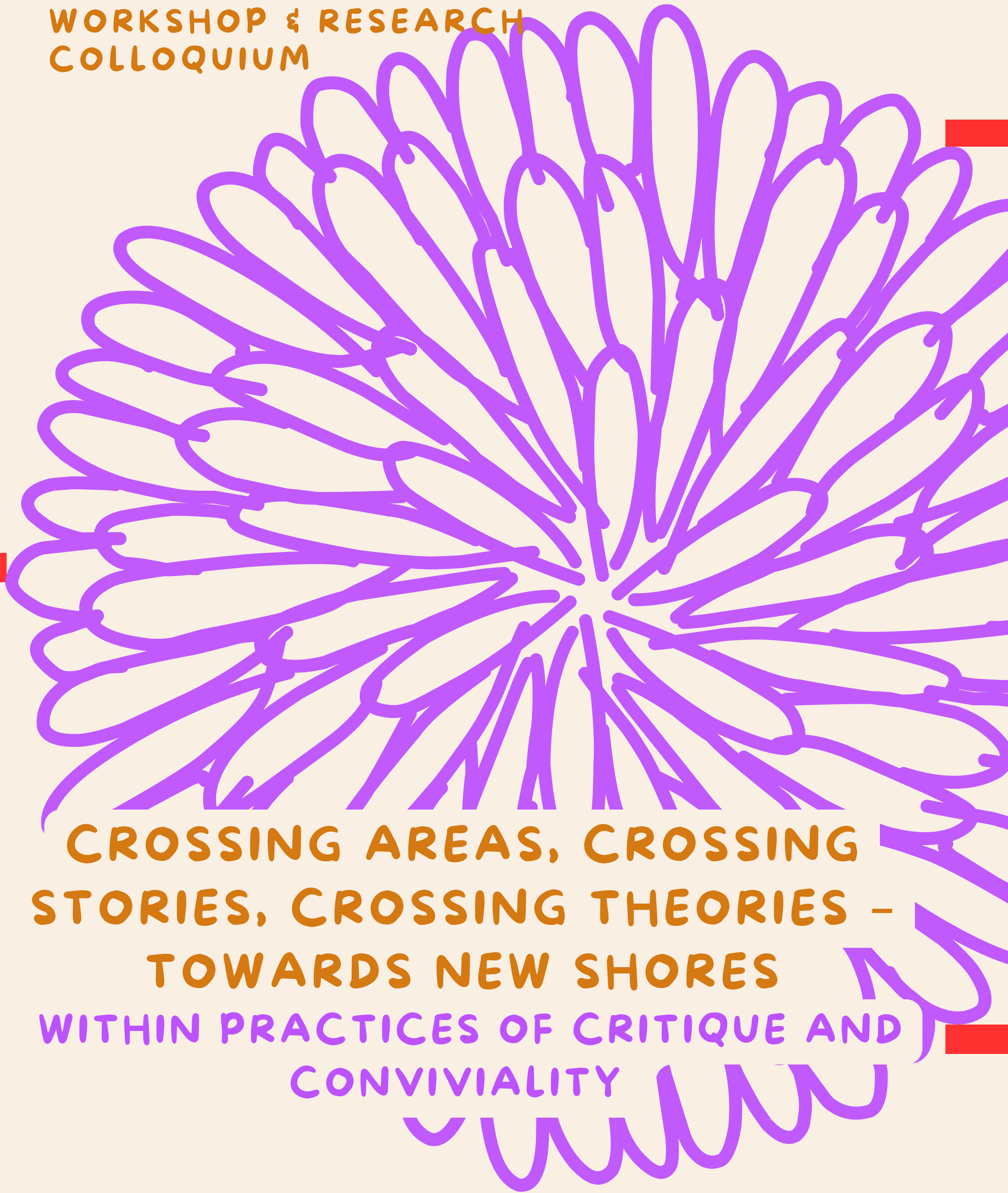


NOVEMBER 10-13 2025
WORKSHOP & RESEARCH
COLLOQUIUM



CROSSING AREAS, CROSSING
STORIES, CROSSING THEORIES –
TOWARDS NEW SHORES
WITHIN PRACTICES OF CRITIQUE AND
CONVIVIALITY



UNIVERSITÄT
LEIPZIG



CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE



UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH

PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 10, 2025 - VENUE: IWALEWAHAUS

08.00h REGISTRATION

9.30h WELCOME – Prof. Dr. Ute Fendler (UBT - EXC - Africa Multiple)

10.00h “Crossing – Areas, Transpositions, Transferences, Erasures: The Wor(l)d as we Know it? – A Theoretical Attempt to Cross (Out)”

PD.IN DR.IN MARIAM POPAL (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE)

10.20h “Rethinking Academic Space – The MPS-AFG Program and the Opening of New Pathways for Knowledge Production”

DR. KEFA HAMIDI (HEAD CENTER COMMUNICATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE - MPS-AFG LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

10.45h – Coffee Break

11.00h PANEL I – (TECHNICAL) READINGS IN DECOLONIALITY

PROF. DR. JIA HUI LEE – (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE) “A SPECIES OF COLONIALISM: HOW SCIENCE STUDIES CAN HELP DECOLONIZE TAXONOMIC NOMENCLATURE”

PROF. DR. UTE FENDLER – (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE) “PERFORMANCE DECOLONIAL VIBRATIONS”

PROF. DR. GILBERT NDI SHANG – (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE) THE TROPICALITY OF BEING: INTER-TEXTUAL READINGS OF AFRICAN AND LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURES”

MODERATION: SHADEN KAMEL (BIGSAS DOCTORAL RESEARCHER - MEDIA STUDIES)

13.00h – Lunch at Campus – VENUE – FOYER & GWII Seminar Room 8

14.00h PANEL II – WOR(L)DS IN THE MAKING

PROF. DR. ALMUT SCHILLING-VACAFLOR (FAU - EXC-TRANSFORMING HUMAN RIGHTS) “HOW CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH LEVERAGE SUPPLY CHAIN REGULATIONS TO ENHANCE CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY: THE CASE OF BRAZIL” (ONLINE)

PROF. DR. ALENA RETTOV – (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE) “CROSSING AREAS THROUGH CROSSING STORIES: TRANSLATIONS OF AFRICAN WORLD LITERATURE INTO EASTERN EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN LANGUAGES”

DR. SERAWIT DEBELE – (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE) “SOME COMMENTS AND REFLECTIONS FROM AN INTERSECTIONAL ANGLE”

MODERATION: EDIDIONG CHARLES IBANGA (BISAS DOCTORAL RESEARCHER - AFRICAN HISTORY)

16.00h – Coffee Break

16.15h PANEL III CROSSING THE LAW – (W)RI(GH)TING RIGHTS

PROF. DR. THOKO KAIME – (UBT - EXC - AFRICA MULTIPLE - & EXC-TRANSFORMING HUMAN RIGHTS) “LAW AND BELONGING AS SOCIO-LEGAL CONSTRUCTION”

MODERATION: PUJA KAUR MATTA (UBT INTERSECTIONALITY STUDIES PHD CANDIDATE - RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

17.00h End

18.00h – DINNER

20.00h – CULTURAL EVENT – FILM SCREENING

“Our Lady of the Chinese Shop” directed by ERY CLAVER (film debut - Angola 2022)

CHAired BY PROF. DR. UTE FENDLER WITH ROUND TABLE &
AUDIENCE DISCUSSION

NOVEMBER 11, 2025 - VENUE - IWALEWAHAUS

08.00h THE PRESENCE OF THE PAST - TIMELY (RE) DIRECTIONS and the AFTERLIVE OF THE PhD-PHASE
RESEARCH PANEL & ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

DR. BAKHEIT MOHAMMED NUR - “(IN)COMPATIBILITY BETWEEN REASON AND FAITH:
Critical Reflections on a Resurgent Islamic Epistemology” (Post-Doc BIGSAS - University of Bayreuth)
DR. HAZRAT BAHAR - “INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ASSISTANCE AND LOCAL REALITIES: LESSONS FROM AFGHANISTAN”
(POST-DOC MPS-AFG - LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)
MODERATORS: ALI REZA HUSSAINI (PHD CANDIDATE - MPS-AFG UNI LEIPZIG) & ZAKIA SHEFAYEE (PHD CANDIDATE - FAU)

09.00h SECTION I - BETWEEN CONSTRUCTIONS OF PUBLIC SPACES AND THE SPACING OF CRITIQUE

PANEL I “Integrating Critical Communication for Social Change in Academia”
CHAIR: DR HAZRAT BAHAR (LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)
Panel contributors: Mariam Meetra, Laily Habib, Ali Reza Hussaini, Abu Khorasani, Hamid Obaidi
MODERATION: PUJA MATTA KAUR (PHD CANDIDATE - UNIVERSITY BAYREUTH & ASSOCIATED RESEARCHER AT THE MPS-AFG)

11.00h – Coffee Break

11.15h PANEL II “Crossing Media to Fill Gaps: Intersectional and Dialogical Approaches”
ORGANIZER: SAÏKOU OUMAR SAGNANE (BIGSAS - DOCTORAL RESEARCHER - UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH)
CHAIR: HASNAA ESSAM FARAG (BIGSAS - DOCTORAL RESEARCHER, UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH)
Panel Contributors: Saïkou Oumar Sagnane, Kingsley Celestine Jima, Shaden Kamel, Luisa Schneider, Edidiong Charles Ibanga, Marie Nadège Tsogo Momo
MODERATION: HASNAA ESSAM FARAG (BIGSAS - DOCTORAL RESEARCHER, UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH)

13.15h – Lunch

14.30h SECTION II - CROSSING CONCEPTIONS OF BE.LONGING?

PANEL I “Difference as Opportunity or Challenge?”
CHAIR: HAMID OBAIDI (AFGMP - PHD CANDIDATE - MPS-AFG UNI LEIPZIG)
Panel Contributors: Hazrat Bahar, Somaiya Meer, Puja Matta Kaur, Sajia Behgam, Zakia Shefayee, Ramin Kamangar
MODERATION: MARIAM MEETRA (MPS-AFG - PHD CANDIDATE - LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

16.30h – Coffee Break

16.45h PANEL II “Convivial Crossings: Anthropology Between Precarity and Practice”
CHAIR: AUGUSTINE GYAN (BIGSAS - DOCTORAL RESEARCHER)
Panel Contributors: Augustine Gyan, Sophia Ertlmaier, Chahdi Nihal Ouazzani, Abdallah Hassan Ounour, Bintou Koné, Sara Hayyat
MODERATION: ASMA BEN HADJ HASSEN
18.45h – Conclusive Remarks – & DINNER

19.30h CULTURAL EVENT –The Fluidity of Music & The Echos of Literature – Crossing Areas

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

DR EMRAH YAÇIN

Introduction: Hasnaa Essam Farag (BIGSAS – doctoral researcher, University of Bayreuth)

POETIC READINGS

MARIAM MEETRA

Introduction: Dr. Daniel Grabic (Academic Coordinator Center Communication for Social Change)

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

HASSAN AZARMEHR

Introduction: Dr. Kefa Hamidi (Head Center Communication for Social Change & MPS-AFG)

NOVEMBER 12, 2025 – VENUE – DEPARTMENT ISLAMISCH-RELIGIÖSE STUDIEN (DIRS)-FAU – ERLANGEN

11.00h **WORDS OF WELCOME** Prof. Dr. Abbas Poya

11.05h **SECTION I BETWEEN WOR(L)DS & PRACTICES**

DR. CAROLINE LICHUMA – (FAU -EXC -Transforming Human Rights)- "Colonial Continuities and Norm Formation in Business and Human Rights: The Curious Case of the German Supply Chain Act (Lieferkettensorgfaltspflichtgesetz - LkSG)

Moderation: **PD.in Dr.in Mariam Popal** (General & Comparative Literature – University of Bayreuth)

MELISA MUMINOVIC (PhD candidate – FAU) – „The Concept of Seclusion (arab. khalwa) in Early Sufi Texts (7th-11th century AH)“

ELHAM MAZLOUM (PhD candidate – FAU) – “Challenges and Dynamics in the Bahá’í Women’s Movement with regard to the international campaign #OurStoryIsOne (2023)“

DERYA BUGUR (PhD candidate – FAU) – “The Reconfiguration of Worldviews at the Intersection of Religion and Nationalism: An Analysis of Türkiye and Türkiye-Origin Millennials in the German Diaspora“

Moderation: **Prof. Dr. Abbas Poya** (Chair of Reform Discourses in Islam & Afghanistan Studies – FAU)

12.45h – **Lunch**

13.45h **SECTION II DIGITALITY – Between MEDIA – PUBLIC SPHERE – and RELIGION?**

PROF. DR. FLORIAN HÖHNE (Chair of Media Communication, Media Ethics, and Digital Theology) – „Digital Theology, Media, and the Public Sphere“

Moderation: **Elham Mazloum** (PhD candidate – DIRS – FAU)

15.00h End of Presentations

16:00h – **CULTURAL EVENT – (Critical Historical) City Tour Erlangen**

18.00h – **DINNER IN ERLANGEN**

NOVEMBER 13, 2025 – VENUE – DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC-RELIGIOUS STUDIES (DIRS)-FAU – ERLANGEN

10.00h – **Beginnigs** - A Convivial Reflection Round

11.00h **SECTION I RESISTING MERGING – Processes of the NORM and NORMALIZATIONS**

“Employment Challenges for Afghan Professionals in Germany”

DR. HAZRAT BAHAR (POSTDOC AT LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

“Scrolling Between Worlds: Belonging, Becoming, and the Afghanistan Diaspora on TikTok”

ALI REZA HUSSAINI (RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AND PHD CANDIDATE AT LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

“Re-Mapping Afghanistan: religion, culture, language”

PUJA KAUR MATTA (PHD CANDIDATE AT UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH)

“Women’s Singing Circles in Rural Afghanistan: Agency, Resistance, and Protest”

ABU KHORASANI (RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AT LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

Moderation: **Dr Kefa Hamidi**

13:30h – **Lunch**

14.30h **SECTION II TRANSLATIONS OF THE SELF – PROCESSES OF DIS/PLACEMENT**

“Multiple Identities and Core Belonging Issues”

LAILY HABIB (RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AT LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

“Living Between Languages: A Poet's Journey of Translation, Exile, and Expression”

MARIAM MEETRA (RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AND PHD CANDIDATE AT LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

“Journalism in Exile: Reimagining Representations of Afghanistan's Diaspora and Domestic Audiences”

HAMID OBAIDI (RESEARCH ASSOCIATE LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

“Re/membering Afghanistan: On the Interpersonal Ties between Country, Memory, and Self”

KILIAN BEJAN HAMIDI (UNIVERSITY OF BREMEN), **DR. KEFA HAMIDI** (LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY)

Moderation: **Dr Hazrat Bahar**

16.30 **Final Remarks** **Dr. Kefa Hamidi & PD.in Dr.in Diana Mariam Popal**

17.00h **Auf Wiedersehen! :-)**