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RESEARCH SCHOOL

Transatlantic Summer Workshop, Bochum 2016

Politics, Identities and Conflicts in Europe and the United States 1945-2016

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Transatlantic Summer Workshop, Bochum 2016
Politics, Identities and Conflicts in Europe and the United States, 1945-2016

Workshop Leaders & Speakers

Constantin Goschler holds the Chair in Contemporary History at Ruhr University



Bochum. His research includes intelligence services and domestic security, transitional justice, reparations and culture of remembrance in Europe, Jewish history after 1945, bio-politics and pop science. Among many other works, he is co-editor with M. Dean and P. Ther, of *Robbery and Restitution: The Conflict over Jewish Property in Europe* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2007). He is also co-author of the recently published volume *„Keine neue Gestapo“. Das Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und die NS-Vergangenheit* (Reinbek: Rowohlt 2015) [No New Gestapo. The German Office for the Protection of the Constitution and the Nazi Past], with Michael Wala.

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Benjamin Hett was born in Rochester, New York but grew up in Edmonton, Alberta,



Canada, leaving him with a lifelong if mostly heartbreaking attachment to the Edmonton Oilers of the NHL. He earned a BA in Political Science and English Literature from the University of Alberta (1987) and then a J.D. from the University of Toronto (1990). Four years of legal practice – it

felt like eight – convinced him to return to the University of Toronto for an MA in History (1995) before he moved on to Harvard for a Ph.D. (2001). For two years he taught in the History and Literature program at Harvard alongside advising graduate students at the Harvard Law School. In 2003 he joined the faculty of Hunter College and in 2006 that of the Graduate Center, CUNY. Hett's work has gradually shifted from a focus on the theory and practice of criminal law in Germany, through the legacy of National Socialism in postwar Germany, to the Second World War on the Eastern front and the work of West German intelligence services in the 1950s. He is the author of three books (*Death in the Tiergarten*, 2004; *Crossing Hitler*, 2008; *Burning the Reichstag*, 2014) and a number of articles. Hett has been a recipient of the Hans Rosenberg Prize for the best article on German history by a North American scholar; the Fraenkel Prize from the Wiener Library in London; and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the American Council of Learned Societies. He is a recipient of the prestigious Visiting International Professorship award by the Ruhr-University Research School. **Contact:** bhett@hunter.cuny.edu

Cornelia Jöchner is Professor of Art History of the Early Modern Era with a special focus on architecture at Ruhr University Bochum. She is currently serving as head of the Art History Department at Ruhr University. Her research interests focus on sacred buildings and ritual acts, the methodology and history of architectural research, the history of urban spaces, anthropology of art and theories of space as well as political spaces in terms of garden design and architecture. She is co-author of the volume *Ruhr-Universität Bochum. Architekturvision der Nachkriegsmoderne* (Berlin 2015) [Ruhr University Bochum. Architectural Visions of the Post-War Period], together with R. Hoppe-Sailer and F. Schmitz.



Norbert Lammert has served as President of the German Bundestag since October 2005. In October 2013, the Members of the Bundestag re-elected him to the top parliamentary post. In terms of protocol, he ranks second only to the President of the Federal Republic. As President of the Bundestag, he ensures that Parliament's rules are upheld and represents Parliament in the public sphere. He also heads the Bundestag Administration, which has around 2500 members of staff, and the Bundestag police. Norbert Lammert was born in 1948. After graduating from secondary school and completing his military service, he studied political science, modern history and social economics in Bochum and Oxford. In 1975, he obtained his doctorate in social science. Prof. Lammert joined the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) in 1966 and was elected to the Bundestag in 1980. He served as deputy chairman of the Committee for the Scrutiny of Elections, Immunity and the Rules of Procedure from 1983 to 1989, and as a parliamentary state secretary at various federal ministries in the 1990s.



Wilhelm Löwenstein serves as Speaker of Research School and Research School Plus of the Ruhr University in Bochum. He is Professor for Development Research at the Faculty of Management and Economics as well as Managing Director of the Institute of Development Research and Development Policy at the Ruhr-University Bochum. Prof. Löwenstein completed his studies at the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics at the University of Göttingen in 1990 with a MSc Econ (Diplom-Volkswirt). In 1994, he was awarded the PhD degree in Economics (Dr. rer. pol.).



During his time as PhD candidate, he worked as Research Assistant and Assistant Professor at the Institute of Forest Economics at the University of Göttingen, where he received his *venia* 2003. From 1995 to 2005 he served as Research Coordinator and Executive Director at the Institute of Development Research and Development Policy at the Ruhr University Bochum, where he became Managing Director in 2005. His research interests include growth and international economic relations, welfare economics and project evaluation.

Ludger Pries is Professor for Sociology at the Ruhr University Bochum. Currently, he is holding the DAAD “Wilhelm and Alexander von Humboldt” Chair at Colegio de México in México City. He has conducted research in Brazil, Mexico, Spain and the US. Prof. Pries was a visiting fellow at the Universidade Federale de Minas Gerais (Belo Horizonte), Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana and El Colegio de Mexico (Mexico City), University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), Cornell University (Ithaca) and Columbia University (New York). His main fields of research interests are the sociology of organizations, work and labor regulation, and migration in international comparison, especially transnationalization, transnational migration and processes of social incorporation.



Axel Schölmerich has served as Rector of the Ruhr University Bochum since October 2015. He was born in Marburg an der Lahn in 1952 and studied pedagogy (diploma in 1977) and psychology (diploma in 1980) at the University of Mainz. After he obtained his PhD degree at the University of Osnabrück in 1990 and following five years of postdoctoral research as a Fogarty Fellow at the National Institutes of Health, USA, he habilitated in psychology in Mainz in 1995. Subsequently, he accepted an appointment as C3 professor for “Developmental Psychology” at Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. In 1996, Axel Schölmerich was appointed at Ruhr-Universität, initially as C3 professor for “Developmental Psychology”. In 2005, he rejected a tenure in “Developmental Psychology” at the University of Vienna and accepted an appointment as W3 professor for “Developmental Psychology” at RUB in the following year instead. From 2006 to 2007, he held the office of Dean at the Faculty of Psychology; since 2007, he has been a member of the RUB Senate, where he assumed the function of Chairman between 2012 and 2014. In this role, he initiated e.g. the first joint meeting of all senators of University Alliance (UA Ruhr). Prof Schölmerich was a tutor at the German Research Foundation (DFG) from 2007 - 2015.



John Torpey is Professor of Sociology and History at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, and (from January 2014) Director of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies at the Graduate Center. He is the author or editor of eight books: *Intellectuals, Socialism, and Dissent: The East German Opposition and its Legacy* (1995); *The Invention of the Passport: Surveillance, Citizenship, and the State* (2000); *Documenting Individual Identity: The Development of State Practices in the Modern World* (edited with Jane Caplan; Princeton: Princeton UP, 2001); *Politics and the Past: On Repairing Historical Injustices* (2004); *Old Europe, New Europe, Core Europe: Transatlantic Relations after the Iraq War* (2005), *Making Whole What Has Been Smashed: On Reparations Politics* (2006); *The Post-Secular in Question* (2012); and, with Christian Joppke, *Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison* (2013). He is on the editorial board of *Theory and Society* and the *Journal of Human Rights*, and edits a series for Temple University Press titled “Politics, History, and Social Change.” John Torpey is a recipient of the prestigious Visiting International Professorship award by the Ruhr-University Research School.



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Michael Wala is Professor of North American History at Ruhr University Bochum. His research focuses on intelligence and security issues, American-German relations, American culture in Europe, and the American imagination of the word. He is co-editor, with H. Bungert and J. Heitmann, of *Secret Intelligence in the Twentieth Century* (London: Routledge, 2003). He is also co-author of the recently published volume „Keine neue Gestapo“. *Das Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und die NS-Vergangenheit* (Reinbek: Rowohlt 2015) [No New Gestapo. The German Office for the Protection of the Constitution and the Nazi Past], with Constantin Goschler.



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Organizers

Marcus Böick is Research associate at the chair for contemporary history, Ruhr-University Bochum; in 2016 he successfully defended his dissertation on *Manager, Beamte und Kader in einer Arena des Übergangs. Eine Ideen-, Organisations- und Erfahrungsgeschichte der Treuhandanstalt und ihres Personals, 1990-1994*; 2011-14: PhD-Grant (Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship); 2009: Master of Arts (History & Political Science, Ruhr-University Bochum). Publications: *Die Treuhandanstalt* (2015); Special Issue on *Vermarktlichung/Marketization, Zeithistorische Forschungen/Studies in Contemporary History*, 12 (2015), H. 3; *Aus einem Land vor unserer Zeit. Eine Lesereise durch die DDR-Geschichte* (2012).



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Patrizia Nobbe's research focus is on the politics of transportation megaprojects. In close cooperation with Joseph Berechman, Patrizia has and continues to work on several transportation infrastructure related publications. She is also under contract with Cornell University Press to write a book on *The Politics and History of the Second Avenue Subway*. The expected publication date of the book is the day of the subway opening: December 31, 2016. At present, Patrizia is the Assistant Director of the European Union Studies Center, located at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, which is concerned with all things European. European infrastructure investment policies will also be one of the Center's new themes. Patrizia received her PhD in Political Science at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, writing on the Politics of Large Infrastructure Investment Decisions.



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Transatlantic Summer Workshop, Bochum 2016
Politics, Identities and Conflicts in Europe and the United States, 1945-2016

Research Interests, Bios and Contacts of the Participants

Anna Abelmann-Brockmann

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr University Bochum

Department of History



Research Associate at the Historical Institute of the Ruhr-University of Bochum; PhD candidate at the Historical Institute of the Ruhr-University of Bochum; Since 2015 Book Review Editor of the “Journal of Intelligence History” (Taylor & Francis); Since 2013 Member of the Editorial Board of the “Journal of Mediterranean and Balkan Intelligence”; Since 2012 Executive Director of the “International Intelligence History Association” (IIHA); Master of Arts in Political Science at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany (2008)

Research Project: “The Work of German Political Foundation in Israel (1950s-1980s)”

The PhD project explores the history and development of German political foundations in Israel between the 1950s up to the 1980s and is based on a large collection of archive material and interviews with contemporary witnesses. In the past few months the project’s main focus was on the writing process. In addition the institute held a three-day conference on the foundations’ work in Israel and Palestine with a number speakers from different foundations and representatives of Israeli and Palestinian partner organisations. The conference concluded with a fruitful and very open discussion regarding the current situation of the foundations in the region which added some inspiring aspects to the research project.

In general the project’s structure is be divided into three section: (1) The first phase from the mid-1950s up to 1966 includes the establishment of first contacts between foundations’ members and Israeli players as well as the implementation of a number of first cooperation projects without entering the official level. (2) From 1966 to 1977, especially the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation established close ties with the Israeli labour movement and played an essential role by setting up informal communication channels between the political elite and the civil society of both states. (3) In the

course of the political changes in Israel 1977, the political foundations changed its informal methods of operations in Israel and began with the establishment of official and permanent missions in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. The foundations' development during the 1980s provided the basis and paved the way for their current status as „think and do tank“.

The German political foundations' work in Israel is an ideal case study which shows to what extent the foundations can act independently in political crisis situations and how they can become a relevant player in great areas. Nevertheless, due to the special character of the German-Israeli relations, the case of Israel is unique and not representative for the foundations scope of action in the international arena in general.

Eva Balz

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of History



Since 4/2012: PhD candidate at the Ruhr-University, supervised by Prof. Dr. Constantin Goschler and Prof. Dr. Michael Wildt; 08-10/2012 Doctoral Fellowship am German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.; 03/2011: Graduation (Magister Artium), Humboldt-University Berlin; 2011: Research Assistant at Humboldt-University, Chair for German history of the 20th century with a focus on National Socialism. Research interests include the social history of National Socialism, Transitional Justice and compensation in the 20th Century as well as political regulation of social change.

Research Project: “Politics of the past and politics of property in the Cold War. The Supreme Restitution Court for Berlin”

In my dissertation project “Politics of the past and politics of property in the Cold War. The Supreme Restitution Court for Berlin”, I examine the development of restitution politics and restitution legislation in West Berlin between 1945 and 1973. “Restitution” in this context describes the process aimed towards returning looted property to the victims of the “Third Reich”. My central argument is that, due to the special role Berlin played in the Cold War, the development of restitution was never purely the result of political strategies aimed at „dealing with the past“, but also deeply entangled with provocative property politics. The eventual shape and outcome of restitution in West Berlin and beyond was therefore, I want to demonstrate, an outcome of overlaps, but more often of tensions between two very different political dynamics. My project’s focal point is the Supreme Restitution Court for Berlin, an international appellate institution founded in 1953. I made this decision because the Court’s establishment, functioning and jurisdiction represent the entanglements, contradictions and parallels between property politics and political approaches to the German past particularly well.

In my first two chapters, I have examined the political framework in which the Court was established and the conditions for its actual functioning. At the moment, I am finishing my third major chapter, which deals with the Court’s jurisdiction. The biggest challenge in this context has been dealing with my sources, which consist almost entirely of court decisions. In order to make sense of these documents for my own work, I had to find a way to translate legal language into historical categories. My

approach for solving this problem was dividing legal argumentations into two groups, one, that is for the most part concerned with the past and a second one primarily concerned with property order. In the workshop, I would like to discuss my use of these categories based on some examples and gather some feedback on the overarching question of using legal documents as historical sources.

Emily B. Campbell

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PhD Program in Sociology

CUNY Graduate Center



I am interested in justice and power. My major research areas include race and ethnicity, sociology of education, political sociology, social movements, sociology of human rights and the sociology of religion. I teach in the Sociology Department at Lehman College, and have taught Sociological Research Methods, Statistics, and Racial and Ethnic Communities in the United States. Before CUNY, I taught in the Spanish public school system in their bilingual program for three years, in addition to teaching English Language Learners from around the world in Boston, Massachusetts. I have worked as a research associate at the Ralph Bunch Institute for International Studies at the Graduate Center, CUNY, the Department for African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington, the Consortium for Gender, Security and Human Rights at the University of Massachusetts, Boston and the Institute for Urban and Minority Education at Teachers' College of Columbia University. I also write fiction and poetry, and was a fiction fellow at the Writers' Institute at the CUNY Graduate Center last year.

Research project

This February I passed my final comprehensive oral exam in the subfields of sociology of human rights, race and ethnicity and political sociology. I have continued my ongoing work as an educator, teaching Statistics and a course titled Racial and Ethnic Communities in the United States. Related to pedagogy, I presented "Quantitative Reasoning for Life: An Integrative, Emotional Approach to Student Learning", based on participant observation of statistics courses and a series of workshops for math in the humanities, at the Eastern Sociological Society meeting this spring and co-authored a chapter that is currently under review titled "Family and Home as Educator", for a book about educational justice for poor and underserved children, with educational psychologist Edmund Gordon.

My dissertation project is currently in development and I plan to defend my prospectus this fall. My focus has shifted since our last meeting. My dissertation research will explore the moralized political economy of illicit drug trafficking and consumption in the United States and Mexico, specifically heroin. I am interested in the socio-political implications of this long-standing relationship, albeit with new

iterations, namely the highly visible shift in the demographic of users (white, middle and working class Americans) and recent rise in death by drug-overdose. I want to explore the moral linkages of this clandestine and geopolitical relationship, racialized discourses in press and policy, and differential consequences and responses for persons along the trade route; those destabilized politically through militarization and narco-drug wars under prohibitionist pretexts to those driving demand through the growing markets for opiates and opioids, fueled by the growth of readily available, highly-addictive pharmaceutical pain-killers since the 1990's. My presentation will discuss preliminary musings and questions based on research collected in New England and Mexico over the past year.

Olimpia Dumitru

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of Social Sciences



Since February 2014 PhD candidate at Ruhr University Bochum, Department of Sociology; 2011-2012 Master in European Studies at the University of Bonn; 2007-2008 Master of Science in Public Policy and Management (distance study) at the University of London; before starting her PhD studies she also gathered professional experience as a public officer in different fields of responsibility in Canada, e.g. at the Department for Citizenship and Immigration.

Research Project: Highly Skilled Labour Migration Studies. Migration of international doctors: a comparison between Germany and Canada: Is the hosting country's regulation of the medical profession a decisive factor for choosing a destination?

My research consists of comparing the management of the international medical doctors (IMD's) in Germany and Canada. I intend to compare how each government manages the migration and the integration of the IMD's in the local health labour market.

The research focuses on differences in the immigration processes in Canada and Germany. Studies show that the structure of the administrative process adjudicating entry or immigrant selection into developed countries can have important implications for the ability to practice post-immigration in regulated health professions. McDonald, Warman, and Worswick (2011) compare immigrants with medical degrees in Canada and Germany, both countries having a shortage of physicians, both countries controlling the annual number of immigrant medical graduates (IMGs) and both facilitating immigration for physicians willing to work in under serviced areas. Licensing bodies become important barriers for the international migration of health professionals, and researchers often debate that in addition to simply verifying credentials these organizations serve to create provider monopoly power.

For the purpose of illustrating different immigration processes and their outcomes, we look at the immigration processes in Canada and Germany. Canada uses a points system. On the other hand, if we look at Germany, it uses an employment offer as a means of migration under the highly skilled migration and the European Blue Card system. I will draw upon inductive research by collecting data about my central research concerns and based on this data I will attempt to prove the stated hypothesis

or the null hypothesis by analyzing the correlation between a country's migration program and the licensing process and evaluate the value of licensure to immigrant practitioners.

Current shortages are the by—product of policies that have restricted the expansion of supply and the slow speed of corrective policy measures to supersede such policies. Because shortages have been already identified, immigration policies have been characteristically selective even in the face of prevalent shortages worldwide. There are many “pull” and “push” factors that either encourages migration or discourages it to these host countries. This research work looks at the impacts of licensure, regulations and immigration policies for the healthcare market in recipient countries and their effects on the integration of foreign-trained professionals. (Grignon, M., Owusu, Y., Sweetman, A., 2012)

Christopher Ewing

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PhD Program in History

CUNY Graduate Center



Ph.D. Candidate, History, The Graduate Center, CUNY (Fall 2012-present); M.Phil. History, The Graduate Center, CUNY, October 2015; M.A. History, The Graduate Center, CUNY, February 2014; B.A. History and German Studies, Vassar College, May 2012

Research project

Following the creation of West Germany in 1949, homosexual men worked to gain inclusion into a newly democratic society. Yet despite inclusionary ideals, men of color were often excluded from emerging homosexual groups. My dissertation argues that this exclusion stemmed from shifting assumptions that white gay men held about race, which caused them to essentialize and exoticize men of color. The first chapter examines the occupation of Germany between 1945 and 1949, examining how homosexual encounters with foreign troops, particularly African American GIs, coincided with a moment of relative sexual liberality. Chapter two looks at early gay organizing in West Germany between 1949 and 1969. Many homosexual men formulated an identity rooted in the antiracism that permeated official rhetoric of the time, while simultaneously otherizing men of color through exoticizing discourse. Chapter three shows how these exclusions developed following the liberalization of the sodomy statute in 1969. Although some gay men adopted new, more radical politics, their focus on class inequality precluded critical discussion of racial inequality. Chapter four explores how gay men framed international gay rights concerns following the fracturing of the radical movement in 1973. To make sense of the needs of same-sex desiring men in Islamicate countries, some white gay men divided homosexuality and Islam. Chapter five begins with the onset of AIDS in 1981 and argues that some white gay men attempted to work with migrant groups to combat repressive measures, as gay men of color simultaneously organized to fight racial discrimination in gay communities. Chapter six looks at developments since xenophobic attacks in 1992, as many gay men worked for racial inclusion following public debates about post-unification xenophobia. However, the reemergence of racism in the guise of Islamophobia during the early 21st century indicates the continued complications in racial thinking and the need for historical examination of these issues.

Over the last few months, my work has primarily focused on the 1970s and 1980s, as these two decades marked a transition in gay published discourses. Between 1969 and 1981, many gay publications shifted from depictions of Islam as filled with erotic possibilities for same-sex-desiring Europeans to an understanding of Islam as repressive and homophobic. These later representations, laden with fears about Turkish immigration, were silenced, however, as AIDS, death, and subsequent government repression emerged as the central fears within many gay publications. My presentation will therefore focus on these two decades, arguing that while an understanding of Islam as inherently homophobic emerged in gay communities during this period, it was by no means all-encompassing and became quite peripheral during the AIDS crisis. This leads us to the question of why this understanding reemerged during the 1990s and why it was quickly co-opted by mainstream politics, placing much of Europe at a moment in which Islam is seen as incompatible with (supposed) sexual progressiveness.

Jana Tarja Golombek

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr University Bochum

Department of History



Since November 2015: Research Associate at the German Mining Museum Bochum (area of research: History of Mining); 2014-2016: Research Associate at the Institute for Social Movements, Bochum (project: The Ruhr Valley: A Global Beacon of Industrial Culture); 2003-2009 MA studies in European Ethnology/Cultural Studies, Contemporary German Literature and French at Philipps-Universität Marburg and Université de Poitiers.

Research Project: “Please fill the gap – Industrial heritage as postindustrial placeholder? Upper Silesia, Greater Pittsburgh and the Ruhr in comparison since the 1980s”

Structural change and deindustrialization have long been a subject of research in various academic disciplines, with emphasis predominantly being placed on the political and economic significance of such processes. Researchers analyzed the immediate experiences and consequences of plant closures, thereby figuratively conducting a “body count”: What closures were there? How many jobs were lost? etc. However, the process of deindustrialization not only constituted a quantitative and qualitative change in the working world, but also – as had already been the case with industrialization – a fundamental change in the social structure.

What has been neglected in previous research is the question of the cultural significance of structural change over the years, also with regard to the question of how individuals and entire communities have reinterpreted the process of deindustrialisation through memory processes. Similarly, the role of culture – meaning everyday/popular culture as opposed to high culture – in the course of this process requires more detailed consideration, especially given its importance as a tool for the emotional processing of those experiences and consequences. Deindustrialisation is inscribed in landscape, heritage and culture. Not only the former industrial workers themselves, their children and grandchildren, but also “outsiders” react to the phenomenon despite deindustrialisation being only partially based in their own memory, if at all. But how exactly do they react to it? To what extent do the inhabitants of a region construct stories and memories of industrial work and the process of deindustrialisation via cultural representation such as photography, literature, personal narratives and exhibitions to fill the gap that is left? What replaces the industrial?

In my dissertation I seek to analyse different approaches of processing and filling the void, both literally and figuratively. As a tangible evidence of structural change, industrial heritage sites play a special role. Expansive industrial areas were rendered obsolete and entire building complexes fell into decay. With the new social history of the 1970s, a method was found for the revitalization and conversion of certain industrial monuments into industrial museums to tell the history of the workers and their everyday culture in the sense of a "history from below" at original locations. Other cultural interpretations of structural change can be found in the work of cultural initiatives, in photography and the intangible heritage, such as oral traditions, music and literature, which have formed concepts that have entered popular culture, such as "smokestack nostalgia," "ruin porn" or "rust belt chic". I am interested in examining the space between the two poles of top-down (such as master narratives often found in regional or national museums) and bottom-up narratives (as found in cultural initiatives) of tangible and intangible industrial heritage in deindustrialised and deindustrializing spaces. By looking at case studies from three different regions, the Ruhr, Upper Silesia, Greater Pittsburgh, I will generate a mental-map of each region.

The research will consist of analysing the permanent exhibitions of three major cultural institutions, which shall represent the "master narrative" for each region: the Ruhr Museum in Essen, the Silesian Museum in Katowice and the National Museum of Industrial History in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Furthermore, I will lead interviews with experts on industrial heritage, activists from cultural initiatives and people engaged in preserving or constructing the post-industrial memory of the regions. I will collect data via questionnaires, participant observation and group interviews. By then comparing the results, I will be able to draw conclusions on how their different methods of handling structural change and its legacies has affected society and, thus, contributes to a wider critical account of the role of cultural approaches to interpreting industrial change.

Darius Harwardt

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of History



I studied history, biology and geography at the Ruhr-University Bochum, from 2004 till 2011, earning a degree of Master of Education. 2012, after finishing my studies, I worked as a research assistant at the historical institute of the Ruhr-University within a research project to investigate the Nazi past of the German Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz. I paused this engagement to

work at the Institute of documentation and research of the social insurance in Bochum (sv:dok). In 2013 I proceeded to work at the historical institute of the Ruhr-University. Since 2015 I am involved as a research associate at the University of Essen to research the history of cooperation between sport science, labor science and corporations in the Weimar Republic.

Research project: “Imaginations of America within networks of right-wing intellectuals”

In my research project I explore the imaginations of the United States within right-wing intellectual networks, its change within history and the competition with other enemy images. Since the Weimar Republic and even before, the United States provided a continuous arsenal of socially constructed and culturally conveyed images and concepts, addressing subliminal resentments and thus having a potentially far-reaching effect. Different images of America thus function as a probe, to analyze central elements and differences in ideology and political culture, within intellectual networks and public discourses.

Recently I focused on the public dispute about the NATO Double-Track Decision and the peace-movement in Germany. Because of Ronald Reagan’s anti-communistic and militaristic rhetoric, most people within the peace-movement saw the USA as the main threat for peace in Europe. Thus images of America where suddenly in the middle of public discourses about security, German unity, western orientation and other issues. The CDU on the other side tried to present themselves as the party of German-American friendship and wide parts of the peace-movement were discredited as „anti-American“ or even part of a Soviet infiltration. However the peace-movement tried to make sense of their own „America“, which was not the America of Reagan and military armament but of the American peace-movement and alternative milieus within American society.

These issues were also central for discourses within right-wing intellectual networks and their publication platforms, mainly political magazines. Right-wing conservatives around the magazine *Criticón* imagined Reagan as the new leader of a western conservative movement, from which they hoped to influence the Federal Republic with their ideas. In this situation they suddenly wanted an „Americanization“ to reinforce German conservatism. Others were more skeptical about that and instead interpreted the peace-movement as a new promising occurrence of national identity in Germany, indicating the possibility of the „third way“ towards which many of them had worked in the past. Intellectuals from right-wing extremism however switched their former opinion and put many of their anti-American stereotypes on hold to suddenly embrace western orientation. The fear of the Soviet-Union as well as the ambition, to establish an ideological border to the political left might have shaped their political culture.

The debate around the peace-movement illustrates the use of imaginations of America as a part of a sense-making process in constructing political culture. Like the peace-movement-protesters many right-wing intellectuals also had an imagination of what „America“ could stand for in their opinion – as a positive reference point and ideal or a negative enemy image. Thus one could not speak of the „new right“ as an homogeneous movement. Different images of America reflect different political ideas of right-wing intellectuals.

Nicholas Levis

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PhD Program in History

CUNY Graduate Center



The Graduate Center, City University of New York: Ph.D. Student in History. Graduate Center Fellowship, 2014-2019. Provost's Grant, 2015; Williams College, Williamstown, MA, 1983-1987: Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1987; British and European Studies Group, London: Junior Year Abroad program, 1985-1986; Columbia University Science Honors Program: 1981-1983; Research interests: Modern Europe; Greece; Germany; United States; political economy; global history; diaspora; social movements; transitional justice.

Lead author and editor: *Working for the Enemy. Ford, General Motors, and Forced Labor in Germany during the Second World War* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2000).

Research Project

The work I have begun at the Graduate Center considers international dimensions of the Greek state of exception beginning in 1965, the seven years of military dictatorship in 1967 to 1974, and the country's subsequent transition to democracy and integration into the institutions and cultural life of the project known as "Europe." The decades following the 1965-1974 regimes saw by far the longest time of peace and relative political stability in the history of the modern Greek nation-state. More recently, however, a new protracted crisis of Greek politics, economy and society has captured global attention as a perceived threat to the stability not only of Greece, but of the European Union and the global financial system. Future historians are likely to see the present crisis as a transition to a new period, adding relevance to a retrospect on the last time when Greece underwent even more dramatic upheavals.

The eventual dissertation will view the events of the late 1960s and 1970s from the several interrelated perspectives of "comparative diasporas"; social movements and activists seeking to influence development across borders; international relations in the Cold War context; Greek national history; and comparisons with other cases of homeland-diaspora interactions during transitions between dictatorship and democracy, such as in Latin America, Portugal and Spain.

Nicholas R. Micinski

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PhD Program in Political Science

CUNY Graduate Center



City University of New York, Graduate Center: Ph.D. candidate in Political Science International Relations, Comparative Politics, 2013-2018; American School in Tangier Critical Language Scholarship, U.S. State Department Summer Arabic Language Program, 2014; Michigan State University B.A. (with Honors) in International Relations, Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy Specialization in Muslim Studies, 2008

Research project: “Migration Management in the EU: Cooperation and Delegation between European States and International Organizations”

Given the institutional strength and records of commitment on human rights, one would expect European states to be able to deal with a refugee crisis through their national asylum institutions or European Union (EU) migration institutions. For more than 60 years, European states have been pioneers committed to human rights. The European Union created more than 40 decentralized agencies, such as the European Environmental Agency, the European Defense Agency, and the European Asylum Support Office, to cooperate on common challenges. Collectively, the Euro Zone is the largest economy in the world and the budget of the European Union was more than €143 billion in 2014. Yet with all this institutional development, financial capacity, and commitment to human rights, the UNHCR (the UN agency with a mandate for protecting displaced people) was still needed to help European states cope with the arrival of more than 500,000 Syrian refugees in the summer 2015. Other international organizations, such as International Organization for Migration (IOM), were also subcontracted to run resettlement programs.

Why do EU member states work with UNHCR or IOM when European migration institutions exist? I argue that UNHCR and IOM operate in Europe when the level cooperation and committed to EU migration institutions is low and when UNHCR and IOM take proactive steps to remain relevant to EU member states through legal expertise, coordinating humanitarian relief, and other areas of the migration infrastructure. While EU-level officials seek to establish the authority of EU migration institutions, individual states are reluctant to transfer control over key migration and border institutions to the regional level. Rather, member states prefer to delegate authority to UNHCR and IOM in order to address short-term migration crises rather

than transfer long-term authority over migration to the EU. UNHCR and IOM seize the opportunity presented by the rapidly unfolding crisis to show their special role in the international community by competing to show their relevance.

In order to test these hypotheses, my research will be conducted in two phases: 1) quantitative analysis of cooperation among EU states on migration challenges; and 2) qualitative case studies of four migration challenges. The quantitative analysis will examine overall trends for cooperation on migration in the EU, while the qualitative case studies will use process-tracing to examine the causal mechanisms for cooperation and delegation to IOs. The case studies will be selected to include variation in the level of cooperation and delegation. While not yet determined, four potential case studies are the Common European Asylum System, the Eurodac database, the Temporary Protection Directive, and the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan. Initial interviews with key policy makers are being conducted throughout summer 2016 in Brussels, Geneva, Italy, and Greece.

Sean David Rupka

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PhD Program in Political Science

CUNY Graduate Center



Ph.D. Political Science with a Designated Emphasis in political Theory City University of New York, 2012 – present; M.A. Social and Political Thought York University, Toronto, Canada, 2009-2011; H.B.A. Honors Political Science and Humanities Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, 2006-2009; H.B.Sc. Honors in Biochemistry Bishops University, 1999-2003

Research project: “Trauma and its Transmissability: The politics of Intergenerational Trauma”

My work focuses on trauma and its political and personal incorporation across communities. By investigating the problematic relations between political organizations and traumatic communities, troubling aspects of political consensus forming in the wake of traumatic violence targeted towards specific groups becomes apparent. Too often political reconciliation via an attempt to incorporate a community of traumatic survivors relies upon the coercive acceptance of resolution, often enacted within such communities themselves and operating largely on a hierarchy of pain that either demands those who do not wish to reconcile accept historical resolution or to be exiled. This becomes what I refer to as a political transmutability of trauma that attempts to enforce political stability, operating within specific assumptions of the temporal limits of political reparations. These temporal limits are however put into question when challenged by groups whose identity is in part constituted by an intergenerational transmission of trauma which insists upon a degree of irreconcilability. Focusing on two groups in particular, Holocaust survivors and Canadian First Nations people, I discuss how intergenerational trauma complicates the understanding of political identity, individual identity and political belonging which revolves around both a renunciation of identity and an insistence of self-stigmatization in exchange for political access and resources.

Marcel Schmeer

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of History



I am a doctoral student at the Department of History at Ruhr University Bochum and Research Associate at the Chair of Contemporary History (Prof. Constantin Goschler). My research interests lie in the fields of Intelligence History, Domestic Security and Digital History. In November 2015 I graduated from Ruhr University Bochum with a Master's degree in History and Political Science. Prior to this, I obtained a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science, Social Economy and Sociology. In the winter term 2013/14 I studied abroad in Lublin and Kraków (Poland). Additionally, I gained some international working experience during a two-month stay in Washington, D.C. working with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

Research project

My dissertation project focuses on ideas, actors and practices of governmental security communication regarding the work of the domestic intelligence service in Germany (*Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz*) between 1950 and 1989. I am interested in investigating how government institutions and intelligence services dealt with the apparent contradiction of confidentiality as an essential characteristic of their work on the one hand and transparency expectations in an emerging critical public sphere in (West) Germany on the other. Within this domestic area of conflict and also within the framework of the Cold War these state institutions developed specific forms of public communication trying to establish understanding for various security issues, to acquaint the public with the functioning of intelligence services, and to communicate certain threat information (e.g. by publishing annual reports on the protection of the constitution). These efforts shifted in the history of the Federal Republic of Germany as new threats for the domestic security situation emerged (or were identified as such), e.g. the domestic terrorism of the Red Army Faction. The public and especially the mass media did not merely react to these communication efforts, but also influenced the public-orientated work of the security agencies in terms of professionalization and also democratization. Additionally, new modes of security communication were negotiated within the German society. Focusing on these dynamics, my research project aims at making a contribution to our understanding not only of the history of intelligence services in democratic societies, but also of the conflictive relationship between government security and information agencies and a critical public sphere.

Over this past year and also influenced by conversations and feedback over last summer's Transatlantic Workshop, I worked intensively on sharpening my analytical

framework, especially the use of some of my main research categories (such as propaganda, public sphere, security or securitization and transparency). I have begun my archival research, gathering recently declassified documents from within the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the *Verfassungsschutz* regarding their public relations efforts. Additionally, I am researching media archives aiming at generating a sample of different sources regarding the work of the domestic security agencies. On this year's Workshop I will present some early results of my research.

Christian Schramm

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of Social Sciences



Since November 2012: PhD student at the Department of Social Science at the Ruhr-University of Bochum (RUB); October 2002 - October 2009: Studies of Sociology, Hispanic Studies, Communication Science at the University of Leipzig, Germany, Magister Artium in Sociology; Since September 2013: Doctoral scholarship Heinrich-Böll-Foundation

Research project: “Dynamics of Change in Transnational Families”

When this research was initiated in 2013 its focus lied on the relation between the change of living conditions of Ecuadorian migrants in Spain and their biographically conceptualized migration project. I further asked which consequences would a change in the migration project have for the resource flow between Ecuador and Spain and therefore how would it affect the life situation and chances of other actors in the transnational social space, namely the family members of migrants in their region of origin. Between January and April 2014 I carried out the first data collection in Bilbao, Spain through biographical interviews with migrants and ethnographic methods, mainly participatory observation in migrants' houses. The families that agreed to participate in my research accepted my visit in Guayaquil and in different other cities in Ecuador in late 2014. Here the same data collecting instruments were used with the corresponding family members who were involved in the flow of economic and social remittances. My main pool of data consists of field notes, observation protocols and biographical interviews with members of four families living between Guayaquil (urban) and Bilbao and of one family living between San Juan (rural) and Bilbao.

In 2015 I worked on a first global data analysis and on the theoretical framework. Throughout this process a change in research interest occurred towards the focus on the structure of transnational families and their dynamics of change. Since the massive migration process between Ecuador and Spain initiated around 1999, transnational social spaces emerged in this migration system. Transnational families in their specific combination of social practices, symbol systems and artefacts are such an institutionalized form of transnational social spaces that span pluri-locally over different nation-states (Herrera Lima 2001, Pries 2010). Different family members are therefore incorporated in the societies of origin as well as destination, their daily life references and also their frame of reference of social positioning by the self and the other are located both at the national (in Ecuador and Spain) and transnational level

(Berger/Weiß 2008). Families are marked by norms, routines, rules and reciprocal expectations which structure parts of social life and corresponding action programs (roles). They provide identity, stability and support but can also produce risks and destabilisations. The relationships among the individual family members are marked by power balances and unequal resource distribution to social positions. Individual family members play their roles but at the same time modify them. Therefore a change in role patterns and positions can occur throughout time. Family structures are also a product of continuing adaptation efforts to a changing (economic, cultural, political, demographic) environment (Herrera Lima 2001, Pries 2010, Bryceson/Vuorela 2001). As an overarching concept „'Transnational Families' are defined here as families that live some or most of the time separated from each other, yet hold together and create something that can be seen as a feeling of collective welfare and unity, namely 'familyhood', even across national borders” (Bryceson/Vuorela 2001: 3). Their degree of institutionalisation, that is density and intensity of exchange relations, varies throughout the migration process and with it their importance for daily life. Furthermore taking into account that family structures are influenced by three different dynamics of change, 1) intra-generational change in the family cycle and changes in the individual biography of family members, 2) inter-generational change between pioneer migrant and following generation, and 3) social change in general, I ask the following research question: What dynamics of change unfolded in the social space of transnational families between Ecuador and Spain between 1999 and 2014? Which role plays the economic and financial crisis since 2007/08? What does it imply for the individual family members in the local contexts of origin and arrival?

Data analysis will be carried out from a meso and a micro perspective focusing on the different dynamics before and after the impact of the financial and economic crisis could be felt in Bilbao, Spain. On the meso level, the biographical interviews and other material will undergo a content analysis (Mayring 2014) which focuses on the description of functional and structural elements of the family such as gender and generational roles, reciprocal expectations, task sharing between mobiles and residents regarding social and material reproduction of the household, power dynamics (decision making processes for example regarding the use of material remittances), communication, transnational resource flow and participation in family rituals. These will be contextualized with changes in the individual disposal of resources on the different dimensions of incorporation as well as life course data. Special attention will be paid to the relational patterns of social inequality inside the family. On the micro level I will carry out two biographical case reconstructions (Fischer-Rosenthal/Rosenthal 1997) per family and focus on the individual biographical impact of migration and crisis. Different axes of social inequality will be regarded in the individuals' access to and disposal of resources throughout life (social placement). The aim is to develop a typology of family dynamics of change in which both levels will be reunited.

Tanesha Thomas

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PhD Program in Sociology

CUNY Graduate Center



Tanesha A. Thomas is entering her fourth year in CUNY's Sociology Doctoral Program. She is an adjunct professor at Lehman College in the Bronx, New York where she teaches two undergraduate courses about sociological research and writing. Tanesha is currently preparing her dissertation research project, which examines the cumulative environmental health statuses of African-American communities. Her research concerns the institutional and structural determinants of environmental health disparities. She is particularly interested in the gendered and racial politics of health, space, and the environment in the contemporary United States.

Research project: “Unequal Risksapes: Comparing the Health Statuses of Environmental Justice Communities”

Environmental sociologists recognize that social, political, and economic forces create a myriad “risksapes” where overlapping sources of pollution can create cumulative toxic exposures that threaten public health. Residents near the Port of Albany, New York have complained for years about the noxious fumes emanating from the oil terminal in their neighborhood. The State's environmental laws are supposed to protect vulnerable groups from such public health hazards. In response to intense pressure from the predominately low-income African-American community, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) conducted air quality screening of the affected area in 2014. The results of that study and its implications for environmental justice policy are the basis of my research project.

Environmental justice areas are identified by the disproportionate presence of low-income and/or minority residents. While all of the locations met this condition and are prone to disparate exposure, there appear to be gradations of vulnerability within the existing framework. The State's own air-sampling data indicate that there are varying levels of exposure among these risksapes. Measured ambient levels of the carcinogen benzene, as well as alkanes, were higher in some neighborhoods than others. I suggest a more refined mechanism that can be applied to capture these subtle nuances of environmental vulnerability.

Because none of the samples exceeded the short-term exposure standards, the DEC decided that there was no immediate threat to public health. Despite the DEC's inaction, the samples reveal important geographic patterns within environmental justice areas that warrant further investigation. These patterns could intensify given

one's exposure over time. This raises important questions about environmental justice policy: Are some riskscapes more polluted than others? If so, why? How can environmental justice policy account for varying levels of exposure within the same area?

Using Albany, New York as an example, I provide an innovative solution, a more appropriate method of measuring environmental vulnerability that combines indices of community health, social vulnerability, and cumulative environmental exposure—including long-term air quality data. I will construct a distinctive cumulative environmental health index that can be used by policymakers to accurately highlight the conditions of those most affected by toxic exposures. This project seeks to demonstrate the nuanced nature of environmental health by comparing the relative exposures and health statuses of different environmental justice areas.

Daniel Trabalski

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of History



2007 - 2011 University of Göttingen: B. A. in History and Economic and Social History; 2011 – 2015 Ruhr University Bochum: M. A. in History; currently: Dokumentations- und Forschungsstelle der Sozialversicherungsträger (sv:dok), Bochum

Research project: “Participatory Risk Management? Silicosis in the West German Coal Mining Industry after 1945”

This project is about silicosis, a chronic and eventual fatal lung disease caused by inhaling fine silicon dust, and how it was dealt with politically, operationally and scientifically in the West German coal mining industry post Second World War. The project focusses on the biopolitical regime that was created to keep both morbidity and costs for compensation low, thus keeping productivity and profitability high. It also outlines how technical and scientific theories were translated into actual practices in the miners’ workspaces. In stark contrast to work accidents, occupational diseases like silicosis evoked a lot of conflicts about whether they are linked to a specific working environment or not. At first, silicosis didn’t appear to be an imminent danger to the exposed workers since the latency was very long (up to twenty years or more). This sets long term occupational diseases like silicosis apart from those workplace accidents that the German Social Accident Insurance was originally founded for before 1925. Having those distinct features in mind, the project firstly aims to show how a risk regulation regime emerged to contain the explosion of silicosis cases post Second World War. Secondly I want to outline how the preventive theories and political ideas came into practice, and how they were then shaped by different milieus of knowledge, administrative inherent logics and the waywardly work culture of the pits. By including different historical disciplines, I would like to show how highly diverse agents with differing backgrounds and goals affected the outcome of what may have appeared to be the result of determined institutional action.

Ann-Katrin Voit

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PhD Candidate of the Ruhr-University Bochum,
Department of Economics



05/2016 Taiyuan Tourism College, Shanxi, China; 04/2015 - 05/2015 Henan College of Finance and Taxation, Henan, China since 04/2013; FernUniversität in Hagen, Hagen, Germany and Technische Akademie, Wuppertal e.V., Bochum, Germany; since 07/2011 Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Faculty of Management and Economics, Germany, Chair of Economic Policy, Prof. Dr. Helmut Karl: Research and Teaching Assistant

Research project:

My Ph.D. deals with several research questions that are related to the World Heritage with an economic and politic perspective. World Heritage Sites are places that are defined by the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) such as monuments, forests, deserts, lakes, islands, buildings or cities. The World Heritage Committee that consists of 21 member states selects new World Heritage Sites that are of outstanding cultural or natural importance. As one can see, the World Heritage is a relevant factor for tourism for a country and influences its economy. There are other relevant aspects of World Heritage that I also try to take into account such as its meaning from a cultural as well as the historical perspective.

My research starts with the fact that the World Heritage is not equally distributed all over the world. Even the allocation of the sites is quite different. Why is the number of World Heritage Sites in the US and Europe so different while many other comparable indicators such as the form of the government, the economy expressed by GDP, stage of development and many others are on a comparable level?

Another research question I am dealing with is the World Heritage and its definition of the categories, especially the “Intangible cultural heritage”. This includes, by definition of the UNESCO, song, music, drama, skills, cuisine, annual festivals, crafts, and the other parts of culture that can be recorded but cannot be touched and interacted with, without a vehicle for the culture. This definition does not include art e.g. paintings, sculpting, installation and drawing. If the UNESCO would include art to the category of Intangible cultural heritage, that would have significant impact on the art market and on regulations for museums. While the U.S. and Europe have a strong history

regarding art and its protection, it would be a connecting factor between both continents.

In addition to the above mentioned topics, I am focusing on cultural and artistic clusters and the question, if a World Heritage Site indicates art clusters. A cluster indicates a centralization of de-fined POIs (Point of Interest) within a determined radius. I compare different radiuses with POIs that I defined e.g. theaters and museums. Based on my data that I already collected, I compare again the U.S. with Europe.

My forth research questions deals with the UNESCO and possible alternatives to the system. As one can see, the UNESCO has a strong marketing character because of its publicity. Based on the fact that the World Heritage is not equally distributed all over the World and that the “World Heritage System” is maybe not efficient and equal, could there be possible alternatives for countries to generate the same touristic and symbolic attention for their places?

All these questions are dealing with the central question, if the World Heritage Sites are a global public good.

Ky N. Woltering

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PhD Program in History

CUNY Graduate Center



Ph.D., Candidate, CUNY, The Graduate Center 2014-present;
M.A., Modern European History, CUNY, The Graduate Center
2011-2013; B.A., History, Rutgers, The State University of New
Jersey 2007-2010; A.A., Liberal Arts, Brookdale Community
College 2004-2007

Research project: "A Christian World Order:" Protestantism, Democracy and US Foreign Aid to Germany, 1941-1961.

My project considers the relationship between American and German Protestantism and the evolution of German democratization and US foreign policy after the Second World War. By examining the encounter of American and German Protestants in occupied Germany, my project analyzes the shifting German/American relationship as the two nations transitioned from enemies to allies in the postwar era. By evaluating the context and rhetoric of private relief aid sent to Germany by American churches, church sponsored press tours and lobbying by American churchmen on Germany's behalf, this project offers insight into the emergence of ecumenical Christian Democracy and its relationship to zero-sum interpretations of the Cold War, the Marshall Plan, the whitewashing of Nazi war crimes, the fostering of conservative gender roles in Germany and the democratization of West Germany.

My presentation at the seminar will include a small portion of the third chapter of my dissertation concerning transnational Protestantism and denazification.

Guillermo Yrizar Barbosa

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PhD Program in Sociology

CUNY Graduate Center



Guillermo Yrizar Barbosa is a PhD candidate in sociology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and a fellow at the CUNY Institute for Demographic Research. He received a BA in political science from Tec de Monterrey and a master's degree in regional development from El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (Tijuana). His dissertation focuses on the social mobility and family life of parents born in Mexico and living in NYC after IRCA. Between 2008 and 2011, he worked for the Seminar on International Migration (SEPMIG), the Migration Surveys in the North and South Borders of Mexico (EMIF), the Mexican Migration Field Research Program (MMFRP) and collective projects on the human rights of migrants. He was guest scholar at the University of Notre Dame, visiting graduate student at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies in UCSD, and received grants from Fulbright, CONACYT & FIDERH. [Aficionado al fútbol (Pumas UNAM , FC Barcelona y NY Cosmos) + tacólogo]

Research project: “Papers, Places & Piñatas: Immigrant Social Mobility in a Mexican New York post-IRCA”

On February 19th I defended my dissertation proposal, previously discussed with all the members in my committee and submitted for consideration by the Department of Sociology Faculty Membership Committee. Under the preliminary title of “Papers, Places & Piñatas: Immigrant Social Mobility in a Mexican New York post-IRCA,” this is (or should be) my most important individual research project to date. For my dissertation I'll try to examine how (i) immigrant legal status, (ii) geographic location, (iii) human capital, (iv) social networks and (v) family dynamics affect the immigrant social mobility strategies and bargains of individuals born in Mexico and living in three different places in New York (Eastern Queens, South Bronx and the North Fork in Long Island). I have a rough draft of my historical/demographic/contextual chapter based on collaborative work with four members in my dissertation committee (Robert C. Smith [chair], Richard Alba, Holly E. Reed, and Rafael Alarcón) & fellow students.

In March I presented a poster (as coauthor with Smith & Reed) in the Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. under the title: “Assessing Geographic Mobility and Limited Inclusion in New York: DACA and the MIDA. Previously, on September 2015, a paper with Alba was published in *Ethnic and Racial Studies* under the title “Room at the top? Minority mobility and the transition to demographic diversity in the USA.” Three months later, in what I consider a

publication closely related to my dissertation, Alarcon and me published an article in Spanish (“Mexican families with mixed immigration status and massive deportation from the United States”) in the Brazilian journal *Revista Interdisciplinar da Mobilidade Humana*. More recently, this month, a paper with Reed was published in *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies* titled: “Investigating the Refugee Health Disadvantage among the US Immigrant Population.” A few days ago I finished my revisions to a book coauthored with Smith and other colleagues on how national governments should communicate with immigrants. This manuscript is based on empirical qualitative work in New York and the concept of diasporic bureaucracies (Smith 2008) around *Seguro Popular*, a health program developed by the Mexican government since the early 2000s and promoted among Mexicans in the US after 2010. We already received two favorable reviews in an American university press.

My dissertation project is connected to the MIDA project lead by Smith. We plan to write a series of articles and perhaps a coauthored book on how and why legal status matters for several socioeconomic and health outcomes for contemporary immigrants from Mexico in the US. This spring, summer and fall I have been devoted to move forward my fieldwork (I already have 10 in-depth interviews and notes for undocumented migrants in two out of the three sites I’m studying). I intend to write 1 or 2 empirical chapter based on these interviews/cases.

Jonathan Zisook

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PhD Program in Sociology

CUNY Graduate Center



I am a doctoral student in the Department of Sociology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, where I specialize in the sociology of religion. My most recent publication is a forthcoming article in the *Journal of Classical Sociology*, which utilizes Max Weber's theory of disenchantment as a framework for understanding the philosophy of Moses Maimonides. I teach courses in sociological theory, immigration studies, and religion at both Lehman College of the City University of New York and at Yeshiva University, where I also previously completed a MA in Modern Jewish History

Research project

My doctoral research has shifted over this past year. My previous empirical research focused primarily on the history and sociology of Eastern European Jewish immigrants to the United States and their assimilation and integration into the mainstream of American social life. I analyzed specifically the Conservative Movement compared to other American Jewish denominations and in the context of immigrant religion. Stimulated, in part, by conversations and feedback over last summer's Transatlantic Workshop, I have now shifted my research to Eastern Europe, and specifically Poland, as a site of not only where Jews originate from, but where they continue to live. Accordingly, I will present a research program that highlights a number of recent national and political controversies connected to Poland's real and "virtual" Jews that provide windows into the politics of Polish national memory and broader questions of religion and nationalism. As well, I will present preliminary comparative quantitative and geo-spatial findings assessing Polish perceptions of Jews, Muslims, and Gypsies based upon the European Social Survey (2014). These findings have implications for understanding competing narratives of Polish national identity between those who demand a Catholic Poland and those who support a secular state capable of encompassing ethno-religious minorities.

Transatlantic Summer Workshop, Bochum 2016
Politics, Identities and Conflicts in Europe and the United States, 1945-2016

Institutional Information

New York

Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies

The Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, engages in research, graduate training, and public education in the fields of international studies and contemporary global problem-solving. Originally founded in 1973 as the Ralph Bunche Institute on the United Nations in honor of the Nobel Prize-winning diplomat and scholar, it was renamed in 2001 and given a broader interdisciplinary mandate to support and strengthen international studies at The Graduate Center. The Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies aims to provide a congenial setting for activities initiated by faculty, students, and visiting scholars with a wide variety of research interests in international topics.

Located minutes from UN headquarters in mid-town Manhattan, the institute draws not only on the distinguished faculty of The City University of New York and other universities and colleges in the metropolitan area and worldwide, but also on analysts, policymakers, and practitioners. The Institute houses a number of projects that seek to improve the scholarly and public understanding of international affairs and to contribute to solving international problems. It also hosts visiting scholars and graduate students from around the world who wish to take advantage of the institute's unusual access to international organizations and expertise.

Contact: Prof. John Torpey, Director, PhD Programs in Sociology and History, jtorney@gc.cuny.edu; <http://ralphbuncheinstitute.org/>

European Union Studies Center

The European Union Studies Center (EUSC) at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York brings together American and European scholars, legal and business professionals and the public to encourage the exchange of ideas about the European Union. The goal is to facilitate research and stimulate transatlantic dialogue. To promote this mission, the EUSC organizes lectures, business forums and workshops to examine and better understand the institutions of the European Union and its member states. The EUSC favors interdisciplinary exchange by focusing on a broad range of areas, including politics, policies, history, law, business affairs and real world challenges, as well as their various impacts on the transatlantic partnership.

Contact: Dr. Patrizia Nobbe, Associate Director, pnobbe@gc.cuny.edu; www.gc.cuny.edu/eusc

The CUNY Graduate Center

The Graduate Center (GC) is the principal doctorate-granting institution of the City University of New York (CUNY). Offering more than thirty doctoral degrees from Anthropology to Urban Education, and fostering globally significant research in a wide variety of centers and institutes, the GC provides rigorous academic training in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences. Through its extensive public programs—lectures, conferences, performances, and exhibitions—the Graduate Center contributes to the intellectual and cultural life of New York City and affirms its commitment to the premise that knowledge is a public good. Its current President is Dr. Chase Robinson.

Bochum

Ruhr University Bochum

Located in the midst of the dynamic, hospitable metropolitan area of the Ruhr, in the heart of Europe, the Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB) with its 20 faculties, RUB's disciplinary institutional units, is home to 5,600 employees and over 41,000 students from 130 countries. All the great scientific disciplines are united on one compact campus.

The RUB is on its way to becoming one of the leading European universities of the 21st Century. Almost all courses are offered as Bachelor and Master degree programmes. Our excellence programmes have made themselves an international name: Our Research School is an international college for structured doctoral research in the life sciences, natural sciences, engineering, the humanities and social sciences. Interfaculty and interdisciplinary Research Departments, which are mutually, nationally and internationally networked, sharpen the profile of the RUB. Added to this is an unsurpassed programme for the promotion of Early Career Researchers, and an excellent infrastructure.

What makes it all come alive is the people who meet on campus with their thirst for knowledge, their curiosity, and their commitment. They help shape the RUB and their open-mindedness makes the RUB an attractive place for people from around the world.

Contacts: Prof. Constantin Goeschler, Chair of the History Department RUB, Constantin.Goeschler@ruhr-uni-bochum.de

Prof. Michael Wala, History Department RUB, Michael.Wala@ruhr-uni-bochum.de
<http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de>

University Alliance Ruhr

The University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr) is an alliance of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, TU Dortmund University and the University of Duisburg-Essen. With 110,000 students, an annual budget of 1.2 billion and cutting-edge research facilities, UA Ruhr represents

one of the largest and most innovative research locations in Germany. As an alliance, UA Ruhr is committed to providing researchers with fresh, flexible opportunities to propose cooperative research platforms, developed under the roof of the alliance, and to tend to continued development – including unique programs such as the Global Young faculty and the Young Scientists Network Ruhr.

New York Contact: Peter Rosenbaum, Executive Director, rosenbaum@uaruhr.org, <http://www.uamr.de>

RUB Research School

The RUB Research School as it exists today was founded on July 12th 2011, by decision of the academic senate of the Ruhr-University Bochum. As a now campus-wide institution, the RUB Research School (RUB-RS) is a result of the collaboration of all faculties, aiming to further develop doctoral studies and offers at RUB.

As such the Research School aims at:

- The promotion of structured doctoral programs and a university-wide quality standard for admission, supervision, research training and examination of young researchers.
- The implementation of a framework for the homogenization of existing doctoral examination regulations.
- Exchange and interdisciplinary dialogue on the methods, strategies and the organisation of research.
- Fostering interdisciplinary research, internationality and funding of individual research projects.

In short the RUB-RS serves as a link between the group of young researchers, faculties, different doctoral initiatives and the RS PLUS program. The latter is a third-party funded project specifically for the internationalisation of doctoral training at RUB, won under the Excellence Initiative II (2012-2017).

Transatlantic Summer Workshop, Bochum 2016
Politics, Identities and Conflicts in Europe and the United States, 1945-2016

Information about Bochum and the Ruhr Valley

Useful links

- <http://www.bochum-tourismus.de/en/index.php> - Website of the Bochum Tourist Information
- http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/index_en.htm - Website of Ruhr University Bochum
- <https://www.zollverein.de/service/english-page> - Website of Zeche Zollverein (World Heritage) in Essen
- <http://vrr.de/en/index.html> - Website of the local public transport association; here you can find information about travelling with public transport within the Ruhr Valley
- <http://www.bogestra.de/> - Website of the Bochum public transport company (in German)
- <http://www.ruhr-tourismus.de/en.html> - Website of "Ruhr Tourismus", a company that gathers information about cultural events etc. in from roughly 50 cities within the Ruhr Area
- <http://www.bergbaumuseum.de/en/> - Website of the German Mining Museum (Bergbaumuseum)
- <http://www.bermuda3eck.de/> - Website of Bochum's pulsating city center with more than 40 pubs and restaurants (in German)

Bochum Total (14-17 July 2016)

From 14 until 17 July it's time again: Europe's biggest music-festival will take place in the heart of the Ruhr district. For four days "Bochum Total" will provide magnificent live-music and best mood. Since 1986 "Bochum Total" yearly presents more than 70 Bands - national and international newcomer and top-acts - performing on four huge stages. "Bochum Total" offers anything for free entrance. More than a million visitors are expected. The festival area, which spreads down town Bochum, is located in the famous "bermuda-triangle", where you can find more than 40 pubs and restaurants that invite the customers until the late night.

For further information see: <http://www.bochum-total.de/home.html>

World Heritage Zollverein

Zollverein UNESCO World Heritage Site: 100 hectares, distributed over the central shaft facilities of Zollverein XII, the Shafts 1/2/8 and the coking plant premises. 100 hectares which fill the term “industrial culture” with life like no other place. More than 25 years after its closure, the once largest colliery in Europe combines culture and dining, design and architecture, handicraft and the creative industry – as the only World Heritage Site of the Ruhr Area. December 14, 2001: The UNESCO World Heritage Committee declares the inscription of the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex in Essen on the World Heritage List. The overriding objective: the preservation of cultural and natural heritage sites of mankind, which have an outstanding universal value and are thus both unique and authentic, but are simultaneously sensibly integrated into public life. The conditions at Zollverein were perfect: The Committee acknowledged the ensemble as “representative of the development of traditional heavy industries in Europe” and especially praised the “architecture of the industrial complex in the Bauhaus style, which was for decades exemplary for modern industrial construction”. Authentic and part of public life: meanwhile, about 1.5 million visitors get inspired by the Zollverein World Heritage Site. Year after year. Preservation through conversion has been the motto to the present day; variety characterizes the offerings, which combine history, culture, creativity, entertainment, gastronomy, and recreation. Be inspired – by cultural highlights and guided tours, by renowned museums, exceptional studios and exquisite cuisine, by an exceptional symphony in red and steel.

For further information see:

https://www.zollverein.de/uploads/assets/5138954c695498381800001b/Zollverein_World_Heritage_Site_Flyer_e.pdf