Structures and Events

A Dialogue between History and Sociology

7th Annual Seminar of the BGHS

29 June – 1 July 2015, ZiF, Bielefeld University
Welcome to the Annual Seminar 2015

Dear participants and guests,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 7th Annual Seminar of the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS). Thank you for coming to Bielefeld and for contributing such stimulating papers and presentations to our conference!

Our topic this year is “Structures and Events – A Dialogue between History and Sociology”. Both of our disciplines here at the graduate school share a common interest in how the interplay and entanglement of structures and events shape experiences, activities, institutions and societies. The aim of this year’s Annual Seminar is to revive the dialogue between different strands of research on structures and events and to engage doctoral and junior scholars in fruitful conversations about their approaches, methods and empirical findings.

Our programme consists of five panel sessions for the discussion of individual contributions and three keynotes by distinguished researchers. For these keynotes, we especially welcome and thank Tobias Werron (Bonn), William Sewell (Chicago) and Hans Mathias Kepplinger (Mainz).

We are looking forward to exciting presentations and keynotes and to vibrant discussions with you!

Your organising committee of the Annual Seminar 2015
Left to right: Tauqeer Hussain Shah, Thomas Müller, Lili Zhu, André Meyer, Ramy Youssef
Programme

Monday, 29 June, ZiF (Room: Plenarsaal)

02:00 pm  Registration

03:00 pm  Welcome Address
Ursula Mense-Petermann, Deputy Director of the BGHS

Introduction to the Topic/Procedural Information
(Organisers/Thomas Müller)

Keynote (Sociology)

Tobias Werron (Bonn): Simultaneity as a Historical-Sociological Problem

*Tobias Werron is Professor for “Science Studies and Politics” at the Forum Internationale Wissenschaft at the University of Bonn (Germany). He studied law in Heidelberg and Berlin and received his PhD at the University of Luzern for a sociological dissertation on “The World Sport and its Audience: Autonomy and Emergence of Modern Sports”. Among his other research interests are notably world society theories and the sociology of global competition as well as globalisation, including contributions on the form and role of “world events”.

05:00 pm  COFFEE BREAK

05:30 pm  Keynote (History)

William Sewell (Chicago): The Temporalities of Social Life: Thoughts for the Anthropocene

*William Sewell is Professor Emeritus of Political Science and History at the University of Chicago (USA). His research interests centre on the history of early modern and modern Europe (especially France) and the relationship between history and social sciences on which he has published “Logics of History: Social Theory and Social Transformation” (2005 with the University of Chicago Press). His study of early and modern European history has frequently dealt with the role of structures and events and their interplay. In particular, Sewell reflected on the contours of an “Eventful Sociology” and studied the French Revolution as example of “political events as structural transformations” (Theory and Society 25, 1996).
Tuesday, 30 June 2015

09:00 am  Reception/Coffee

09:30 am  Panel Session I

Panel A: Structures, Events and the Politics of Family (Room: Long Table)

Chair: Tauqeer Hussain Shah (Bielefeld)
Discussant: Sabine Schäfer (Bielefeld)

Saara Hämäläinen (Florence (EUI)/Bielefeld): The Economics of Heartbreak. A Comparative Study on Financial Consequences of Partnership Dissolution in Germany and the UK

Joanna Chojnicka (Konstanz): The Abortion Controversy in Poland as an Example of the Interplay between Structure and Event in History and Sociology

Panel B: Globality/Locality in the Historical Development of Education Systems (Room: Round Table)

Chair: Lili Zhu (Bielefeld)
Discussant: Tobias Werron (Bonn)

Matyas Erdelyi (Budapest): Which Events are to be Counted? A Case Study of the Long-term Evolution of Secondary Education in Hungary between 1867 and 1948

Sigrid Hartong (Hamburg): The Implementation of Inclusive Schools in Bremen - Approaching Transformations between 'the Global' and 'the Local' through the Eyes of Path-dependency and Field Theory

10:40 am  COFFEE BREAK

11:00 am  Panel Session II

Panel A: Historical Memory (Room: Long Table)

Chair: Lili Zhu
Discussant: Ingrid Gilcher-Holtey (Bielefeld)

Nataliya Repina (Moscow): Paradoxes of Historical Memory of the Soviet Past in Political Discourse on Russian Present and Future

Younes Saramifar (Amsterdam): Mirror in the Oubliette: Tracing Historical Memory of a War

Elena Dingersen (Darmstadt): Urban Myth: From Multiple Pasts to Vision of the Future
Panel B: **Structures and Events in Policymaking** (Room: Round Table)

Chair: **Thomas Müller** (Bielefeld)
Discussant: **Detlef Sack** (Bielefeld)

*Lukasz Blonski* (Warsaw): The Political in China

**Samuel P. Jones** (Copenhagen): The Force of Fear - A Sociological and Historical Investigation into the Legal Procedures Reigning in the Danish Parliament between 2004 and 2014

**Ferdinand Nyberg** (Berlin): The First Lady Goes to the Ghetto: Spatialisation Practices and Invasion Narratives in the War on Drugs

**12:30 pm** LUNCH BREAK (refectory, Bielefeld University, X-Building)  
(on one’s own expense)

02:00 pm **Panel Session III**

Panel A: **Capitalist Structures and Events** (Room: Long Table)

Chair: **André Meyer** (Bielefeld)
Discussant: **Alfons Bora** (Bielefeld)

**Ceyhun Gürkan** (Frankfurt/Main): Understanding the Crisis of Financial Govern-mentality with Braudel and Foucault

**Oluwatosin Orimolade** (Akungba): Re-contextualizing the Development of Capitalism in Nigeria through the Prism of Uneven and Combined Development

Panel B: **Religious Structures and Events** (Room: Round Table)

Chair: **Tauqueer Hussain Shah**  
Discussant: **Heinrich Schäfer** (Bielefeld)

**Abbas Mehregan** (Bornheim): Religious Structures and Secular Events

**Tamara Candela** (Bielefeld): The Becoming of Religious Peace Activists. An Analysis of Autobiographical Narratives of Peace Activists in Guatemala

**Laxmi Periyaswamy** (Mumbai): Flying Histories and Walking Structures - A Study of Folk God of Tamil Nadu

**03:30 pm** COFFEE BREAK
04:00 pm  Panel Session IV

Panel A: Types of Events: “Crucial” and “Planned” Events (Room: Long Table)

Chair: André Meyer  
Discussant: Tobias Werron

Morten Larsen (Aalborg): Welcome to the Performance Society - Societal Developments to Explain the Rise of Planned Events and Performances and their Importance in Contemporary Western Society

Gerhard Panzer (Dresden): Two Types of Events in the Structures of Art World

Martin Savransky (London): The Ethics of Adventure: Social Inquiry in a World of Events

Panel B: The Structures of Violence and the Violence of Events  
(Room: Round Table)

Chair: Ramy Youssef (Bielefeld)  
Discussant: William Sewell

Jaromír Mrňka (Prague): Crucial Events - Critical Experience - Radical Action. Was the Society of the Czech Lands Radicalized by Experiences of Crisis and War during 1930's and 1940's?

Jaśmina Korczak-Siedlecka (Leipzig): Interpersonal Violence and Social Structures in 16th Century Pomerelia

05:10 pm  COFFEE BREAK

06:00 pm  Public Lecture

Hans Mathias Kepplinger (Mainz): Ereignisse als Gegenstand öffentlicher Kommunikation [Events as Objects of Public Communication; Simultaneous translation in English provided]

Hans Mathias Kepplinger is Professor Emeritus for Empirical Mass Media Research (Empirische Kommunikationswissenschaft) at the University of Mainz (Germany). His research interests cover the effects and framing of news coverage in mass media, political communication and the communication of risks. One main theme of his theoretical and empirical publications is the interrelation between mass media, constructions of reality and decision-making processes which he has, inter alia, analysed through case studies of the oil crisis of 1973, the nuclear incident in Fukushima and the role of mass media in political scandals.
Wednesday, 1 July 2015

09:00 am Reception/Coffee

09:30 am Panel Session V

Panel: Revolutionary Events (Room: Long Table)

Chair: Ramy Youssef
Discussant: William Sewell

Tomasz Blusiewicz (Harvard): The December 1970 Rebellion on the Polish Baltic Coast and the Politics of Detente: the Missing Link

Terry Dunne (Maynooth): Culture, Structure and Agency in Peasant Resistance in Early-Nineteenth-Century Ireland

Atef Said (Illinois/Chicago): Rupture, Micro-contingency, and Outcome in Revolutionary Events: Analyzing the Egyptian Revolution through a Sewellian Lens

11:00 am COFFEE BREAK

11:30 am Final Discussion (Room: Long Table)

01:00 pm End of the Conference
The Poster

The poster of the Annual Seminar 2015 is based on the middle element of the triptych “Fragments of History” by Manuel Salvisberg depicting the Swiss Arts Collector Uli Sigg dropping Ai Weiwei’s Coca-Cola urn. Performed in 2012, this act emulates a similar artwork by Ai Weiwei in 1995 (to whom Salvisberg and Sigg gave number 1/8 of the original triptych). For us, this poster provides a thought-provoking starting point for tackling the theme of this year’s Annual Seminar. As the middle element of a triptych, the picture emphasises the sequentiality of events without which singular moments cannot be explained (or has Sigg simply the power to let objects levitate?). Moreover, the picture – and the debates it sparked in the arts world – trigger questions about the reproducibility of events, their reaction to previous events and embedding in wider contexts, social fields and discourses. In this sense, while depicting one particular moment of time, our poster invokes complex questions about the interplay and entanglement of structures and events.

Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS)

The Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS) is an institution providing a structured doctoral degree programme in history and sociology at Bielefeld University. It adopts an international orientation, is open to all topics covered by the disciplines involved, and thrives on interdisciplinary exchange. It is one of two projects at Bielefeld University funded as part of the Excellence Initiative by the German Federal and State Governments since 2007.

The Annual Seminar

Every year the doctoral researchers of the BGHS convene a conference – the Annual Seminar – inviting researchers and graduate students in both disciplines from all over the world to come to Bielefeld and discuss their research projects in an interdisciplinary peer environment. The conference promotes exchange between researchers across disciplines and creates an international platform for the presentation of current research projects. The preceding six Annual Seminars addressed the following topics:

2014: A New Social Question or Crisis as Usual? Historical and Sociological Perspectives on Inequalities
2013: Work in a Globalising World: Gender, Mobility, Markets
2012: Control’s other Sides – Contemporary and Historical Perspectives
2011: From Time to Space? Current Conceptual Challenges in History and Sociology
2010: Dynamics and Change
2009: End of Messages? The State of the Dialogue between History and Sociology

www.uni-bielefeld.de/bghs