

BEYOND MULTICULTURALISM? ENVISIONING THE IMMIGRATION SOCIETY

International Conference



4/6/09 – 6/6/09 in Berlin

Beyond Multiculturalism?

“Just who belongs together with whom, and for what purposes, and on what authority?” David Hollinger

Globalization versus nation: The growing momentum of global migration presents an ongoing challenge to the notion of national cultures. The reality of many immigrant societies today is characterized by this tension. The congress asks what current and sustainable models exist for the increasingly diverse immigration societies of the present and future. The model of multiculturalism which classified people according to their descent; and thus turning them into "foreigners" within the majority society seems outdated. How can the model of “super-diversity”, which takes into account immigration patterns, legal status, multilingualism, age, education and gender, aid in the understanding and design of immigrant societies for tomorrow? What action is needed? What policies need to be put into place? What does growing diversity in societies mean to political and cultural institutions? What impact does this diversity have on the understanding of culture in Germany and Europe? The international conference discusses these questions with experts from academia, culture and politics.

Free Admittance

German-english simultaneous translation

Thurs June 4, 5 pm

OPENING

Immigration in most countries is still thought of nationally, even though questions around immigration and social diversity within the context of globalization can no longer be negotiated within the framework of the nation. In view of global migratory flows and growing social differentiation, the notion of homogeneous populations becomes obsolete; the division between majority and minority groups increasingly blurred. This leads to new, hybrid identities, but also to a social instability which can trigger acts of racism, exclusion and violence. The discussion shows links between globalization, migration and community, and searches for a new understanding of society at large.

Welcome by Bernd Scherer, Haus der Kulturen der Welt

Introduction and moderation by [Susanne Stemmler](#), Haus der Kulturen der Welt

Keynote lecture by [Arjun Appadurai](#), New York University

Beyond Culture. Constructions of Community in Contemporary Video Art

Film-Lecture by [Hito Steyerl](#), Berlin

Arjun Appadurai, world renowned anthropologist, deals with the cultural dimensions of globalization in works such as “Modernity at Large” and “Fear of Small Numbers”. **Hito Steyerl** is a filmmaker and video artist, writer and university professor. Her works have shown widely, including at documenta 12 in 2007.

Susanne Stemmler is a cultural theorist and head of the department of Literature and Humanities at the HKW.

Fri June 5, 10 am Panel 1

MULTICULTURALISM VS. “SUPER-DIVERSITY”? NEW THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES IN THE POST-ETHNIC AGE

[David Hollinger](#), UC Berkeley

[Jorge Gracia](#), State University of New York at Buffalo

[Steven Vertovec](#), Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen

Respondent: [Nevim Çil](#), migration researcher, Berlin

Moderator: [Michael Werz](#), Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the USA

“Multiculturalism” of the 80s and 90s is coming under fire: its advocates used to categorize people according to ethnicity and descent, and asked for access rights based on affiliation to a “cultural” group. The concept of ‘super-diversity’, according to Steven Vertovec, describes a situation in which today’s societies and their migrant populations have reached an inner complexity that exceeds anything we have known before. What are the concepts of identity that guide actions of individuals and groups? What alternatives are currently being developed to describe and analyze today’s societies?

David Hollinger is a professor of American history at the University of California, Berkeley. His works include: “Postethnic America: Beyond Multiculturalism” and “Cosmopolitanism and Solidarity”. **Jorge Gracia**, author of “Surviving Race, Ethnicity, and Nationality: A Challenge for the Twenty-First Century”, is a professor of philosophy. His research focuses on the categories of ethnicity and nationality, as well as Hispanic-American identity. **Steven Vertovec**, social anthropologist and author of “New Directions in the Anthropology of Migration and Multiculturalism”, is head of the Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity at the Max Planck Institute in Göttingen. **Nevim Çil** researches and publishes on migration and kinship relations, and is currently researching imaginations of Europe by Turkish migrants. **Michael Werz**, a Philosopher, Social Scientist and American Studies scholar, is Adjunct Professor at the BMW Center for German and European Studies and Visiting Researcher at the Institute for International Migration Studies at Georgetown University.

Fri June 5, 12 am Panel 2

IMMIGRATION COUNTRY GERMANY – AN INVENTORY OF THE IMMIGRATION DEBATE

[Rita Süßmuth](#), Berlin

[Steffen Angenendt](#), German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

[Franziska Woellert](#), Berlin-Institute for Population and Development

[Serhat Karakayali](#), amira, Berlin

Moderator: [Kofi Yakpo](#), German Bundestag

Germany is an immigration country: for decades the Federal Republic has denied this reality and defended the model of a homogeneous society in policy, legislation and public discourse. The panel sums up the current German debate and discusses new paradigms that embrace today’s social reality and move beyond descent and ethnic affiliations.

Rita Süßmuth, former president of the German Bundestag and since 2006, chair of the ‘EU High Level Group on Social Integration of Ethnic Minorities and their full Participation in the Labor Market’. **Steffen Angenendt** researches migration and integration policy and demography; he advises institutions such as UNICEF, UNHCR and the IRC. **Franziska Woellert**, geographer, is co-author of the study “Unutilised Potential? On the Current State of Integration in Germany” of the Berlin-Institute. **Serhat Karakayali**, a sociologist and author of “Metamorphosis of

Illegality”, is project director of amira, a project on racism and anti-semitism in Berlin. **Kofi Yakpo**, linguist and political scientist, is working on human rights and linguistic hybridities and is a parliamentary assistant at the German Bundestag.

Fri June 5, 3.30 pm Panel 3

MODELS AND EXPERIENCES OF IMMIGRATION SOCIETIES - AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Ruud Koopmans, Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB)

Ilan Kemish, Australia's Ambassador to Germany

Wilson Fusco, Fundação Joaquim Nabuco, Brazil

Moderator: **Mekonnen Mesghena**, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

Due to their particular history, classical immigration countries like Australia, Brazil, and former European colonial powers such as the Netherlands tend to take a more offensive approach to diversity. Problems specific to complex immigration societies are often more apparent in these classical immigration countries than elsewhere. What are the ruptures and necessities? The panel compares a variety of diverse societies with that of the German situation and discusses challenges and political approaches.

Ruud Koopmans, a political scientist, is director of the research department “Migration, Integration, Transnationalization” at the WZB and has a chair for “Social Change and Conflict” in Amsterdam. **Ilan Kemish**, Australian Ambassador to Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, was formerly First Assistant Secretary in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. **Wilson Fusco**, social scientist with a focus on internal and international migration, social networks and social capital, is the Deputy Director of Social Sciences of the Fundação Joaquim Nabuco. **Mekonnen Mesghena** is a journalist and director of the Department Migration, Citizenship und Interkulturelle Demokratie at the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung in Berlin.

Fri June 5, 6 pm Forum Young Voices in Politics

POLICY FOR THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW? PARTY-POLITICAL POLICIES ON MIGRATION

Moderator: **Stephan Lanz**, Viadrina University in Frankfurt/Oder

“General Guidelines”, “Integration Summit”, “Green and White Papers”, “Neighborhood Mothers”, “Language Tests”, “National Integration Plan”: in recent years, numerous institutions and policies were developed for the immigration country Germany. Amidst these broad range of activities, the Forum searches for the policies of the democratic parties. The influential political voices of tomorrow are featured speakers in this panel: **Raed Saleh** (Berlin House of Representatives, SPD), **Evrin Baba** (Berlin House of Representatives, The Left Party), **Hanaa El-Hussein** (Chair of the Immigration Committee, FDP Berlin) and others discuss with experts involved in the conference.

Raed Saleh, a media entrepreneur, is a member in the Berlin House of Representatives for the Social Democratic Party. **Evrin Baba** is an interpreter and is studying sociology besides her political work. In the Berlin Parliament, she is active in the committee for women and in the economic committee as well as the committee for internal affairs. **Hanaa El-Hussein** is a businesswoman by training and Deputy Chair of the Liberal Party Berlin. **Stephan Lanz** is teaching cultural studies and has published “Berlin mixed up. Occidental – multicultural – cosmopolitan? The political construction of an immigration city” in 2007.

Sat June 6, 10 am Panel 4

EVERYTHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT? WHAT THE U.S. AND EUROPE CAN LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

A conversation with: [Michael Werz](#), Transatlantic Georgetown University, Washington DC, and [Yasemin Soysal](#), University of Essex

“Religion, Migration and Confusion. Why Germany and the U.S. are so different” is the title of Michael Werz’s recently published essay. He poses the question to which degree the experiences of the United States be compared with those of Europe, or even be considered applicable? What exactly are the conditions for migration and diversity in the European welfare states?

Michael Werz, Adjunct Professor at the BMW Center for German and European Studies and Visiting Researcher at the Institute for International Migration Studies at Georgetown University. **Yasemin Soysal**, Professor of Sociology at the University of Essex, was previously a researcher at Harvard University. Her research focuses on questions of nation and citizenship in Europe.

Sat June 6, 12 am Forum Policy

ENSURING PARTICIPATION – WHAT POLICY IS NEEDED FOR THE IMMIGRATION SOCIETY?

[Mark Terkessidis](#), migration researcher and journalist, Cologne / Berlin

In conversation with

[Günter Piening](#), Commissioner of Integration and Migration, Berlin Senate

[Ayça Polat](#), Commissioner of Integration, City of Oldenburg

How can participation in immigration societies be encouraged and developed? Where is the exclusion of social groups taking place in Germany? How do we overcome stigma and structural discrimination? And: How do we establish opportunities and equal access between diverse social groups without classifying them according to descent and ethnicity?

Mark Terkessidis, psychologist, is a migration researcher and journalist with a focus on youth and popular culture, migration and racism. His most recently published book is “Fliehkraft. Gesellschaft in Bewegung – von Migranten und Touristen (2006)” [“Fleeing Force – Society in Motion – Of Migrants and Tourists”]. **Günter Piening**, sociologist, was the foreign representative of Saxony-Anhalt from 1996 to 2003 before starting to work for the Berlin Senate. **Ayça Polat**, sociologist and intercultural pedagogue, has been a researcher on issues of migration and integration in Oldenburg and Toronto before she started working for the city of Oldenburg in 2008.

Sat June 6, 3 pm Culture Forum

CULTURES IN MOTION – HOW DO NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS COME TO TERMS WITH TRANSNATIONAL CULTURE?

[Cilly Kugelman](#), Deputy Director, Jewish Museum Berlin

[Mely Kiyak](#), author and journalist, Berlin

[Filipa César](#), artist, Lisbon / Berlin

Moderator: [Fatema Mian](#), Journalist

What impact does diversity have on Germany’s sense of culture, when culture still is decisively informed by the notion of nation – and how do cultural institutions respond to it? Mobility and migration have proven to be a creative resource and potential for artistic creativity, especially in the cultural arena. Why has this development not been represented in major productions and institutions?

Cilly Kugelmann, who studied in Israel and Germany, is program director of the Jewish Museum Berlin and Deputy Director. **Mely Kiyak**, freelance journalist and author, has been trained at the University of Leipzig in the German Creative Writing Program Leipzig and has published books and articles on immigration in Germany. The Berlin-based Portuguese artist **Filipa César** studied painting in Porto and Lisbon and has been working in Germany for several years. **Fatema Mian** is a radio and tv journalist, script editor and works for the intercultural magazin "puzzle" of Bavarian television.

Sat June 6, 5.15 pm Final discussion

BEYOND MULTICULTURALISM - CHALLENGES FOR THE IMMIGRATION SOCIETY

A conversation with [Wilfried N'Sondé](#), musician and author, [David Hollinger](#) and others

1989 to 2009 – The Day After Tomorrow: Since its opening 20 years ago, the Haus der Kulturen der Welt has continuously created a platform for debates about multiculturalism. This final discussion with representatives from the areas of culture and science will sum up the critical debate around this term and take a look into the future, to the challenges facing future European immigration societies.

Wilfried N'Sondé, born in the Republic of Congo, raised in Paris, has lived for 16 years in Berlin. He is a political scientist, musician, social worker and author of the novel „Das Herz der Leopardenkinder“ [“The Heart of the Leopard Children”], which received two prestigious literary awards in France. **David Hollinger** is a professor of American history at the University of California, Berkeley. His works include: “Postethnic America: Beyond Multiculturalism” and “Cosmopolitanism and Solidarity”.

Fri June 5, 2.15 pm Radio Live

“Listening to Diversity – changes and challenges for contemporary radio”

A conversation between [Pit Schultz](#), [DJ Ipek Ipekçioğlu](#), [Stéphan Galland](#) (Radio Grenouille, Marseille) and others

Radio has become more and more diverse within the last years: new channels cater to very different specific interest groups, internet radio has had a revolutionary impact on the medium. But does the new diversity in broadcasting channels reflect the growing social diversity in immigration societies? How can radio foster new perspectives on the immigration society and serve as a mouthpiece for new complexities – if at all?

Radios will be distributed in front of the radio studio so that you may follow the discussion during the lunch break.

Sun June 21, 6 – 7 pm HAUSradio

“BEYOND MULTICULTURALISM?” - A RADIO FEATURE within the framework of the HAUSradio project

A new generation of radio-journalists reports from the Congress: reporters from the association “The DeuKische generation”. “DeuKisch” stands for how it feels to be of Turkish descent and growing up bilingual and bicultural in Germany. Distancing themselves from the traditional role of the immigrant, they consider themselves as integral and influential members of German society.

Live broadcast on 97.2 FM and live streaming on [www.myspace.com / House Radio](#), Podcast [www.hkw.de / homemade radio](#)

“Beyond Multiculturalism? Envisioning the Immigration Society”

A project of Haus der Kulturen der Welt

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