

Guest Lecture by

Prof. Dr. Sheila Jasanoff

(Harvard University)

“Science and Public Reason in a Global World”

When? Monday, July 11th, 14 – 16h

Where? Hörsaal 1, Alte Universität, Bertoldstr. 17

Why does it matter how we theorize science and technical knowledge? One answer is that such knowledge provides the only relatively secure basis for agreement in a world that otherwise seems fragmented, unruly, and out of control. Yet scholarship of the past half century has seemed to put the foundations of science itself in question, calling attention to the ways in which representations of nature are constructed out of prior assumptions that themselves have no basis in science. In this talk, I will review major strands of constructivist thinking about the worlds we make through science and show why — far from negating the basis for acting in the world — such accounts open up new ways of thinking about intervention for the public good. Such thinking, I will suggest, is especially important in the global world, in which competing knowledge claims often proliferate without the benefits of universally accepted rules of public reason or rightful governance.

Website: <http://sts.hks.harvard.edu/people/director.html>

Co-organized by:

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