

Center for Social and Development Studies

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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IMPACT AT ALL COSTS? HOW DOES TRANSFORMATION WORK?

"Not: Why is there being and not rather nothing, but: How does being justify itself?"

- Emmanuel Levinas

The year 2022 has profoundly shaken us up many times. We cannot rely on peace in Europe, the climate crisis continues to pick up speed barely hindered. The war shifts our perception of threat and the energy shortage leads to decisions once made being revised to the disadvantage of the environment. Many people, not only in Ukraine, fear for life and flee into an uncertain future. Young women in Afghanistan don't have a choice but to give up their dreams of going to university and living a free life. Nationalist governments profit from this general insecurity and close the borders of their countries. At the same time major sporting events take place in countries that silence disagreeing members of the opposition on the open stage. Our society is getting more sensitive to oppression and minorities - yet at the same time in danger of slipping into regressive extremes: What is still allowed to be said by whom and why or under which conditions? How do we deal with a growing social polarization, which on the one hand produces painfully cynical words like "asylum tourism" or "climate terrorists" and on the other hand practices problematic forms of "cancelling" others?

It is already difficult as an individual person to deal with all these eruptions and to fear in the right way, i.e. not to drown in many strong emotions or merely react, but to use them as a motivational force to act in a reflective, considered and at the same time resolute manner. This is all the more difficult for a scientific institute which is committed to the so-called "Third Mission", i.e. has the task of taking up societal challenges, to reflect on them from a philosophical distance while at the same time being open to change. According to §1 of the institutes agenda, we seek to stimulate social change, to have impact. However, the word "impact" should be used with caution, because it is also a violent term: something strikes, perhaps even abruptly and with great force.

Sustainable change takes time. It can and must, like Socrates' "biting fly", also be a wake-up call, but at the same time it wants to include as many perspectives and needs as possible in a responsive way. Thus, it often comes along more quietly and less spectacularly. What we see and feel in highly emotionalised (social) media settings also reaches us in our projects. Nevertheless, in all of them we ask ourselves how we position ourselves between

academic ignorance and heated activism. The word "position" is actually quite inappropriate here, because the question of position*ing* is a question in *statu nascendi*, it is born anew in every project. Levinas speaks of a "subpoena to responsibility" that tears apart all forms of the general or oncerecognised. This is why we have been meeting regularly for several years now in our international working group on transformative research, in order to learn something about this confrontation through concrete engagement with socially relevant questions. In this way, theory and practice enter into a beneficial dialogue – more than that, we enter into a process in which we change, transform ourselves and at the same time accompany both as best we can from a curious distance.

As part of our annual theme "Sexualities", we reflect on societal discourses on this existential and intimate topic in our blog "Kontrapunkte" and also in a seminar, in which we discussed topics like queer theories, sovereign erotics, homosexuality, sex and morality, and sexual abuse with students. The inclusive conference "Be-/Ge-hinderte Sexualität"(Dis-abled Sexuality) at the University of Halle drew attention to the challenges of people with mental disabilities to be able to live their sexual needs and to be exposed to an increased risk of abuse. Our book Philosophie der Grenze (Philosophy of Borders) illuminates a wide spectrum of different experiences of limitations and asks where it is necessary to set boundaries, to erase them or to go beyond. We did this in a very experiantial way on the stage of the "Forum Theatre" during our book presentation. According to Augusto Boal, the experience of theatre can reveal and change experiences of oppression. We pursued a very similar goal with the workshop "Discourse Power - Knowledge - Participation", which was about racism and epistemic violence in philosophy. The systematic uncovering of multi-layered hurdles of the socio-ecological transformation continues to occupy us as much as possible solutions for this problem. This involves innivative research projects about the potential contribution of sewage sludge to energy production.

You will find these and many other projects in our annual report. We appreciate your interest and cordially invite you to engage in a dialog with us.

Barbara Schellhammer



THE TEAM OF THE CENTER FOR SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Prof. Barbara Schellhammer has been head of the Center for Social and Development Studies (ZGF) and holder of the Chair for Intercultural Social Transformation (IST) since 2019. She has been supported since then by Dr. Stefan Einsiedel (Head of Research Projects on Socio-ecological Transformation) and Lena Schützle (Project Coordination at the ZGF). Since 2022, Lena Schützle has been a scholarship holder of the Doctoral College of the Catholic Universities in Bavaria – we congratulate her very warmly on this funding, even though she had to reduce her hours at the ZGF as a result.

Staff changes In 2022, there were again some personnel changes in the team of the ZGF: Dr. Thomas Steinforth and Dr. Tobias Skuban took on new professional challenges outside the ZGF, Alice Steffen is concentrating on her doctorate after her parental leave – we thank all three very much for the good cooperation and look forward to staying in contact with them! Two of our proven research assistants took on more responsibility as academic employees: Jochanah Mahnke for the project "Sexual Self-Determination of People with Intellectual Disabilities" (SeBi) and Benedikt Ronge for the project "Digital Dialogue Platform www.digi-log.org". Dr. Carolin Rutzmoser (who successfully defended her dissertation in summer 2022) and Dr. Robert Lehmann, who joined us from the University of Greifswald, are brand new to the team. The two are responsible for the projects "Multilogues" and "Ethics of Intercultural Dialogue", which serve the digitalisation and internationalisation of our teaching offer.

During Prof. Schellhammer's research sabbatical, Prof. Bernhard Leistle was a member of the ZGF as a DAAD visiting professor from Carlton University (Canada) (see separate report p. 8). A big thank you also goes to our super dedicated research and student assistants who made our team perfect: Clara Drechsler, Jaana Kretzschmar, Anna Pflügler and Oliver Grauer.

A big thank you to our advisory board! Members of the ZGF Advisory Board: Peter Balleis SJ (Executive Director Jesuit Worldwide Learning), Dr Philip Geister SJ (Rector Newman Institute, President Kircher-Network), Ulrike Gentner (Deputy Director Heinrich-Pesch-Haus, ZIP), Tobias Karcher SJ (Director Lassalle Haus), Prof. Tanja Kleibl (Technical University of Applied Sciences Würzburg-Schweinfurt), Gudrun Lux (Munich City Councillor), Prof. Anke Graneß (University of Hildesheim), Klaus Väthröder SJ (ECE Delegate for Social Affairs and Ecology) and Prof. Johannes Wallacher (President HFPH).

Associated members of the ZGF: Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher and Prof. Dr. Michael Reder.

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Director

PHILOSOPHY OF BORDERS – A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT BOOK PRESENTATION

In the summer semester of 2021 – while university teaching was largely online – we as the ZGF organised the seminar "Philosophy of Borders (Grenzen) – in the self, the society and the environment". We discussed chosen texts by Angehrn, Jaspers, Plessner, hornscheidt, Czollek, Oppenländer, Rockström, Jullien und Elberfeld. Together we became aware of our boundaries, shook up the old and set new ones. The topic led to so many exciting conversations and thoughts that we decided to explore it in depth in an anthology.

The anthology was published in 2022 by wbg-Academic with a total of 29 authors, 27 articles, and photographs, and collages by Peter Hoffmann-Schoenborn.



Here you can find the book at the wbg-Academic and as a PDF to download.

Instead of a lecture on "the" philosophy of borders (Grenzen), we dealt with the topic on a performative level. On one hand, by means of a photo exhibition in the foyer of the *Munich School of Philosophy* and, on the other hand, by means of a Forum Theatre work show under the direction of Nela Adam. Forum Theatre is a theatre method developed by the Brazilian Augusto Boal, which aims to present structures of oppression and to try out new ways of acting and finding solutions. Forum Theatre is a special form of the Theatre of the Oppressed.

We invited Nela Adam twice this year to try out Forum Theatre with philosophy students. We asked ourselves to what extent philosophising and playing theatre can be brought together to critically initiate transformation processes in philosophy, university and society. The body-based approach, the spaces for creativity, and the simultaneity of oppressively heavy topics and a playful attitude inspired both the participants and the audience, who were able to experience the scenes at the book presentation "Philosophy of Borders (Grenzen)". Just how the founder of Forum Theatre Boal would have liked, the boundary between audience and actors dissolved. The audience intervened in the scenes and tried to find solutions to the situation of oppression. The failure on stage and the collective relief when a scene could change for the better remain in the memory as shared experiences.

Lena Schützle

"It's really necessary to rethink our contents as well as our forms and methods of working in academia – form and content are not (fully) separable." – Participant of the Forum Theatre

Here you can find further information about the Forum Theatre!





DAAD VISITING PROFESSORSHIP OF BERNHARD LEISTLE

During Barbara Schellhammer's research sabbatical in the summer of 2022, Prof. Bernhard Leistle came to Munich from *Carleton University* in Ottawa, Canada, as part of a DAAD Visiting Professorship in Phenomenology, Intercultural Psychology and Performativity, supported the IST and ZGF team and greatly enriched the teaching at the HFPH with his thematic focus.

With courses in the field of practical or applied philosophy on "Merleau-Ponty's Philosophy of Culture – Art, Expression and Structure", "Intercultural Psychology – Cultural Relativism and Universalism with Georges Devereux" and "Phenomenology of the Performative – ,The Chicago Conspiracy Trial"", he has offered an approach to applied phenomenology and, together with the students, drawn on philosophical-anthropological concepts to interpret concrete social and cultural phenomena and events. In the seminar "Business Ethics and Social Science in Global Perspective", some Master's and PhD students were lucky enough to receive feedback from the perspective of Bernhard Leistle and his field of research, in addition to suggestions from Prof. Johannes Wallacher.

Bernhard Leistle also made these exciting connections between phenomenology, intercultural psychology and current events in a lecture at the Amerikahaus in Munich Between Karl May and Residential Schools – Personal Reflections from Canada and discussed them with a broad audience of people from Canada and the USA as well as interested students.

Undoubtedly the highlight of his time with us was the conference "In Conversation with Bernhard Waldenfels", organised as part of the DAAD Visiting Professorship, which Bernhard Leistle opened with his lecture on Performativity and Responsivity – Contribution to an Anthropology of the Event and enabled personal exchange with Bernhard Waldenfels. We are very grateful to Bernhard Leistle for his academic contribution, but in particular also personal exchange and perspective from many years of research work in the field of intercultural philosophy at a Canadian university as well as the joint work and hope to see him again soon!

For the Blog *Kontrapunkte*. Bernhard Leistle shared his personal view of his time in Munich.

BLENDED MULTILOGUES: ENHANCING TRANSFORMATION AND INNOVATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

2022, four European higher education institutions – Leuphana University (Lüneburg, Germany), Trnava University (Trnava, Slovakia), the Newman Institute (Uppsala, Sweden) and the HFPH (Munich, Germany) – have launched the project "Blended Multilogues: Enhancing Transformation and Innovation in Higher Education" with funding from the European Union.

The aim of the project is to develop new innovative learning approaches that are aligned with the vision of bringing together not only teachers and students but also other interested parties from a wide range of contexts, thus creating spaces for multidimensional dialogue – i.e. Multilogues.

Escpecially in higher education, the Multilogues format aims to create an interactive and transformative learning experience that combines European pedagogical traditions with the social needs and opportunities of our time. In doing so, the project brings together different educational philosophies that share key features such as value orientation, transdisciplinarity, interaction between different actors and transformative learning. This year, in addition to the progressive development of a conceptual framework, the five-year project was able to realise a one-week pilot project with about 20 students from all participating universities.

Clara Drechsler



Tatjana von Schweinitz, Clara Drechsler, Sarah Ruf, Oliver Grauer, Lena Schützle, Danny Carvajal, Robert Lehmann, Fabian Wagner, Maximilian Vogel, Isabel Cabrera.

EMOTIONS IN SCIENCE – A CROSS-SECTIONAL TOPIC

Appropriately dealing with emotions - our own and others' - in the fields of research and education has become a both exciting and promising challenge to us as an interdisciplinary team. Years ago, as a biologist, I had the privilege of working with the behavioural scientist Dr. Jane Goodall, who told me how she was once ridiculed by so-called establishment, when she tried to approach free-living chimpanzees with empathy – until she reached a level of familiarity with her "research objects", which allowed her to discover that primates not only use tools, but can also produce them specifically. A ground-breaking insight that led to the breakthrough of "compassionate observation" as an research tool in behavioural biology. Many different disciplines are now trying to cultivate compassion as a "key to knowledge" not in order to observe less objectively, but objectively in an even more comprehensive way - "360 degrees" to say so. "Appropriate Emotionalisation" plays also an important role in the field of "science communication" when it helps to bring scientists and "lay people" together and to engage them in joint discussions and actions; appropriate emotionalisation helps also against populism and conspiracy theories - we addressed this at this year's conference of the Network of Media Ethics.

The long-time director of the IGP (now ZGF), Prof. Johannes Müller SJ, made great efforts to counter an impersonal "top-down development policy" with a button-up development ethics based on solidarity and inclusion. His student (and now ZGF director) Barbara Schellhammer chose the method of a "thick description" in Clifford Geertz' tradition already for her dissertation, in order to "expose" herself to the hardships of the daily life of the Inuit and thus "come closer" to reality. Prof. Johannes Wallacher, also a student of Johannes Müller, showed in his recent lectures the importance of the ability to sympathise (which allowed human empathy and judgement) in the works of Adam Smith, the founder of modern economics. My colleague Lena Schützle even deals with "radical compassion", while I dealt with the "perspective of the poor" in the work of Amartya Sen and Pope Francis. In the "Working Group on Transformative Research", many of these similar perspectives are now coming into conversation with each other – we are curious to see what else will emerge from this in the coming years.

Also in practical terms our involvement with "compassionate science" helped us in the past year. This way we were, shocked by the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, able to organise help for individual scientist friends, as well as to help moderate discussion groups of the National Committee of Catholics on "Peace Ethics in Times of War" – always taking care to not forget the numerous other crisis regions of our time. Barbara Schellhammer asked in a blog post: "How does one philosophise in the face of war?" Especially in this challenging year 2022, it became clear to us that science that serves people can only be done "with empathy".



EPISTEMIC VIOLENCE AND RACISM IN PHILOSOPHY

After the ZGF-supported workshop "Anti-Racism. Critical engagement with the backgrounds and implications of racist practices" (2021), conducted by *Vielfaltsprojekte* (Diversity Projects), voices were raised at the School of Philosophy calling for more engagement with the interconnections between (the history of) philosophy and racism. The year 2022 offered several opportunities to address these issues.

Disclaimer: Here, only three events that I was able to attend are mentioned, respecively one that I organised. The conference "Philosophy and Racism", organised by Franziska Dübgen, Kristina Leopold and Martina Martinez Mateo, in Münster shouldn't go unmentioned, and smaller events also contributed to driving the discourse in Germany.

Humanities – Eurocentrism – Criticism, Berlin 19. - 23.7.2022

Organised by Anke Graneß and Rolf Elberfeld; the Reinhart-Koselleck-Projekt "Geschichten der Philosophie in globaler Perspektive" (History of Philosophy in Global Perspective) and "Herder-Kolleg – Zentrum für transdisziplinäre Kulturforschung" (Center for transdiciplinary cultural research) of the University of Hildesheim.

Five days full of lectures and artistic impulses. A space in which humanities scholars and practitioners, some of them very renowned, engage with the colonial past and present in a self-critical way and critically question their own discipline.

Some impressions: Yoko Arisaka's lecture about "Locating feminisms in Eastern Asia compared to de- and postcolonial debates" gave me many insights in geographies and histories with which I had little contact until then. Yoko Arisaka has been through many academic and geographical stations and managed to combine her own biography with world history and feminist traditions of thought.

Paul Mecheril impressed me above all with the way he presented his thoughts. While in previous conversations we kept talking about "humility", he embodied this attitude in his own way. Thus, I perceived that he repeatedly made sure that he did not take up too much time, he made references from the other lectures to his thoughts, apologised for incompleteness and gave the audience time to sort out their own thoughts during small breaks. Even clearer, Mojisola Adebayo put into practice what had been discussed theoretically. We re-enacted the arrest of Sandra Bland, a 28-year-old African-American woman who was found dead in a jail cell three days after her arrest during a traffic stop in the summer of 2015. It was a very touching, powerful and political moment of remembrance and compassion. The combination of theatre, embodiment and science provided much material for discussion afterwards.

<u>On the webseite of pro philosophia e.V. you can find a detailed report about the event.</u>

We thank pro philosophia for the helpful support!

Against racism (Catholic Academy) 24. - 26.11.2022

Organised by Prof. Dr. Michael Reder (HFPH) and Johannes Schießl (Catholic Academy in Bavaria).

The <u>philosophical days in the Katholische Akademie Bayern</u> (Catholic Academy in Bavaria) in Munich aren't directed only at academics, but speak to the interest audience from Munich. But especially because philosophical discourses impact everyday experiences and thinking, we had a lot to talk about. From introducing lectures in the philosophical debate the conference transfered to racism in global contexts. Despite the heterogeneous audience, of which among others students also were part, the debates weren't robbed their complexity. Prominent scientists, including Prof. Dr. Maria do Mar Castro Varela, Daniel James and Yoko Arisaka, perfectly prepared for the conference taking place at HFPH shortly afterwards.

Discourse power – knowledge – participation: What role does epistemic violence play in philosophy 1. - 2.12.2022

Organised by Lena Schützle, Stefan Kosak and Jochanah Mahnke, patrons: Prof. Barbara Schellhammer and Prof. Claudia Paganini, a cooperation between ZGF, zem::dg, Chair for Media Ethics and Intercultural Social Transformation (HFPH).

Eventually, in December 2022, international scientists met online and in presence to talk about the role of epistemic violence in philosophy. From the fundamental question of what role epistemic violence and epistemic injustice play in philosophy, the contributions moved on to examples of epistemic violence and problematic claims to universality. The conference ended with the discussion of possibilities to reveal and transform epistemic violence and epistemic injustice in philosophy, for example by reflecting critically on the Western philosophical canon.

The round table deepened the discussion in some respects. After impulses by Prof. Claudia Paganini and Prof. Barbara Schellhammer Dr. Hilkje Hänel (*Universität Potsdam*), Prof. Anke Graneß (*Universität Hildesheim*), Jacques L. Zannou (M.A., *Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg*) and Dr. Karin Hutflötz (*Domberg Akademie*) prepared for the open talk with short impulses.

It was clearly notable that an academical network was forming which takes the critique on its own philosophical discipline seriously and tries to work out new ways together.

<u>On the webseite of pro philsophia e.V. you can find a detailed report about the event.</u>

We thank pro philosophia for the helpful support!

Lena Schützle

Participants voices

"The combination of well-chosen, indepth contributions and discussions of specific aspects of the main theme with enough space during break times to continue discussion, networking and sharing plus a method-mix of classical lectures with small group work, body mapping, and forum-theater really enhanced philosophical thinking and opened a space with much equal opportunity to participate."

"It felt like a space to celebrate the communal aspects of academic work and offer support, emotional or otherwise, to those whose experience of academia in general and academic philosophy in particular has been anything but welcoming. [...] Finding a community such as the one formed in Munich in the beginning of December 2022 can help both making epistemic injustice more visible but also the struggles associated with it more bearable."

The workshop will result in an anthology. You can find the CfP here:





RESEARCH PROJECT: DIS-ABLED SEXUALITY

Since 2009 the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Behindertenrechtskonvention) is in power in Germany and marks a very important step on the way to a discrimination-free participation of disabled people in social life. Action plans that implement the rights of disabled people should be worked out and developed through the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Even if the right of sexuality isn't explicitly listed in the agreement it is unmistakenly part of it. Nevertheless this right still finds too little entry in the every-day life of many people with disabilities. In addition, these people are particularly often affected by sexualised violence, as studies at national and international level have repeatedly shown.

In this double taboo topic, "disability" and "sexuality", and the field of tension between the question of how sexual self-determination can be enabled without neglecting the necessary aspects of protection, the research project of the chair and the ZGF finds itself. Together with the cooperation partners of the Interdisciplinary Scientific Centre for Medicine-Ethics-Law at the University of Halle-Wittenberg and the Christliches Sozialwerk Dresden, various interdisciplinary questions are being examined. Among other things, desiderata of sexual violence are to be uncovered as well as the concept of sexual self-determination philosophically clarified, thereby contributing to a social de-tabooing of the topic. The starting point of the qualitative research is that people with disabilities can speak for themselves and express their needs for sexuality, closeness and protection. A further goal is that carers and their perspectives are also included in the research in order to obtain strategies for more action security and support for the staff. Thus, a co-creative research approach is chosen, which is developed together with the people with disabilities.

After a very inspiring and pioneering inclusive conference at the end of September in Halle, the research project will be concluded with an inclusive conference on 23 and 24 June 2023 at the School of Philosophy in Munich. During this final conference, the research results will be presented in a poignant manner and reflected upon together with those affected and responsible in order to promote changes in practice.

Jochanah Mahnke



PROJECTS ON SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION

After the successful presentation of the study "How socio-ecological transformation can succeed" in an elaborate hybrid conference in 2021, the main focus last year was to communicate the results and recommendations of the study as widely as possible. At the beginning of 2022, members and experts of the German and African Bishops' Conferences discussed the implications from the study at an online conference. Educational institutions in the dioceses of Munich, Eichstätt, Augsburg, Regensburg, Limburg and Osnabrück asked Dr. Stefan Einsiedel to present the study, as did various supra-regional associations in online conferences. It was a particular success that the State Committee of Catholics in Bavaria focused on the demands of the study at its autumn plenary meeting and unanimously adopted a lead motion co-authored by the ZGF for a joint climate strategy of all Bavarian dioceses.

The FLXsynErgy research project also focused on bringing different "stakeholder groups" into conversation with each other and ethically reflecting on the opportunities and risks of the planned flexibilisation of sewage treatment plants. The online conference "How much of our future lies in waste-water?" and the discussion on "Green Energy from the fermentation tank?" conducted with the Domberg Academy brought together representatives from science, technology, agriculture, civil society and operators of sewage treatment plants – the results will be incorporated into a guideline in 2023 and are intended to make a clear contribution to the energy transition, but also to a better resource protection.

Both projects were closely coordinated with the digital dialogue platform <u>www.digi-log.org</u>. When the expert group on the global economy and social ethics headed by Prof. Wallacher starts working on a follow-up study on the "Successful Transformation" in 2023, this will be accompanied more intensively than before with interviews and background reports on the digital discussion platform in order to reach a larger public. The experiences with this form of science communication were also reflected in contributions to the anthologies "Wissen kommunizieren" (2022) and "Besserwisser-Gesellschaft'. Credibility Crisis of Experts in the Digital Age" (to be published in 2023).

Stefan Einsiedel





Umweltethik im Praxisdialog

REPORT: IN CONVERSATION WITH BERNHARD WALDENFELS

The philosopher Bernhard Waldenfels has been considered one of the most important voices in German and international phenomenology for many years. In the last three decades, starting from the concept and phenomenon of alienness (Fremdheit), he has developed a philosophy that rethinks phenomenology on the basis of the responsivity of experience. This responsive phenomenology has influenced a multitude of philosophers and scholars across disciplinary and national borders.

The DAAD-funded conference "Points of reference and current research projects on the phenomenology of the strange – in conversation with Bernhard Waldenfels" on 29 July 2022 enabled a philosopher, a cultural anthropologist, a theologian and two young academics not only to provide insights into their current research and the role of responsive phenomenology in it, but also to enter into a lively exchange with Bernhard Waldenfels together with the numerous participants.

The event was kicked off in the auditorium of the *Munich School of Philosophy* by Barbara Schellhammer. On the background of a cooperation with the *Christliches Sozialwerk Dresden* and the *Centre for Medicine* – *Ethics* – *Law* at the *University of Halle*, she presented the philosophical challenges that arise in the question of sexual self-determination of people with so-called mental disabilities. Here, "responsive ethics" according to Bernhard Waldenfels proves to be a progressive corrective of a research that opens itself to two taboo phenomena, sexuality and disability, and thus to a double experience of strangeness and its existential demands.

The second impulse, given by Gudrun Becker, a doctoral candidate in *Catholic Theology at the University of Salzburg*, put the political implications of a philosophy of alienness and responsivity up for discussion. She made clear that such thinking must, on the one hand, allow the alien his distance without appropriating him, and on the other hand, keep the possibility of becoming familiar with him open. In this field of tension, responsivity can be understood as the basis for a self-critical attitude, as an awareness of the stranger's entitlement, which can never be completely caught up with, and as a resource for it becoming familiar.

Bernhard Leistle, Professor of Anthropology at *Carlton University, CA*, and DAAD Visiting Professor at the HPFH, gave an insight into the development of a theory draft that allows the integration of responsive phenomenology into an anthropological understanding of performativity on the background of a concept of "Ereignis" or event. Using empirical material from the Chicago Conspiracy Trial, it became clear that responding to the demands of a radical other is more than a mere reaction of answering, but rather must be understood as a performative, reality-generating process

that cannot be traced back to the intentional actions of subjects or determinant structures.

Vanessa Ossino, doctoral candidate at the *a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities* in Cologne and the *Université de Fribourg*, gave an impulse that led deeper into the medial and processual structures of human experience. Here, experience became comprehensible as an event that prepares the ground for the interplay between experience and response. Thus, a concept of experience became visible that promises an alternative to the dominant paradigms of a philosophy of autonomous or heteronomous subjectivity.

As the final impulse of the day, Franz Gmainer-Pranzl, professor at the *Faculty of Catholic Theology* at the *University of Salzburg* and director of the *Centre for Intercultural Theology and the Study of Religions*, outlined a phenomenology of Christian faith practice in which the phenomenon of listening is understood as a fundamental way of responding. In this way it is possible to understand religious faith not as an exercise in morality, but to take it seriously as a response to an intimate claim. Religious revelation thus grows out of the framework of an authority-oriented theology and shows itself as a counter-experience to which I must respond.

After a rich discussion, the conference's eagerly awaited highlight followed, when Bernhard Waldenfels walked through the main features of his way of thinking in a tour de force along the diverse impulses of the afternoon. The beautiful experience of becoming familiar with thinking that is founded on the idea of alienness was then also perceptible in the exuberant discussions that brought the evening to a close in the cafeteria of the HFPH.

Robert Lehmann



Dr. Robert Lehmann (Moderation), Lena Schützle (Organisation) and five of the evening's six speakers: Mag. Gudrun Becker, Prof. Bernhard Leistle, Prof. Bernhard Waldenfels, Prof. Barbara Schellhammer, Vanessa Ossino M.A.

CROSSCULTURE RELIGIOUS STUDIES SUMMER SCHOOL IN SALZBURG

The first *Crossculture Religious Summer School* took place from the 1st to the 5th of August 2022 during the *Salzburg University Weeks*. International students and professors presented their research projects and got into conversation with each other. It was a very joyful and inspiring start for a new network. Lena Schützle's lecture "How can we widen our circles of concern? (Religious) concepts of compassion", was an important contribution from the work of the ZGF. The next Summer School will take place in August 2023.

A cooperation between the *Dongguk Buddhist University Seoul* in South Korea, the *University Haifa* in Israel, with a focus on Jewish Studies and Theology, the *Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta* with the *Center* for *Religious and Cross-Cultural Studies*, with a focus on Islam and other

Indonesian Religions, the University of Nairobi for African Religions & Intercultural Philosophies in Kenya and the Faculty of Catholic Theology in Salzburg, Austria, and the Munich School of Philosophy.

Here you can find a detailed report.



IGNATIAN AND ECCLESIASTICAL NETWORKING

As a third-mission institute of the university, the ZGF is involved in a wide range of different networks: At the international level, for example, the ZGF is a member of the Jesuit European Social Centers (JESC), which is strongly involved in advocacy, as well as in the academic networks of the order ("Kircher Network" and "HEST" – Higher Education for Social Transformation); Barbara Schellhammer works in two task forces of the International Association of Jesuit Universities (IAJU): Global Citizenship and Peace and Reconciliation. In Germany, she is also involved in a number of church committees. For example, Barbara Schellhammer was appointed last year as a consultant to the Commission X World Church of the German Bishops' Conference – and Stefan Einsiedel to the "Peace, Mission, Justice" Commission of the Regional Committee of Catholics in Bavaria; the ZGF is now also involved in the Laudato Si Network initiated by American Jesuits and led by the Vatican.

In order to organise this networking as efficiently as possible and to use many synergies, good coordination is needed. Very helpful for this was the "Loyola 2022 Justice and Ecology Congress", where delegates from all over Europe met from March 27 to April 2 in the Basque homeland of Ignatius of Loyola. The aim was to improve networking between the various religious initiatives for environmental protection, education and justice – and ZGF representative Stefan Einsiedel met former ZGF leader Michael Schöpf SJ again, who now heads the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) in Rome. One concrete result of this closer cooperation was the brochure "Foodwaste", to which HEST scientists from all over Europe contributed; the Spanish version had a print run of over 30,000 copies, and it was also published in English and Catalan – the idea of choosing the problem of food waste as an interdisciplinary topic from a wide range of faculties was based on the experiences of the ZGF with the FLXsynErgy project.

Among the many dates in 2022, special mention should also be made of the conference "The Culture of Encounter: An Imperative for a Divided World" (Schellhammer, Wallacher, Reder) on the 27th to the 28th of May in Rome, the IAJU Assembly from June 3-6 in Boston (Wallacher, Rutzmoser) as well as the HEST Conference (Einsiedel) on the 29th to the 30th of November in Madrid.



EVERYDAY ISSUES LOOKED AT INTER-RELIGIOUSLY.

Three Dates, three topics, three religions.

On three dates, scientists and designated experts on the specific topics impulses on the topics nature & creation, suffering & healing and foreign & truth from three perspectives: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. What influence do religious perspectives have on the understanding of current challenges like climate change, the pandemic or fake news? To what extent can especially the interreligious perspective (or each religious perspective) contribute a constructive to the current discourse?



The project originates from the cooperation between the *Bavarian Research Center for Interreligous Discourse* (BaFID) of the *Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg*, the ZGF and the *Chair of Practical Philosophy* with the focus on International Understanding of the *Munich School of Philosophy*. A continuation with the topics luxury & materiality, wit & humour, dying & death follows in 2023.

"SEXUALITIES" – A CHALLENGING SEMINAR

Talking about sexuality on a larger scale, let alone at all, is still a rare occurrence today. And when it does happen, the conversations are very reserved, as if it were something from which one could and, above all, should hide.

The seminar "Sexualitäten" (sexualitites) breaks with this taboo. Not only does it adress the topic, but also deals with perspectives that are usually forgotten in the already sparse discourse. With different lecturers we discussed sexuality among people with (intellectual) disabilities, the LGBTQ+ spectrum, the cases of abuse in the Catholic Church and female sexuality in the context of indigenous traditions. Since we are philosophy students, philosophical thinkers such as Bataille, Lacan and Waldenfels were not neglected.

For the sake of the occasion, a philosophical-theoretical approach was chosen to ensure that the conversation did not become too personal, which was sometimes not an easy task. Considering that sexuality is a topic we encounter at different levels in life, the seminar attracted a very mixed group in terms of age, gender, personal experiences and beliefs. Despite occasional reservations and disagreements, on the whole it was valuable to be able to discuss in a diverse group like this.

Clara Drechsler



PUBLICATIONS 2022

Monographs and edited volumes

Schellhammer, Barbara/Schützle, Lena (Hrsg.): <u>Philosophie der Grenze</u>, Darmstadt 2022.





Rutzmoser, Carolin/Endres, Eva-Maria/Puzio, Anna (Hrsg.): <u>Menschsein in einer technisierten</u> <u>Welt. Interdisziplinäre Perspektiven auf den</u> <u>Menschen im Zeichen der digitalen Transformation</u>, Wiesbaden 2022.

Articles in anthologies and journals Einsiedel, Stefan/Funiok, Rüdiger: Vom neutralen "Übersetzer zwischen den Welten" zur engagierten "Kuratorin im Zukunftspavillon" – Kontextualisierung als Schlüssel für angemessene Emotionalisierung im Wissenschaftsjournalismus, in: Paganini, C. et al. (Hrsg.): Wissen kommunizieren. Ethische Anforderungen an die Kommunikation zwischen Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft, Baden-Baden 2022, 41–53.

Einsiedel, S./Steininger, B./Blattenberger, J./Hubert, C./Kretzschmar, J./Heinrich, M./Athanasiadis, K./Schaum, C.: Flexibilisierung von Faulungs- und Biogasanlagen – Identifikation von Gemeinsamkeiten und Unterschieden. Korrespondenz Abwasser, in: Abfall 2022 (69) Nr. 10, 873–882.

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Einsiedel, S./Romero, J.C./Tatay, J./Grace, E./Ukar Arrien, O./Maroun, R./Alonso-Vicario, A.: Wasting Food, in: CJ Booklet Nr. 184, Barcelona 2022.

Einsiedel, Stefan: Geht Globalisierung auch franziskanisch? Der interreligiöse Dialog als Impulsgeber in Papst Franziskus' Enyzklika "Fratelli Tutti – Über die Geschwisterlichkeit", in: Blätter Abrahams. Beiträge zur religionsgeschichtlicher Forschung und interreligiösem Dialog. Bd. 21, München 2022, 69–76.

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Reder, M./Dübgen, F./Kersting, D.: <u>Corona und das vernachlässigte</u> <u>kritische Potenzial politischer Solidarität</u>, in: Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie 2022, 70(1), 157–171.

Reder, Michael: Democracy as a Promise, in: Loffredo, A.M., Wenrich, R., Axelsson, C., Kröger, W. (Hrsg.): Changing Time, Shaping World, Bielefeld 2022, 43–56.

Schellhammer, Barbara: <u>Definition of "Care</u>" (mit L.S. Cahil, M.C. Bingemer), in: More Women's Leadership for a Better World, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore: Vita&Pensiero, 27–29. pdf-Download <u>here</u>.



Schellhammer, Barbara: Die Konfliktfähigkeit entwickeln, in: SKZ Schweizerische Kirchenzeitung, 2/22, 222–224.

Schellhammer, Barbara: Do Glaciers listen? Die Naturphilosophie indigener Traditionen als kritischer Impetus für die Soziale Arbeit, in: Pfaff, Tino / Schramkowski, Barbara / Lutz, Ronald (Hrsg.): Klimakrise und Soziale Arbeit, Weinheim 2022, 328–337.

Schellhammer, Barbara: Ein interkonfessioneller Blick auf Kernfragen des Christentums. Buchbesprechung zu: Schmidt Josef / Schöndorf, Harald / Joosten, Guido (Hrsg.): Was glaubt ein Christ? Zentrale Fragen des Christentums einfach beantwortet, Baden-Baden: Academia/Nomos 2022, in: Stimmen der Zeit 2022/10, 788–789.

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Schellhammer, Barbara: Die eigene Geschichte gibt uns Sicherheit [Interview], in: Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung, 11, 15.1.2022, 11. Hier geht es zum pdf.

Schellhammer, Barbara, Mahnke, Jochanah: "fear. less" in unsicheren Zeiten, in: perspektive mediation, 19(1), 4–9.

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Mahnke, Jochanah: Zwischen sexueller Selbstbestimmung und sexueller Gewalt bei Menschen mit sogenannter geistiger Behinderung, in: <u>Inklusion</u> j<u>etzt!</u>, Newsletter Dezember 2022, 3–7.



KONTRAPUNKTE.

In 2022, the blog "Kontrapunkte – global. solidarisch. transformativ." (Counterpoints – global. solidarity. transformative.) was again able to attract more than 1,500 different readers each month. Various authors and team members enriched the blog with their social, political and philosophical contributions. A special focus of the content was on the topic of "sexualities". We are pleased that the blog is growing steadily and has become a constant platform of the ZGF, offering space for diverse perspectives. We cordially invite you to read along, to join in the discussion and to send in your own contributions.

"Philosophy is that shift and transformation of thinking frames, the modification of established values, and all the work that is done to think differently, act differently, and become different from who you are."

- Michel Foucault



Visit the blog: <u>kontrapunkte.hypotheses.org</u>



Listen to the articles on our podcast on <u>Spotify</u>!



CONFERENCES, LECTURES AND PANELS

18.2.22 Symposium "Sexual self-determination of people with intellectual disabilities" with Prof. Dr. Julia Zinsmeister, Dr. Jolanda Vonk, Prof. Dr. Hendrik Trescher, Prof. Dr. Wim Vandewiele, apl. Prof. Dr. Ingeborg Thümmel, Prof. Dr. Monika Schröttle, Dr. Anja Schmidt, Prof. Dr. Henning Rosenau, Prof. Dr. Joachim Renzikowski, Prof. Dr. Barbara Ortland, Prof. Dr. Katja Nebe, Prof. Dr. Hans Lilie, Dr. Karolin Kuhn, Prof. Dr. Marianne Heimbach-Steins, Petra Winkler

22.2.22 Indigegogy. An Invitation to Learning in a Relational Way. An online book launch is nothing unusual in the age of Corona. However, a ceremony led by Stan Wilson and Jamie Wilson opened a very special book discussion space in February 2022. Cree elder Stan Wilson and Barbara Schellhammer shared with those in attendance the genesis of a special written dialogue.

The book can be downloaded free of charge as a PDF here!





8.3.22, 07.6.22, 26.10.22 and 12.12.22 Working Group Transformative Research. The international, interdisciplinary research group is organized by the ZGF and connects researchers who want to question methodology, attitude and impact in their research projects with a view to transformation processes. Since 2022 we are also requested for trainings to stimulate and accompany the discussion on Transformative Research.

Email <u>zgf@hfph.de</u> to be invited to meetings or to contact us.

22.3.22 Sewage sludge: Green energy from the digestion tower, cooperation event in the series "rAusblick" of the Domberg Acadamy With inputs from Stefan Einsiedel and Prof. Dr. Christian Schaum (University of the Bundeswehr Munich)

23.3.22 Conversation Series: "Bridging the Divide and Embodying Transformation – a conversation series" with impulse von Lena Schützle and Dr. Galina Kallio, moderated by Anna Saave and Eeva Houtbeckers from the Feminisms and Degrowth Alliance (FaDA)

29.7.22 Points of reference and current research projects on the phenomenology of the strange – in conversation with Bernhard Waldenfels (with Prof. Leistle, Prof. Gmainer-Pranzl, Prof. Schellhammer, Gudrun Becker and Vanessa Ossino) see p.20

29./30.9.22 Conference in Halle on "Liebe und so Sachen / Be- /Gehinderte Sexualität" (Dis-abled Sexuality) together with ChristlicheS Sozialwerk Dresden and the Interdisciplinary Scientific Centre for Medicine-Ethics-Law at the University of Halle-Wittenberg

7.11.22 Lunch-Talk with Barbara Schellhammer and her colleagues of the University of Québec/Montréal Prof. Marie-Jean Meurs (Computer Science) and Cécile Bardon (Psychology) on the development of culturally sensitive AI in the context of suicide prevention.



10.11.22 How much future is hidden in the sewer? Environmental ethical discussions on the "Sewage plant of the future". Online conference with Prof. Dr. Christian Schaum, Dr. Matthias Koch (Öko-Institut Freiburg), Dr. Lukas Rudolph (LMU) and Dr. Stefan Einsiedel

24.11.22 Seminar day "Living for Future" together with the Heinrich-Pesch-Hause in Ludwigshafen. Lecture by Stefan Einsiedel on "Socialethical perspectives on building and housing. What can the church and social ethics contribute?"

1./2.12.22 "Discourse Power – Knowledge – Participation. What role does epistemic violence play in philosophy?" – Workshop and Round Table in cooperation with the Chair of Media Ethics at the HFPH.

14.12.22 "Writing the Self" with Reinecke Lengelle. "Writing the Self" is the art and practice of using creative, expressive, and reflective writing to explore and express one's own story and develop personal agency. Through guided writing exercises, students tuned into what is true for them and learn how to live this authentically. The workshop for female students is a collaboration with the HFPH Women's Officers.

WE'VE BEEN INVITED...

11.1.22 Lecture by Lena Schützle within the teacher training "Nothing stays as it is... searching for identity and finding identity in a heterogeneous society", ILF, Gars – online

22.1.22 Domberg Academy symposium "Covid and the family" with Lena Schützle

17.2.22 Stefan Einsiedel and Rüdiger Funiok, Lecture "Quality criteria of science journalism – Contextualisation as key for appropriate emotionalisation" auf der Online-Jahrestagung des Netzwerk Medienethik

19.2.22 Impulsvortrag von Stefan Einsiedel beim "Digitaler Studientag zum ökosozialen Wandel" der Diözese Eichstätt

2.3.22 Lecture by Barbara Schellhammer for the "Controversy on ash wednesday" of the Heinrich-Pesch-Hauses (Ludwigshafen) "Brake block or motor? On the ambivalent role of culture in times of upheaval" – online

3.3. - 30.6.22 In the summer semester of 2022, Prof. Dr. Gmainer-Pranzl and Lena Schützle jointly conducted the interdisciplinary research seminar "Peace Studies" of the Centre for Intercultural Theology and Study of Religions at the University of Salzburg. The frightening topicality with regard to intra-European war events led to a full lecture hall and many lively discussions.

21.3.22 Lecture by Lena Schützle within the teacher training ",Becoming me, I speak You' (Martin Buber) – Living and learning in a culturally heterogeneous, religiously plural (school) community – Encountering strangers and oneself", ILF, Gars – online

23.3.22 Feminisms and Degrowth Alliance (FaDA) "bridging the divide and embodying transformation – a conversation series" with Lena Schützle

8.4.22 Lecture by Stefan Einsiedel: ",Querdenker' and ,Vordenker' in the climate debate" at the Reception to bid farewell to the Executive Director of Misereor Bavaria



9.4.22 Panel discussion with Stefan Einsiedel on "The global climate crisis – who is responsible and takes responsibility?" with Ján Budaj (Minister of the Environment of Slovakia), Anna Hubácková (Minister of the Environment of the Czech Republic), Prof. Dr. Jan Konvalinka (Prorector of Charles University Prague), Jürgen Mistol (Member of the Bavarian Parliament) and representatives of Fridays for Future at the 30th Brno Symposium

10.4.22 Stefan Einsiedel and the baroque ensemble Physalia, music and impulses on the topic "Sustainability in a Christian way?" as part of the series "Offene Tore in Herz Jesu" in Munich

4./5.5.22 First meeting of the Commission X World Church of the German Bishops' Conference in Berlin for Barbara Schellhammer, to which she has been appointed as a consultant.

26. - 28.5.22 Barbara Schellhammer and Johannes Wallacher take part in the conference "Culture of Encounter" hosted by Georgetown University in Washington DC.

8.6.22 Lecture "Full steam ahead into the climate catastrophe? Setting the course for a change of direction" by Stefan Einsiedel in the Forum am Dom in Osnabrück

28.6.22 Lecture "Democracy and sustainability" by Stefan Einsiedel at the sustainability week in Regensburg

13. - 19.9.22 Momentum Congress "Transformation" with contributions on the topic of "Participation as Opportunity and Challenge for Transformative Research" by Jochanah Mahnke and Benedikt Ronge. We thank pro philosophia e. V. for the helpful support!

22.10.22 Lecture by Robert Lehmann at the Goethe Institute in Kyoto. "Neither a person – neither an imperson. Towards the nonduality of Self." We thank pro philosophia e. V. for the helpful support!

9.11.22 Thematic introduction and online moderation of the "Workshop Discussion Ways to Peace – Different Positions of Catholic Associations on the War in Ukraine" of the Regional Committee of Catholics in Bavaria by Stefan Einsiedel

10.11.22 <u>rAusblick (outlook)</u> "Sexual self-determination of people with <u>so-called intellectual disabilities</u>" together with the Domberg Academy. Lecture and discussion by and with Jochanah Mahnke about the research project "Between sexual violence and sexual violence against people with so-called intellectual disability".

15.11.22 Lecture "Fundamentals of an ecological-social transformation from the perspective of social ethics" by Stefan Einsiedel with ensuing discussion with With representatives of trade unions and employers' associations as part of the series "Dialogue on social ethics. Basic training for voluntary education officers" of the KAB Bavaria – online

25. - 27.11.22 Main lecture and Workshop leadership by Barbara Schellhammer about "Prejudices, enemy images and racism as a callenge of peace work" at the annual convention of "Church und Peace" in Karlsruhe

7.12.22 Guest lecture by Barbara Schellhammer on "Thinking in a globalised world? On the claim of the foreign in philosophy" at the University of Innsbruck

14.12.22 Panel discussion by Barbara Schellhammer at the Academy of Fine Arts on "Plunder Allowed/License to Plunder" – about exploitation of nature in indigenous Canada, with Wilhelm Warning, Claus Biegert and Ernest Webb.

15.12.22 Lecture by Barbara Schellhammer at the Research Colloquium on the Americas at the Institute of Ethnology at the LMU on "Dancing with a Ghost. On the Challenges and Opportunities of Intercultural Philosophy with Indigenous Traditions in Canada".



Team retreat in December 2022: Carolin Rutzmoser, Robert Lehmann, Lena Schützle, Barbara Schellhammer, Stefan Einsiedel, Benedikt Ronge, Jochanah Mahnke (left to right)

TEACHING

Pro seminar (2 SWS): Merleau-Pontys philosophy of Culture – Art,Summerexpression and structure (*Leistle*)2022

Summer semester 2022

Main seminar (2 SWS) in English: Intercultural psychology – Cultural Relativism and Universalism with Georges Devereux *(Leistle)*

Main seminar (2 SWS) in English: Phenomenology of the Perfromative – ,The Chicago Conspiracy Trial' (*Leistle*)

Main seminar (1 SWS): Foundations and challenges of business ethics and social sciences in a global perspective – Part 1 (*Leistle/Wallacher*)

Colloquium (1 SWS): Practical module of the postgraduate Master's programme in Ethics/Intercultural Education *(Einsiedel)*

Hauptseminar (2 SWS): Sexualitäten. Philosophical reflection on current topics and discourses *(Schellhammer)*

Winter semester 2022/23

Hauptseminar (1 SWS): Foundations and challenges of business ethics and social sciences in a global perspective – Part 2 *(Schellhammer/Wallacher)*

Basic module of the postgraduate Master's (3 SWS): Ethics Ia *(Schellhammer/Sans/Reder)*

Reading group Anthropology (1 SWS) (Schellhammer)

Reading group (1 SWS) of the postgraduate Master's programme in Ethics (*Reder/Sans/Schellhammer*)

Repetitorium (Philosophicum) (2 SWS): Philosophical Anthropology (Schellhammer)

Colloquium (1 SWS): Practical module of the postgraduate Master's programme in Ethics/Intercultural Education *(Einsiedel)*

Colloquium (BA/MA) (1 SWS) (Paganini/Schellhammer/Reder)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study "Ethics of Intercultural Dialogue" online and part-time: Face the ethical questions of your everyday professional life and our time from a completely new perspective!

In the winter semester 2023/24, the School of Philosophy is offering the online study programme "Ethics of Intercultural Dialogue", developed in cooperation with Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL), for the first time. In a total of 5 modules, which can be flexibly spread over two to three semesters and attended online, you will gain insight into current ethical issues from an intercultural perspective: How do we deal with people who have different ethical principles? What ethical and political concepts are needed in a globalised world and in view of the climate crisis? How can we create a sustainable culture of encounter? Where should the ethical borders of biomedical research or technological development lie?

In the course of your studies, you will not only immerse yourself in fundamental ethical and interculturally important issues from the fields of business, media and medicine – you will also develop a differentiated view of the issues you deal with in your everyday professional life

Inform yourself here about the new study programme!

13. - 15.10.2023 Conference in Tutzing: Being Sustainably politically active. Climate Justice, Self-Care and Radical Compassion. Evangelische Akademie Tutzing in cooperation with the ZGF, the Intersein Foundation and the Selbach Environmental Foundation.

23. - 24.6.2023 Inclusive final conference "Dis-abled Sexuality. On the difficult balance between enabling and protecting". You are cordially invited to be a part of this important exchange. See p. 16

For further information please visit our <u>website</u>.



THANK YOU!

The ZGF cordially thanks for providing images: Peter Hoffmann-Schoenborn for p. 3 & 7, the Christliches Sozialwerk for p. 17, the artists on unsplash.com and pixabay.com, as well as the public relations department of the HFPH.



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