

Tackling The Turmoil

12 Nov. 2021
9:00 - 18:00 (CET)
join us online

workshop on
#Crisis as #Process

PhD Initiative supported by
Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS)
German Institute for Economic Research (DIW)
PHD student communities @ IRS + DIW + PIK + WZB

co-promoted with
Leibniz Research Alliance "Crises in a Globalised World"

Objective

If the COVID-19 has reminded us the vulnerabilities of our society through the event of a pandemic, it is undoubtable that its aftermath in various socio-political and cultural economic forms has marked an era of deep crisis in our modern society. Without being assured of when or how we shall survive the crisis, it became more than ever significant and necessary to re-think of how to develop meaningful research projects, hence to reflect on the condition of crisis. Not only for researchers in the social scientific fields, but especially, as many in the junior stages have reported difficulties and sought for help, due to their obstacles on the fields and disturbances in traditional research progress, we are impelled by the duty to organize the workshop in the spirit to "tackle the turmoil".

Without a rhetoric justification, we would like to revisit the methodological traditions in classical social scientific research fields; and to engage the current debate in a broad spectrum of research topics, centred on but not limited to the themes of crisis; hence to search for ideas and collect experiences, which could be eventually helpful and suggestive to shape and promote development in various research projects. By engaging renowned scholars and diverse groups of participants, the discussion is themed by *epistemological* reflections, *methodological* demonstrations and *conceptual* prospects. By the end of

the workshop, we expect to go through a comprehensive agenda, in terms of research process:

1. To start with *research questions and hypotheses*, we would like to review many research topics, proposed by both the participants and the lecturers, in relevance to the crisis themes and the contemporary society;
2. Regarding to the relevant *theories*, we organise themed lectures followed by Q&A sessions, to inform and suggest the participants with theoretical frameworks and references, which could be inspiring for their own research topics;
3. *Methodologically*, we propose parallel training workshops, divided by their foci on quantitative and qualitative approaches, which are open to participants to choose in relevance to their own research interests and projects.
4. Eventually, we will bring the debate forward to the *conceptual* prospects, on how to "tackle the turmoil".

Thanks to the experiences and views shared by our invited speakers, in this workshop, we hope to empower the upcoming generation of researchers with a comprehensive vision, in the collage of rich research instruments and ideas, exhibited through the themed presentations and critical debates.

Programme

(free admission)

> Workshop Opening

09:00-09:15 Introduction

> Part I. Epistemological Reflections

09:15-10:00 Opening Keynote*:
<Conceptualising Crisis as Social Spatial Process>
Prof. Dr. Oliver Ibert (IRS)
(30min lecture + 15min discussion)

10:00-11:00 Empirical Projective Workshop I:
participants' pitch presentation + feedbacks
(3min x 15 slots)

11:00-11:15 Coffee break

11:15-12:15 Empirical/Projective Workshop II:
participants' pitch presentation + feedbacks
(3min x 15 slots)

12:15-13:15 Lunch break

> Part II. Methodological reflections

13:15-14:00 Middle-Day Keynote*:
<From Berlin Wall, Fukushima to Corona: Methodologies and Strategies in Process Research>
Prof. Dr. David Richter (DIW)
(30min lecture + 15min discussion)

14:00-15:00 Parallel Workshops I.

A) Projective:
<Crisis Scenario Construction from Social Tipping Processes: a complex systems perspective>
Dr. Jonathan Donges (PIK)

B) Qualitative:
<Grasping the Meaning and Consequences of Disruptive Social Processes>
Dr. Ralph Richter (IRS)

C) Quantitative:
_panel data vs one-time surveys
_surveys as a method for doing research on disruptive social processes
Sandra Bohmann (DIW)

15:00-15:15 Coffee Break

15:15-16:15 Parallel Workshops II.
(encore parallel workshop session I for different group)

16:15-16:30 Coffee Break

> Part III. Conceptual Prospects

16:30-17:15 Closing Keynote*:
<New Crises in the Twenty-First Century and the Challenge to Democratic Resilience>
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Merkel (WZB)
(30min lecture + 15min discussion)

17:15-18:00 Panel discussion*
with invited experts + Q&A from audience

> Workshop Conclusion

*keynote lectures and panel discussion are open to the public

Speakers

(in order of workshop appearance)



Prof. Dr. Oliver Ibert (IRS)

In July 2019 Oliver Ibert took over the position of the director of the Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space and Professor of Socio-Spatial Transformation at the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg. Since 2009 he is head of the research department „Dynamics of Economic Spaces“. From 2009-2019 he was professor of Economic Geography at the Freie Universität Berlin. In 1991 he started to study the topics Geography (major), German Literature and Political Sciences (both minor) at the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg and obtained his master's degree in 1997. In 2002 he acquired his PhD at the University of Oldenburg and in 2009 he completed his post-doctoral habilitation thesis at the University of Bonn. In summer 2014 Oliver Ibert was a visiting professor at the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Toronto and in autumn 2018 he was a Halsworth Visiting Professor at the Department of Geography at Manchester University. He is a member of the editorial board of "Spatial Research and Planning" and acts as a spokesperson of the working group "Concepts of Crisis" as a part of the Leibniz Research Alliance "Crises in a Globalized World".



Prof. Dr. David Richter (DIW)

David Richter is a researcher and survey manager at DIW Berlin. Since 2020, he is a professor of survey research in the Faculty of Education and Psychology at the Free University of Berlin. With disciplinary backgrounds around psychology, he is interested in the development of emotions, well-being, and life satisfaction across the adult life-span and the influence of life-events on the development of life satisfaction and well-being. Depending on the research question, he uses psychological methods in his studies (e.g., latent growth modeling) as well as methods from the field of economics (e.g., fixed-effects regressions).



Dr. Jonathan Donges (PIK)

Jonathan Donges is Co-Leader of the FutureLab on Earth Resilience in the Anthropocene and Working Group Leader on Whole Earth System Analysis in Research Department on Earth System Analysis of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. His research work focusses on dynamics of planetary-scale socio-ecological systems, climatic and social tipping elements, their dynamics and interactions, decarbonization dynamics and sustainability transformation, conceptual models of society-environment coevolutionary dynamics, structure and dynamics of complex networks, nonlinear dynamics and time series analysis, and application of these methods to climate physics and Earth system analysis.



Dr. Ralph Richter (IRS)

Ralph Richter is a senior researcher at the Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS). His research focus is on social change in urban and rural life worlds, social innovation and social enterprise research and the socio-ecological transition in transport and urban logistics. Ralph has long-standing expertise in qualitative and quantitative methods of empirical social research acquired during his studies in Sociology at the Universität Leipzig and the University of Naples Federico II /Italy and in several research projects conducted at the TU Darmstadt, IRS, and Universität Leipzig. His methodological interests are in both ethnographic field work and the triangulation of qualitative and quantitative data. In 2011 he completed his doctoral thesis about "Place-based Identity as Endogenous Resource in Shrinking Cities" at the Universität Leipzig. Ralph is also a visiting lecturer in Urban and Regional sociology. Recently, he taught at the Hochschule Neubrandenburg, Technische Universität Berlin and at the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg.



Sandra Bohmann (DIW)

Sandra Bohmann is a research associate at the DIW/SOEP and Ph.D. student at the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BGSS) at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.



Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Merkel (WZB)

Wolfgang Merkel (1952) studied political science, history, sports and international relations in Heidelberg and Bologna. Wolfgang Merkel taught and researched at the universities in Bielefeld, Mainz, Heidelberg, Harvard, Madrid and Sydney. Since 2004 Wolfgang Merkel has been director of the "Democracy and Democratization" department at the WZB and professor of political science at the Humboldt University in Berlin. He is a member of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities as well as other international and national bodies. His recent publications include the Handbook of Political, Social, and Economic Transformation (Oxford University Press 2019, edited with Raj Kollmorgen and Hans-Jürgen Wagoner); Democracy and Crisis. Challenges in Turbulent Times (Springer International 2018, edited with Sascha Kneip); (2010); Is capitalism compatible with democracy? Journal for Comparative Political Science 8 (2): 109-128 and more than 200 journal articles on research topics such as political regimes: Democracy - Democratization; Dictatorships in the 21st century, transformation of political regimes, political parties, government policy in comparison, the future of social democracy and social justice.

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please register for the workshop/keynote lectures for free by sending an email to <tackling.the.turmoil@gmail.com> to participate in the workshop online via Zoom.

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and, for the dedicated mentorship by our speakers.

