
Fourth-year Students' Conference

Research Design across Disciplines

February 8, 2019

Full Program

The courses “Research Design” and “Environmental Controversies” are aimed at fourth-year students who, in their final year of LAS studies, should refine their academic skills and intensify contact with academic research, before embarking on writing the Bachelor thesis, applying for Master programs or preparing for the next carrier moves. The main purposes of the course are to expose students to current research and to the expectations to independent and collaborative research in different disciplines, to refresh and deepen the fundamental academic skills, and to let the students develop self-management skills enabling them to take on long and complex projects, such as the Bachelor thesis.

Academic Program

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Timetable Overview

08:15-09:40	Panel 1: KG 1023 Climate and Technology	Panel 2: KG 1032 Values	
08:30-08:45	Introductory presentation by Amelie Müller, Nir Reshef, Alina Bätz, Jennifer-Justine Kirsch, Flavia Bernabo	Introductory Presentation by Naomi Mansour, Dara Shiko Channa, Michaela Mense, Nina Voessing, Linda Thiemann	
08:45-09:10	Individual presentations of 5 minutes by all 5 participants	Individual presentations of 5 minutes by all 5 participants	
09:10-09:40	Discussion	Discussion	
<i>Discussant</i>	Charlotte Weinreich	Dorothee Gangnus	
9:40-9:55 Break			
09:55-10:50	Panel 3: KG 1023 Environmental Justice	Panel 3: KG1032 Fast Fashion	
09:55-10:10	Introductory presentation by Franziska Pfad, Nora Ederer, Jeremy France Fon Sing, Julia Karch	Introductory Presentation by Teodora Stojanovic, Alisa Boycheva, Charlotte Weinreich, Christiane Greif	
10:10-10:30	Individual presentations of 5 minutes by all 5 participants	Individual presentations of 5 minutes by all 4 participants	
10:30-10:50	Discussion	Discussion	
<i>Discussant</i>	Nicolas Eschenbruch	Cosima Klatte	
10:50-11:10 Break			
10:10-12:00	Panel 5: Room 1023 Gold Mining	Panel 6: KG 1032 Food and Health	
11:10-11:25	Introductory presentation by Mariah Sampson, Astrid Anquetin, Marius Merkle	Introductory presentation by Dorothee Gangnus, Anna Wagner, Antonella Diller	
11:25-11:40	Individual presentations of 5 minutes by all 5 participants	Individual Presentations by all 3 participants	
11:40-12:00	Discussion	Discussion	
<i>Discussant</i>	Amelie Müller	Christiane Greif	
12:00-12:30 Lunch Break			
13:30-15:10	Panel 7: KG 1139 Migration and Minority Protection	Panel 8: KG 1132 Security of Basic Needs: Energy, Income, Food	Panel 9: Peterhof Room 3 Political Criticism
13:30-13:50	Hanar Hupka	Simon Büttner	Frederick Mangels
13:50-14:10	Nicolas Koch	Jannis Niethammer	Karl Justus Heinlein
14:10-14:30	Alexandra Sachariew	Nicolas Eschenbruch	Leonard Geisler
14:30-14:50	Alina Czyzewski	Miranda Lee	Katharina Pfeffer
14:50-15:10	Rosa-Lena Lange	Rebecca Renz	Jannik Schulz
<i>Discussant</i>	Linda Thieman	Julius Nebel	Paul Weber
15:10-15:40 Break			
15:40-17:00	Panel 10: KG 1139 Feminism and Gender	Panel 11: KG 1132 Colonialism and Warfare	Panel 12: Peterhof Room 3 Cultural Controversies
15:40-16:00	Katarzyna Schwartz	Clara Berger	Saliha Soylu
16:00-16:20	Julius Nebel	Paul Weber	Nermine Abbassi
16:20-16:40	Felicitas Huck	Alan Sargent	Alberto Cantizani-Lopez
16:40-17:00	Nathalie Kornet	Cosima Klatte	Leonie Hirschmann
<i>Discussant</i>	Nicolas Koch	Jannis Niethammer	Franziska Pfab
17:00-17:20 Break			
Plenary Session and Conference Conclusion (KG 3042) 17:20-18:20			

Panel 1: Climate and Technology

KG 1023

- Impact of indirect land-use change (iLUC) as a system boundary on the results of life cycle assessments (LCA) for the first-generation biofuels corn and sugarcane ethanol

AMELIE MÜLLER

🕒 08:45-08:50

The production of biofuels is promoted because replacing fossil fuels with biofuels is assumed to lead to less GHG emissions. This environmental benefit of biofuels has been debated frequently in literature. Life-cycle assessments (LCA) are a good tool to evaluate biofuels. LCAs evaluate the environmental impacts throughout a product's life cycle, e.g. from raw material acquisition, via production and use phases, to waste management. System boundaries must be carefully drawn for LCAs, offering a manageable scope for the analysis while ensuring that all relevant impacts throughout the life cycle are covered. This inclusion or exclusion of processes can have significant impacts on LCAs. Excluding significant emission sources can result in underestimation of emissions. For LCAs on biofuels, direct and indirect land-use change (LUC) are critical upstream system boundaries. Recent LCAs on biofuels that also consider indirect land-use change (iLUC) show a potentially higher environmental impact of biofuels compared to fossil fuels. Hence, the inclusion of iLUC might affect the results of biofuel LCAs considerably.

Based on a review of published articles, this paper discusses the implications of the specific upstream system boundary of direct and indirect LUC for LCAs in the biofuel sector. The scope is limited to the first-generation biofuels corn and sugarcane ethanol. The literature screening, containing a minimum of 20 LCAs on corn and sugarcane ethanol published in the last 15 years, compares how the inclusion of iLUC influences the environmental performance of the biofuel. Preliminary results point to a lack of methodological standards concerning the inclusion of iLUC and limited comparability between studies. Studies including iLUC tend to assign a higher environmental burden to biofuels, even resulting in potentially higher GHG emissions than fossil fuels. While a high degree of variability in results and many unresolved issues in biofuel LCA methodology remain, the potential environmental harm of biofuels needs to be addressed in policy making.

- WHAT'S UNDER THE HOOD? BLACKBOXING THE ELECTRIC CAR WHY THE ELECTRIC CAR IS FRAMED AS A SOLUTION FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION DESPITE AN OBSCURE FUTURE?

NIR RESHEF

🕒 08:50-08:55

Are we driving towards a brave new world? The Electric-Vehicle (EV) is often framed as the silver bullet for green transportation and as a necessary stepping stone towards a sustainable economy. Nevertheless, it is yet unclear what might be the global implications (environmental, social, economic) of a universal transition to Electric-Mobility (EM). Among other issues, finite resources, impacts on power grids and threats on vulnerable populations, might prove that the strong push for EM is more obscure at a second look. The last decades saw advances in energy storage technology (namely, Lithium Ion Batteries (LIB)) which made EM more feasible than ever before leading to a vast growth in the sector. Major corporations are well aware of this trend. Many car companies are investing extensively in research, production and marketing of EVs. Governments across the world are passing policies to facilitate this transition and openly encourage it with subsidies and appropriate infrastructure. Unsurprisingly, the steady increase in EV sales is expected to grow as the technology becomes more affordable and the public is becoming environmentally friendly. Seemingly, the Electric-Car can be treated as a Black Box in the making (Latour), in other words, an apparatus that takes an input [climate change] and produce an output [sustainable transportation] as seen in Figure 1. This study suggests an analysis through a social lens since separate actors intersect to produce the phenomena above - Blackboxing of the Electric Car. Namely, LIB Greenwashing Corporations Governments, are actors weaved together in a network. Drawing on Actor Network Theory (ANT) the different actants will be described while relations and better understand the Blackboxing of the EV phenomena and to describe the social context

➤ Effects of Stratospheric Aerosol Injection on Precipitation Patterns - A Literature Review

ALINA BÄTZ

🕒 08:55-09:00

Global warming poses a threat to life on Earth as we know it and has far reaching impacts on economy and ecology worldwide. In the past 20 years, geoengineering as an approach to counteract and mitigate the consequences of global warming has been discussed vividly in the scientific community. Solar Radiation Management (SRM) is one branch of geoengineering and aims at increasing the atmospheric albedo. The intended result is a global mean cooling due to less shortwave radiation reaching the surface of the Earth. The most prominent and an extensively researched form of SRM is Sulfur Aerosol Injection (SAI). Here, sulfur aerosols are injected into the stratosphere which then reflect incoming solar radiation, and thereby increase the atmospheric albedo. Volcanic eruptions serve as a good indicator for possible impacts of artificial albedo modifications because the effects of volcanic particles are similar to sulfur aerosols. Observations have shown that such eruptions have temporarily changed precipitation patterns worldwide. This literature review investigates to what extent SAI would lead to similar precipitation pattern changes. For this purpose, keyword searches are used to identify articles dealing with the effects of SAI on precipitation patterns as well as articles on the impacts of volcanoes on precipitation. This review is complemented by interviews with experts in meteorology and climatology. It is shown that precipitation is projected to decrease, which could lead to droughts, freshwater shortages, and food instability particularly in tropical areas. In this light, SAI is not only an environmentally controversial topic, but also of socioeconomic relevance and touches upon questions of environmental justice. However, more extensive studies need to be performed to better evaluate the impacts of SAI on precipitation patterns. Positioning myself among geoengineers but with an eye on its political implications, I will argue that although SAI bears great potential, it is a highly controversial topic which lacks recent research on precipitation changes. In the age of environmental change, geoengineering needs to be well researched for effective and thorough policy making. Therefore, the aim of the study is to provide useful information to policy makers and to serve as a starting point for further research on geoengineering and its effects on precipitation patterns.

➤ Research, funding and data acquisition - Northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) population health in relation to sea surface temperature anomalies from 2004 until 2018

JENNIFER-JUSTINE KIRSCH

🕒 09:00-09:05

One challenge of climate change lies in resolving the ongoing debate about which areas are worth funding and whose interests are most important. Stakeholders such as the local governments, international bodies, scientists and the public shape the discourse about environmental research. Particularly in marine research, which needs especially high financial means, funding can be hard to obtain leading to gaps of scientific data cover for particular topics. One prominent example for this is research on northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) in the Eastern Pacific. Northern elephant seals are apex predators of the Pacific Ocean and play a vital role for the health of the pelagic and on-shore ecosystems they inhabit and frequent. Thus, changes in these habitats, such as global warming, can have far reaching consequences and could affect species on lower trophic levels. Over the past decades, sea surface temperature anomalies were detected suggesting a warming of the ocean's surface layer in the North Eastern Pacific Ocean. With warming waters, it can be expected that the prey distribution changes and that female elephant seals have difficulties finding sufficient food which in turn affects their lactation time and leads to a decreased weaning mass of their pups. This project will explore the weaning mass, which can be taken as a proxy for population health, in relation to sea surface temperature anomalies from 2004 until 2018. The methods used will include tagging and weighing the elephant seals in cooperation with the director of the Point Año Nuevo State Reserve in California and analyzing past data from the Costa Lab archive in California. Sea surface temperature anomaly data will be retrieved from NOAA. Finally, interviews will be held investigating the availability of funding and grants for this type of research within the United States. The project aims at complementing existing data and exploring developments of the northern elephant seal population. It is expected that even though, populations are endangered, ongoing debates about funding and economical interest result in slow research progress and data shortage.

➤ An Analysis of Recent Developments in Clean Energy Generation and their Effect on the case for Nuclear Energy

FLAVIA BERNABO

🕒 09:05-09:10

Since the very commencement of the industrial revolution access to clean, affordable and reliable energy has been a cornerstone of the world's increasing prosperity and economic growth (Chu & Majumdar, 2012). Fossil fuels have been the planet's main source of energy, and currently provide 80% of requirements (University College London, 2017). However, their use cannot continue unabated. Firstly, they are a finite, non-renewable resource and will run out. Secondly, at their present rate of use they cause extreme environmental damage. To the evident requirements of safety, affordability and reliability for an energy source, we therefore have to add sustainability and cleanliness. Nuclear Energy arguably complies within the framework of safety, affordability, reliability, sustainability and cleanliness. This paper aims to analyse its advantages and disadvantages with respect to alternatives such as wind, solar and tidal energy. Political and aesthetic aspects will also be touched upon, as well as the difficulty of raising large sums of money during a volatile recessionary period. The technologies, economics and politics of energy sources are changing rapidly and within the time frame necessary to construct a major project, particularly nuclear. It is therefore difficult for government or industry to make investment decisions. This research proposal is directed at providing regularly updated information to indicate trends and enable decisions to be made; as such, it is secondary research, calling on a wide range of primary research. It will be conducted alongside a complementary project of primary research, in the form of questionnaires, using both open and closed questions, as a means of understanding the public perception of the different energy sources, and in particular, the safety aspects of nuclear energy.

➤ Discussion

AMELIE MÜLLER, NIR RESHEF, ALINA
BÄTZ, JENNIFER-JUSTINE KIRSCH,
FLAVIA BERNABO

🕒 09:10-09:40

Panel 2: Values

KG 1032

➤ The Nature-Human Dualism in Light of Biopolitics

NAOMI MANSOUR

🕒 08:45-08:50

One of the most discussed topics in our times is “the environment”, its degradation and protection. And, although the topic is so broadly discussed in academia, politics and the public, actual change is only slowly happening. What is often argued is that change would need a transformation of our thoughts on environmental issues. A change in our minds needs to precede the change in actions. Nature, ecosystems and the environment are in the present discourse often described as something alien to and clearly separated from the human sphere. Wild, natural landscapes are identified as places where the human civilization is absent. The present discourse on “the environment” is strongly dominated by this dualism between “nature” and “human”. These narratives in the discourse on the environment that reproduce the dualism between the human and the nature seem biopolitically relevant. The clear distinction between a sphere of a political, civilized being and a biological body is argued by biopolitical philosophers to be the basis for the functioning of modern biopower in contrast to ancient sovereign power. I will examine in my research how this distinction is comparable to the current discourse on environmental issues and propose a biopolitical perspective on this topic. I will, thereby, focus on the side of biopolitics on the philosopher Giorgio Agamben and his work “Homo Sacer”, as well as biopolitical thoughts of Hannah Arendt and Michel Foucault while drawing attention in the environmental debate on the nature-human dualism mainly through the rural-urban divide as represented by “the city” and “the forest”, “the country” and “the wild”. As a method I will use the dominant tool in biopolitics: genealogy. Conducting a genealogy on the dualism between nature and the human by drawing on secondary literature on the topic while comparing it to biopolitical genealogies on the distinction between zoe and bios, aims to problematize the dominant narrative and to open the path for an alternative perception of humans in the environment.

➤ Indian Environmentalists' 'Meat Pickle' - About India's Meat Production and Consumption, Its Impacts and Complications

DARA SHIKOH CHANA

🕒 08:50-08:55

'Empire' is one of the most evocative – and frustrating- terms of contemporary scholarship. [...] Nothing about India is home to 1.3 billion people, making around 18% of our planet's human population (Worldometers,2019) giving it a significant environmental impact. In India and other developing countries, meat consumption is expected to rise by 72%, from 2000 to 2030 (as cited in Devi et al., 2014). Livestock grazing leads to problems including soil erosion, desertification, water pollution and a sad demise of biological biodiversity, as a lot of their natural habitat is humanized. Beef production is considered the most resource-intensive (Janet Ranganathan 2016), and India, according to the US Department of Agriculture became the largest exporter of beef, surpassing Australia and New Zealand in May 2012.

However, meat consumption is vital to India's economy and the nutrition needs of its population, leaving the regions environmentalist in a pickle. Animal husbandry plays a significant role to the Indian economy, contributing 5.5 % of the total GDP, while 37% of agricultural output growth was credited to animal products between 2005 and 2011. Moreover, in a country where around half of the preschool aged student are malnourished and exposed to threats of functional impairment (R. Radhakrishna 2004) meat is an enriching source of valuable proteins, vitamins, minerals, micronutrients and fats (Devi et al., 2014). The Indian National institute of Nutrition recommends the inclusions of eggs, flesh foods and fish in their diets to increase the quality of food (National Institute of Nutrition, 2011).

These complications effect the values of environmentalists who have been engaging in debate whether meat consumption really is an alarming factor for India's climate change problem. Sunita Narain argues that livestock is the backbone of Indian economy, for the farmers it is their insurance systems, not banks (Narain 2016). This opinion, however has been challenged by others. Which interests are developing countries are to serve? would be my broader question in all of this. Their economies which is chasing to cope with better standards, their populations? Or the planets and the environments? Which effects the whole world. And how do we find a way to balance them to the best of everyone's advantage.

➤ Cultural values and their impact on food choice and habit

MICHAELA MENSE

🕒 08:55-09:00

It is a widely-reported fact that the livestock sector of agriculture contributes 14.5% of Greenhouse Gas emissions globally (McDiarmid, Douglas, & Campbell, 2016). Developed countries are known to consume exorbitant and nutritionally-unnecessary amounts of red meat, and America, specifically, is notorious for its pro-beef, anti-vegetarian attitude (Earl & Hodson, 2017). It has been proven time and time again that eating less animal products is an essential component to an environmentally sustainable diet, (McDiarmid, Douglas, & Campbell, 2016), and recent research claims that America's current GHG Emissions can be halved by the population foregoing animal products in their diets (Hallström, Carlsson-Kanyama, & Börjesson, 2015). Yet, Americans demonstrate a strong reluctance to change their dietary habits (Tobler, Visschers, & Siegrist, 2011). A multitude of reasons contribute to this; the psychology behind dietary choices is complex and ranges the spectrum from convenience and cost to personal enjoyment to a sense of identity (Sobal, Bisogni, Devine, & Jastran, 2006). Due to the strong sense of national identity and regional pride present in the United States and the self-idealization in American culture (Hummon, 1990, p. 4), this study will focus on how these deeply emotional cultural values impact food choice in America. The study will consist of 10 semi-structured interviews of citizens with life-long American residency. The participants will be asked about their eating habits, cultural backgrounds, childhoods, emotions and thoughts toward food, and other aspects of their lives in which reasons for certain dietary choices and habits are rooted. The aim is to develop a basic understanding of how deeply Americans' sense of cultural identity affect their dietary choices. The study is not intended to be a comprehensive report on food psychology, but rather a focused probe of how the emotional ramifications of culture affect American's views on and choices of diet. This research can help governments, companies, and environmental advocates tailor their approaches in marketing, products, and programs involving sustainable consumption in order make a greater positive environmental impact, as well as serve as a foundation for future scientific study on the subject.

➤ Living the intangible in the aftermath of the Hambach Autumn

NINA VOESSING

🕒 09:00-09:05

People of Color, Women and citizens of developing countries are prone to experience the impacts of climate change in a more detrimental manner. In order to voice these distinctive impacts, the Climate Justice Paradigm (CJP) developed. While much discussion revolves around the manifestation of the CJP in the Global South, less attention has been devoted to its deployment and presence in a Western context. The Hambach Forest occupation in the Rhineland area of Western Germany has been shown to be a site of embodiment and manifestation of CJP principles and values. The forest occupation emerged in 2012 in order to hinder further deforestation by the multinational mining company RWE which has been deforesting the Hambach forest for the past 40 years in the pursue of lignite mining. Fall 2018 marks a turning point in the ongoing controversy around the remaining of the ancient forest and coal mining in Germany. Even though, a lawsuit postponed a final decision on the permission for further clearing to the end of 2020 and prohibited further deforestation until then, the three weeks prior to this verdict were a scene of ruthless evictions and destruction of the entire occupation by police of hundreds and RWE security. In the aftermath of this odyssey, the Hambach occupation enters a stage of entire reconstruction. Many new environmentalists have been recruited and many have left after the trauma of experiencing police repression and violence. New tree houses have been built and new living structures are developing to insure the preservation of the Hambach Forest. Henceforth, this study asks to what extent the Hambach Forest Occupation still embodies the CJP after the occurrences of Fall 2018 and what role the CJP plays in its reconstruction. The study aims to derive its empirical material from 10 semi-structured interviews with participants of the occupation.

➤ Can ancient forest be replaced? Articulations of nature in the context of the Hambach Forest occupation

🕒 09:05-09:10

LINDA THIEMANN

This research will explore the implications of articulation theory and the social constructions of 'nature' for an emergent climate movement around the Hambach forest in western Germany. The ongoing occupation of the Hambach forest by climate activists to protest against the deforestation for lignite mining by energy giant RWE received great public attention in 2018. For many, the 'ancient' forest has become a symbol for the climate movement and the protest against coal energy, while for RWE, the protests are unjustified since the forest is being replaced in their renaturation project "Sophienhöhe". Drawing on arguments from Science and Technology Studies (STS) and environmental sociology which problematize the nature/society dichotomy in environmentalist positions, the research will explore the different conceptions of nature employed in the controversy to justify social and political goals. While this environmental constructivist approach to 'nature' has largely receded from the focus of scholarly attention, a preliminary interview with an activist indicated that it retains substantial weight in the political and public sphere. Therefore, on one hand this study aims to call attention to the undiminished relevance of this academic discourse in political debates around climate change and environmental controversies. On the other hand, it aims to make visible a part of the complex struggle about 'nature' fought in the Hambach forest by including the views of participants. Eight qualitative interviews with participants involved with the Hambach forest movement and specialists for RWE's renaturation project will provide the empirical material, supplemented with documents released by *hambacherforst.org* and RWE. The analysis of the material will be guided by articulation theory as an analytic tool originally proposed by Stuart Hall. This allows to explore the constructions of 'nature' in environmental controversy as "articulations" (forged connections) between ideology and social forces, while avoiding to reduce the controversy to a clash of unified ideologies.

➤ Discussion

NAOMI MANSOUR, DARA SHIKOH
CHANA, MICHAELA MENSE, NINA
VOESSING, LINDA THIEMANN

🕒 09:10-09:40

Panel 3: Environmental Justice

KG 1023

➤ Towards a Reconciliation of the Question of Environmentalism and the Marxist Conception of Class

FRANZISKA PFAD

🕒 10:10-10:15

Climate change might be the most prominent example for a threat that in the long-term affects all parts of society, no matter how financially or socially privileged they might be. Scholars like Ulrich Beck argue that with upcoming environmental crises, risks can no longer be regarded as punctual problems of a confined number of people, but became a central societal issue. These ubiquitous environmental problems call for a rethinking of how a just society can be realized. I argue that this question can only be answered by an analysis that combines environmental and social aspects of justice and therefore aims for an holistic approach to society. The political tradition of Marxism recognizes the importance of an integral analysis of societal dynamics and is consequently judged to be potentially beneficial to the debate. Therefore, this paper discusses a possible reconciliation of the question of environmentalism and the Marxist conception of class.

In a first step, the proposed research wishes to discuss Marxism and its concept of class as a starting point. While the Marxist tradition was able to systematically widen its concept of class in order to account for the realities of a diverse body of human beings, it lacks a systematic discussion of environmentalism. Therefore, the research further explores on the relevancy and the potential particularity of environmental crises. Next, I wish to attempt a reconciliation of the concept of class and environmentalism by drawing on Bruno Latour and Thomas Seibert. Both scholars contributed immensely to the task of analytically combining social and environmental justice. With their help, I attempt to widen the Marxist conception of class in order to develop an inclusive conception of class in view of global (environmental) challenges. Preliminary results show that a widening of *system of production* might lead to a consecutive enlargement of *class* that includes environmental issues. Lastly, the proposed research discusses whether a broadened conception of class in turn renders the concept itself superfluous by potentially diminishing its analytic precision.

➤ On Finding Common Ground in International Climate Negotiations: Comparing the Fairness Conceptions of India, Barbados, and Germany

NORA EDERER

🕒 10:15-10:20

How to fairly differentiate responsibilities and obligations in the international climate change regime – between states that are unequal in many respects – has been among the most central and controversial issues in negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Hermwille, Obergassel, Ott, & Beuermann, 2015; Najam, 2005; Tørstad & Saelen, 2017; Winkler & Rajamani, 2014). I argue that this question can only be answered by understanding national conceptions of fairness. Thus – contributing to the debate on effective and fair multilateral climate negotiations in environmental governance – I propose, in a three-months project, to map and compare the fairness conceptions of India, Barbados, and Germany in the post-COP15 climate regime. Understanding how fairness conceptions vary between states is essential for explaining the negotiation processes and outcomes under the UNFCCC, including the self-set Intended Nationally Determined Contributions for the Paris Agreement, and for identifying which institutional arrangements might be universally acceptable.

The proposed research will examine a broad selection of qualitative data, including national position documents and interviews, in order to test the applicability of three concepts of fairness that are widely accepted and commonly referred to: (i) responsibility, (ii) capability, and (iii) rights (Tørstad & Saelen; Underdal & Wei, 2015). For each state, I will conduct a content analysis to infer the national positions, before comparing them with each other and determining their compliance with the fairness principles mentioned above. Based on preliminary research, it appears as if the model accounts for most of the fairness references made by the three countries: Germany mainly tries to compensate its historic responsibility through technology transfers and financial aid, whereas India stresses its development rights and Barbados focuses on its “negligible contribution” (GOB, 2015, p. 2) to climate change and dependence on the international community for effective climate action. However, it might be fruitful to consider concepts of representational and epistemic fairness as well.

➤ Environmental Justice Through Global Climate Change Accords: a Critical Analysis

JEREMY FRANCE FON SING

🕒 10:20-10:25

As the Brundtland report, Rio Earth Summit, Kyoto protocol and the more recent Paris agreement are a clear evidence of global acknowledgement towards the necessity of a joint worldwide action against climate change; international treaties on mitigation and adaptation solutions are often commended as major milestones in environmental protection. However, the issue of climate justice is often raised by critics due to the unequal distribution of risks and responsibilities in climate change (Adger et al., 2006, Roberts & Parks, 2007, Levy & Patz, 2015). The common controversy is that the most vulnerable people are often the less accountable towards climate change. On the other hand, the relative success of the environmental justice movement shows that in contrast to global accords, policy changes can be accomplished by a social movement, heralding sustainable change on a smaller scale. Hence, I propose in this research project to examine and compare how the notion of justice is defined and reflected, both in international treaties and in the environmental justice movement, in order to see if the success of the latter can be reconciliated with the shortcomings of the former. Preliminary results show that with respect to addressing a working definition of environmental justice, the Paris agreement demonstrates that it is based on the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (COP21, 2015). Similarly, academics in the discourse surrounding the environmental justice movement define it under the concept of distributive justice (Barett, 2013). Nevertheless, the use of these concepts differs in their application: supra-national organizations focus on pragmatic policy-based approach (Schlosberg, 2014), notably on carbon emission reduction policy, while grassroots activism historically first opposed environmental racism (Martinez-Alier et al., 2014).

➤ Resilience on the Rise? Framing Climate Change Adaptation in the ASEAN Context

JULIA KARCH

🕒 10:25-10:30

Since the COP11 in Montreal, international climate policy debate has slowly shifted its attention from mitigation to adaptation – and regional, as well as national policy-makers have followed this example. Southeast Asia, and in particular the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), provides an interesting case that exemplifies this refocusing of climate policy on climate change adaptation (CCA). The region's vulnerability to climate change is commonly estimated to be very high (Yusuf & Francisco, 2009), and so the different actors, in this case the ten ASEAN member states, may have conflicting national priorities and/or perceive deviating roles for adaptation. This bears the risk of adopting controversial frames when speaking about CCA. Ultimately, CCA is about protecting environments and livelihoods, and thus, the selection of a CCA approach is more than technical exercise. The adaptation approach defines who will adapt how to what. Thereby, CCA is socio-political in nature as it deals with the distribution of the rights and burdens that arise from human-nature relations. It follows that CCA choices have justice consequences across as well as within generations.

My preliminary inquiry suggests that 'resilience' has only recently emerged as a popular conceptual frame in CCA policy within ASEAN and its member states in recent years. As CCA framing in policy will eventually affect adaptation practice, and thereby millions of livelihoods in Southeast Asia, it seems important to examine this phenomenon more closely. Thus, in my actual research, I will systematically examine and compare how CCA is framed in a selected number of policy documents published within the last 15 years by ASEAN and its member states. In a first inductive step, these documents are subjected to a qualitative frame analysis, which includes coding. In a second step, I will situate and evaluate my findings by drawing on literature from interdisciplinary fields, such as political ecology and sustainability science. In sum, by studying the ASEAN CCA frames and their implications for adaptation practice in relation to socio-political effects, this research aims to raise awareness amongst local and national policy-makers for the need to critically reflect upon choices for a particular CCA frame.

➤ Discussion

NORA EDERER, JEREMY FRANCE FON
SING, JULIA KARCH, FRANZISKA PFAB

🕒 10:30-10:50

Panel 4: Fast Fashion

ROOM 1032

➤ Boundary work: the case of ecolabels in fashion industry

TEODORA STOJANOVIC

🕒 10:10-10:15

In our reality of fast fashion, garments are being sold for a very low price that comes with tremendous environmental, human and social costs. Who is responsible for the consumerism culture that has ruled over the fashion industry and striped off its integrity? In the light of this crisis, the responsibility, as well as the power of consumers becomes a more prominent issue. Consumers are trying to recover their agency in different ways – some by radically decreasing their consumption of clothes, others by pressuring the companies to engage in a more sustainable conduct. How can an average consumer concerned for the environment opt for the most sustainable product from the vast array of options available on the market? At present, one of the ways to do so is to base the decision on ecolabels and eco-certificates awarded to certain garments. In response to the growing compel of their customers, clothing companies are creating their own ecolabels or trying to get their clothes eco-certified. Even though this appears as an approach to end the fast fashion era, “the good intentions” of the manufacturers and the sustainability of eco-friendly clothes is questionable. The complexity of environmental and sustainability issues makes it easy for companies to mislead consumers, using sustainability and “eco” tags as a means to create a “green” image with the sole purpose of increasing profits¹.

The question remains to float in the air - What makes a piece of clothes sustainable or eco-friendly? In order to answer this, we must improve our understanding of the ecolabels and eco-certificates in the fashion industry – how they are established, regulated, and perceived by the consumers. Our starting point would be identifying the most prominent ecolabels present on the clothing market, recognizing the regulatory bodies that stand behind these ecolabels, as well as examining the criteria used for different ecolabels. We recommend the research to focus on a certain region, which would be Germany, in our case. Our strategy is to review the German and EU garment industry regulations, as well as the sustainability reports of different garment companies. Furthermore, it is noteworthy to investigate how a layperson perceives different ecolabels, as well as the products and companies with the “eco” tag. To gain better understanding of this aspect, we suggest conducting a series of interviews over the course of three months.

➤ You are what you wear - or are you? - The relationship between personal values and fast fashion consumption

ALISA BOYCHEVA

🕒 10:15-10:20

Do people act according to their values?” is a question that is often put to the test in the social sciences. One method to do this through Schwartz’s theory of basic human which allows researchers to determine what a person believes to be important so they can compare their values to how they behave. Schwarz's values have been adapted in the field of environmental psychology, where a general tendency has been shown between universalism and environmentally-friendly behavior (Schultz et al., 2005). However, it seems that purchasing decisions are not always motivated by general beliefs and if they are, the process might be selective (Karp, 1996) (Dietz, 2005). In particular, even if people with more altruistic or environmentalist values engage in behaviors that fit those values, e.g. recycling, they can still make environmentally-unsound choices in other facets of their lives (Hamann and Loeschinger, 2017). This holds to be especially true for the current biggest trend in the garment industry, as people who prioritize environmentalism do not apply it to their fast fashion consumption habits (Joy et al., 2012).

My aim is to further examine this controversy by conducting an online survey in order to assess if and to what extent personal values (based on the Schwartz theory) impact individual fast fashion stance. Furthermore, I intend to investigate whether personal values can be used as motivation to change consumption behavior. To test this, survey participants will rate arguments for reducing fast fashion consumption, with each argument corresponding to a specific Schwarz value cluster group. The results will provide information about whether and how relevant personal values are not only for individual fast fashion consumption but also for finding motivation to change fast fashion consumption habits.

➤ Sustainability governance in the fast fashion industry: impacts on the consumer side

CHARLOTTE WEINREICH

🕒 10:20-10:25

Fast fashion is a global trend in fashion retailing that is associated with a range of serious environmental impacts including a high waste production and the release of emissions (Claudio, 2007). In the last years more and more fashion brands have started to take action to reduce environmental damages by adopting *sustainability governance* (Turker & Altuntas, 2014). The latter can be defined as the implementation of sustainability principles for supply chains including the development of eco-materials, sustainable manufacturing and the reduction of carbon emissions in distribution (Shen, 2014). Despite these sustainability efforts, fast fashion production and consumption have reached critically high levels. Many scholars argue that a systematic change is needed not only in production but also in consumer behaviour (Niinimäki & Hassi, 2011). In the end, consumer behaviour considerably shapes the decision-making process of how (much) apparel is produced and disposed. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to examine the relationship between the emerging sustainability governance in the Fast Fashion industry and consumer's environmental awareness. The latter includes consumer's knowledge of environmental impacts as well as sustainability goals of fashion retailers (such as H&M or ESPRIT); but also action on behalf of the environment and its preservation ('reduce, reuse, recycle'). To achieve the research objective an exploratory study of the experiences of German fast fashion consumers will be conducted with the help of a self-administered online-survey and one-on-one interviews. Based on a preliminary evaluation of interviews with the relevant target group the hypothesis is made that fashion brand's sustainability efforts create only a limited resonance among consumers. Finally, the findings of this research project might provide important insights into the existing debate on fashion consumer's environmental awareness.

➤ Abandoning fast fashion - catalysts for changing behaviors of fashion consumers

CHRISTIANE GREIF

🕒 10:25-10:30

The production and consumption of clothes has increased dramatically over the last decades. A particular unsustainable practice in the fashion industry is called Fast Fashion. It describes the practice of labels like Zara or H&M to pick up the style of stars and renown designers, and produce similar collections in very short time. Thereby, making the style of fashion role models available to a large population, for a cheap price. These clothes are often only worn a few times before disposal. This practice bears great burdens to resources, the environment, as well as social, work, and living conditions for people in the producing countries. While there is a growing literature on consumer behavior and a call to become more sustainable, little attention has been paid to consumers that have changed to adopted a more sustainable fashion consumption. This research aims at investigating what consumers perceive as catalyst to change their behavior. In stories of change, people say things like: 'this really brought it home to me'. Implying that a certain event or experience made them connect to an issue on an intimate level. With open interviews I will collect stories from people that abandoned their fast fashion consumption. With a grounded theory approach I will look for incidences, and experiences that people themselves perceive as decisive for their behavior change. A better understanding of the ways that make people change their fashion consumption behaviors could be useful to support the change towards more sustainable consumption behaviors beyond the fashion sector.

➤ Discussion

TEODORA STOJANOVIC, ALISA
BOYCHEVA, CHARLOTTE WEINREICH,
CHRISTIANE GREIF

🕒 10:30-10:50

Panel 5: Gold Mining

ROOM 1023

➤ Gold Mining & Tropical Forests

MARIAH SAMPSON

🕒 11:25-11:30

The proposed Montagne D'Or gold mine in French Guiana, a joint venture between the mining corporations Columbus Gold and Nordgold will be located in the countries northwest, as close as 100m from protected nature reserves, and close to important water resources. The proposed mine, would cover 800 hectares of land, include an onsite processing plant, and be in operation for at least twelve years (Columbus Gold, 2018). Columbus Gold (2018) claim that they will follow rigorous environmental protection protocols to mitigate and offset the negative effects of the mine. Despite this the mine still faces significant opposition from local and environmental (Farand, 2018). Discussion over the future development of the mine includes a myriad of stakeholders concerned over issues of forest conservation, pollution, the rights of indigenous peoples and the role of the French Governments decision-making power over French Guiana (Farand, 2018). Of particular interest are the predicted risks posed to the protected rainforest and local population by pollutants from the proposed mining activities. The proposed research would seek to undertake a literature review with the purpose of examining the effects of similar large-scale gold mining ventures on tropical forests as well as to review current safety measures and mitigation techniques such as environmental compensation plans and re-vegetation operations. Specifically, an initial broad search of databases using key words would be conducted, followed by three screening rounds that would seek to rank articles based on their relevance and level of evidence. The findings of this research will seek to evaluate the current hazards and solutions to industrial gold mining in tropical areas as well as to contribute to further debate on issues of mining versus environmental protection and rehabilitation.

➤ Investigating Local and Indigenous Populations' Attitudes towards Gold Mining in 2018/9

ASTRID ANQUETIN

🕒 11:30-11:35

The project "Montagne d'Or" seeks to establish a new open-pit mine in French Guiana, which would extract approximately 80 tons of gold by using cyanide. During the debates that reviewed the project's sustainability, the involved actors have voiced diverging opinions regarding gold mining in French Guiana: while the French government supports this project as it represents an economic opportunity capable of generating employment and attracting investors, the opening of the mine is highly contested by the NGO WWF, locals and indigenous populations. Although these three latter actors all emphasise the non-negligible environmental risks intrinsic to the use of cyanide, they do not necessarily share the same motivations to do so. It therefore seems valuable to analyse to what extent these "groups" differ, and to consider how their respective complexities might contribute to the issue at stake. Through interview and survey analysis, I will focus on the attitudes expressed by locals and Native Americans of Guiana, regardless of their support or opposition to the mining project. Between and within these "groups" commonly called 'locals' and 'indigenous people', values and opinions will presumably diverge. This project will then seek to investigate the development of such attitudes formulated within the critical framework of the project "Montagne d'or". Past cases of gold mining in Guiana and similar areas will be used to, firstly, understand the effects of the mining industry on locals and indigenous populations, and secondly, identify how these "groups" are represented in gold-mining literature. Moreover, the survey issued by the IFOP (French Institute of Public Opinion) that recorded the views of locals about the risks of this project will be analysed and further elaborated on through fieldwork interviews. These interviews will question locals' and native's motives underlying their current opinions concerning the opening of a mine. This study is then an attempt to understand the creation and development of viewpoints as held by often marginalised individuals or communities that are nevertheless directly affected by an environmental controversy; it further attempts to highlight the diversity found within specific "groups", indicating the complexity of using pre-defined categories in environmental debates.

➤ Observing Environmental Impact and Catalysts for the Naturalist Fallacy

MARIUS MERKLE

🕒 11:35-11:40

In Psychological and Behavioral Economic research of the last 50 Years We found A variety of emotional and irrational beliefs which can severely influence our perspective on environmental value and what we believe are the best methods to deal with certain environmental problems. Irrationality in this context does not refer to emotional idealistic illogical assessment in a philosophical sense, but focuses on dissonance in a person's self-perception, goals and actions and rationalizations in order to stabilize this dissonance. In this study, I want to observe in what ways people are influenced by such phenomenon, which resemble or intensify the impact of the so-called "Naturalistic Fallacy" in order to gain a deeper understanding of the significance of these beliefs and intuitions. There are many biases that underlie and work in connection with these beliefs, for example the "omission bias", humans feel less responsible when they are not acting, this conception is deeply connected with many emotional and spiritual conceptions of "nature" the untouched and unique nature that is not just functional but "magically" different. This changes our perceived responsibility and authority towards different environmental challenges. Once we cause a specific environmental problem, we are "allowed" and responsible to tackle or solve it, but in an environmental challenge that is not directly connected to human action, we are in a difficult situation to decide how and if we "should" intervene. There are obviously several functional reasons to respect this rule of thumb by including our ignorance and nescience about the issues we are facing. However, based on the aforementioned research we are likely to overestimate this effect in some ways. In this study, I want to test the decision making of people in different scenarios, which challenge their intuition and understanding of functional problem solving for environmental challenges and observe their cognitive dissonance in relation to the naturalist fallacy.

➤ Discussion

MARIAH SAMPSON, ASTRID ANQUETIN,
MARIUS MERKLE

🕒 11:40-12:00

Panel 6: Food and Health

ROOM 1032

➤ Food Policy Councils and Their Potential to Solve the Socio-Ecological Challenges Related to Our Food System

DOROTHEA GANGNUS

🕒 11:25-11:30

Over the last decades, a new wave of political organizations emerged to transform global food supply chains from the bottom up: the so-called Food Policy Councils (FPCs). While the first FPCs started to form in North America in the 1980's, their German counterparts, called Ernährungsräte, gained momentum only recently with formations starting in 2014 (Speiseraeume, 2019). Their approach of democratizing local food systems and thereby, enabling a socially just and environmentally sound food supply chain stands in contrast to the hitherto common strategy of "sustainable intensification" (Biel, 2016; Lang & Barling, 2012). By organizing local stakeholders from various stages of the food supply chain, FPCs holistically address socio-ecological challenges throughout the food system and harness regional transformative capabilities.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) whose primary goal is to eliminate food insecurity and malnutrition identified ten global challenges related to our current food system (Haight, 2017). In this paper, I argue that FPCs can provide an effective framework to cope with the global food system problems as formulated by the FAO. By the example of German FPCs, I will present how FPCs can provide regionally-relevant, political tools to cope with each of the FAO challenges and thereby, offer a holistic, decentralized, and democratic solution to cure the interrelated social and ecological problems of our food system. Although the FPCs under research are situated in a high-income country and the FPCs' work focusses on specific local regions, their engagement may address issues on a global scale. Matching statements from the FPCs with the ten FAO food challenges systematically explores one particular political tool to achieve a more sustainable food system. Setting the specific insights about the transformative potential of FPCs into the context of sociological literature connects scientific theory with recent, political practice.

➤ Medical Residues in Aquatic Systems and Their Effects on Water Organisms

ANNA WAGNER

🕒 11:30-11:35

Rapidly growing populations and improving health standards in developing countries as well as aging populations in industrialized nations are leading to an increased consumption of pharmaceuticals that are ultimately released to the environment. High solubility of most pharmaceuticals combined with the no/inefficient removal of residues by waste water treatment plants (WWTP) creates an immense burden for aquatic organisms. It is still unknown how and if individual pharmaceuticals accumulate in and affect organisms or whether they are biomagnified while transferring through food webs. Moreover, complex and variable mixtures of pharmaceutical in water bodies and their effects on the organisms are also unknown though after preliminary research it is assumed that they disrupt ecological interactions, functions and communities. So far, two reasons for the immense lack of knowledge in that matter have been detected. First of all, the high number of authorized pharmaceutical products available in the European Union makes the task of monitoring all waterbodies nearly impossible. Secondly, the current EU environmental legislation does not stipulate any obligation for water quality monitoring of emerging contaminants such as pharmaceuticals. My aim is now to collect data on pharmaceutical residues in aquatic systems and investigate to what minimum measured quantity single pharmaceutical products can be released into aquatic systems without harming its organisms. Additionally, data on mixture toxicology will be researched together with their effects on life in water systems, though scarcity of available data is anticipated. This research is very important as constant accumulation of pharmaceuticals in water bodies is also expected to have very harming effects on human beings on the long term and hopes to contribute to the establishment of a European Union legislation of water quality without pharmaceuticals.

➤ Debating Golden Rice in the Philippines: Policy Recommendations for Stakeholder Inclusion at the Example of Local Farmers

ANTONELLA DILLER

🕒 13:10-13:30

“Golden Rice” (GR) is a rice crop that has been genetically modified to contain beta-carotene, a precursor of Vitamin A (Shiva, 2001). Situated amid the debate on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), GR is presently undergoing regulatory assessment for release in the Philippines, where VAD is a major cause of premature death and blindness (Zimmermann & Qaim, 2004). In the moral dilemma between potential health benefits and uncertain environmental risks of GR, the proposed research focuses on Filipino farmers as directly affected stakeholders. Presuming the role of an Honest Broker of Policy Options (Pielke, 2010), it is argued that policy alternatives to increase the inclusion of local farmers in the debate surrounding GR in the Philippines require consideration. Based on farmers’ key concerns and the regulatory status of GR, an analysis focusing on the Strengths and Weaknesses of current Philippine policy to address farmers’ concerns and their root causes in the national GR debate will be conducted. Moreover, policy opportunities to expand the inclusion of Filipino farmers, as well as potential threats in this process will be discussed (SWOT-analysis). Thus making a contribution to current research on the release of GR in the Philippines, preliminary results hint at the importance of incorporating farmers more directly in a deliberative discussion with respect to public acceptance of GR. Further findings concerning the scope and the efficacy of policy measures in the Philippines to address local farmers as directly affected group in the GR debate might be relevant for policy-makers of other countries facing release of GMOs in terms of including affected groups in the process.

➤ Discussion

DOROTHEE GANGNUS, ANNA WAGNER,
ANTONELLA DILLER

🕒 11:40-12:00

Panel 7: Migration and Minority Protection

ROOM 1139

➤ Identity of Young Germans with Migration Background: A Discourse Analysis of the YouTube-Channel Germania

HANAR HUPKA

🕒 13:30-13:50

The YouTube channel “Germania” is a project by funk that aims to portray Germany from the perspective of young Germans with migration background. In 4-5 min long videos public figures (musicians, youtubers, athletes, ...) talk about their experiences of growing up and living in Germany and where they locate themselves in German society. My research question is how the discourse on German identity is lead on this particular YouTube channel. As the number of Germans with migration background is growing it is important to understand how this group understands itself and how images of “Germanness” are reinterpreted and reconstructed by this group. This is also important in light of the argument that Germany has become a post-migrant society (Foroutan 2018). My goal is to identify the narratives through which the channel produces a particular image of “Germanness” and contributes to construction a collective identity of Germans with migration background. Beyond that, I want to show that the channel can and must be interpreted as part of the broader political debate on German identity. In order to do so I will conduct an interpretative discourse analysis of the videos including the following aspects: the broader socio-political context in which the project is embedded; the content; dominant narrative structures; identification and description of relevant phenomena and collective schemes of interpretation of these phenomena. If possible, I would further like to conduct an interview with the creators of the channel to find out more about their motives and motivations.

➤ EU Migration (Bio)Politics Through Foucault and Agamben

NICOLAS KOCH

🕒 13:50-14:10

Since its emergence with Foucault’s 1976 “History of Sexuality Vol. 1”, *biopolitics* has developed into a dynamic field of philosophical and social scientific research. One of the most prominent but also controversial contributions comes from Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben and his theory of “the camp” as the nomos of modern politics. In Agamben, migration is the central issue from which he develops his theories of *biopower* and modern politics. It is important to be aware of Agamben’s explicit break with Foucault’s account of *biopower* and its relation to other forms and techniques of power. Whereas Foucault saw something particularly modern in the functioning of *biopower*, Agamben claims that power has always had a biopolitical element to it. However, Agamben’s theory falls short of paying due attention to the ‘making live’ aspect of *biopower*. It limits itself to life negating aspects of modern politics and thereby, so the author argues, oversimplifies the way in which *biopower* works. Subsequently, it is unable to fully explain certain types of migration policies.

One such policy is the EU Blue Card, an immigration regulation system that is supposed to attract ‘highly skilled migrants’ to the EU Single Market. The EU Blue Card will be used here as a case study to assess the explanatory power of the accounts of *biopower* offered by Agamben and Foucault. Given the little attention that has thus far been paid to policies encouraging certain types of immigration rather than curbing immigration altogether the EU Blue Card constitutes a particularly relevant case and will shed new light on the biopolitical character of modern migration policies.

➤ Is R2P Dead? Lessons from the Past and the Way Forward

ALEXANDRA SACHARIEW

🕒 14:10-14:30

Despite ongoing conflicts resulting in countless human rights abuses and mass atrocities, the international community is acting largely as a by-stander as political quarrel and grid-locks in the UN Security Council are impeding any efforts to authorize humanitarian intervention. The "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) doctrine, technically constitutes an answer to the question of a moral obligation to help those in need and protect those threatened by mass atrocities; however, its past implementation, most prominently in Libya and Côte d'Ivoire 2011, left many questioning its ability to actually achieve this purpose. The goal is therefore to evaluate whether the perceived "failure" of R2P stems from the principle itself or rather its operationalization on the ground and consequently, if it might remain a viable principle for the authorization of force with appropriate reform. Accordingly, first the evolution of the doctrine will be traced and based on that the three "pillars of R2P" will be analyzed, delineating in which instances intervention may become necessary and force is actually authorized. This will serve as the analytical lens through which the case study, the Libyan intervention in 2011 (UNSC/RES/1970 & 1973), will be interpreted. The preliminary argument suggests a partial failure in the implementation, which however does not owe to an inherent moral flaw of the doctrine. Ultimately, possible reforms are considered in terms of their merit for the operational improvement of the R2P doctrine and its future application.

➤ The Protection of Indigenous People Under the African and Intra-American Human Rights System

ALINA CZYZEWSKI

🕒 14:30-14:50

Indigenous peoples (IPs) are among the most vulnerable groups to human rights violations and require special protection mechanisms. Regional human rights systems (RHRS) like the Inter-American and the African system responded to this issue and developed such mechanisms. Moreover, they play an increasingly relevant role in providing access to justice for IPs, which is both, a procedural right and essential for the protection of all other human rights as it is the ability to seek and obtain remedies for wrongs through institutions of justice. Despite its relevance, the study of IPs' protection under RHRS has received little attention by scholars of international law (IL) and international relations (IR) alike, while approaches have been dominated by a North-South perspective. In contrast, this study aims at insights from a South-South comparison: It seeks to understand how the African and Inter-American human rights systems compare in their legal and institutional setup to ensure IPs' access to justice. For this purpose, it identified three key dimensions of IPs' access to justice, which will be used as its conceptual lens when looking at the two RHRS: a) definitions of indigenusness, b) rights protected by law, and c) formal justice mechanisms. These dimensions will be specified into further categories that guide the collection of data from primary legal documents, scholarly articles, and civil society reports. Their analysis will be based on comparative institutional and comparative legal approaches. In doing so, this study's over-all goal is to identify key issues for the protection of IPs' rights in the two regions.

➤ Between Regulation and Protection – The Discrimination of Roma in Germany

ROSA-LENA LANGE

🕒 14:50-15:10

The Roma minority, embracing in fact a multiplicity of different ethnic groups, has throughout European history been subjected to marginalization and exclusion. According to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Roma accounted up until 2009 for the most discriminated minority in Europe. In addition to the often negatively connotated, stereotypical representation of Roma, there is widespread agreement that their discrimination is also structurally, that is legally and institutionally, anchored. Since 2007, when Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary became part of the European Union, the number of Roma moving to central Europe has increased enormously. This has caused the EU to take action and to establish regulatory measures that would improve the situation for Roma in the different member states. The strategic framework which aimed at reducing the experienced disadvantage of Roma in the areas of, for example, housing, education and health, has also been implemented in Germany. Although there is generally a scarcity of academic literature on Roma in Germany, many of the existing studies take a rather critical stance on the policy efforts to protect the Roma minority from discrimination. While some criticize them as insufficient and demand more practical results, other kinds of criticisms are located in the very nature of minority protection laws as clearly separating and excluding the minority from the majority. The intended study will investigate those recently (2007-2019) implemented policy measures and already existing anti-discrimination directives (mostly the *Allgemeines Gleichbehandlungsgesetz*) from a biopolitical perspective. By drawing on Foucaults' original conception of Biopolitics as well as more recent corrections of it, the case-study will aim at identifying major sources and mechanisms which maintain the discriminatory structure of Roma in Germany.

Panel 8: Security of Basic Needs: Energy, Income, Food

ROOM 1132

➤ Analyzing the Seasonal Variability of the Onshore Wind Energy Potential in Germany

SIMON BÜTTNER

🕒 13:30-13:50

Onshore wind energy is currently the biggest renewable electricity source in Germany and plays an important role in the “energy transition” to renewable energies. However, the intermittent nature of wind is a challenge for integrating large amounts of wind energy into an electricity grid that must provide a reliable energy supply. While short-term wind fluctuations are usually smoothed by the amount of wind farms spread across Germany, fluctuations that are connected with larger weather patterns bring the risk of generating a surplus or deficit in the energy supply. Therefore, it is crucial to understand the variability of the wind resource over the course of different seasons in order to design an energy supply system that has a high proportion of renewable energy sources and is reliable. Accordingly, this project will analyze the seasonal variability of onshore wind energy potential in Germany. The goal of this research is to characterize fluctuations of the wind resource, which could be used for energy generation, across and within different seasons and to identify implications for strategic wind energy planning. For that purpose, this project will use wind and weather data from about 300 measurement stations in Germany and model the onshore wind energy potential across Germany for the past 30 years with the wind speed-wind shear model developed in the department of Environmental Meteorology at the University Freiburg. The modelled onshore wind energy potential will then be analyzed with statistical tools. It is expected that there is a high uncertainty connected with seasonal wind energy potentials which suggests that wind energy should only be deployed on large scales with sufficient back-up technologies.

➤ Tilting at Windmills? Examining Narratives of Regional Energy Transformation at the Case of the “Windpark Friedland”

JANNIS NIETHAMMER

🕒 13:50-14:10

While the renewable energy transformation is widely seen as a crucial step towards climate protection, its regional implementation in wind park projects has met increasing opposition. Professionals and scientists alike have often dismissed these oppositions as selfish, irrational deviances following a NIMBY logic that need to be convinced, managed or ignored. Despite considerable research, the drivers of such conflicts thus remain poorly understood. In a case study approach, this research aims to examine the ‘contextualized local social dynamics’ that underly energy transformation conflicts. The underlying argument is that the perception of wind energy parks and projects is constructed in complex social negotiation and influences acceptance attitudes and behavior. The resulting differences in meaning assigned to the project are the drivers for conflictual relations. At the case of a ‘failed’ wind park in Friedland, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, this research will examine narratives as the central category of such meaning construction. In a storytelling interview, members of relevant actor groups, including the public, politicians, administration and project entrepreneurs, will be asked to reconstruct their interpretation of the ‘failed’ project planning process. They are asked to tell the story by reference to key events, locate the relevant actors and arguments and position themselves in the process. From this data, the underlying narratives will be retrieved, analyzed, compared and contextualized within the local context, as well as the project process and written discourse. This analysis will be informed by theories on narratives of injustice and ecological modernity. The research approach hopefully not only relieves the puzzlement that surrounds the project at hand, but is also able to detect generalizable patterns from a heated case.

➤ The German Left Party DIE LINKE and the Basic Income: A Comparative Analysis of the Party Position, the Internal Debate and Financial Models Proposed in Context of Current Literature

NICOLAS ESCHENBRUCH

🕒 14:10-14:30

The debate about the welfare scheme of a Basic Income (BI) under which every individual is provided with an unconditional monthly allowance by the state is gaining attention in the German public debate. As political parties are key actors representing public interest in the political arena, their positioning and program are significant when analysing the chances of certain policies being promoted. While many assume the German left party DIE LINKE to be the forerunner for a BI, the party position is highly contested internally and features the fiercest critics of a BI.

In my research, I will try to depict the party's position on the BI, its internal debate as well as financial models proposed by working groups. At first, I will review current political and economic literature on the Basic Income and welfare studies. These will then help me to inductively analyse the data obtained from sources such as party programs and official statements in a comparative review. Depending on the progress of the research, I also plan to interview up to three people from the local DIE LINKE group in Freiburg about their position and opinion concerning the BI. First impressions from the sources indicate, that DIE LINKE's position on a basic income remains unclear and that both, strong supporters with well-developed concepts as well as fierce critics often basing their arguments in welfare studies are shaping the debate. Considering that DIE LINKE generally argues for a rather social-democratic, redistributive type of welfare policy, an overview of its controversial position will contribute to the understanding of the BI in relation to welfare state studies and policies.

➤ Poverty Reduction Through Redistributive Measures – An Example of Brazil

CHEUK MEI MIRANDA LEE

🕒 14:30-14:50

Poverty reduction is a widely discussed topic everywhere, particularly in low and middle-income countries. In order to have a better understanding of poverty reduction, it is important to take income inequality into consideration because it reflects the discrepancy of resources distributed among the population, more importantly, it also illustrates the potential of increasing the level of wealth of the poor. Policy instruments such as welfare and redistributive policies could be used to reduce both inequality and poverty by providing more resources for the poor and giving them access to various services which help improve their living quality. However, welfare programs do not necessarily contribute to the reduction of income inequality at a very high degree. The objective of this paper is to examine the level of contribution of welfare policies to the mitigation of income inequality and the correlation between income inequality and poverty in Brazil. The conceptual framework of this paper involves three main elements: income inequality, poverty reduction, and redistributive measures. The hypotheses of this paper are high (H1) and low level (H0) of the contribution of redistributive measures to the level of income inequality. Instead of only focusing on aiding the poor through redistributive measures, this paper argues for the significance of reducing income inequality in order to further maximise the outcome of poverty reduction. A quantitative approach will be applied by running a regression to examine the relation between social expenditures spent on poverty reduction and the level of income inequality, and poverty in Brazil. Indicators include the gini-index, headcount index and other well-being indicators in the fields of health and education.

➤ Impacts of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Ethiopia's Agricultural Sector on the Country's Food Security

REBECCA RENZ

🕒 14:50-15:10

This research proposal aims to examine how Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Ethiopia's agricultural sector affects the country's food security. Ethiopia experienced an extensive amount of FDI into farmlands, which allows for overall economic development but leaves fertile land in the hand of foreign companies, thus hindering growth of the domestic food production. Because foreign companies mostly produce non-food cash crops or food crops for export, their production does not contribute to the local food supply but threatens Ethiopia's food security. Changes for the country are multiple: forced displacement of local communities, exploitation and degradation of the environment, and the decrease of domestic food production. These developments are significant and have far ranging implications for a developing country like Ethiopia. Research into these processes are crucial because investments into land lack transparency and the purchasing process or intended use of the land remain unclear. The Research will draw from federal data bases on foreign direct investment to analyse the scale of land purchases and the use thereof. The analysis will assess food security indicators, defined by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, before and during FDI into farmlands to examine possible threats to food security. Additionally, will a literature review of non-governmental research foreseeing threats to food security due to FDI in farmlands allow for in-depth analysis of the research topic. This research proposal argues for more research into this field to enable responsible investment methods. Moreover, research is necessary to prevent the use of FDI as an exploitative and colonial practice; but recommend sustainable investment methods.

Panel 9: Political Criticism

Peterhof Room 3

- **Raising Champions: An Analysis of Protectionist Policies in the Information and Communication Sector employed by the Chinese Government to produce Competitive Domestic Firms**

FREDERICK MANGELS

🕒 13:30-13:50

In early 2018, the Trump administration started to announce tariffs on Chinese products, claiming unfair transfers of intellectual property in the information and communication sector as a main reason for the tariffs. It is noteworthy that many Chinese companies in the information and communication sector became multinational firms within the last decade. Examples may be Huawei, DJI, Alibaba or Oppo that started to increasingly compete for global market shares with western firms. Hence, this piece of research analyses if China employed protectionist policies in its information and communication sector to foster domestic innovation and allow Chinese firms in this sector to become globally competitive. In order to answer this question, a deductive research method is chosen. Firstly, economic theories about protectionism will be analysed and explained. An emphasis will be put on the theories of Alexander Hamilton and Friedrich List. Hamilton developed the infant industry argument claiming that countries should protect young but important industries before letting them compete internationally. List's national innovation system theory addresses designs of domestic economic policies to increase technology imports and domestic innovation. In a second step, these economic theories are applied to the development of the Chinese information and communication sector. To do so, tariff and non-tariff protectionist policies will be analysed while most emphasis will be put on the latter. Simultaneously, small case studies of Chinese companies benefiting from such protectionist policies will be conducted. So far, the tentative argument can be made that the Chinese government purposefully used protectionist policies, especially concerning the transfer of intellectual property and restricting market access, in its information and communication sector to let domestic firms mature and become globally competitive.

- **Legitimization strategies of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan in the late 1980s**

KARL JUSTUS HEINLEIN

🕒 13:50-14:10

Much theorizing on autocratic regimes has focused on classifying who governs, and what implications that has for the cooptation of elites and the repression of potential opposition. Only recently, the nexus between regimes and their population has received more attention, and with it the concept of legitimation. The idea that legitimate rule matters not only for democracies helps to understand variations in the interaction between rulers and the ruled not only across, but also within regime types. The paper compares how two one-party dictatorships, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China in Taiwan, reacted to demands from their population during a critical point of time in the late 1980s. It puzzles why, in spite of institutional similarities and in response to similar demands for reform and participation by students and an emerging middle class, Taipei tolerated the extra-party movement and the eventual formation of the first opposition party non-violently, while Beijing repressed the Tiananmen demonstrations. Resorting to David Beetham's concept of legitimation, it argues that the Kuomintang and the Communists relied on two different systems of legitimation. While the former legitimized themselves through more open interaction with the population, popular demands had a restricted and functional role in the legitimation of the latter. The paper reviews scholarly literature to describe the different legitimation strategies and seeks to explain these differences by analyzing, among others, the ideology, the historical legacy and the international embeddedness of the two regimes.

➤ China's Social Credit System (社会信用体系): A Juxtaposition of Western Criticism and the Eastern Justification

LEONARD GEISLER

🕒 14:10-14:30

By 2020, the Communist Party of China (CPC) strives to have erected a nationwide Social Credit System (SCS), which will constantly evaluate the behaviour of all businesses and citizens within the nation's borders in respect of their financial as well as moral trustworthiness. According to the State Council, the SCS resembles a necessary tool "for comprehensively implementing the scientific viewpoint of development and building a harmonious socialist society" (China Law Translate 2015). Simultaneously, the system is criticized by Western political commentators as a dystopian method of societal control (Mozur 2018). Out of this tension arises this research's aim to analyze China's SCS through the lens of both Hannah Arendt and Han Fei's political philosophies. By structuring my thesis around these two influential minds, one from the West and one from the East, I hope to obtain a nuanced picture of the SCS' underlying mechanisms, which is designed to avoid a plump mistake of cultural partiality. Accordingly, the thesis' research question reads as follows: based on the normative ideals of good governance, contained in Arendt's "The Origins of Totalitarianism" (1973) and Burton Watson's translation of the "Han Feizi" (1964), to which extent does the CPC's plan to implement a nationwide SCS constitute a desirable mode for governing a population? The structure of my research is twofold: firstly, a descriptive analysis of the SCS will be conducted and, secondly, the diverging political philosophies of Arendt and Han Fei will be juxtaposed. Lastly, my thesis' relevance is not only derived from the fact, that approximately every fifth human on earth will be affected by the CPC's implementation of the SCS, but also but also from the consideration that other countries could follow China's example. Therefore, this research strives to be not only relevant for academics of Sinology, but for scholars of Political Philosophy as well.

➤ Differing Surges of Euroscepticism

KATHARINA PFEFFER

🕒 14:30-14:50

As Eurobarometer results show, Euroscepticism is increasing in most European countries (European Commission, 2018). Over the last years, formerly marginal eurosceptic parties have become part of government in several countries such as Hungary, Poland, and Italy. However, not all European countries show the same levels of Euroscepticism. Although Italy and Portugal are usually clustered in the same social and cultural Southern European cluster and were both affected considerably by the economic crisis in 2008, 27% of Italians are eurosceptic, whereas only 12% of Portuguese have negative views on the EU (ibid.; Esping-Andersen, 1999). Aiming to understand this difference in Euroscepticism and its implications for future European integration, this study seeks to empirically answer the research question whether economic factors, national identity or institutional distrust can better explain the high degree of Euroscepticism in Italy and the lower level thereof in Portugal. In order to answer this question, theories regarding the origin of Euroscepticism are reviewed. As previous research reveals, economic factors, identity issues and institutional distrust are among the most common reasons for Euroscepticism. By applying, among others, utilitarian, rational choice and social identity theory, these three factors are operationalized into measurable variables. Thereafter, a qualitative, cross-sectional analysis on this most similar case study design is applied to identify the most meaningful variables. A first tentative argument could be that, since immigration has a considerable influence on identity formation, Italy's high migration rates could partly explain their higher level of Euroscepticism compared to Portugal (International Organization for Migration, 2019). This study is addressed at researchers and decision-makers who seek to understand the broader phenomenon of Euroscepticism. By analyzing countries with differing levels of Euroscepticism, I hope to find meaningful causes for an increase or decrease in Euroscepticism that might be generalizable and that could help to make predictions about the further path of European integration.

➤ Legitimacy of the European Stability Mechanism

JANNIK SCHULZ

🕒 14:50-15:10

The Goal of the proposed research project is to understand if and to which degree the current institutional setting of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) is democratically appropriate and legitimate for the Eurozone. The ESM was created in 2012 by an ad-hoc treaty outside the frame of the EU and EU law. It has toolkit of six financial instruments of direct and indirect financial support for member states. The European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) was a temporary institution established in 2010 and the predecessor of the ESM. Both institutions were responsible for several bail out programs that sparked a new public and academic debate about the democratic legitimacy of the EU to which I would like to contribute. The legitimacy of the ESM is especially relevant as a permanent institution it will influence future discussions about possibilities of integration within the Eurozone. From the following theories I will develop specific claims in regard to if and how concerns regarding democratic legitimacy should be incorporated in the institutional setup of the ESM. The first theory is the liberal intergovernmentalism stream, which assumes legitimation through a chain of representation as national governments represent the domestic voters. Secondly, the neo-republican notion understands freedom from domination as basis of democracy. Thirdly, the concept of Throughput-Legitimacy emphasizes accountability, transparency, efficacy, and openness of governance processes as vital. I intend to qualitatively compare the institutional setup of the ESM with the setup of the EFSF in regard to the claims developed from the theories. This research aims to answer the following question: Do the institutional changes between the EFSF and the ESM point towards a bigger emphasize on democratic legitimacy?

Panel 10: Feminism and Gender

KG 1139

➤ The Effectiveness of Women's Economic Empowerment and its Impact on Gender Equality

KATARZYNA SCHWARTZ

🕒 15:40-16:00

In the contemporary field of development, gender equality is a key object of policy-making. International organizations, as well as national governments practice gender mainstreaming in order to include the dimension of gender in their policies. With this regard, women increasingly become the target group for economic empowerment. It is however questionable whether the economic empowerment of women is automatically linked with the promotion of gender equality. Critics of the neoliberal approach of international institutions claim that the reduction of poverty and the expansion of markets in developing countries do not promote gender equality but produce new heterosexist norms of gender and family instead (Bedford 2013, Bergeron 2003). They argue that the underlying gendered structure of the global market and its dependence on informal household economies and women's work remain unquestioned. It thus becomes worthwhile to examine the effectiveness and impact of economic empowerment programs in order to reveal potential perpetuated structures of inequality, creating the possibility for critical evaluation and future change.

For the examination of the relationship between women's economic empowerment and gender equality, a collective explanatory case study will be conducted. It will focus on projects of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) targeting inclusive growth. The research will proceed deductively, on the basis of two distinct feminist theories: the cases will be analyzed through Nussbaum's liberal capability approach (2000), on the one hand, and the critical intersectional feminist theory (Crenshaw 1989) on the other hand. Ultimately, the research project aims to find out whether the improvement of women's economic situation has an impact on their roles in the public and the private sphere.

➤ The Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, Queer Theory and the LGBTTTQ+ Community

JULIUS NEBEL

🕒 16:00-16:20

The goal of this research is to analyse the existing case law through a queer theoretical legal perspective. Such research is relevant because the existing research about the topic does not take queer theory into account (Gonzales-Salzberg 2014b, 371). There are critical analyses of the Court's jurisprudence but the underlying categories and patterns that are created by the Court are criticised rarely by the academic literature (Cooper 2011, 1748-1749; Gonzales-Salzberg 2014a, 803). Furthermore, the relevance of this topic comes from the Court itself. First, the Court gives the issue of discrimination based on sexual orientation the same weight as discrimination based on sex or race. Hence, the Court considers the topic as important (Harris, O'Boyle, and Warbrick 2014, 803). Second, since the Court decided on many cases in relation to the LGBTTTQ+ community, it has had a decisive influence on individuals and on state behaviour. The jurisprudence of the Court has influenced legislation in several member states of the Council of Europe (Helfer and Voeten 2014, 106). With the Court having such a decisive influence on the lives of the people, it is important to question the basic categories and definitions that are developed and employed by the Court.

The approach for this research will be inherently interpretive which also explains the focus on queer theory as the overarching heuristic tool and background. The queer theoretical background allows the selection of the relevant cases and it also gives the guidelines for the analysis since it will aid at developing a list of criteria on how to understand and detect the categories that are created by the Court.

My tentative argument is that a queer theoretical analysis of the jurisprudence shows that the Court is defining and creating categories such as homosexual or transsexual by reproducing heteronormativity and a binary understanding of sex and gender.

➤ Gender and Urgent Questions in the House of Commons

FELICITAS HUCK

🕒 16:20-16:40

Since John Bercow became Speaker of the House of Commons (HoC) in 2009, Urgent Questions (UQs) are an increasingly used mechanism of parliamentary scrutiny in the UK Parliament, and therefore gain more and more recognition and importance (Goldsborough 2015; Rogers & Walters 2015, 272; Norton 2013, 147). Simultaneously, the number of female Members of Parliament (MPs) is steadily increasing, reaching a record of 208 female MPs elected in the 2017 General Election, which constitute 32% of all MPs (House of Commons Library 2017). However, given the significant lack of research on UQs, it remains unclear “whether the increased descriptive representation of women in parliament is making a substantive difference, in terms of the types of policies passed, behavioural norms, and procedures” (Catalano 2009, 45). Hence, this project aims to find out whether and how gender influences the content of and debate on UQs in the HoC by comparing variations within and across MPs’ gender, following the research questions: Are there differences in the content of and debate on UQs in the HoC among female and male MPs? If yes, what are the differences and to what extent are they distinct from variations within the same gender? In order to answer these research questions, a discourse analysis of official reports on UQs between June 2009 and January 2018 will be conducted. Studies on Prime Minister’s Questions and discourse in parliamentary debates (e.g. Bates et al. 2014; Ilie 2013; Shaw 2002) will be informing the analysis. Secondary literature on UQs and parliamentary questions in general, as well as overall parliamentary scrutiny (e.g. Glasborough 2015; Norton 2013; Rogers & Walters 2015; Russo & Wiberg 2010) and theories on the influence of MPs’ gender on public policies, standards of conduct, and procedural aspects (e.g. Blaxill & Beelen 2016; Catalano 2009; Rivière-De Franco 2014; Tremblay 1998) will provide further necessary background information.

➤ The Polish Abortion law and the ECHR – Or: Is the ECHR feminist?

NATHALIE KORNET

🕒 16:40-17:00

Poland has one of the most restrictive abortion laws in Europe and the current government attempts perennially to restrict it even further. The newest bill “Zatrzymaj Aborcje” (Stop Abortion) currently discussed in parliament only allows abortion in cases of rape and incest or if the mother’s life is endangered. These restrictive reproductive rights lead to a high number of illegal abortions amongst Polish women. Scholars agree, though, that the access to legal abortion is considered a human right, as it is linked with abortion safety and women’s health. However, many Human Rights conventions refrain from establishing clear provisions on reproductive rights for various reasons. Many feminist legal scholars thus discuss, whether reproductive rights are sufficiently safeguarded by human rights conventions. In the context of this research, this critique would regard the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR). The goal of this research project is thus to answer the question how the European Court of Human Rights would deal with the proposed abortion law in Poland and to what extent reproductive rights would be protected by such approach.

I will approach the question

- a) by analyzing what articles of the ECHR must be considered in abortion cases,
- b) by analyzing the Court’s case law on (the safe access to) abortion,
- c) by applying the findings to the current situation in Poland and finally,
- d) by discussing the findings and the application from a feminist legal perspective, which views the rulings of Human Right courts on women’s reproductive rights critically.

The working hypothesis of this research project is that from a feminist legal perspective the analysis of court rulings will show that there is no sufficient protection of women’s reproductive rights (in Poland).

Panel 11: Colonialism and Warfare

KG 1132

➤ The German Empire and European Colonialism

CLARA BERGER

🕒 15:40-16:00

Within the well attended period of the German empire (1871-1918) in German history schoolbooks, its role in European colonialism received only scarce attention. Lately, academia developed an interest in German Colonialism in the 19th and 20th century and how the former colonies are conveyed in schools; yet, the focus is often on the imagery of the colonies (cf. Macgilchrist 2014, Marmer and Ziai 2015, Marmer and Sow 2013, Marmer et al. 2010). Others, like Lässig and Pohl establish a lack of the topic all together (2009). Although the history classroom is not (anymore) the central locus where knowledge about the past is transmitted, history tuition in high school is relevant to enable autonomous, responsible and critical engagement with omnipresent narratives of the past throughout the life (Denker 2017, p.18). This research project will pursue the question, how the role of the German Empire (1871-1919) in European colonialism is portrayed in History books in Baden-Württemberg secondary schools. A selection of the six school books that are admitted with the new educational curriculum 2016, published by the Ministerium für Kultus, Jugend und Sport Baden-Württemberg and the Landesinstitut für Schulentwicklung, will be analysed using narratological textbook analysis (Jansen, 2017). Because territories, colonised by the German Empire, ceased to be politically dependent on the German coloniser, after the Versaille treaty from 1919, the German state did not work through their colonizing past like other European colonial powers in the 20th and 21th century, which should be reflected in the narratives of history textbooks on that time.

➤ The Regulation and Adjudication of Autonomous Weapon Systems under International Humanitarian Law

PAUL WEBER

🕒 16:00-16:20

How can issues of liability in regard to Autonomous Weapon Systems be adjudicated under International Humanitarian Law?

This study will deal with the legal implications of the upcoming issue of Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS) and their conformity with International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Research in automation and Artificial Intelligence (AI) has seen large advancements in recent years. Their incorporation into military technology will bring about weapon systems that can act fully autonomous of human control in the future. Amongst others, this poses the question of who is responsible if AWS commits war crimes? For several years already, the implications of this issue are being discussed in talks at the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in Geneva to include AWS into the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), but how? The attempt proposed by this study is the development of an analysis grid, including current jurisprudence on the adjudication of war crimes from the International Criminal Tribunals on the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda (ICTY; ICTR), other international and also domestic decisions. This will then be applied to the case of AWS. For this to function, an adequate definition of what constitutes AWS has to be devised. To include the most contentious issues, this definition will therefore be held broadly.

The hypothesis is that current IHL jurisprudence is in fact largely applicable to AWS, with certain key issues falling outside of IHL and needing regulation. The aim is to outline these limits of conformity with IHL faced by AWS. Thereby, issues that may need regulation under the CCW will be identified, as for example the option of including a 'meaningful level of human control'. The study will thereby place itself in the legal part of the current discussion in academia and on diplomatic levels at UNODA concerning the topic.

➤ ‘Hearts and Minds’: The Influence of Wartime Strategy on International Aid Intervention in Afghanistan

ALAN SARGENT

🕒 16:20-16:40

This research project will investigate the military-strategic use of international aid in the post-9/11 era. Following the September 11 attacks, international forces led by the United States became heavily involved in wars in Afghanistan and, from 2003, Iraq. While engaged in these conflicts, military forces and international organisations conducted large-scale humanitarian and development aid interventions within these countries. These interventions have been criticised for their inability to foster development and secure peace, and Afghanistan and Iraq remain significant aid recipients to this day. The use of international aid as a geostrategic tool has also been the object of academic debate. While Cold War era academics found that the strategic interests of donor states drove international aid policy, scholars have since developed alternative theories which identify the needs of recipients as the main motivating factor. Using this scholarship to guide research, the goal of this project is to explain the way in which wartime strategic interests can influence the implementation of international aid interventions. To do so, it will analyse the US-led militarised aid intervention in Afghanistan during the post-9/11 conflict. After gathering data from multiple sources, it will employ a process tracing method to establish causal connections between the strategic military goals of the US-led force and the operationalisation of the accompanying aid intervention. In accordance with the donor-interest theory, this study hypothesises that the aid intervention was planned and executed with the primary purpose of furthering the international force’s military objectives. If so, the task of this study will be to determine how strategic motivation was concretely expressed in the aid intervention delivery process.

➤ Conditions under which Non-State Armed Groups concede to the Ban of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers in the Central African Republic

COSIMA KLATTE

🕒 16:40-17:00

Even though the prohibition of child soldiers has become an international human rights norm, their use, especially by non-state armed groups (NSAGs), has been rising (UNSRSG 2017). Since 2004, the UN signs Action Plans with NSAGs to prohibit child soldiering. My goal is to understand under which international, national and local conditions NSAGs decide to concede to this norm. In the Central African Republic (CAR), while the number of child soldiers has quadrupled between 2016-2017, four NSAGs have signed Action Plans between 2007-2018 (UNSG 2018). As child soldiers are perceived as a manifestation of hegemonic power relations between the Global North and South (Macmillan 2009), the “local turn” in Critical Peace and Conflict (P&C) approach may uncover otherwise neglected decision-making elements of NSAGs. Specifically recognizing the “complex local-international mix of identities, values and norms, and of cultural, political and economic practices”, this approach contrasts with the dominant P&C discourse rooted in the Global North, focusing on international agency (MacGinty&Richmond 2013, 770). My study is situated in the literature on rebel groups’ commitment to ban child soldiers (Kwon 2018; Lasley&Thyne 2015). Using an interpretative, most similar case study employing qualitative analysis, my data includes academic literature and reports on, i.e. ethnic groups’ perception of child soldiering (Lombard 2014), government relations, international interests, and the conflict shortly before their pledge (MINUSCA 2017). I expect to reveal a nuanced conditions-scheme of NSAG decision-making.

Panel 12: Cultural Controversies

Peterhof Room 3

➤ Impact Assessment of the Science Slam as a Popular Format of Science Communication in Germany

SALIHA SOYLU

🕒 15:40-16:00

Given the tension between the specific audience-related goals and the communication strategy of the science slam, what effect does the format actually achieve with its audience? Despite science slams' increasing popularity in Germany over the last years and their promotion as a best practice for science communication, analyses of their actual impact on the audience are rare, especially in the German context of Science Communication Studies. This project sets out to fill this gap in hope of contributing to a better understanding of the potential of the format and its mechanisms, which may also help to improve it. Regarding the general unwillingness of scientists to participate in popular event formats such as the science slam, impact assessment might also serve to find out whether their scepticism and criticism is justified or not.

Evaluation of the impact will be done conducting a survey of the audience with a questionnaire adapting standards that already exist in impact assessment of science communication and analyses of Public Understanding of Science.

By essentially combining the elements of scientific knowledge transfer and entertainment, the format of the science slam tries to achieve specific goals, i.e., first, to attract a particularly young audience, create higher interest in science, transfer knowledge, produce a better understanding of science, and, by consequence, to motivate for an academic career as well as to generate legitimation of science's funding and role in society in general. However, if the element of entertainment becomes too dominant, it may impede the production of knowledge and a better understanding of science, and, consequently, trivialize an academic career and the general social value of science. Usually balancing scientific standards and entertainment, it remains likely that the format succeeds at least short-term to achieve its primary goals (young audience, interest, knowledge), yet still fails to motivate for an academic career and to foster general social legitimation of science.

➤ Political Image through Popular Culture: Case Study of Julia Boutros' Music and Hezbollah in Lebanon

NERMIN ABBASSI

🕒 16:00-16:20

Hezbollah is a Lebanese Islamist Shia group that is categorized as a terrorist group by several states. However, in Lebanon, it is recognized as a legitimate political party. There are several ways through which this party becomes politically appealing one of which is that of popular culture. Popular culture, in a specific socio-cultural context, generates content and meaning for discourses. Therefore, it is able to effectively construct and communicate a political image appealing to different audiences. The goal of this research is to take the example of songs and music performances of Julia Boutros, a famous Christian Lebanese singer, to understand how they become performative political action that alters and enhances the political image of Hezbollah. This proposal will analyze three songs lyrics and three concert performances of Julia Boutros between 2006 and 2016. Moreover, this research has a twofold purpose: first, and by relying on Music Discourse Analysis (Aleshinskaya, 2013), it seeks to analyze what portrayal these music performances and songs have of Hezbollah within the suggested socio-cultural context. Second, it relies on Post Islamism theory (Bayet 2011) in order to understand the relevance of this portrayal within the overall Islamist movement and Lebanese context. I argue that Julia Boutros's music performances and songs create a nationalistic inclusive political image of Hezbollah by secluding its islamist sectarian blueprint sometimes, and by praising it other times.

➤ Discourses of Spirituality & Science in Search of Legitimacy in Psychedelic Studies

ALBERTO CANTIZANI-LOPEZ

🕒 16:20-16:40

Psychedelic Studies are a resurging field of research that deals with the multidisciplinary study of psychoactive substances and the altered states of consciousness they induce. Current research on psychedelics like LSD or Psilocybin represent an intersection between historically demarcated discourses of science and spirituality. Researchers committed to both spiritual and/or scientific convictions advocate the benefits and potentials of psychedelics in their academic work. The goal of this study is the characterization of the discourses and the strategies of legitimation articulated within the Psychedelic Studies with a special focus on the power relationships reproduced between science and spirituality. These aspects of discursive power can be explored through a Foucauldian discourse analysis of the psychedelic studies during the so-called Psychedelic Renaissance period (since the 2000s). Both scientism and spiritualism, conceived as ideologies underlying the discourse, entail different ontological and epistemological premises and fulfil a certain agenda in the context of Psychedelic studies. The discourses negotiated among psychedelic researchers can be typified along an ideological axis from scientific orthodoxy to spiritual fundamentalism, including a diverse array of hybrid possibilities. It will be argued that each discourse articulates different tactics to legitimize psychedelic substances as a precondition to also revendicate their own discursive authority. Spiritual discourses advocate psychedelics as a means for spiritual healing while scientific discourses promote them as tools in clinical context and brain research. Furthermore, spiritual discourses study psychedelic states in order to reaffirm the validity of mystical experiences at the core of religions, while scientific discourses attempt to explain away religious experiences on the basis of brain chemistry. These interactions among contrasting perspectives are helpful for the sociology of knowledge by offering a model of: the way science assimilates different systems of knowledge; and of how these alternative epistemologies may shift the social norms of scientific production.

➤ The Werther Effect and Thirteen Reasons Why

LEONIE HIRSCHMANN

🕒 16:40-17:00

My research will take a close look at the Werther Effect, named after the famous titular character of Goethe's „The Sorrows of Young Werther“ and its implications in the 21st century. I will try to describe the notion of this concept as well as how it came into being and why it is still of importance today. The main focus will lie with Netflix show „Thirteen Reasons Why“, based on the book by Jay Asher and its significance and aftermath concerning modern teenagers, especially those dealing with mental illness and at the risk of suicide. Through the method of literature review as well as case studies (including Kurt Cobain, Marilyn Monroe and Sylvia Plath) I will create the basis for my thesis: The Werther effect as such is relying on the way in which the media is dealing with individual cases of mental illness and suicide. In the end, I would like to have acquired a better knowledge of the different courses social media takes to influence us in modern society (much research on this topic has been made in the 90s). Moreover, many teenagers are dealing with problems concerning mental health, sadly not seldom stemming from bullying. In my research I will hopefully be able to highlight why those topics need to be addressed with utmost concern as well as showing the influence of a good role model for the prevention of self harm (especially when it comes to copycat suicides as with the Werther effect).