

**EURAC SUMMER SCHOOL ON HUMAN RIGHTS,  
MINORITIES AND DIVERSITY GOVERNANCE:**

**“Colonial legacies and diversity governance in a global  
perspective”**

**EURAC Research  
Bozen/Bolzano Institute for  
Minority Rights Summer  
School 2024, July 1-12**



# SHORT OVERVIEW

The Summer School on Human Rights, Minorities and Diversity Governance is a stimulating postgraduate programme organized by the [Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research](#) in South Tyrol, Italy. The two-week interdisciplinary summer school provides a unique opportunity to postgraduate students, civil servants, journalists, NGO workers and others interested in expanding their knowledge on human and minority rights, diversity and territorial governance. The Summer School follows an active learning approach and participants are encouraged to engage with the course material presented by international experts from academia and beyond through workshops, role plays, case studies, and study visits. The programme has a different thematic focus each year.



**We are excited to welcome you here at Eurac Research!**

# Summer School Schedule

## Week 1 (July 1 – July 5) 2024

Venue: EURAC Headquarters, Drususallee/ Via Druso, Bozen/Bolzano  
Seminar Rooms 1,2,3

### ❖ Day 1: General Introduction and Keynote, July 1

- 9:00 am**      **Günther Rautz** (Head of Institute)  
**Georg Grote** (Summer School Co-ordinator): Welcome/Introduction/Coffee
- 10:00 am**      **Joshua Castellino**: Keynote Reframing Governance to Overcome Colonial Legacies and Promote Diversity: The Merits of a Sub-Regional Approach to Promoting Peace, Security & Justice
- 11:30 am**      Q&A / Discussion
- Lunchbreak (1-2pm)*
- 2:00 pm**      **Georg Grote**: History of South Tyrol, an Introduction

### ❖ Day 2: Introduction to South Tyrol 2, July 2

- 9:00 am**      **Visit to the Landtag** (Silvius-Magnago-Platz, 6, 39100 Bolzano Autonome Provinz Bozen – Südtirol): movie (in engl.) followed by a discussion with MP Maria Rieder
- 10:45 am**      **Elisabeth Alber** (lecture at the movie hall): Political system of South Tyrol, an Introduction
- Lunch Break (1-2pm)*

- 2:00 pm**      **Markus Wurzer:** Challenging the Colonial Heritage in South Tyrol
- 3:30pm**      **Markus Wurzer/ Georg Grote:** Guided walkabout in Bozen focusing on *Lieux de memoirs* and post-/colonial aspects.
- 8:00 pm**      **Visit to Filmclub Bozen** (Dr.-Josef-Streiter-Gasse, 8/D, 39100 Bolzano Autonome Provinz Bozen – Südtirol):

**“INNOCENCE” (2022, Guy Davidi) – 100’**

**INNOCENCE** tackles the issue of militarization and its impact on the lives of young Israeli people who are forced to serve against their own identity and values. Through a narration based on the haunting diaries of soldiers who died in uniform and rare home video they left behind; the film depicts their inner turmoil. **INNOCENCE** warns of the social and personal costs of increasing global militarization. (<https://www.autlookfilms.com/films/innocence>)

❖ **Day 3: Post-colonial legacies and Change, July 3**

- 9:00 am**      **Cristiana Fiamingo:** From decolonising heritage to decolonising knowledge
- Coffee Break (10:30 am)*
- 11:00 am**      **Jody Metcalfe:** Whiteness, Racialisation, and Intersectionality in South Africa
- Lunch Break (1-2pm)*
- 2:00pm**      **Belachew Gebrewold:** Postcolonial African Migration to the West: A Mimetic Desire for Recognition
- 3:30 pm**      **Carna Pistan:** Alarming Alterations: How Collective Memory Transformed the Russian Constitution into a Weapon of War
- 4:30 pm**      Q&A / Discussion

❖ **Day 4: A postcolonial Perspective on Migration, July 4**

- 9:00 am**      **Kelsey Norman:** Migration Management Aid, Governance and Repression
- Coffee Break (10.30 am)*

**11:00 am**      **Sophia Schönthaler / Anna Lea Bernhard von Schlechtleitner:** Decoloniality and intersectionality

*Lunch Break (1-2pm)*

**2:00 pm**  
(all  
afternoon)      **Alexandra Budabin:** Roleplay “Minorities and Autonomies”

## ❖ TRIP

**Day 5: Study Trip to the Ladin valleys with Lectures on South Tyrol Autonomy, (EURAC Centre for Autonomy Experience), July 5**

- **Josef Prackwieser (academic assistance)**

**8:45 am**      Departure Bus Dibiasi, Kolpinghaus Bozen, Adolph-Kolping-Str. 3, 39100 Bozen ,  
Trip to Urtijëi/St. Ulrich/Ortisei

**10:30 am**      Arrival in Urtijëi/St. Ulrich/Ortisei

**10:45 am**      **Roland Verra,** Union Di Ladins De Gherdëina, Urtijëi

*Lunch Break in Urtijëi (11:45 am -1:00 pm) – Lunch Packet*

**1:00 pm**      Departure, meeting place tbd,  
trip to San Martin de Tor/St. Martin in Thurn/San Martino in Badia via Jëuf de Frea/ Grödner Joch/Passo Gardena

**2:30 pm**      **Werner Pescosta,** Istitut Ladin Micurá de Rü, San Martin de Tor (until 3:30

**4:00 pm**      Departure, meeting place tbd, trip back to Bozen/Bolzano via Pustertal/Val Pusteria

**5:30 pm**      estimated arrival time in Bozen/Bolzano (Kolpinghaus)

**Week 2**  
**(July 8 – July 12)**  
**2024**

❖ **DAY 6: Neo-colonialisms, July 8**

9:00 am      **Judith Devlin:** Russia's Imperialism past and present

*Coffee Break (10:30 am)*

11:00 am      **Ivan Ulises Kentros Klyszcz:** Russia in Africa

*Lunch Break (1-2pm)*

2:00 pm      **Chia-Yu Liang:** The Return of the Universal Tianxia Empire? The Ancient Roots of Modern China's Production and Oppression of Its Minorities

3:30 pm      **Roundtable Discussion**

❖ **Day 7: Current issues, July 9**

9:00 am      **Alexandra Budabin:** Black Lives Matter in Italy and Bolzano-Bozen: Heritage Politics between the Colonial and Post-Colonial

*Coffee Break (10:30am)*

11:00      **Hannes Obermair:** Beyond restitution: Reframing the western museum in a postcolonial context

*Lunch Break (1-2pm)*

2:00 pm      **Marta Guarda:** Colonial legacies in education: the case of English

❖ **Day 8: Colonial Legacies, Self-government and Power Politics, July 10**

9:00 am      **Andrea Carlà / Sergiu Constantin:** Minorities and (de)securitization from a postcolonial perspective. A discussion of India's approach towards Kashmir

*Coffee Break (10:30 am)*

**11:00 am**      **Maria Ackrén:** The Complexities and Challenges with the relationships between Denmark and Greenland

*Lunchbreak (1-2pm)*

**2:00pm**      **Francesca Pusterla Piccin:** The Concept of Conflict in Western Societies

❖ **Day 9: Workshop-Day: Innovation in Politics, July 11**

**9:00 am**      **Raoul Blindenbacher:** The Governmental Learning Spiral - A Tool to solve Minority and Diversity Issues in Governance

*Coffee Break (10:30am)*

*Lunch Break (1-2 pm)*

❖ **Day 10: Concluding Observations, Outlook, July 12**

**9:00 am**      **Nicolas Levrat :** Report and Comments by the UN Special Rapporteur for Minorities

Q&A / Discussion

**11:00 am**      **Aperitivo**

*Lunch Break*

**1:30 pm**      **Georg Grote:** Reflections and Evaluation of the Summer School / Conclusion

**Thank you for participating!**

## **Contributors and Contents (in alphabetical order)**

**Ackrén, Maria**

### **The Complexities and Challenges with the relationships between Denmark and Greenland**

Denmark and Greenland have been in a union for more than 300 years, however with the increasing demands from Greenland towards more autonomy the relationships have changed several times from colony, county, home rule to extended self-government. As more attention is directed towards the Arctic from other foreign countries, Greenland has become a hot spot for international interests in relation to climate change, new shipping lanes, mineral resources, and security issues. Greenland is therefore navigating on various levels of authority; internationally, nationally, and regionally. Sometimes some disputes occur between the Danish and Greenlandic authorities where issues overlap between those underneath the Danish Constitution and those matters that have been transferred to the Greenlandic government. The presentation will give examples of grey zones where we see challenges occur not just for Greenland, but also for Denmark. Some critics have been addressed towards the Realm of Denmark as a model as such, where new modes of relationships have been discussed in form of free association or commonwealth as a way out of the current situation.

**Maria Ackrén**

Professor in Political Science at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland  
Department of Arctic Social Science and Economics

**Alber, Elisabeth**

### **Political system of South Tyrol, an Introduction**

South Tyrol's autonomy is based on a dissociative conflict resolution model and, building on this, on a consociational democracy. Power-sharing takes place at the horizontal level between the three officially recognised language groups, Germans, Italians, and Ladins, and primarily concerns the proportional distribution of power influence and resources. The cooperation of elites corresponds to the ethnic separation of the language groups in many institutional and social areas. At the vertical level, there is formal and informal quasi-federal cooperation between Bolzano/Bozen and Rome, with Austria playing a relevant role as the protecting power for South Tyrol. Known as a success story, in recent

times South Tyrol's autonomy faces challenges that concern the overcoming of the dissociative model and the adaptation of its consociational democracy to changing demographics and to dynamics in Italian and European constitutional politics. We discuss the functioning of South Tyrol's power-sharing system and its developments in the light of discourses of inclusion and exclusion.

### **Elisabeth Alber**

Elisabeth Alber leads the research group Participation and Innovations at the Eurac Research Institute for Comparative Federalism, and the program Eurac Research Federal Scholar. Her email is ealber@eurac.edu

This lecture will be complemented by a visit to the Landtag on Day 2 of the Summer School.

#### **Readings:**

Alber, E. (2021). South Tyrol's Model of Conflict Resolution: Territorial Autonomy and Power-Sharing, in *Power-Sharing in Europe*, edited by Sören Keil and Allison McCulloch. 171-199. Palgrave macmillan  
Alber, E. and Pallaver, G. 2021. 'South Tyrol: 50 Years of Power-Sharing and Federal-like Relations', 50 Shades of Federalism. <https://50shadesoffederalism.com/case-studies/south-tyrol-50-years-of-power-sharing-and-federal-like-relations/>

## **Budabin, Alexandra**

### **Black Lives Matter in Italy and Bolzano-Bozen: Heritage Politics between the Colonial and Post-Colonial**

This lecture explores the ways in which the antiracists mobilization around Black Lives Matter (BLM) interacted with ongoing statue wars and domestic debates in Italy and Bolzano-Bozen, surfacing issues such as post-colonialism, anti-fascism, and solidarity with ethnic and racialized minorities. The case demonstrates how the USA BLM diffusion in Europe not only advanced national level dialogues around racist legacies related to imperialism and colonialism but also specific local grievances. I marshal the concept of 'ideological vandalism' to argue that red paint attacks on public monuments link transnational messages around racism and colonialism with local and national debates in ways that also reveal the power dynamics of participation in heritage politics.

### **Alexandra Budabin**

Senior Researcher, Institute for Minority Rights, EURAC

#### **Readings:**

Blindenbacher, R. and Nashat, B.: The Black Box of Governmental Learning. The Learning Spiral - A Concept to Organize Learning in Governments. (World Bank Press) Washington DC 2010. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/2474>  
Blindenbacher, R.: Innovation and Learning to Manage Diversity in Governance. The Governmental Learning Spiral - A Method to Learn from two Decades of Protection of Autochthonous Peoples without their own State and to Develop new Solutions to Improve their Life and Institutions. Convivenza Book Series Volume 6. Schulthess Verlag, Zürich 2023.

Blindenbacher, Raoul

**Seminar on “Colonial legacies and diversity governance in a global perspective”**

Workshop about the Governmental Learning Spiral – a tool to solve Minority and Diversity Issues in Governance

Today, there are lots of measures and laws on the national and international level to protect cultural, linguistic, and religious communities with or without a kinstate. They are usually the result of long-lasting negotiations between the concerned minorities and majorities. Some of these disputes go back a long time and are in many cases rooted in colonial legacies. The problem related to these measures lies often in the way they were developed and implemented into a given political context. As research demonstrates, they are not always applied properly and if they are, they do not necessarily deliver the expected results.

The purpose of the workshop is to present a theory-based method to develop and implement effective and sustainable measures in politics. This method, called the Governmental Learning Spiral, was introduced by the World Bank, and was later adapted to the requirements of the Convivenza Foundation - International Center for Minorities. The Foundation is an independent Swiss non-profit organization, which offers non-partisan expertise and a dialogue platform for minority and diversity issues.

In the workshop the theoretical groundwork of the method and its operationalization will be presented as well as its illustrative application in a seminar organized by the Convivenza Foundation in 2021. The basis of the event is a survey conducted by EURAC Research, where the impact of the European Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities is evaluated and subsequently revised by the representatives of a dozen autochthonous peoples. The workshop includes an exercise, where the participants design a Governmental Learning Spiral event to develop measures to solve a problem-situation of their choice and derive a related implementation plan.

***Raoul Blindenbacher***

PhD, MSW President Convivenza Foundation  
International Center for Minorities

Carlà, Andrea / Constantin, Sergiu

**Minority and (de)securitization: an introduction and lessons from Kashmir**

This lecture discusses the interplay between security issues and the politics surrounding minorities and the governance of diversity, providing in particular an introduction to the concept of (de)securitization and how it has been applied to research on minority issues. The lecture is composed of two parts. First, it will reflect on the theoretical underpinnings as well as strengths and weaknesses of

securitization theories. Questions addressed include: what do we mean with securitization of (old/new) minorities and what are its consequences? Where do such processes of securitization take place? Who are the securitizing actors? When does it take place and what is its timing? Why and under what conditions does securitization happen? What about de-securitization? What are the limits of securitization theory? Particular attention will be paid to criticisms on securitization theory from postcolonial perspectives and discussion on decolonizing understanding of insecurities. Second, the lecture will test securitization theory in a post-colonial context, analyzing processes of securitization of minorities in the former Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir. The lecture will be exploring how the complex geopolitical context and the international conflict with Pakistan over the territory of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir intersect with New Delhi's insecurities stemming from concerns regarding the control of this disputed borderland, transborder kinship ties of Kashmiri Muslim population and the threat of separatism.

**Andrea Carlà / Sergiu Constantin**

Senior Researchers, Institute for Minority Rights, EURAC

**Castellino, Joshua**

**Reframing Governance to Overcome Colonial Legacies and Promote Diversity: The Merits of a Sub-Regional Approach to Promoting Peace, Security & Justice**

Based on a study of the impact of lines drawn by European men upon maps that subsequently emerged as post-colonial States, this lecture will explore why a sub-regional approach - of a world of seventeen regions in conjunction with robust local governance, may offer better avenues for diversity governance while addressing larger challenges of climate change mitigation, migration and the need to generate economic growth.

**Joshua Castellino**

*Executive Co-Director & Professor of Law*  
Minority Rights Group International

**Devlin, Judith**

**Russia's Imperialism – Past and Present**

The paper will explore the changing character of Russian imperialism since the start of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the way this project has been understood by Russian leaders and thinkers. How did the dynastic empire accommodate ethnic and

religious diversity and identity? What was the impact of the emergence of nationalism in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries? Did the Soviet Union simply reinvent the Tsarist empire or engage in ultimately self-destructive artificial nation-building, as Putin has claimed? How post-imperial were the early Soviet and post-Soviet states? What are the sources of Russian imperialism today and of Putin's imperial vision and what does the answer suggest about the future?

**Judith Devlin**

Professor of History (emer.) University College Dublin

**Fiamingo, Christina**

### **From decolonising heritage to decolonising knowledge**

At this point in time, we find ourselves pressed to decolonize the curricula, while, in an apparent contradiction, we are simultaneously coping with the permanence of categories such as 'colonialism' or 'apartheid' (just to mention the more recurring ones) as they had not been dismissed, either in international political situations, or in the Western mindset as the so-called double-standard, so often recalled today, shows clearly. This double-standard is rooted in what Boaventura de Sousa Santos calls the "global cognitive injustice". So, the guiding question in my contribution will be: «How to coherently cope with the "global cognitive injustice" in a still colonized World? An Africanist's perspective.».

**Cristiana Fiamingo** teaches African History and Institutions (BA) and History and Politics of sub-Saharan Africa (MA) at the University of Milan. She carries out field research in Southern Africa. The main lines of research concern educational policies, post-conflict memory, and the management of resources in Southern Africa, starting from human ones, from a historical perspective.

**Gebrewold, Belachew**

### **Postcolonial African Migration to the West: A Mimetic Desire for Recognition**

Postcolonial African migration to the West is not only a spatial movement in search of material and physical security but also an expression of the mimetic *desire for being* by imitating the West or "whitening" oneself against the background of the dehumanizing historical legacies of slavery, colonialism, and Western dominance. It is a flight from oneself, from perceived inadequacies. To migrate to the West is an expression of the desire for being, not through detachment from the "fascinating" West but rather through adoration and imitation of its lifestyle, beauty ideals, and soft and hard power, and by living in the West. The model (the West) builds ubiquitous anti-migrant physical and virtual

fences, which the imitator tries to overcome. The more the model re-strengthens these fences, the more the imitator tries to scale them. The anti-migrant fences are the meeting point of the model's perceived superiority, admirability, and desirability on the one hand, and on the other hand the imitator's inferiority complex and inner tension between the paradoxical desire for detachment from the model and its passionate imitation at the same time. This book argues that African migration to the West will continue even in the absence of poverty, conflicts, and climate change because it is also about the *mimetic desire for being*.

**Belachew Gebrewold** is a professor of International Relations and the Head of Department and Studies of Social Work and Social Policy at MCI, Innsbruck, Austria. His main research areas are European-African relations, African politics and conflicts, and migration. His publications include various peer-reviewed articles, monographs and edited volumes such as *Africa and Fortress Europe*, Ashgate 2008; *Anatomy of Violence*, Ashgate 2009; *Global Security Triangle*, Routledge 2013; *Understanding Migrant Decisions*, Routledge, 2018; *Human Trafficking and Exploitation*, Routledge, 2019. He was also a member of the steering committee for the preparation of the UN Global Compact for Regular, Safe and Orderly Migration preparatory process in 2017, and a Member of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Informal Advisory Group on Migration, 2017. Moreover, he was a member of the Migration Council of the Austrian Ministry of Internal Affairs from 2014 until 2017.

**Guarda, Marta**

### **Colonial legacies in education: the case of English**

This talk examines the role of English in education through a decolonial lens. The participants will engage with the existing debate on the use of English as a medium of instruction both in postcolonial contexts in the Global South and, increasingly, across Europe. In doing so, they will be encouraged to reflect on how language ideologies and policies contribute to maintaining and reproducing unequal power relations and perpetuating linguistic and epistemic injustices. The talk will conclude by exploring strategies to balance the drive for English-Medium Instruction with the right to preserve and promote local languages and cultures in education.

**Marta Guarda**

Senior Researcher, Institute for Applied Linguistics, EURAC

**Grote, Georg**

### **History of South Tyrol – An introduction**

The history of South Tyrol is one of the most complex regional European histories, highlighting many aspects of European developments in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries in a small and clearly defined region. This introduction aims to raise awareness for the special character of the area with its multilingual population, its sandwich position between the North and the South of Europa and with its distinct attempts to utilize the European framework to establish a peaceful and thriving region.

This lecture will be complemented by the walk across the city center of Bozen on Day 2 of the Summer School.

### **Georg Grote**

Senior Researcher, Institute for Minority Rights, EURAC

#### **Readings:**

*Georg Grote: The South Tyrol Question 1866-2010. From National Rage to Regional State, Lang, Oxford 2012.*

*Georg Grote: 'I bin a Südtiroler!' Kollektive Identität zwischen Nation und Region im 20. Jahrhundert, Athesia, Bozen 2009.*

*Georg Grote: Im Schatten der Zeitenwende. Leben in Tirol 1900-1918, (2019); Die zerrissene Generation. Südtiroler Schicksale im Faschismus und Nationalsozialismus 1922-1942, (2021); Das bittere Ende. Südtiroler Erfahrungen im Zweiten Weltkrieg und in der Nachkriegszeit 1943-1956, (2022) Athesia Bozen.*

*Rolf Steininger: South Tyrol. A Minority Conflict of the Twentieth Century. Transaction, New Brunswick 2003.*

## **Klyszcz Kentros, Ulises Ivan**

### **Russia in Africa**

Is Russia's diplomatic and security expansion in Africa still ongoing, despite the mounting material and reputational costs from its war against Ukraine? This paper will offer some hints towards answering this question, looking at the pattern of engagements beyond the rhetoric and diplomatic summits.

### **Ivan Ulises Kentros Klyszcz**

Research Fellow International Centre for Defence and Security, Estonia

## **Levrat, Nicholas**

### **Report and Comments by the UN Special Rapporteur for Minorities and Q&A/ Discussion**

**Nicholas Levrat** is the fourth UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues. Additionally, he has been the Director of the Global Studies Institute and a Professor of International and European Law at the University of Geneva since 2001. His research activities further include judicial remedies in the European Union, the status of public authorities in Europe, law of minority groups, cross-border cooperation, the governance of complex institutional systems and Swiss-Europe relations.

Liang, Chia-Yu

### **The Return of the Universal Tianxia Empire? The Ancient Roots Of Modern China's Production of and Oppression of Its Minorities**

The paper explains how the creation of modern China based on the identification with imperial China, which was founded on the ideology of a universal empire, produced its minorities and legitimised the oppressions against them. Central to this creation is (1) the conceptual invention of the Chinese Nation for (2) the preservation of the imperial territory, albeit the abolition of the separation between major nationalities, realised through (3) the implementation of Maoist United-Front strategy at the inter-ethnic and international levels. Such a creation facilitates the revival of the Son-of-Heaven's absolute authority, the Han Chinese's primacy, and the legitimate rejection of the right to self-determination of non-Han peoples, all of which are rooted in the political system of imperial China. The paper, therefore, argues that ameliorating minority rights in contemporary China requires, among other things, a renovation of China's official nationalist narrative to allow a re-conception of the political system.

**Chia-Yu Liang** just completed his PhD in International Relations at the University of Sussex. His thesis, *The Politics of the Return of Tianxia (All-under-Heaven) in Modern China*, dives into the ancient roots of the tianxia concept as the ideological foundation of imperial China's universal rulership, examines Chinese empire's transformation into a sovereign Chinese state and clarifies how the subjugation of non-Communist Han-Chinese, non-Han peoples, and Chinese-writing societies such as Hong Kong and Taiwan are legitimized and realised. It suggests that the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) is the successful resurrection of the tianxia empire, in which minority rights are yet to be recognized, while the recovery of imperial territory is sacralised. Besides his thesis, Chia-Yu also published journal articles on Sino-Taiwan relations and Chinese international thoughts. His research interests include Historical IR, Global IR, Comparative Political Theory, Intellectual History, political theologies of world orders, small states, and Simone Weil.

Metcalfe, Jody

### **Whiteness, Racialisation, and Intersectionality in South Africa**

This talk unpacks the legacies of dominant narratives of whiteness in South Africa and the processes of racialisation that have been created, entrenched, and sustained through colonial and apartheid legacies. Through an intersectional lens, this paper analyses how whiteness and racialisation have impacted the identity formation and representation of first-generation mixed-race people in post-apartheid South Africa.

**Jody Metcalfe**

Researcher, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg

Norman, Kelsey

### **Migration Management Aid, Governance and Repression**

Over the last twenty years, more than \$130.5 billion in foreign aid went to control, regulate, or manage migration in developing countries. Migration management aid has increased more than 350 percent from \$2 billion in 2002 to over \$12 billion in 2017. The European Union, as well as its member states, make up the top donors to migration management aid, including the establishment of the EU Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) that allocated €5 billion for migration management from 2015-2020. But little is known about the impact of migration management aid on institutions of governance in recipient states, in addition to the rights of both migrants and citizens. This book asks: How does migration management aid impact governance in recipient countries? Through a careful empirical analysis of four case studies, we show how migration management aid impacts specific national institutions by examining the funding structures, recipients, implementing actors, types of projects, accountability mechanisms, and power dynamics as they occur on the ground. We also trace migration management aid's emergence and growth over the last twenty years, simultaneously situating its current form within the historical context of colonialism.

#### **Kelsey Norman**

Director — Women's Rights, Human Rights and Refugees Program  
Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy

Obermair, Hannes

### **Beyond restitution: Reframing the western museum in a postcolonial context**

Albeit challenged, the western museum maintains its place as a modern colonial institution. Seen from a postcolonial point of view, the museum remains within the western system of appropriation and alienation, also through its unbroken power of interpretation and thus creation of knowledge. So, any restitution of once alienated objects, during the colonial period, must go beyond the mere handing over of cultural heritage to especially African countries. It represents both the opportunity of transforming and decolonizing the institution museum itself and at the same of empowering the post-colony, contributing also to dignity restoration.

#### **Hannes Obermair**

Senior Researcher, Head Office, EURAC

**Piccin Pusterla, Francesca**

### **The Concept of Conflict in Western Societies**

In her contribution, Francesca Pusterla Piccin investigates the so-called Migration crises through the lens of humanitarian aid and narratives and the humanitarian side of the crises.

**Dr. Francesca Pusterla Piccin** holds a doctorate in political science (PhD) awarded by the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Geneva and an MA in European Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Europe. She is a senior research associate at the Free University of Bozen–Bolzano, where she got funds to develop a Horizon project about the EU Humanitarian Aid funded by the Autonomous Province of Bolzano / Bozen – South Tyrol. Previously, she has been a Research Associate at the SOAS, University of London – UK; Academic Assistant at the University of Geneva – CH; and a Visiting Researcher affiliated with St. Antony’s College at the University of Oxford – UK. Her research interests mainly lie in humanitarian aid, development, and migration. She is the author of three monographs (two of which are included in the Springer Philosophy and Poverty Series) and several scientific articles. She is currently working on the European Union’s narratives as persuasive stories and accounts constructed and deployed to communicate its understanding of humanitarian aid and influence beliefs, attitudes, and decisions on humanitarian aid at the national and international levels.

**Pistan, Carna**

### **Alarming Alterations: How Collective Memory Transformed the Russian Constitution into a Weapon of War**

This contribution focuses on the constitutional politics of memory amidst the backdrop of Russia’s recent full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Starting from the 2020 constitutional reform, which incorporated into the Constitution the main pillars of Russia’s collective memory, including the myth about the origins of the nation and its victory in WWII, the aim is to illustrate the negative consequences memory-making through the Constitution may have, including the creation of an explicit basis for legitimizing acts of aggression.

#### **Carna Pistan**

Researcher, Institute for Comparative Federalism, EURAC

Prackwieser, Josef

**Study Trip to the Ladin valleys with Lectures on South Tyrol Autonomy, (Centre for Autonomy Experience EURAC)**

**Trip to the Ladin Valleys**

On Friday, 5 July 2024, we are offering an excursion to Ladinia: Starting point is Eurac Research (Viale Druso 1) in Bolzano-Bozen. In the morning, we will head into Gherdëina valley to the Union de Ladins de Gherdëina (<https://www.ulg.it/>), which has been campaigning for Ladin political interests since 1945. Afterwards, a panoramic road with great views takes us over the 2121 metre high Gherdëina Pass. You will be provided with a packed lunch (vegetarian/non-vegetarian option), which the bistro catering team from Eurac Reserach will put together for you. In the afternoon, we will visit the Ladin cultural institute "Micurá de Rù" in Ciastel de Tor, Badia Valley, where we can talk to the scientific staff about current research and cultural work on Ladin topics.

**Academic assistance: Josef Prackwieser**

Center for Autonomy Experience, EURAC

Schönthaler, Sophia / Bernhard von Schlechtleitner, Anna Lea

**Decoloniality and intersectionality**

After introducing the debate on intersectional axes such as gender, gender identity and expression, race, indigeneity and disability, this lecture will delve into how academia has pointed at how decoloniality and intersectionality are intertwined. Bearing in mind that there is a need to decolonise structures (including law) and knowledge production (Matiluko 2020), this lecture adheres to Mignolo's (2011) warning that human experience faces many layers of intersectionality. As Nosvima (2023) has recently pointed out, colonial thinking and culture –that are usually conveyed in binary concepts– cause not only a wrong understanding of human reality but also concrete problems for overcoming this understanding and its application in daily life. The second part of the lecture will discuss some examples and attempts of applying decolonial and intersectional approaches (beyond colonial othering) when working in the field in different contexts, for instance, but not limited to: care and femininity-masculinity, politics, migration, and others.

**Sophia Schönthaler / Anna Lea Bernhard von Schlechtleitner**

Researcher, Center for Migration, EURAC / Trainee Researcher, Institute for  
Minority Rights, EURAC

**Readings:**

*Mignolo, W. D. (2011). Geopolitics of Sensing and Knowing: On (De)coloniality, Border Thinking and Epistemic Disobedience. Postcolonial Studies 14(3), 273–283.*

*Nosvima, I. (2023). Decolonizing Ableist Pedagogy. A Communal Work of Delinking and Crippling. International Review of Mission 112(2), 267–282. <https://doi.org/10.1111/irom.12480>*

*Matiluko, O. (2020). Decolonising the master's house: how Black Feminist epistemologies can be and are used in decolonial strategy. The Law Teacher, 54(4), 547–561. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03069400.2020.1827839>*

**Wurzer, Markus**

### **Challenging the Colonial Heritage in South Tyrol**

Even though the Italian colonial empire neither lasted particularly long nor was it particularly large, it left many traces in Italy's cities that continue to tell the colonial past as a "success story". Bolzano is no different: street names, monuments and works of art continue to celebrate colonialism in public spaces. This walk through the city of Bolzano will visit colonial traces, discuss their origins and recent anti-colonial interventions that call for a new engagement with Italy's violent colonial history.

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ANY QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT US!