The course “Research Design across Disciplines” is aimed at LAS students who, towards the end of their 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 career moves. The main purposes of the course are to expose students to current research and to the expectations of 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

## Thursday 13th February 2020

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<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td>Introductory session: HS Rundbau (Institutsviertel)</td>
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<td>11:00-12:00</td>
<td>Poster session 1: HS Rundbau</td>
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<td>Policy and Identity</td>
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<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>Lunch break: Mensa Institutsviertel</td>
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### Panel 1: HHS 9, R00 003C
- **Advocacy**
  - Fabian Thomas
  - Jan Felix Adamczewski
  - Jonas Wagner
  - Zakaria Al Shmaly
  - Franziska Franke
  - Discussant: Harry Parfitt
  - **Seungjun Lee**

### Panel 2: HHS 9, R00 018A
- **Storytelling**
  - Annica Edl
  - Mareika Chirikure
  - Moritz Pischel
  - Fenja Jahn
  - Chiara Giardi
  - Discussant: Kassandra Friedrichs
  - **Leon Martini**

### Panel 3: HHS 9, R00 019/20
- **Questioning the Status Quo**
  - Freya Klose
  - Katharina Franke
  - Leon Martini
  - Lyu Mei Lin

**Panel 4: HHS 9, R00 003C**
- **Critical Discourses on Sex & Gender**
  - Ronja Sturm
  - Le Hue Huong
  - Laura Hessel
  - Harry Parfitt
  - Bettina Jin
  - Discussant: Moritz Pischel
  - **Cara Charifi**
  - **Nils Lang**

**Panel 5: HHS 9, R00 019/20**
- **Psychological & Psychiatric Phenomena**
  - Lena Scrimshaw
  - Melissa Pichler
  - Le Hue Huong
  - Jana Raschdorf
  - **Lyu Mei Lin**

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## Friday 14th February 2020

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:00-11:20</td>
<td>Care for the Environment</td>
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<td>At the Edge of Legality</td>
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<td>11:40-12:00</td>
<td>Community Analysis</td>
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### Panel 6: KG 1231
- Lea Schönborn
- Ka Hei Pinky Chow
- Antonia Nölke
- Juliana Quevedo
- Discussant: Franziska Franke
- **Lorena Unger**
- **Sarah Werner**
- **Julia Teresa Reus**
- **Jonas Skorza**
- **Benni Wolters**
- **Zack Al Shmaly**

### Panel 7: KG 1224
- Marlene Pick
- Sarah Werner
- Julia Teresa Reus
- Jonas Skorza
- Benni Wolters
- **Zack Al Shmaly**

### Panel 8: KG 1243
- Lorena Unger
- Lukas Wielhe
- Carlotta Rudolph
- Tobias Schrimpf
- Alisa Gessler
- **Leon Martini**

**Poster session 2: KG 3219**
- Halima Hodzic
- Ka Hei Pinky Chow
- Antonia Nölke
- Juliana Quevedo
- Discussant: Franziska Franke
- **Lorena Unger**
- **Sarah Werner**
- **Julia Teresa Reus**
- **Jonas Skorza**
- **Benni Wolters**
- **Zack Al Shmaly**

**Closing discussion: KG 3219**

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* HS: Hörsaal   HHS: Hermann-Herder-Strasse
The European Green Deal – Bold new policy or an Idealist proposal prioritizing on economic cooperation?

MAYA ROLLBERG

The global challenges of climate change require bold policies designed by the international community. Therefore, the new president of the commission of the European Union is proposing a blueprint of a new Green Deal, supposed to drastically reduce emissions in the EU by 2050. Even though this deal is not a fixed policy yet, it is important to analyze the underlying attitudes about international cooperation. For this purpose, the theory of Idealism in International Relations is reviewed, in particular the contributions of Keohane (1984) on economic cooperation. This theoretic framework provides categories for a qualitative analysis of the Green Deal. The research proposes thematic codes based on the methodology of Flick (2014), showing attitudes and underlying world views of international cooperation. Preliminary results show that the deal is underlining the importance of economic cooperation, new growth strategies and social justice, enabling social betterment and thus adhering to the core of Idealism in International Relations.

Education regimes in OECD countries

PENELOPE BERGEL

Aim and central concepts: My research seeks to build on existing analyses in welfare regime and education policy literature that have identified different ‘worlds’ of social policy regimes. In 2013, West and Nikolai have classified education regimes in Western EU countries and the US regarding their (in)equality of opportunity and expenditure. However, despite a rising data availability, so far, little research has addressed a classification of education regimes outside this scope of countries. Hence, I ask the questions: How do education systems of OECD countries cluster in terms of (in)equality of opportunity and expenditure in education? In what ways are some systems similar or different to one another?

Method and material: In an exploratory analysis, I would like to investigate a variety of institutional features describing the (in)equality of opportunity and expenditure in education of the 37 OECD countries. The indicators describing these features are mainly selected based on West and Nikolai’s (2013) research framework and, if suitable, adjusted with insights from further literature. I seek to utilize data from 2015-2020, assuring a most recent contribution to the literature. As a main database, I will use the results from the PISA 2018 study. A hierarchical cluster analysis is employed to cluster the education systems into classes of education regimes. Using ANOVA, I will then determine the features that distinguish the education regimes. Expectations and limitations: Thereby, I seek to generate a typology of education regimes that may extend or replace current classifications in the literature. Due to the limited scope of research, other contextual factors shaping the varieties of (in)equality (of opportunity) around the globe can unfortunately not be taken into consideration. Furthermore, due to data availability, only OECD countries could be taken into account.
Evaluating the Policy Mechanisms of the Rental Price Break (MietNovG) in Germany

PIT JASPER LEE

In Germany, about 54.2 percent of the people live in rented accommodations. No other country in Europe has such a high percentage of tenants (Neuhaus, 2017). Therefore, real estate remains a primary objective for capital investors in Germany (Su et al., 2016). The expected return on assets is exceptionally high in German cities due to rising rental prices (Belke & Keil, 2018). Over the last decade, tenants had to observe a rapid increase in the rental price per square meter in urban areas. Therefore, the German government implemented the MietNovG aiming to counter high rental charges. The policy came into force in 2015 (Bundesanzeiger, 2015). The commonly called rental price brake caps prices for new leases to a maximum of 10 percent higher than the average price per square meter in a specific district. Many authors have warned that the rental price break will yield unintended side effects and fails to tackle the main problem of an insufficient supply of housing in German urban areas (Kholodilin et al., 2016; Schuldt, 2017). Others have accused policymakers of misunderstanding underlying market mechanisms and hindering necessary investments (Schultz, 2017). By reconstructing the policy’s logic, this thesis aims to evaluate the rental price break. The realist policy evaluation used by Pawson and Tilley (1997) serves as the theoretical foundation for the assessment. Accordingly, this research focuses mainly on the policy’s logic, its underlying mechanisms, and the validity of the assumed causal connections. Moreover, amendments of the MietNovG and the supplementary policy MietAnpG, both implemented in 2019, are central to this thesis. Here, the focus lies on the impacts of the complementary policy measures on the mechanisms and functionality of the MietNovG. This realist policy evaluation draws on data from the Federal Statistical Office of Germany, the German Institute for Economic Research, and the online portal Statista.

Palestinian Identity in the third generation in the light of the right of return

DONATA NEBEL

My research design aims to study how Palestinian refugees of the third generation negotiate their own identity in the light of the “right of return”. The “right of return” is a political position, demanding that all Palestinian refugees who fled 1948 (and their ancestors) have a right to return to what is now Israel. With this research I hope to add to the existing literature about the Palestinian exile, by focusing on the third generation living in Germany. In addition, the claim of “the right of return” has huge social and political implications and seems worth studying more closely.

This research aims to study rather complex subjective experiences and feelings, therefore semi-structures interviews seem suitable for my research questions. This method allows me to focus on a certain aspect, as the right of return, but leave space to dive into other aspects. The transcription of the interviews will take all semantic details into account. The analysis of the interviews aims to find differences and similarities in regard to the approach of the “right of return”. Furthermore, it will link the results with relevant theories and concepts. Presumably, these theories will involve identity, memory and diaspora studies. Concepts like “imagines community (Anderson, 2006), the role of nostalgia (Milligan, 2003) and memory as resistance (Blachnicka-Ciacek, 2020) might play a role too.

In this research design I plan to interview four Palestinians living in Germany who are labeled as Palestinian refugees of the third generation, according to the UN agency (UNRWA). I intend to interview two women and two men who have different educational background, as well as vary in the duration they are living here in Germany. This diversity might enable me to identity different approaches to the aspect of the “right of return”.
The crimes committed against Indigenous peoples in Canada have been described as acts of cultural genocide. With the goal of complete assimilation into Canadian society, the government systematically oppressed aboriginal communities. To solve this so-called Indian Problem, residential schools were created. As Nicholas Flood Davin famously stated in 1879, these schools were of key importance for the governmental process of aggressive civilisation. By taking Indigenous children away from their parents and forcing them to forget their native customs and languages, the government hoped to ‘kill the Indian in the child’. Throughout this process, children were also accustomed to European gender roles and Christian ideals. Imposing patriarchal structures on Indigenous people weakened family ties and disempowered the women who were crucial members of their communities. Although these policies have been abandoned and the Canadian government has made steps towards reconciliation, the grave consequences are still felt today. Especially Indigenous women and girls, being the most marginalised group, have long suffered under the patriarchal system. The current Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Epidemic (MMIWG) is a humanitarian crisis that can be linked to this devastating aspect of Settler Colonialism in Canada. My work focusses on analysing the situation of Indigenous women in Saskatchewan Reserves amidst the MMIWG epidemic, in order to highlight how state policies negatively impact the communities by reinforcing existing patriarchal colonial power structures. By adopting an intersectional approach, I hope to better understand how the governmental process of decolonisation and reconciliation can be improved.
➢ Where is Extinction Rebellion on the political map?

FABIAN THOMAS

While the climate crisis remains unsolved, climate movements are on the rise. This research focuses on the theoretical grounding of “Extinction Rebellion” (XR), a climate movement that originated from the UK. One of Extinction Rebellion’s central demands is the creation of a “Citizens’ Assembly”, an assembly of randomly selected citizens that meets to discuss a specific topic and can make binding decisions for the parliament. XR justifies their demand for a Citizens’ Assembly with a harsh criticism of the parliamentary system. This research aims to locate XR’s parliamentary criticism on a political map. First, the legality of Citizen’s Assembly will be tested by comparing XR Germany’s conception of the Citizen Assembly with the German Constitution. Second, XR’s views will be compared to Carl Schmitt, a controversial legal philosopher who built his theory of sovereignty and dictatorship around states of emergency. Lastly, XR’s theoretical grounding will be compared to definitions of technocracy, as expert knowledge “beyond politics” is a central tenet of XR’s plan for the Citizens’ Assembly. As a result, a better understanding of the climate movement’s theoretical grounding is to be fostered.

➢ Attitudes of Climate Change Activists & Imaginations of the Future

JAN FELIX ADAMCZEWSKI

The research project intends to explore how fear is constructed and experienced around the issue of climate change and how fear and activism/activity influence each other by relating reconstructive qualitative interview studies with discourse analysis. Fear has been used more and more in climate activism and discourse to evoke an emotional response from people and hopefully move them to act. Whether fear is a valid motivator, that is controllable enough to employ strategically and really provokes action, has not been explored enough yet. The aim of this project would be to reconstruct feelings of fear from climate activist’s visions of their personal futures and relate it to existing visions and narratives in climate activism to find out how fear is socially constructed as a discursive and collective feeling. Furthermore, I want to explore how powerlessness and action influence fear and possibly do provide a method to cope with justified fears about climate change. Basis for that would also be a theoretical framework of fear as an emotion/affect and its communication. Although deliberate constructions of feelings can be seen quite critically from an ethical standpoint, the focus of this project would be, whether it is even possible to construct fear as a motivator, how it influences personal outlook and collective action and what toll it has on people. The runtime of the project is around 9 months.
Exploring public health advocacy groups in terms of epistemic authority and organizational structure

JONAS WAGNER

Political movements such as those surrounding vaccination, climate change or the implementation of new technologies in urban spaces offer new research possibilities concerning the intellectual diversity of their participants as well as the role of thought leaders and external actors such as the media. Using Samantha Vanderslot’s symmetry approach for the relations between science and society, two of the aforementioned movements will be compared in terms of their usage of epistemic authority, their means and strategies of communication, and their organizational structure. Like Vanderslot, Michel Foucault’s concept of “bio-politics” will be used to analyze the relations between the strategies and mechanisms which are employed by political movements and the political control and power that result from these tools. Preliminary research suggests similarities in the process that members of such movements undergo from introduction to deep integration. The cases used for this research are the “Freiburg 5G-frei!” anti-5G and the “Windparkfreie HEIMAT Rund um den Rauhen Kulm (RudRK)” anti-wind farm movement.

Pluralism vs Corporatism in the European Union (EU): How did the EU Transparency Register (EUTR) develop since its creation in 2011?

ZAKARIA AL SHMALY

The European Union’s instrument of Interest Group (IG) regulation has been based on a voluntary agreement between the EU and IGs and is mainly implemented through the EU’s Transparency Register (EUTR). The agreement built on the “corporatist theory” of IG regulations focuses on keeping costs and inflation in check so that Member States can be competitive in international trade and maintain and enhance the domestic standard of living. Such regulations can be found in Scandinavian and West-European states. Yet, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) propositioned a reform to change the EUTR to a “one size for all” regulation, highlighting the inefficiency of the voluntary basis and the exemption of the European Council from the regulations. Such reform fits within the “pluralist theory” of IG regulations, claiming that politics and policy making is a marketplace with - more or less - perfect competition between actors. Pluralist regulations are similar to the United States approach to IG regulations. This paper analyses policy changes in the EUTR since its creation in 2011 and throughout its reforms in 2014, considering the pluralist proposal in 2018. The paper compares IG regulation progression using policy text analysis and analysis the EUTR in comparison to external monitoring instruments. The paper concludes that the EU’s regulations became more pluralist since 2014 (increased competition on equal ground) which is changing the nature of the instrument due to a perception of lack of transparency. The change is likely to negatively affect small IGs and require an enforcement mechanism to equally implement such reform.
In recent years, especially since the Copenhagen Climate Summit in 2009, the notion of “climate justice” has increasingly been adopted by environmental movements in the Global North (Cassegård, 2017). Different environmental and climate activist groups appear to be subsumed under the label “climate justice movement” (Walter & Klutz, 2019). However, it seems that despite the wide-spread usage of the term “climate justice”, the exact meaning of it is unclear (Cassegård, 2017). Turning to the academic discourse about “climate justice” within political and social philosophy, it becomes clear that there are multiple, partly contradictory, conceptualisations of “climate justice” (Meyer & Roser, 2006; Caney, 2014). “Climate justice” has for example been framed as a matter of distributive justice, where the central concern is the just distribution of emission rights (Meyer & Roser, 2006; 2010). The notion of “compensatory justice” emphasises the need to justly distribute the burdens resulting from climate justice, according to a particular principle (Meyer & Roser, 2010; Caney, 2014). “Climate justice” has also been conceptualised as a matter of global justice (Meyer & Roser, 2010; Pettit, 2004) and intergenerational justice (Meyer & Roser, 2010). The goal of this research project is to investigate in how far these conceptualisations are embraced by parts of the so-called “climate justice movement”, in order to better understand how climate activists conceptualise “climate justice”. Therefore, I plan to conduct a rather deductive, problem-driven content analysis as described by Krippendorf (2018) on a selected body of public statements by two climate activist groups in Germany, “Fridays for Future” and “Extinction Rebellion”.

➢ Conceptions of Climate Justice and Social Movements

FRANZISKA FRANKE

14:20-14:40
To what extent are marginalized groups recognized in traditional media? — the example of the MeToo movement in the New York Times

ANNICA EDL

On the 15th of October 2017, actress Alyssa Milano tweeted about sexual violence and called for each victim of sexual assault to raise their voice by using the hashtag “#MeToo”. Her tweet kicked off a global, widespread discussion of sexual assault in everyday life. Although Milano, a white actress, used it, the term 'MeToo' as a symbol for breaking the silence surrounding sexual violence was by no means her original idea. A decade prior, activist Tarana Burke, a woman of color, had created the MeToo movement. However, in the immediate discussion of the movement in newspapers, she was hardly even mentioned, let alone credited. An intersectional critique classifies this incident as an appropriation of Burke's work and yet another example of how women of color’s voices in feminist activism are silenced (Fileborn & Loney-Hughes, 2019, 6). Based on this critique, my research is examining to what extent the acknowledgement of Burke as the founder of the MeToo movement is reflected in the coverage of the New York Times. An investigation of the recognition of marginalized groups within media is crucial, since it contributes to the framing of these groups in the public’s eye. The preliminary results indicate an immense lack of recognition of Burke as the founder. Most strikingly, in the first days after Milano’s tweet, neither Burke nor the fact that the movement had been in existence before October 2017 were part of the coverage whatsoever. In fact, the main association drawn to the movement were the Weinstein scandal and the sexual violence experienced by affluent white women in Hollywood. These results point to the dire need for more research from an intersectional perspective on this issue of recognition.

Navigating Sexuality Education: looking into the past and present to understand how comprehensive sexuality education can be taught in high schools in Harare

TSITSI MAREIKA CHIRIKURE

According to the WHO Zimbabwe is currently experiencing an HIV endemic with about a quarter of the adult population living with the virus. There have been several attempts at mitigating this endemic, one of the most effective being increased sexuality education in schools and other formal settings such as hospitals and community centres. The existence of the epidemic and the success of education at lowering the rates of infection amongst adults have led to an increased focus on sexuality education as a method of prevention. Despite this between 2005 and 2012, HIV-related deaths among adolescents in Zimbabwe increased by 50%, while the global number of HIV-related deaths fell by 30%. This suggests that amongst adolescence in Zimbabwe there is a flaw in the educational system as in these years both the adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) strategy and comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) programme were adopted in high schools (what of other factors that led to the increase?). In this paper I will explore what factors may be leading to this disconnect through engaging with teachers and surveying pupils in high schools in Harare. As these schools have a high percentage of Shona people (over 90% of the population) I will focus on the history of sexuality education amongst the Shona people to see what changes have occurred since precolonial times to the break out of HIV until the present day. I argue that the breakdown of kinship based sexuality education and the obsession with mitigating the effects of the HIV endemic have turned sexuality education into a
moralising and preventative endeavour that does not allow students to fully understand their sexualities, leading to reduced relatability hence applicability of the education received.

Alexander Ecker and his Race Ideology: Merely a ‘Product of his Time’?

**MORITZ PISCHEL**  
13:40-14:10

The notable Freiburg anthropologist and anatomist Alexander Ecker has been a controversial figure for some time now due to the racist motivations for his research. Only three years ago, the city of Freiburg renamed the street bearing his name, citing his work as a precursor of Nazi race ideology as justification: In his work, he sought to show the superiority of Europeans over others, primarily by comparing skulls of different ethnic groups. In doing so, he attempted to apply Darwin’s Theory of Evolution to humans to try to show some as being further developed than others. Both the focus of his research and the methods by which he collected the human remains for his collection made use of colonial structures and hierarchies. The aim of the present study is to show that not only from today’s perspective, but also by the standards of his time, Ecker was a more problematic character than many admit, both in his methods and his theories. In order to show this, I will review the correspondences, documents, and writings remaining of his estate and to use these to form a more complete picture of Ecker. The focus while reviewing his writings will be particularly instances of both overt and implicit racism in his writings.

Documenting death and dying as a performative undertaking in the documentary film Silverlake Life: The View from Here (1993)

**FENJA JAHN**  
14:00-14:20

While natural death and dying are generally considered ubiquitous to the (human) experience of life, their depiction on screen, especially in documentary movies, is still quite rare. Attempting to explore the possibilities of documentary movies to depict natural death as a common experience, this research project combines an extensive literature review with a film analysis of Silverlake Life: The View from Here (1993) by Tom Joslin and Peter Friedman. Firstly, the notions of death and dying are problematised due to the complexity encountered in defining them precisely, both as a physiological as well as a cultural experience. Moreover, natural death has become a taboo topic in Western Societies with its representations and reality being confined to medical care environments. The deathbed documentary Silverlake Life attempts to break this taboo while following Joslin and his partner Massi through their process of dying of AIDS. The content analysis of the film illustrates the complexity of the theoretical notions of death representation. Discussing the gaze and camera perspective as well as the editing, the different representations of death seem to be justified by the filmmaker’s choices, yet fall short in rendering death a more relatable experience. Ultimately, death is represented as a performative undertaking on screen that requires interpretational work from the observer. As death, both in regards to the physical and the mental process, can hardly be visualised, dying as a continuing transformation becomes a usable substitute. This project aims to explore natural death as a taboo on screen as well as its depiction and characteristics as a performative undertaking.
Mapmaking and storytelling: Artist’s books and fanzines for “SUBJECTIVE MAPS / Disappearances” National Gallery of Iceland (2013)

According to the Deutscher Museumsbund, a museum has five core tasks: to collect, to exhibit, to communicate, to conserve and to research. Following these principles, the acquisition of artist’s books and fanzines created for the exhibition “SUBJECTIVE MAPS / Disappearances” by the National Gallery of San Marino, becomes the opportunity and motivation for their study. The exhibition was organized by /Little Constellation/ (a contemporary art network with a focus on European geo-cultural micro areas and small states) at the National Gallery of Iceland in 2013. The present study relies on a medium-specific analysis of a selection of the works, literature research and expert interviews with curators, participating artists and representatives of the cultural institutions involved. The analysis focuses on the artists’ interpretations of ‘maps’, as convergences of space, time and place. It looks at how (personal) narratives are spatialized, also with regards to the places where the artists were born and/or are based.
Panel 3: Questioning the Status Quo
HHS 9, R00 019/20

➢ How should international organizations (IOs) evolve based on green theory that challenges orthodox international relations (IR) theories of neorealism and neoliberalism?

SEUNGJUN LEE

Ever since the First Industrial Revolution, mankind has been faced with the challenge of minimizing the negative impact of human activity on the environment. In today’s society, alarming environmental issues such as increasing carbon dioxide emissions and the depletion of natural resources are the collective concern of most nations and international organizations (IOs) worldwide. In this sense, the notion of environmental preservation and conservation has become indispensable even in the realm of international relations (IR). Green theory is a sub-field of IR theory that challenges orthodox IR theories and offers a range of new green interpretations of global governance. This paper analyzes the critiques of mainstream neorealist and neoliberal approaches to international relations and offers an insight to the future of international organizations by applying green theory to relevant IOs. The areas of analysis include ethics, role of the state, policy-making, organizational structure, and security. The paper is organized in two parts, the first part as a literature review and the second part as a collection of case studies. The literature review focuses on identifying the various grounds on which green theory criticizes the orthodox IR theories of neorealism and neoliberalism. The case studies then look into three international organizations: the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the World Bank to investigate the importance and implications of actually applying green theory to specific IOs. The fundamental goal of the research is to suggest the future directionality of modern day international organizations based on the normative analyses conducted throughout the paper.

➢ The applicability of the non-discrimination doctrine in German law: A critical feminist evaluation

FREYA KLOSE

The non-discrimination doctrine of the European Union, which was implemented especially through four directives between 2000 and 2006, had to be incorporated by the member states in their state legislation. As a result, Germany adopted the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG) in 2006. In the following, the AGG is critically analysed through feminist law theories with respect to its applicability and composition. The grounds of discrimination and the difference between direct and indirect discrimination is circumscribed, to then, reflect upon the terms used within the AGG such as race and ethnicity, by applying feminist law theories and by consulting a report of the center for intersectional justice. Moreover, the focus lies on the feminist debate of intersectional discrimination and how to best incorporate it into German law. To understand the idea of intersectional discrimination, intersectionality and the evolvement of the term is discussed by considering Kimberle Crenshaw, who coined the term. Further, the AGG mentions multidimensional discrimination, however, it is debateable whether it can be equated with an intersectional approach towards law. Through the application of critical law theories, one receives an idea of how the AGG could be improved to fit reality more precisely and, hence, to increase its applicability. The goal is to reduce the gap between law and reality to some extent. Ideas and thoughts of Shreya Atrey, Doris Liebscher and Katherine Bartlett strongly influence
the suggestions for changes of the AGG that are made throughout the paper, such as the implementation of a unique category for intersectional discrimination.

➢ The Image of Science: An analysis of the Jurisprudence on Article 5.7 of the SPS Agreement

KATHARINA FRANKE

The Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regulates the Members’ introduction of measures protecting human, animal and plant life from risks arising from inter alia establishment or spread of pests, toxins or disease-causing organisms in food. Article 5.7 allows Members to provisionally adopt a SPS measure in cases where ‘scientific evidence is insufficient’, and on the basis of ‘pertinent information’. As the Article might exempt Members from more strict requirements of risk assessment and proof of a ‘scientific basis’, Article 5.7 is considered to incorporate the ‘precautionary principle’. However, there are a lot of unclarities with regards to the legal interpretation of Article 5.7. These unclarities include the exact legal standard which are applied to requirements of the Article, the relation to other Articles of the Agreement, as well as, more generally, the implicit conception of ‘science’ underlying the legal interpretation. In my research, I want to analyze most recent dispute settlement cases relating to Article 5.7. My aim is to (a) gain more clarity on the legal interpretation of the Article, and (b) identify the image of ‘science’ that is created by the Dispute Settlement Body, the Appellate Body, as well as the disputing parties. In my analysis, I will draw from both legal concepts as well as concepts from STS, such as boundary work. Finally, I hope to then able to discuss to what degree the ‘precautionary principle’ has been incorporated in Article 5.7 jurisprudence.

➢ Climate Policy Integration in the European Union’s Common Agricultural Policy: the politics of policy integration

LEON MARTINI

Climate change is a cross-cutting issue that does not fit a ministerial box. Instead, climate policy must be integrated across policy domains – from energy, over trade to agriculture. With climate change on top of the political agenda, the European Union is commonly praised as a leader in climate action. Yet, the integration of climate policy goals and the means to achieve them into formerly isolated policy domains remains to be a challenge in EU politics. The Common Agricultural Policy of the EU is a particularly contentious policy that is expected to deliver on a diverse set of objectives. On top of policy goals like the promotion of competitiveness, rural development or biodiversity conservation, the CAP is now expected to integrate climate action. This integration process is subject of my research. First, the policy changes with regards to climate policy from the de jure CAP to the current reform proposal will be mapped to answer the question how climate policy is integrated into agricultural policy. This encompasses the goals of policy and the means to achieve them. In a second step, the politics of policy integration will be investigated. Through an analysis of the discourse around the CAP reform as well as interviews with relevant stakeholders the policy change will be explained with the help of the advocacy coalition framework.
What future holds for foreign companies in China? Foreign direct investment (FDI) protections for intellectual property rights (IPR) in mainland China after the phase 1 trade agreement between U.S. and China

LYU MEI LIN

There have been three distinct layers of foreign direct investment (FDI) protections for intellectual property right exist in China. Specifically, (1) international investment law—mostly through Chinese Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and FTA, (2) WTO under TRIPs and TRIMs, and (3) Chinese domestic law. As a result of the most recent U.S.-China phase one agreement on trade, Chinese domestic law itself is undergoing a historic transformation with the launch of the new Chinese Foreign Investment Law (FIL). This will specifically guide foreign companies in China and maintain on substantive BIT protections in various aspects. This paper aims to provide a up-to-date legal impact analysis of how a range of international and bilateral agreements (between U.S. and China) could have combined effects on the intellectual property right in China. Due to the uncertainty for a release of phase 2 trade deal by the end of Trump’s presidency, this paper aims to analyse until phase 1 agreement. The methodology of this paper would be doctrinal legal analysis, focusing on Statutes, Regulations, Codes declared by primary authorities in Chinese and English, in order to find out the combined effects of the conceptual bases of legal principles on this particular study of IPR in China.
Panel 4: Critical Discourses on Sex & Gender
HHS 9, R00 003C

➢ Sex and Gender Differences in Depression: A Critical Review

RONJA STURM  15:20-15:40

It has become increasingly evident that the safety and effectiveness of health interventions often vary between people of different sex or gender, variables that have often been neglected. One strategy to solve this problem is to sensitize health care providers to gender-specific clinical presentations and treatment options, summarized in the concept of gender medicine. Gender-sensitive medicine involves medical practices that consider biological and social dimensions of health and their impact on people with different sex and gender, in order to provide the most adequate health care to all.

Concerning mental health, bias in medical practices may result in gender inequities in access and health care utilization, or in response to treatment. However, little is known about medically relevant sex and gender imbalances that arise for highly prevalent mental diseases, such as depression. This research project thus aims to provide an overview on the current state of knowledge on sex and gender disparities in major depressive disorder. I will review the work that has been conducted so far, critically evaluating where sociocultural and biological aspects influence the risk factors, symptoms, and treatment outcome of major depressive disorder in men and women. This will enable an increased understanding of sex and gender differences that should be considered regarding depression, aiding a gender-sensitive training of health care practitioners. The project is part of a cooperation in Switzerland, which aims to incorporate gender-sensitive medicine into the Swiss medical curriculum.

➢ Gender evaluation of human trafficking policing

LE HUE HUONG  15:40-16:00

Although there are many factors that affect vulnerability to human trafficking, this research focuses on the gender aspect of trafficking in persons. In particular, it aims to examine the gender specificity of responses taken to counter human trafficking by the Vietnamese government, and thereby rather focuses on the policy evaluation dimension of the issue. Human trafficking is a gendered process that affects different gendered identities differently. In the Vietnamese context, women still constitute the majority of trafficking victims, with 90% of the trafficking victims being trafficked to China, 80% of which are sexually exploited (Blue Dragon Children’s Foundation, 2019). This indicates the significance of adequate policy evaluation of responses to human trafficking in Vietnam. Having acknowledged this fact, this research raises the research question that, “To what extent is Vietnam’s National Action Programme Against Trafficking gender-specific with regards to its output focusing on education, advocacy, and reintegration of trafficking victims?” The central concepts underlying this study include vulnerability, intersectionality, and gender mainstreaming policies. With regards to method of policy evaluation, the research chooses the gender-responsive and human-right based evaluation framework proposed by Dr. Anh Duong Kim to analyse the national responses to human trafficking regarding policy output. Therefore, a deductive research design is adopted for this purpose. The methodologies used in this study include case study, literature and discourse analysis, gender construction analysis, and coding.
Discrepancies between legal and biological definitions of the beginning of human life

LAURA HESSEL

With the conviction of the gynecologist Christina Hänel in November 2017 the discussion about the right to abort opened up again in Germany. Policies concerning abortion can be seen as part of a bigger pool of legal regulations that implicitly or explicitly answer the question of when human life begins. This pool of regulations also including the ban of research on embryonal stem cells has repeatedly been topic of controversy in media and society. Historically this topic has been of major importance not just in the public but also in the academic discourse. Scholars in Philosophy, Religious studies and Biology seek to define a clear point of time in human development that marks the start of human life. The answers in academia are diverse and have not (yet?) yield such a point. This stands in direct discrepancy with the policies regulating topics like abortion where a precise point for the beginning of life is defined. Often these policies refer back to biological findings about embryonal development. In my research I am therefore going to analyze in how far policies defining the beginning of life are referring back to biological findings and in how far this is representable for the biological research on the beginning of life. In order to do so I am going to conduct a literature review to summarize different biological approaches on the beginning of life. In a second step I will compare different legal regulations concerning the beginning of life in German law and the reasoning for these laws. This allows me in a last step to analyze in how far the political reasoning is representing the current research landscape on the biological definition of the beginning of human life.

Queer Surveillance Capitalism

HARRY PARFITT

Shoshana Zuboff’s Surveillance Capitalism (2019) reveals how Silicon Valley companies such as Facebook, Amazon, and Google, make immense profits by employing information technology to gather data about users. Zuboff characterises the form of power whereby Surveillance Capitalists instrumentalise data in order to influence users for profit as the ‘Big Other’. The ‘Big Other’ monitors and controls behaviour via a regime of rewards and punishments to ensure compliance - and is increasingly able to manipulate us in the ‘real world’, and in ‘real time’. Like many others, then, Zuboff is concerned that the penetration of data-collecting information technologies into every aspect of our lives, presents a threat to the ideals of a liberal, democratic society. My research design will question the expediency of Zuboff’s characterisation of Surveillance Capitalism as an aberrant form of post-industrial capitalism and her assumption of a “stable, rights seeking, liberal political subject” (Richter-Montpetit, 2018) whose agency is being threatened by the ‘Big Other’. Rather, I posit that if the influence of Surveillance Capitalism is to be better comprehended, its continuity with societies of ‘discipline’ and ‘control’ should be recognised (Deleuze, 1992), and the perspectives on power relations and construction of the self of, for example, Foucault (1975) or Butler (1992) must be taken into consideration. Thus, taking inspiration from the recent publication of Queer Surveillance by the foremost journal of Surveillance Studies, my thesis will adopt a queer perspective, inspired by Butler and Foucault, in order to analyse power relations under ‘Surveillance Capitalism’. A queer analysis of Surveillance Capitalism will not only enrich understanding of the mechanism of the ‘Big Other’ (Kafer & Grinberg, 2019), but will also give insight into the contemporary possibilities of queer resistance to hegemonic heteronormativity (Schram, 2019).
In 1995, China adopted the Beijing Declaration, a set of principles regarding the equality between men and women, stipulated by the UN at the end of the Fourth World Conference on Women. Since then, scholars argue that the political discourse has shifted from a state feminism approach to embracing a more global feminist concept. Furthermore, gender equality has taken an important place in both Chinese national and foreign policy making, with China aiming to take a leadership role in the latter. By using a textual content analysis on woman portrayals in the state-sponsored magazine 'Women of China English monthly', this research will try to answer the question of how Chinese women are portrayed to a foreign audience and whether certain types of female images are construed.
Effects of CO2 and temperature on perceived ability to concentrate indoors

CARA CHARIFI

High indoor CO2 levels can affect the human body. Results of high CO2 are headaches, drowsiness, poor concentration, loss of attention and more. In lecture rooms and offices, CO2 levels can easily surpass the thresholds that cause these symptoms. My aim is to assess the ability to concentrate indoors depending on CO2 levels in the air. For this, I am gathering data with a sensor that measures CO2, temperature and relative humidity. I also look at how a room is ventilated (ventilation systems, amount and duration of opened doors and windows). Furthermore, participants will be filling in a questionnaire before and after the experiment to self-assess their ability to concentrate. Then, I will compare the perceived ability to concentrate at different CO2 levels. I will be looking for data to support previous findings about the effects of high CO2, as well as for data that shows the effects of insufficient ventilation (CO2 drops but not below threshold levels) in relation to temperature changes. This is done in order to see whether changes in temperature can mitigate the effects of high CO2 levels. This is especially relevant in winter, when windows are opened for short amounts of time. Additionally, I would like to see whether a placebo effect occurs when participants believe a room to be well ventilated while it is not or the other way around. I expect to see some placebo effects in situations where participants believe a room to be poorly ventilated and therefore suffer from high CO2 symptoms.

The Usage of Functional Brain Connectivity Data in Clinical Trials of fMRI Neurofeedback: A Systematic Review

NILS LANG

Psychiatric diseases are among the leading causes of disability and loss of workforce in most industrial countries. Although various pharmaceutical and behavioral treatments are available, many patients experience remission or treatment resistance, with only around 30% of patients with major depressive disorder responding to their first treatment and a similar portion remaining treatment resistant after multiple interventions. Hence, many stakeholders have voiced the need for alternative, potentially non-drug treatments to be developed and tested. One such alternative treatment option is fMRI Neurofeedback, which is currently being investigated for multiple psychiatric indications.

fMRI Neurofeedback has shown clinical promise but has not yet demonstrated general superiority to conventional therapeutic approaches. Utilizing the plasticity of the human brain, Neurofeedback supplies the patient with real-time feedback of their neural activity and gives indications of how this feedback should be manipulated to transition from brain activation patterns related to a diseased state to non-pathological brain network activity. Proponents of Neurofeedback see it as a treatment that would be especially well suited for a "precision" approach to psychiatry, in which disease classification is no longer based on symptoms, but on brain imaging data that correlates certain brain activation patterns to a disease. This would necessitate a consistent use of these data within Neurofeedback treatment regimens for diagnosis, data-based feedback training and evaluation of the intervention.

To evaluate the current usage of such data in clinical trials of fMRI Neurofeedback, I will be conducting a systematic review of the usage and intended purpose of functional connectivity data, a quantitative metric of correlation between brain activation patterns, at the different stages of clinical trials (recruitment/diagnosis,
feedback training, evaluation of treatment efficacy). Preliminary results suggest that functional connectivity data is not yet used as consistently as required by the precision psychiatry paradigm.

➢ Excessive Inhibition in the Hippocampus for Down Syndrome

SVEN ZACHARIAS

The brain region called Hippocampus is mainly responsible for our orientation in space as well as for encoding and recalling memories. Yet, it is known that in patients with Down Syndrome, the Hippocampus is usually smaller and underdeveloped. What may lead to the associated deficits in intelligence is due to an over inhibition of certain smaller areas and specific neurons. Yet, how and where exactly this inhibition occurs is still a mystery. The Bischofberger Laboratory in Basel recently discovered that certain interneurons which project onto the stomata of the bigger pyramidal neurons are mainly responsible for this effect. Hence, I will research and explain how these interneurons are able to achieve such a strong inhibition that may lead to a better understanding of the disease that we call Down Syndrome.

➢ The Replication Crisis as an Opportunity to Reevaluate how we try to comprehend Psychological Phenomena

LASSE HAUF

The Replicability is widely taken to ground the epistemic authority of science. However, in recent years, important published findings in the social, behavioral, and biomedical sciences have failed to replicate, suggesting that these fields are facing a “replication crisis”. Psychology, in particular social psychology, was one of the first disciplines that became known to a wider academic audience as suffering from replication issues, with possibly far reaching consequences for the validity of large parts of the established body of knowledge. Subsequently, there have been efforts to “increase openness, integrity, and reproducibility of research” by the Center for Open Science and other actors, which amounts to what can be called an ‘open-science movement’ that blames replication issues on questionable scientific practices that are incentivized by a highly competitive environment. This thesis aims to question the idea that, in (social) psychology, adjusting the incentive structures, updating the statistical methods, and promoting open science with preregistered studies etc. will sustainably solve the problems that the replication crisis has brought up. I will argue that instead of, or at least in addition to, revealing a need for the improvement of scientific practices and structures, the replication crisis points to a deeper conflict between what philosopher Louis Mink calls “modes of comprehension”. While, in principle, any phenomenon can be studied through one single mode of comprehension, there are phenomena that are more aptly studied in one rather than another mode, depending on what questions are sought to be answered. In that sense, my thesis can be seen as asking theoretical questions that have accompanied psychology from early on. Already addressed by Wilhelm Dilthey (1894), C. G. Jung and Wolfgang Pauli (1932), as well as in the Behaviorism-debate (1950s), the question of how to achieve comprehension of psychological phenomena still persists today.
In the 21st century of accumulating violent incidents, the notion of ‘traumatic memories’ acquires a new meaning for historical inquiry. Catherine Meurisse, a French cartoonist, processes her own trauma of having lost fellow employees during the shooting at the Charlie Hebdo office in January 2015 in the graphic novel La Légèreté. La Légèreté is a collection of Meurisse’s evolving states of minds, overwhelming emotions, and attempts to deal with societal issues surrounding her and the handling with a disruptive moment linguistically and graphically. Many researchers have analysed trauma and it is a debated field of inquiry in various academic disciplines. This research project focuses on the one hand on theoretical background of trauma in areas of the neurosciences concerning how we remember traumatic events. Further, psychoanalysis is used as a means of analysis of Meurisse’s inner conflict and literature is reviewed dealing with the value of a traumatised person’s account for historical investigation. On the other hand, the research project explores the ethical implications that come along with such an analysis. Yet, it remains crucial to ask questions about how we actually know about displayed phenomena through Meurisse’s account as a traumatised person who suffered and may still suffer from severe stress and the ethical implication which accompany an analysis of the experience.
On the way to a solidarity-oriented society. The concept of solidarity and its application within the network ‘Care Revolution’

LEA SCHÖNBORN

The European Within the leftist discourse, the concept of solidarity has recently gained popularity. The term and the possible political transformation strategy relating thereto deserves political attention as it is argued widely that the left has lost power because it lacks a coherent narrative offering a compelling story. The aim of this study is thus to examine solidarity from a historical and political perspective to subsequently study concrete examples that aim at implementing the concept. By doing this, the strengths and weaknesses of solidarity as a compelling narrative can be analysed and it can be answered whether it can offer a new, convincing storyline for leftist movements. The assumed need for a transformation of society is based on the assumption that the prevalent neoliberal capitalist system in Western countries places profit maximisation, self-optimisation and individual responsibility as maxims. Results are social inequality and care work serves as a vivid illustration of social and gendered inequality: Who is taking care of your elderly parents? Who is cleaning the kitchen and picking up the children right after an 8-hour-day of work? The sociologist Gabriele Winkler has opened the debate around care work. She argues for a change of perspectives: to put care work in the centre and to organise society according to human needs. According to her, a ‘Care Revolution’ would lead to a solidarity-based society. The focus for this research will be Germany as the network Care Revolution is based here. The gap between theory and practice is aimed to be bridged by interviewing contributors to the network ‘Care Revolution’ on their understanding of solidarity and how they think it can work in practice.

Environmental Hazards from Glacier Melting in Tibetan Plateau

KA HEI PINKY, CHOW

Climate change is not only a risk for the future generation but is an on-going challenge for the world population. In South Asia, 1.3 billion people depends on the freshwater resources from the glacier in Tibetan Plateau which undergo dramatic melting with increased atmospheric temperature. It is essential to assess the environmental hazards which are really challenging with the traditional field methods due to the vast region and extremely high altitude. Remote sensing provides a methodology to observe the glacier changes in the region with low cost and high accessibility. The goal of this research is to assess the extent of glacier change, as well as its spatial and temporal variations with the help of satellite gravimetry. This research also aims to comprehend the potential risk to the local population, including water shortage and glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF), as well as identify the hotspots.

Method Data: The data from Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) will be offered as data product which can be accessed on the NASA website. Product need to be visualized and calibrated before use. Geographical Information System (GIS) and programming language Python will be used for the visualization and spatial analysis. Post processing will be done for the data to focus on the study region in the Tibetan Plateau. It will be visualized as the changes in the total water storage with Python script and then imported into ArcGIS software environment for spatial analysis. Different demographic characteristics such as population density will be considered. Literature Review will be conducted to investigate the potential hazards from glacier melting. Remote Sensing, such as gravimetry, altimetry and radar, is a geophysical method to observe characteristics and temporal changes from distance. It makes use of the physical properties of matter to contrast one characteristic from the other.
Antiracist Educational Work: Development over time? An Ethnographic Study in Germany (Freiburg)

ANTONIA NÖLKE

Everyone socialised in Germany or similar Western contexts is exposed to and therefore carries in them racist assumptions, stereotypes and judgements. This fact is widely acknowledged among academic and popular scientific researchers. But has it arrived within antiracist activist groups who perform workshops that are supposed to reduce racism in Germany eventually? I will engage in an analysis of the development of antiracist educational work overtime: In how far did the growing literature shape modern antiracist educational work – if at all? What makes people interested in antiracist theory & practice? Against which form of racism is it mostly directed? And how do our racisms differ, based on different generational or cultural socialization and different educational interventions? This ethnographic study attempts to answer this broad set of questions in analysing the development of antiracist educational workshops and events in Germany, mostly around Freiburg. Based on personal reflections acquired through participant observations and the qualitative analysis of interviews with antiracist educators working in Germany, it will be argued that antiracist educational work is in constant development. The exchange between educational workers among different generations, socio-economic and professional backgrounds is supposed to benefit future antiracist efforts. It will be highlighted that no matter how reflective white people (including me as researcher) try or assume to be, an (educational) environment in which black, indigenous and people of colour will feel safe is never easily achieved.

Are plastics and bioplastics the same in terms of their life cycles?

JULIANA QUEVEDO ZABALA

Last year the EU issued a Directive (2029/904) on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment. This Directive was issued on the grounds of waste prevention, in accordance with the Agenda 2030, which is the basis for the Sustainable Development Goals. In this case the SDG 12 which ensures sustainable consumption and production patterns; it particularly emphasizes marine environments since 80-85% of the marine litter in the EU is plastic, of which 50% accounts for single use plastics. The document’s definition of “plastic” is very peculiar, as it includes chemically modified biopolymers (bioplastics). My research focuses on the implications of classifying all chemically modified biopolymers as plastics in the 2019/904 EU Directive; in here, chemically modified biopolymers and included in the definition of plastics, and by combining the terms, facts about biopolymers seems to be overlooked. The Directive will direct decision-making towards limiting plastics as well as bioplastics usage. In order to evaluate this, a life cycle assessment will be conducted on both plastics and bioplastics, focusing specifically on polyethylene and cellulose respectively. Ultimately, the goal is to shed light in the implications of this EU Directive working definition, that will likely have an impact on bioplastics usage and production.
Statelessness, the rights of Palestinian Refugees and the role of UNRWA

MARLENE PICK

The United Nations General Assembly established UNRWA in 1949 as a reaction to the large number of Palestinians who became refugees during and after the founding of the state of Israel. Initially thought to provide transitory humanitarian aid to the Palestinian refugees, 70 years after its establishment UNRWA still constitutes the main party in charge of protection of Palestinian refugees in camps in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan as well as in the West Bank and Gaza. Until today a large number of Palestinian refugees continue to live in refugee camps because on the one hand they do not enjoy the same rights and opportunities as the population of their host-countries. On the other hand by living in an obviously temporary arrangement Palestinians manifest their right to return and their striving for the creation of a Palestinian state. While the international community continues to fund and run UNRWA to deal with the situation of Palestinian refugees, a political solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, based on the founding of an independent Palestinian state becomes increasingly unlikely. Under international law UNRWA is the main actor responsible for the protection of Palestinian people. This becomes visible in the fact that Palestinian refugees who are registered with the UNRWA, do not fall under the mandate of UNHCR and can be refused a refugee status under the national law. In my research project I will study the concept of protection under international law and the work of UNRWA for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, because I want to find out what form of protection Palestinian refugees are entitled to and whether UNRWA can provide it, so that we can better understand the lack of protection and the resulting status of statelessness of Palestinian refugees and how to address it.

Assessing the barriers and facilitators to providing opioid substitution therapy (OST) in the German penal system: a qualitative study of prison doctors in Baden-Württemberg.

SARAH WERNER

Studies estimate that about 30-40% of people living in prison have a drug use disorder. To date, opioid substitution therapy (OST) is considered the most effective drug dependency treatment available because it is associated with the reduction of illicit drug use and all-cause mortality, a decrease of the risk of relapse after release from detention and of drug-related criminality and the prevention of infectious diseases transmission, such as HIV and hepatitis C. Overall, better chances of social reintegration, a higher health status and the reduction of criminal activity are important societal considerations that deem OST in prison a highly relevant topic. Yet, among the about 7,390 people (11.5% of the total German prisoners population) imprisoned in Baden-Württemberg only an estimated 9% of the people with opioid disorder receive OST. Given the lack of opioid addiction treatment and the high variability in provision of OST between and within federal states, the objective of my research is to identify key issues and prospective factors affecting access to OST in prison. The aim of my study is to discern areas of action that have the potential to improve penal health care quality and to align intramural with extramural health care services. First, a qualitative literature review will be conducted to discuss key factors, such as personal reasons as well as medical, epidemiological, legal and political aspects, that regulate the implementation of OST in German penal institutions. Secondly, to determine the current state of OST practice in the German penal system and to identify and assess potential barriers and facilitators to providing OST in penal institutions, semi-structured interviews will be conducted with prison doctors in Baden-Württemberg.
Impunity Abroad? An analysis of the ECHR obligations to investigate in extraterritorial armed conflicts

JULIA TERESA REUS

The European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) sets out in Article 1 that its High Contracting Parties shall actively guarantee its rights and freedoms "within their jurisdiction". The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) has evolved its interpretation of the “jurisdiction” of States to also include extraterritorial acts, e.g. when state agents have effective control over areas and individuals in armed conflicts. Therefore, allegations that the use of force abroad violated the right to life (Article 2) and the prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Article 3) must be effectively investigated by High Contracting Parties. This research project aims to ascertain how the ECtHR’s interpretation of the obligations to investigate alleged violations of Articles 2 and 3 has evolved with regards to extraterritorial armed conflicts and how these obligations compare to those under International Humanitarian Law (IHL). The conceptual framework of this research centers on defining what constitutes “effective investigations” under the ECHR and IHL based on treaty interpretation, case-law analysis and secondary literature. Methodologically, I will conduct a doctrinal analysis and systematically examine how this particular field of application is governed by the relevant ECHR and IHL provisions. I will analyze how they relate to each other and note controversial matters. The ECHR-obligations and IHL-obligations will be examined with regards to how they overlap, conflict and what gaps emphasizing one over the other may create.

Balancing out the Right to Life: A Systematic Content Analysis of the “Absolute Necessity” Principle in the Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights

JONAS SKORZAK

According to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), the use of force under Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) must be no more than “absolutely necessary” for the achievement of the aims set out in the sub-paragraphs of paragraph 2. Although supposedly stricter than the “necessity” standard, the open nature of the “fair balance” evaluation of the Court fails to inform how exactly the weighing is conducted. Henceforth, this research project attempts to systematically identify the factors influencing the Court’s evaluation. The study examines the factual features mentioned in the Court’s written decision, both in the circumstances and in the ratio decidendi (the reasoning). Thereby, a subset of the facts in the circumstances is, together with the legal doctrine, seen as influencing the ratio. However, the actual judicial decision is perceived to be affected by not only the reasoning but also the wider factual circumstances and other, external factors. In order to analyze the influence of different features, I will use a two-pronged methodological approach: First, a doctrinal legal analysis is conducted to identify important features for my second step. Here, I will conduct a systematic content analysis, first coding the cases using a codebook developed by initial coding a sample and then statistically analyzing the influence of different factual features. My sample consists of all 64 cases where strict proportionality was put to test. With a lack of systematic studies of the Court’s proportionality assessments, this research will prove useful to both academics interested in judicial behavior and litigators.
The Representation of the Origin of Suspects in Violent Crimes in German Media

BENJAMIN WOLFERS

The events on New Year’s Eve in Cologne in 2015 sparked a debate about when journalists should mention the origin of a perpetrator. During that night many women were sexually harassed by a group of men of which the majority were from African countries. However, the press did not mention the origin of the perpetrators in the first week after the incident. On the one hand, when journalists do not state the origin, citizens might accuse the media of withholding information („Lügenpresse“) as it was the case after the incident in Cologne. On the other hand, journalists might reinforce stereotypes and discrimination when naming the origin.

Dr. Thomas Hestermann, a professor at Macro Media school in Hamburg, published a study about how German media reports on crimes in Germany. Hestermann claims that media would mention the origin of the perpetrator in an over proportional manner and journalists would thereby portray a very distorted picture of reality.

Several major media channels have cited the study, however, I realized that there might be several flaws. Therefore, I would like to replicate the study.

While Hestermann focused on German print newspapers and German television I will do a content analysis of four German newspaper websites (Spiegel Online, Welt Online, Zeit Online, Bild.de). Using the same timeframe (January-April 2017 and January-April 2019) I will analyze how often the origin of perpetrators is stated in online articles. The data will be obtained from LexisNexis and analyzed with MAXQDA.
➢ The Role of a Fashion-magazine in a Socialist State  Exemplified on the Sibylle - Zeitschrift für Mode und Kultur from the GDR

LORENA UNGER  ⏰ 11:00-11:20

The reappraisal of the GDR is a necessary component of German history and its identity formation. Its political regime intervened in the cultural sphere with the use of regulations and instructions. Despite these regulations, cultural changes were especially initiated in subcultures during the 1980s. As a niche magazine, the Sibylle - Magazine for Fashion and Culture balanced socialist ideals and values of individuality while portraying the dominant culture while including streams from subcultures. The political and social background of the GDR is given as presented in secondary literature. How regulated cultural products like magazines were in the GDR is presented along the Sibylle particularly during the 1980s. A difference can be particularly seen in the imagery of womanhood - a rather authentic and individualized one - as opposed to the propagated, and thus artificial, ideal of the emancipated women.

➢ Income inequality in electoral authoritarian states – Is there a difference between competitive and non-competitive authoritarian regimes?

LUKAS WIEHLER  ⏰ 11:20-11:40

While income inequality in democracies has extensively been researched upon the relative lack of research on income inequality in authoritarian states constitutes a curious gap in the literature. So far research on authoritarian regimes was mainly concentrated on the effect that inequality had on democratisation. In terms of policy outcome, Hanson has argued that authoritarian rulers have both carrots and sticks to juggle elite (horizontal pressures) and mass demands (vertical pressures) and to preserve their rule. As point of departure to this research, it was already examined how the choice of regime (as well as the institutional set up) influences the income distribution of authoritarian states and it was reported that electoral democratic regimes (authoritarian states with elections) have lower levels of inequality than closed authoritarian regimes. However, it was not differentiate between the different types of autocratic elections. This quantitative analysis thus aims to investigate if income inequality is lower in authoritarian states where elections are actually competitive. The research question will thus be formulated as follows: Do authoritarian states with competitive elections (Competitive authoritarian regimes) have a lower level of income inequality than authoritarian states with non-competitive elections (hegemonic authoritarian regimes) or without elections (closed authoritarian regimes)?
Horizontality and Collective Responsibility in a Community Accountability Programme

CARLOTTA RUDOLPH

Community Accountability refers to the idea of a community-based response to one or several instances of within-community violence. Often these instances of violence refer to intimate-partner violence, e.g. sexual or domestic forms of violence. Community Accountability Programs (CAPs) present processes of addressing the instance of violence as well as its underlying structural patterns by a community, the victim and the perpetrator of the instance of violence. Additionally, it is a flexible approach, often adapted to a victim's needs. This research will look at documents evaluating one case of CAP within New York, while asking how the concepts of horizontality of power and knowledge as well as collective responsibility are reflected. Horizontality as well as collective responsibility play a fundamental role in concepts of prefigurative politics (and in some regards of transformative justice). While these concepts can vary in their implementation, groups often aim to create a participatory, collective process, which reflects the embeddedness of the individual within a social context. This research specifically looks at Community Accountability as an alternative to state-based justice and therefore examines the program of a group not willing or able to turn to state authorities. The selected case presents an example of an established CAP with specific focus on gendered inequalities within its contexts as well as an claim of transformation.

Climate Change and Participatory Democracy – Innovation in Municipalities?

TOBIAS SCHRIMPF

One of the most significant challenges of our time is the reform of democratic political systems to tackle climate change. Although citizen participation is widely accepted as a core political value, its specific configuration and integration into the polity remains controversial. In recent years, citizen participation in form of deliberative, aleatory citizen assemblies have gained prominence both in academia and practice; said to increase democracy's epistemic potential, promising more responsiveness to environmental concerns, and promoting more sustainable outcomes. However, literature suggests certain obstacles in terms of participatory potential, legitimacy, independence, and expertise. In Baden-Württemberg, municipalities aim at promoting citizen participation in environmental issues; however, deliberative fora selected by sortition have not yet been introduced. My study consists of a survey aimed at environmental officials in the 74 cities with a population above 25,000. Environmental officials are employees in the city government in charge of environmental processes – relevant stakeholders in the innovation and adoption of participatory processes. Central interest of the survey is how the environmental officials positions themselves to the promises and obstacles identified in literature. The study aims at revealing the potential for democratic innovation on a municipal level.
A change in knowledge and behavior of community mothers concerning Aedes borne diseases: mHealth WhatsApp messages in Cúcuta, Colombia

ALISA GESSLER

With global warming and globalization dengue, Zika and chikungunya are reemerging diseases that still predominantly harm marginalized populations of the Global South but threaten the Global North as well. Without vaccines available, vector control and prevention strategies are essential to eliminate Aedes. Unfortunately, insecticidal resistance and failure of community mobilization for effective preventive action pose obstacles. This pilot study contributes to a larger project that is testing free nanotechnological insecticidal paint fetal for mosquitos and larvae breeding in laundry tanks. Instead of replicating traditional top-down application through health authorities, this paper contributes to sustainable grass-root empowerment by focusing on the effect of mobile health through WhatsApp messages (mHealth) on health behavior. First, the local perception of information, the actual knowledge on Aedes borne diseases and habits were assessed via a pre-survey. Then, colloquially formulated and illustrated WhatsApp messages targeting 50 local women in Villa del Rosario and Los Patios, Colombia, were sent daily for four weeks, including informative prevention reminders as well as insecticidal paint promotion. Consequently, a post survey assessed the knowledge and prevention action as well as satisfaction with the method, which was accompanied by additional evaluation discussions for content refinement and triangulation. The results suggest community mobilization through mHealth, reflected in action in addition to information, but show a need for further investigation. The satisfaction with the short, entertaining WhatsApp messages was extraordinarily high, as well as the interest in the new insecticidal paint. A trend towards improved knowledge and prevention, such as cleaning the laundry tank as recommended, could be detected. Unfortunately, the very small sample size (n=50 (pre), n=29 (post)) was due to participants' failure to guard the projects' number and unreliability in cooperation with local women networks. For the large-scale project the WhatsApp method is recommendable. Refinements need to be taken seriously, however.
The role of market actors in food system innovation
Systematic literature review

HALIMA HODZIC

Sustainable development is closely tied with the sustainability and resilience of food systems. Evidence shows that the current way of global food production and consumption requires a systemic transformation if we want to address issues such as climate change, food and nutritional security, global health and social injustice. Social innovation is being given more importance in addressing such issues because of its transformative potential to alter, challenge and replace existing structures of institutions and governance and lead towards a systemic change. However, there is a lack of understanding of the role of different type of innovators in the food systems and the extent of influence that certain actors have on the food system transformation. This research sets out a comprehensive overview of the food system innovation driven by the market actors. We explore a broad range of food industry actors, from innovative food start-ups to global food producers, and address how social innovation is defined by these actors. Furthermore, we look at the core objectives and strategies for innovation and the underlying idea of sustainability and transformation of the food sector as set out by the food businesses. The review will be conducted systematically following a structured methodological approach. The results of the research will serve as a first indicator of the level of impact to be expected from industry, with respect to meeting sustainability-related goals. On a larger scale, this research will help to better understand what might provide opportunities for joint transition pathways towards a more sustainable and resilient food system.

Agrophotovoltaic Systems: A Contribution to a more Sustainable Agriculture?

TOM BURGGRAF

In order to decarbonize the energy sector, Germany committed to the Energiewende. Among the renewables, solar energy yields the highest potential for substituting fossil fuels. Thus, their expansion is continuously promoted. Yet, with the installation of more and more ground mounted photovoltaic (GMPV) plants, the energy sector started to compete with the agricultural one over the same land parcels. In response, the approach of combining food and energy production on the same field – Agrophotovoltaics (APV) – is increasingly investigated. Elevated PV panels allow farmers to cultivate their crops underneath them and have therefore proven to be an effective strategy to resolve land use conflicts and contribute as mitigation and adaptation tool in response to climate change.

Since the technology could also cause adverse social or environmental effects, this paper attempts to identify the conditions, under which the technology’s benefits can be harnessed and its risks minimised. For those means, the literature about APVs is summarised. The key risks and opportunities are described. Thereafter, two foresight APV implementation scenarios – differing in scale, ownership and agricultural practice – are created. Analysing the potential consequences of each scenario, implications for policy makers are described.
➢ Is Fair Trade Fair?

SASKIA MIEDE

For my presentation I want to concentrate on fair trade and the question what is fair. Fair trade is a movement originating in the US which focuses on the effects of trade on human rights, environmental conditions and labor standards. In recent years it has been subject to many criticisms due to unclear methods and low standards. In an attempt to answer the question what is fair my research focuses on philosophical literature. Here, various approaches and texts from diverse cultural backgrounds will be assessed in order to examine possibly different understandings of the term. Based on these findings it will be examined whether fairness is implemented into fair trade. What does fair mean in the context of fair trade? Do the concepts what is generally believed to be fair and what is fair in fair trade differ? In order to explore the idea of fairness in relation to fair trade the theory of justice and justice as fairness will be further discussed. To do so the project takes a closer look into world trade law and examines the concept of distributive justice. As mentioned before the research is based on literature and aims at assessing the question whether fair trade is fair according to philosophical standards.

➢ Automatic classification of 3D point data using deep neural networks

ANDRÉS ANDRADE VELASQUEZ

Given the rapid development of 3D acquisition technology, 3D sensors have become increasingly available and affordable in the last years. The applications related to 3D data acquisition have, therefore, also extended to several fields, including autonomous driving, gesture recognition, remote sensing, medical treatment and even archaeology. Although they can be represented in different formats (e.g. meshes, depth images), this study addresses 3D point data specifically. Deep neural networks are a form of machine learning which roughly mimic neural connections of biological brains. In essence, they are functions in which an input is fed, parameters are applied and modified, and, if a specific threshold is surpassed with the values in question, an outcome is achieved. The aim of this study is to train a deep neural network in order to test its accuracy in an automatic classification task with 3D point data provided by the local land surveying office of the city of Freiburg. The data corresponds to the neighborhoods of Rieselfeld and Opfingen, in the outskirts of the city. Moreover, this study uses the work of Qi et al (2017) and their PointNet architecture as a framework for automatic classification, since this method allows for a direct utilization of raw 3D point data without any of the format transformations usually required in the field.
Challenges for International Communication of Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) Projects in Germany: Requirements and Expectations of Farmers and Members

LILI BAUER

Global issues caused by industrial agriculture are well known and include soil degradation, pollution, species extinction, habitat destruction, loss of agrobiodiversity and economic risks for the livelihood of small-scale farmers. Community-supported agriculture (CSA) presents a post-industrial sustainable, agroecological alternative to the currently practised industrial agriculture. However, existing scholarly literature on CSA in Germany provides evidence that communication contributes to the success or failure of CSA projects. For this project, the research goal is to investigate the requirements, expectations of farmers and members regarding the internal communication of CSA projects, to identify patterns, similarities and differences, whereby the overall results may contribute to an improvement of internal communication. Online surveys will be sent by email to a sample group of members and farmers of CSAs in Germany. Additional telephone calls and printed QR Codes, which will be distributed into vegetable boxes of sample CSAs, complement the quantitative empirical method. The resulting dataset will be analysed with the software R using a descriptive statistics approach. Preliminary results of previous sample telephone calls to farmers indicate that mailing lists are a common communication strategy in CSAs. The results also suggest that communication requirements and exceptions of farmers and members vary in terms of frequency and content.

Human – soil relationships through the lens of multispecies relationalities of care

JULA PETHES

Accounts of the Anthropocene draw a grim picture of destruction, with “the human” as responsible agent – in contrast to non-humans. Food production is a particular area of concern, given the challenge of food autonomy in times of population growth, the degradation of soils, and furthering of the climate crisis associated with industrial agriculture. Healthy soils, however, can also provide a hopeful counter-narrative. To explore the possibility of non-anthropocentric (but potentially still eurocentric) practices under and descriptions of current conditions, I will focus on a project at the outskirts of the city of Amsterdam, the Tuinen van Lutkemeer (Gardens of Lutkemeer). The gardens are an act of resistance by a group of people that are unwilling to accept the city government’s decision to construct a food distribution center on top of the fertile soil of the Lutkemeerpolder. In March and April 2020, the gardens will be set up a second time after their first build-up in March 2019 and the following destruction. What guides me in investigating this project is the question to what degree it is an instance of caring multispecies relationality, where care for the more-than-human – in this case soil – is motivated by kinship, rather than productionist aims that benefit the self. The research proposal makes use of theories from the environmental humanities, feminist science and technology studies, and soil sciences related to ethics of care in a more-than-human context and the interconnectivity of different species. Based on this literature, I will develop a theory for multispecies relationality in the context of soil food webs, which I will apply using participatory action research. Adding to the reflection on my own learning process during participation in the project, I will conduct interviews with other participants and supplement these with field observation in order to investigate to what degree the developed theory applies.
➢ Neurobiological and Psychological impacts of Psilocybin Assisted Therapy in treating Clinical Depression

APOLLINE POLI

Psychedelics have been used for thousands of years in spiritual and religious settings, for example in pre-Columbian Mesoamerican societies. With colonialism came an era of fear and misunderstanding of the substances as well as a severe rejection of their “anti-christian” holistic meaning. It is only in the 1940s that scientists took a strong interest in psychedelics and their therapeutic properties in treating psychiatric distress and addictions. The studies on psychedelics from the 1950s to the mid-1960s were prolific and showed encouraging results. However, in the late 60s and early 70s, classic psychedelics were used recreationally by an emerging anti-war counterculture and psychedelics were banned in the US. The ban on psychedelic drugs, which was adopted internationally, ended the possibility for researchers to receive government funding and therefore ended nearly all research on the medical use of psychedelics. In the 21st century, the researchers’ interest for psychedelics grew and a special focus was given to psilocybin, the psychedelic compound found in hallucinogenic mushrooms. The intake of psilocybin when combined with an adapted therapy was found in numerous studies to be effective in treating clinical depression. For my research project, I will work on the effects of Psilocybin on Clinical Depression in a therapeutic context because I want to examine how the neurobiological and psychological components of the psychedelic experience combined with therapy can induce a full or partial recovery in depressive patients. My aim is to understand the processes behind the results of Psilocybin Assisted Therapy in treating depression. By working on the therapeutic use of psilocybin I intend to challenge the existing stigmas on psychedelic drugs and stress the interest there is in integrating them in our biomedical system to treat certain mental illnesses.

➢ The Role of Probiotics in the Treatment of Depression

KASSANDRA FRIEDRICH

The “All disease begins in the gut” – this is what the most famous doctor of antiquity, Hippocrates, reportedly said. While it is known today that this is not the case, a growing body of research is devoted towards the gut and its influence on overall health. One important component in this holistic approach to health is the Gut – Brain Axis which is the bidirectional interaction between brain and gut. While the brain controls the movement of the gut and the secretion of digestive fluids, the gut can influence brain functions through its microbiome. Animal studies demonstrated that the microbiome can alter the neurochemistry of the central nervous system (CNS) by directly generating neurotransmitters or altering the host’s production thereof. Additionally, a healthy microbiome has been linked to a decreased stress-response, modulated through the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis. Furthermore, studies suggest that symbiotic bacteria can positively influence anti-inflammatory pathways, thereby decreasing inflammation in the body. Malfunctions in these areas mentioned have been linked to mental illnesses such as depression. As a result, several animal and human studies investigated the use of probiotics in treating this disease. Depression is a serious mental health condition with high personal, as well as economic burdens. The current treatment options, such as medication and psychotherapy, are not sufficient as up to 40% of patients do not respond to their first treatment. Accordingly, the need for alternative, supplemental ways to treat depression becomes more and more evident. In the following, a systematic review of clinical trials which examined the effect of a probiotic intervention on the symptoms of depression will be conducted to evaluate the possible use of probiotics as an alternative treatment of depression.
How does TET enzyme mediated demethylation of 5-mC effect transcription levels of canonical Wnt signaling inhibitors in Alzheimer's disease model?

LOGAN POEHLMAN

My research focuses on the subcellular alterations which occur in Alzheimer's disease (AD). Namely the formation of extracellular Amyloid-plaques and hyperphosphorylation of tau proteins within neurons. Specific mutations have been identified which cause these pathologies to form, however a strong understanding of how neuron-cell death begins in late stage AD is not well understood. I propose that a recently discovered enzyme family TET (1,2,3), which actively converts 5-methylcytosine into 5-Hydroxymethylcytosine and in turn promotes gene transcription, may be responsible for imbalances in normal cellular function. A key pathway involved in the initiation of Apoptosis (cell death) is Wnt signaling. Wnt signaling additionally controls proliferation and cellular differentiation at various stages in an organism's development. TET enzymes play a key role in neurogenesis and embryonic development, working as on and off switches for certain genes. These enzymes remain active well into adult life and their epigenetic alterations have been shown to increase with age. The bulk of my research will focus on TET enzymes functions, as well as other proposed pathways through which AD may develop. Additionally, I will review existing AD models, either mouse or cell cultures, to see how these models are developed. The culmination of my research will be the production of a literature review of AD pathogenesis and existing AD models. Lastly, I will create an experimental protocol for an AD model designed to analyze the interplay between TET activity and the expression levels of Wnt inhibitory factors.