014): Spatial planning and human rights. *Special Issue of Planning Theory* 13 (4) (with chapters by Stig Enemark, Line Hvingel, Daniel Galland, Jeannie van Wyk, Mark Oranje, Rodrigo Meneses-Reyes, José A Caballero-Juárez, Libby Porter, Nurit Alfasi, Tovi Fenster, Margot Strauss, Sandra Liebenberg).

Davy, Ulrike (2015): Der “ Universalismus“ der Allgemeinen Erklärung der Menschenrechte – die Arbeit am Konsens, 1946–1948. In: Heintz, Bettina, and Leisering, Britta (ed.): *Menschenrechte in der Weltgesellschaft. Deutungswandel und Wirkungsweise eines globalen Leitwertes*, Frankfurt am Main: Campus Verlag, 198–235.

Gliszczynski, Moritz von (2017): Social protection and basic income in global policy. *Global Social Policy* 17(1), 98–100.

Gliszczynski, Moritz von and Leisering, Lutz (2016): Constructing new global models of social security. How international organizations defined the field of social cash transfers in the 2000s. *Journal of Social Policy* 45 (2), 325–343.

Gliszczynski, Moritz von (2015): *Cash transfers and basic social protection. Towards a development revolution?* Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Kolocek, Michael (2017): *The Human Right to Housing in the Face of Land Policy and Social Citizenship. A Global Discourse Analysis.* Basingstoke & New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Kolocek, Michael (2015): *Das Menschenrecht auf Wohnen. Interpretationen im globalen Kontext.* *RaumPlanung* 182, 10–15.

Kolocek, Michael (2014): *The Human Right to Housing: Using ATLAS.ti to Combine Qualitative and Quantitative Methods to Analyse Global Discourses.* In: Friese, Susanne, and Ringmayr, Thomas (Eds.): *ATLAS.ti User Conference 2013: Fostering Dialog on Qualitative Methods.* Berlin: Universitätsverlag der TU Berlin.

Lutz Leisering, Liu, Tao, and ten Brink, Tobias (2017): *Synthesizing Disparate Ideas: How a Chinese Model of Social Assistance Was Forged.* *Global Social Policy* 17(3), 307–27.

Leisering, Lutz, Davy, Benjamin, and Davy, Ulrike (2015): *The politics of recognition: Changing understandings of human rights, social development and land rights as normative foundation of global social policy.* In: Lachenmann, Frauke, Röder, Tilmann J., and Wolfrum, Rüdiger (Eds): *Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law* 18, 565–600.

Liu, Tao, and Sun, Li (2016): *Pension Reform in China.* *Journal of Aging & Social Policy* 28 (1), 15–28.

Liu, Tao, and Sun, Li (2016): *Urban Social Assistance in China: Transnational Diffusion and National Interpretation.* *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* 45(2), 29–51.

Weible, Katrin (2016): *What social cash transfer programmes do not do in middle income countries: Identifying entitlement gaps in basic social protection.* *UN Reflection Series 2016: Development cooperation, policy advice and middle income countries* (ed. by UN System Staff College & Hertie School of Governance). Berlin, 173–192.

## **UNRISD New Directions in Social Policy: Transnational Social Policy Development: The Case of Indonesia**

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### **Principal Investigators:**

Alexandra Kaasch

Mulyadi Sumarto

Brooke Wilmsen

### **Project Duration:**

2013–2016

### **Project Description:**

The scope, depth, intensity, and impact of globalization is able to shape domestic social policy, with global social policy discourses becoming increasingly influential at the national level. Indonesia's recent social policy developments exhibit such transnational dimensions in their formulation. The country case study will ask: which global and local social policy actors, institutions and processes significantly impact on Indonesia's emerging social policy making? What is the interplay between them? How do domestic institu-

tions and actors mediate global factors in the process of social policy development?

The Indonesia case study for the UNRISD project "New Directions in Social Policy: Alternatives from and for the Global South" investigates the political economy and policy dynamics at three levels: national, international and the international-national nexus.

[http://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/projects.nsf/\(httpProjects\)/90DF08CBF2417CB9C1257E120037182E?OpenDocument&category=Country+Studies](http://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/projects.nsf/(httpProjects)/90DF08CBF2417CB9C1257E120037182E?OpenDocument&category=Country+Studies)

### **Publication:**

Wilmsen, Brooke, Kaasch, Alexandra and Sumarto, Mulyadi (2017). The Development of Indonesian Social Policy in the Context of Overseas Development Aid. UNRISD Working Paper 2017–5,

[http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/httpNetITFramePDF?ReadForm&parentunid=0DD036BC1CA5281AC12580F1004DFADB&parentdoctype=paper&netitpath=80256B3C005BCF9/%28httpAuxPages%29/0DD036BC1CA5281AC12580F1004DFADB/\\$file/Wilmsen.pdf](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/httpNetITFramePDF?ReadForm&parentunid=0DD036BC1CA5281AC12580F1004DFADB&parentdoctype=paper&netitpath=80256B3C005BCF9/%28httpAuxPages%29/0DD036BC1CA5281AC12580F1004DFADB/$file/Wilmsen.pdf)

## Research Training Group (RTG 2225/1)

### “World politics: The emergence of political arenas and modes of observation in world society”

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#### Funded by:

German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG))

#### Funding period:

01 October 2017–31 March 2022

#### Principal investigators:

- Prof. Dr. Mathias Albert (Speaker)
- Prof. Dr. Ulrike Davy
- Prof. Dr. Angelika Epple
- Prof. Dr. Thomas Faist
- Prof. Dr. Boris Holzer  
(Associated PI)
- Prof. Dr. Alexandra Kaasch  
(Deputy Speaker)
- PD Dr. Martin Koch
- Dr. George Lawson (Associated PI)
- Prof. Dr. Franz Mayer
- Prof. Dr. Detlef Sack
- Prof. Dr. Willibald Steinmetz
- Prof. Dr. Andreas Vasilache
- Prof. Dr. Tobias Werron  
(Deputy Speaker)

#### Project Description:

The Research Training Group (RTG) deals with the emergence of world politics as a specific type of politics. With a pronouncedly research-oriented, interdisciplinary, and international profile, it investigates the pathways that have led to the establishment of world politics as a specific form of politics not somehow resulting from the modern form of the (nation) state, but concurrent with it as well as with the principle of sovereign equality. Using a world society perspective, the RTG inquires how the emergence of world politics has been (and still is) both a corollary

of and a precondition for the constitution of modern states. In two main lines of research – ‘modes of organization’ and ‘modes of observation’ – it will seek to provide high-quality research output not only within the main participating disciplines (IR/political science, sociology, history, law), but particularly also at the interstices of these disciplines. Through its research program and its institutional affiliations, the RTG seeks to promote a dialogue between the fields and approaches of International Relations, international political sociology, global history, and legal

studies in relation to world society approaches. The main goal of the qualification program is to introduce doctoral researchers as quickly and intensively as possible to the working practices of academic research. The idea is that the best research training for doctoral researchers is to pursue their project in a dense research environment with structured support and feedback from both peers and more senior scholars. In addition to a specific study program, the RTG devises a range of instruments that ensure not only

optimal feedback, but also stimulate the development of profiles and visibility that enhance future career prospects. English is the working language, as one additional main goal of the RTG is to increase the international orientation particularly of doctoral researchers. Thus, the proposed RTG fits into the overall goal of broad internationalization adopted by Bielefeld University. In terms of research, it builds on, and seeks to strengthen, the tradition of world society research in Bielefeld.

## Post-doctoral researcher

Dr. James Stafford

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**Post-doctoral project:** Commercial Treaties Between “Political Economy” and “International Law”, 1750–1950

## Doctoral researchers

Anatoly Boyashov

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**Doctoral project:** Actors in Establishment of Global Human Rights Networks Within International Organisations: Case Study of the United Nations Human Rights Council

Aziz Elmuradov

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**Doctoral project:** Competing Narratives of Europe in Russian Foreign Policy: In Search of Identity or Policy?

Sandra Holtgreve

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**Doctoral project:** Coloniality in the Global South and North. An Analysis of Social Work Education in Germany, Mexico and Ecuador

Marc Jacobsen

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**Doctoral project:** Antisemitism in the World Society: Globalization and the Transformation of Jew Hatred

Madeleine Myatt

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**Doctoral project:** Cybersecurity a Shared Responsibility? The Role, Implementation and Strategic Promotion of Cooperative Partnerships with the Cybersecurity Industry

Johannes Nagel

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**Doctoral project:** The US Military during the Global Transformation, 1865–1905

Karlson Preuß

---

**Doctoral project:** The Unwritten Constitution as an Intersection between Global Law and World Politics

Daniela Russ

---

**Doctoral project:** Energy as a Mode of Observation in World Politics

Yasin Sunca

---

**Doctoral project:** Building Political Space at the Intersection of Global Structures and Social Change: The International Relations of the Kurdish Movement in Upper Mesopotamia

Gladys Vásquez

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**Doctoral project:** The Creation of American Regional Integration and the Origination of the Inter-American System after Independence. The Congress of Panama (1826) and the American Congress of Lima (1847)

## Events

### 2017

Boundary Processes in World Society

Workshop

20.-21.04.2017, Bielefeld

Organisation: Kirsten Kramer/Oliver Flügel-Martinsen/Andreas Vasilache

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Regulierung in der Weltgesellschaft

Workshop

5.5.2017, Bielefeld

Organisation: Alexandra Kaasch/Detlef Sack

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Interaktion, Organisation und (Welt-)Gesellschaft -Soziologische und literarische  
Beobachtungen.

Tagung

11.-13.05.2017, Luzern

Organisation: Hannah Bennani/Martin Bühler/Sophia Cramer/Andrea Glauser

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Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory

Autorenworkshop mit Julian Go (Boston University)

19.07.2017, Bielefeld

Organisation: Simon Hecke/Sebastian Lemme

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Klausurtagung des IW

14./15.12.2017, Bad Salzuflen

### 2016

Migrationen und Grenzprozesse

Workshop

29.01.2016, Bielefeld

Organisation: Margit Fauser/Anne Friedrichs/Levke Harders

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Managing Migration

Workshop

10./11.03.2016, Ottawa

Organisation: Martin Koch/Martin Geiger

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Student Mobilities and Mobilizations in South Asia: Global Challenges – Local Action

Workshop

16.-18.06.2016, Bielefeld

Organisation: Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka

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Ordnen und Regieren in der Weltgesellschaft

Workshop

06./07.07.2016, Frankfurt a.M.

Organisation: Mathias Albert

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Global Social Policy: Theory meets Practice

Workshop

18.-20.07.2016, Bielefeld

Organisation: Alexandra Kaasch

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Klausurtagung des IW

15./16.12.2016, Bad Salzuflen

**2015**

Zur Kommunikation durch Zahlen. Vergleichsdynamiken der modernen Gesellschaft

Workshop

23./24.01.2015, Bielefeld, BGHS

Organisation: Vera Linke/Paul Buckermann

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Social policies in Brazil, India, China and South Africa

Tagung

23.-25.11.2015, Bielefeld

Organisation: Ulrike Davy/ Lutz Leisering/ Benjamin Davy (gemeinsam mit dem ZiF)

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Klausurtagung des IW

03./04.12.2015, Bad Salzuflen

## Lecture Series

### Winter term 2017/2018

Heidi Tworek (Vancouver)

“Lies are the Law of the World!” News and Global Media Networks in the Twentieth Century

George Lawson (London)

“Global Historical Sociology”

### Summer term 2017

Paul Stubbs (Zagreb)

Post- or Neo-Colonialism? Socialist Yugoslavia, The Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations

Martin Geiger (Ottawa)

Weltorganisationen in der Migrationspolitik

Julian Go (Boston)

Postcolonial Thought, Field Theory, and Global Transformation: the End of Empires in the 20th Century

### Winter term 2016/2017

Antje Flüchter (Bielefeld)

Indien im ‘Warteraum der Geschichte’? Wie der Westen zur Zukunft der Welt wurde

Jens Bartelson (Lund)

From the International to the Global?

Peter Haldén (Stockholm)

New polities in the shadow of the World Society: No longer state-formation

### Summer term 2016

Siri Hettige (Colombo)

Structural Impediments for Decent Work and Social Mobility in a Global Context: the case of Sri Lanka

Gabriele Köhler (München)

70 Jahre Entwicklungspolitik und die ‘drei Uns’

Edward Keene (Oxford)

Stratificatory differentiation and the historical origins of modern world society

Eckart Conze (Marburg)

Jenseits von Präsentismus und Globalismus. Überlegungen zu einer Zeitgeschichte internationaler Beziehungen

**Winter term 2015/2016**

Stephan Stetter (München)

Spectre Ante Portas: Stand und Perspektiven der sozialwissenschaftlichen Bondforschung

Ellen Ehmke (Kassel)

Welfare and social policy in the global south – Insights from India

Hauke Brunkhorst (Flensburg)

Rechtsrevolutionen – Der Anteil von Recht und Revolution an der Evolution der Weltgesellschaft

Andrea Liese (Potsdam)

Wer hat das Sagen? Zur Expertenautorität internationaler Organisationen

**Summer term 2015**

Paul Stubbs (Zagreb)

Thinking 'social policy otherwise': translation, assemblage and variegation

Ellen Ehmke (Kassel)

Welfare and social policy in the global south – Insights from India

Andrea Liese (Potsdam)

Wer hat das Sagen? Zur Expertenautorität internationaler Organisationen

**Winter term 2014/2015**

Thorsten Bonacker (Marburg)

Reproduktive Gesundheit als umkämpftes institutionelles Feld der Weltgesellschaft

Eveline Dürr (München)

Globalisierte Dimensionen von Abfall in Umwelt und Gesellschaft

Rudolf Stichweh (Bonn)

Demokratie und Autoritarismus als globale politische Modelle. Zu einer soziologischen Theorie politischer Regimes

Alexandra Kaasch (Bielefeld)

Protecting Domestic Workers: Emergence and Implementation of Global Social Policy

## Publications

Albert, Mathias (2017): Beyond integration and differentiation? The Holy See and the Pope in the system of world politics. *Review of Faith and International Affairs* 15 (4), 21–30.

Albert, Mathias (2016): *A Theory of World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Albert, Mathias (2016): Theoretischer Quantensprung oder ein Quäntchen IB? Alexander Wendt's '*Quantum Mind and Social Science*'. *Zeitschrift für Internationale Beziehungen* 23 (2), 177–189.

Albert, Mathias (2015): The polar regions in the system of world politics: social differentiation and securitization. *Geographische Zeitschrift* 103 (4), 217–230.

Albert, Mathias (2015): Neu bleibt alt: Außenpolitik, Weltpolitik und das 'Gleichgewicht der Mächte'. *Zeitschrift für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik* 8 (1), 25–34.

Albert, Mathias, and Buzan, Barry (2017): On the subject matter of International Relations. *Review of International Studies*. 43 (5), 898–917.

Albert, Mathias, Deitelhoff, Nicole, and Hellmann, Gunther (Eds.) (2018): *Ordnung und Regieren in der Weltgesellschaft*. Berlin: VS Springer.

Albert, Mathias, Eppert, Kerstin, and Sienknecht, Mitja (2017): The discursive construction of conflict and international organizational decision-making processes between normative frameworks of peacebuilding and securitization – the case of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI), (in German). *DSF Forschungsberichte* no. 41.

Albert, Mathias, and Gensicke, Thomas (2015): Die Welt und Deutschland – Deutschland und die Welt. In: *Jugend 2015*. 17. Shell Jugendstudie. Konzeptualisierung und Koordination: Mathias Albert, Klaus Hurrelmann und Gudrun Quenzel in Zusammenarbeit mit TNS Infratest Sozialforschung. Frankfurt a.M.: Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, 201–235.

Albert, Mathias, and Lapid, Yosef (2016): IBO, IPS and SIP: Engaging the Sociologies of International Relations. In: Basaran, Tugba, Bigo, Didier, Guittet, Emmanuel-Pierre, and Walker, RBJ (Eds.): *International Political Sociology. Transversal Lines*. London: Routledge, 68-80.

Albert, Mathias, and Mahlert, Bettina (2017): *Weltgesellschaft und Kommunikation: Zur Systemtheorie internationaler Beziehungen*. *Zeitschrift für Internationale Beziehungen* 24 (1), 10–36.

Albert, Mathias, and Müller, Thomas (2016): Die Englische Schule in den Internationalen Beziehungen. In: Masala, Carlo, Sauer, Frank, and Wilhelm, Andreas (Eds.): *Handbuch der Internationalen Politik*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS, 51-74.

Albert, Mathias, and Stetter, Stephan (2016, forthcoming): Regional Variations of and Regional Variations within Functional Differentiation – the Middle East and World Society. In: Stichweh, Rudolf, and Hayoz, Nicolas (Eds.): Variants of Differentiation in the Regions of World Society, Special Issue of *Soziale Systeme*. Stuttgart: Lucius and Lucius.

Albert, Mathias, and Stetter, Stephan (2015): Actorhood in World Politics: The Dialects of Agency/Structure within the World Polity. In: Hellmann, Gunther, and Jørgensen, Knud-Erik (Eds.): *Theorizing Foreign Policy in a Globalized World*. London: Palgrave, 18–100.

Albert, Mathias, and Stetter, Stephan (2015): Embedding Regional Integration in the Fabric of a Differentiated World Society and a Differentiated World Political System. In: Holzer, Boris, Kastner, Fatima, and Werron Tobias (Eds.): *From Globalization to World Society: Comparing Neo-Institutional and Systems Theoretical Perspectives*. London: Routledge, 61–82.

Albert, Mathias, and Vasilache, Andreas (2018): Governmentality of the Arctic as an International Region. *Cooperation & Conflict*. Vol. 53, Issue 1, 3-22 (online first: DOI: 10.1177/001083671770367).

Albert, Mathias, and Wehrmann, Dorothea (2015): Polarpolitik. Ein Bericht zur politikwissenschaftlichen Arktis- und Antarktisliteratur. *Neue politische Literatur* 60 (1), 63–89.

Berten, John, and Leisering, Lutz (2017): Social policy by numbers. How international organisations construct global policy proposals. *International Journal of Social Welfare* 26, 151–167.

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Davy, Ulrike (2015): Für Drittstaatsangehörige weniger Gleichheit? Zum eingeschränkten Zugang zu sozialen Rechten für langfristig Aufenthaltsberechtigte im Unionsrecht. In: Devetzi, Stamatia, and Janda, Constanze (Eds.): *Freiheit? Gerechtigkeit? Sozial(es) Recht*. Festschrift Eberhard Eichenhofer. Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, 122–144.

Eppert, Kerstin, Sienknecht, Mitja, and Albert, Mathias (2015): UN-Missionen als Strukturen internationaler Interventionen. Organisationale Autonomisierungsprozesse aus weltgesellschaftstheoretischer Perspektive. In: da Conceição-Heldt, Eugénia, Koch, Martin, and Liese, Andrea (Eds.): *Internationale Organisationen: Autonomie, Politisierung, interorganisationale Beziehungen und Wandel*. *Politische Vierteljahrsschrift, Special Issue* 49, 81–104.

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- and Lengwiler, Martin (Eds.): Ränder der Moderne. Neue Perspektiven auf die Europäische Geschichte (1800–1930). Köln: Böhlau-Verlag, 65–91.
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- Epple, Angelika, and Erhart, Walter (Eds.) (2015): Die Welt beobachten. Praktiken des Vergleichens. Frankfurt am Main/New York: Campus Verlag.
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- Gliszczynski, Moritz von, and Leisering, Lutz (2016): The Politics of Recognition: Changing Understandings of Human Rights, Social Development and Land Rights as Normative Foundation of Global Social Policy. *Journal of Social Policy* 45 (2), 325–343.
- Heintz, Bettina (2015): Die Unverzichtbarkeit von Anwesenheit. Weltgesellschaft und Interaktion. In: Heintz, Bettina, and Tyrell, Hartmann (Eds.): Interaktion – Organisation – Gesellschaft. Sonderband Zeitschrift für Soziologie. Stuttgart: Lucius & Lucius.
- Heintz, Bettina, and Leisering, Britta (Eds.) (2015): Menschenrechte in der Weltgesellschaft. Deutungswandel und Wirkungsweise eines globalen Leitwerts. Frankfurt am Main: Campus Verlag.
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Werron, Tobias (2017, forthcoming): Global Publics as Catalysts of Global Competition. In: Huber, Valeska, and Osterhammel, Jürgen (Eds.): The Global Public and Its Limits. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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Werron, Tobias, Kastner, Fatima, and Holzer, Boris (2015): Introduction: From Globalization to World Society. In: Holzer, Boris, Kastner, Fatima, and Werron, Tobias (Eds.): From Globalization to World Society: Neo-Institutional and Systems-Theoretical Perspectives. London/ New York: Routledge, 1–19.

