

Re-Configurations: African Societies after Conflict.

Since the end of the cold war, many African societies have gone through periods of conflict and crisis. These crises did not fit into the schemes of civil war and East–West confrontation that dominated the analysis until then. New social actors emerged and more often than not, they profoundly transformed the social and political structure at the national as well as at the local level. Economies had to adapt to the rapidly changing societal situation, too. Last but not least, the crises left questions of belonging, trust and reconciliation. The co-existence of old and new stakeholders led to a re-configuration of society that cannot be cast into old versus new or rupture versus continuity.

This seminar examines cases from Africa and looks at conceptual frameworks for their analysis. It also provides an advanced introduction to the methodology and practicalities of doing research in societies that went through violent crises. The graduate attributes engendered by this course principally include critical thinking and independent learning and the need to assimilate large amounts of complex information from various sources and disciplines.

No background knowledge of the subject is assumed but it is assumed that students have a basic understanding of African politics and societies. It is **essential** that students are fully committed to the seminar, attend each meeting, and fulfil the reading and assessment requirements.

Reconfigurations

General Bibliography:

- Basedau, Matthias/Mattes, Hanspeter/Oettler, Anika (eds.), 2005: *Multiple Unsicherheit: Befunde aus Asien, Nahost, Afrika und Lateinamerika*, Hamburg: DÜI.
- Berdal, M. / Malone, D.M., 2000: *Greed and Grievance: Economic Agendas in Civil Wars*. London: Lynne Rienner.
- Cairns, Ed et al. (eds.), 2003: *Memory in ethnic conflict*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Connerton, Paul, 1996: *How Societies Remember*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Pr.
- Deng, Francis M. / Zartman, William I. (eds.), 1991: *Conflict Resolution in Africa*. Washington DC: The Brookings Inst.
- Duffield, M. (ed.), 2002: *Global Governance and the New Wars: The Merging of Development and Security*. London: Zed Books.
- Fosu, Augustin Kwasi et al. (eds.), 2005: *Post-conflict economies in Africa*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Harrison, Graham et al., 1999: *Violence and conflict resolution in Africa*. Basingstoke: Carfax Publishing.
- Howe, Herbert, 2004: *Ambiguous Order: Military Forces in African Studies*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.
- Keating, Tom / Knight, Andy W., 2004: *Building Sustainable Peace*. New York: United Nations Univ. Pr.
- Kieh, George Klay jr. / Mukenge, Ida Rousseau, 2002: *Zones of Conflict in Africa: Theories and Cases*. Westport: Praeger.
- Lederach, J.P., 1997: *Building Peace. Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies*. Washington: US Institute of Peace Press
- Maley, William et al. (eds.), 2003: *From Civil Strife to Civil Society: Civil and Military Responsibilities in Disrupted States*. New York: United Nations Univ. Pr.
- Newman, Edward / Schnabel, Albrecht (eds.), 2002: *Recovering from Civil Conflict*.
- Nicolini, Beatrice (ed.), 2006: *Studies in Witchcraft, Magic, War and Peace in Africa: 19th and 20th Centuries*. Lewiston, NY: Mellen Pr.
- Paris, Roland, 2004: *At War's End: Building Peace after Civil Conflict*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Pr.
- Porter, Elisabeth Joy et al. (eds.), 2005: *Researching Conflict in Africa: Insights and Experiences*. New York: United Nations Univ. Pr.
- Pugh, M. 2000: *Regeneration of War-torn Societies*. London: Macmillan.
- Richards, Paul, 2005: *No Peace, No War: an anthropology of contemporary armed conflicts*. Athens: Ohio University Pr.
- Schmidt, Bettina / Schröder, Ingo W. (eds.), 2001: *Anthropology of Violence and Conflict*. London: Routledge.
- Wilson, Richard A., 2001: *The Politics of Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Pr.

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Mo 10–12h, Seminarraum, Ethnologisches Seminar

Semester Program 2007

| date | topic | speaker |
|----------------------|--|--|
| 2.4.07 | No meeting | |
| 9.4.07 | Easter Monday | |
| 16.4.07 8–12 a.m. | Double Session , Introduction: Transformation through crisis: A distinct type of social change? (comparative and theoretical, obligatory reading: 📖 Schmidt/Schröder 2001, introduction) | Till Förster |
| 23.4.07 | No Peace – No War: Conceptualisations of Precarious Times after Conflict (comparative and theoretical, obligatory reading: 📖 Richards 2005, Porter 2005) | Dominik Marosi |
| 30.4.07 | No meeting | |
| 7.5.07 | No meeting | |
| 14.5.07 8–12 a.m. | Double Session: Re-Integration: Demobilising the military and private military companies (Africa general and one case study, 📖 Maley et al. 2003) Re-gaining civil security: Emerging public orders and social structure (Case study of Sierra Leone or Sudan, 📖 Basedau 2005, contributions on Africa) | Alain Schwab Mario Seger Mirella Mahlstein |
| 21.5.07 8–12 a.m. | Double Session: Re-ordering the economy: Securing survival, health and the future (Case study of Uganda or Angola, 📖 Berdal/Malone 2000) Re-establishing justice: Negotiating responsibility, acknowledging guilt (Case study of Rwanda or South Africa, 📖 Wilson 2001) | Stefanie Saladin (Rwanda) |
| 28.5.07 | Pentecost | |
| 4.6.07 | Reflections of Culture: Memory and Rituals of Coping with War (Africa general and one case study, 📖 Cairns 2003, Nicolini 2006) | Kristina Würth Sabine Schultz |
| 11.6.07 | Restoring Peace: Success Stories in Southern Africa? (Case study of Namibia or Mozambique, 📖 Paris 2004) | Judith Chan |
| 18.6.07 | At the edge: How to do research in a war zone Resume and General Discussion | Kathrin Heitz all |