

Multiple Futures - Africa, China, Europe

International Workshop at the University of Freiburg, 16-17 January 2015

Venue: Haus zur lieben Hand, Löwenstraße 16: Please note: Guests are welcome and kindly asked to register with Jennifer Stapornwongkul (jennifer.stapornwongkul@sinologie.uni-freiburg.de).

Thursday, 15 January

19:00 Get together

(venue: Primo Market, Bernhardstraße 6)

Friday, 16 January

08:45 Pickup at the hotel

9:00 - 12:30 Welcome and Panel I: Introduction: Futures in Africa, China and Europe

Thinking about futures in Africa - some general remarks

Gregor Dobler (University of Freiburg, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology)

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee break

China's future - strategic plans and their internal and external challenges

Nicola Spakowski (University of Freiburg, Institute for China Studies)

Between self-organization and prevention. The management of future in contemporary European discourse

Ulrich Bröckling (University of Freiburg, Institute for Sociology)

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 16:00 Panel II: Demography

Chair: Doris Fischer

Demography in Africa

Gregor Dobler (University of Freiburg, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology)

China's demographic future: the double burden of aging and masculinization

Isabelle Attané (Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques, Paris)

Talking about demography in 20th century Europe: Negotiating the social order

Thomas Etzemüller (University of Oldenburg, Department of History)

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 - 18:30 Panel III: Growth and Its Critics

Chair: Alex Demirovic

Juxtapositions of the future: Growth-speak and its shadow sides in Africa

Amanda Hammar (Copenhagen University, Institute for African Studies)

Greening growth, green growth or rather no growth?

Doris Fischer (University of Würzburg, Department of Chinese Studies)

Multiple futures or one future? The capitalist growth imperative

Christoph Deutschmann (University of Tübingen, Institute for Sociology)

19:00 Dinner (venue: Kleiner Meyerhof, Rathausgasse 27)

Saturday, 17 January

09:00 - 11:00 Panel IV: The Future of Cities

Chair: Thomas Etzemüller

"Virtual" urban futures: the interconnected politics of city strategies in Africa, Asia and Europe

Jennifer Robinson (University College London, Department of Geography)

China's urban future: challenges and opportunities

SHEN Wei (Lancaster University, Management School, and ESSCA School of Management, Angers, France)

Biopolitics in the European city: state intervention and the urban renaissance

Susanne Heeg (Goethe University Frankfurt, Institute of Human Geography)

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 - 13:30 Panel V: The Future of the State

Chair: Amanda Hammar



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The Future of the state in Africa: or why one size won't fit all

Paul Nugent (Edinburgh University, Centre for African Studies)

Digitalization instead of democracy: how information technologies

shape the future of the Chinese state

Christian Göbel (University of Vienna, Department of East Asian Studies, Sinology)

Multiple crises, future and transformation

Alex Demirovic (Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Berlin)

13:30 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 15:00 Final Discussion



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