

International Conference

# **Ethnicity, Belonging, Biography, and Ethnography**

**Center of Methods in Social Sciences**

In cooperation with:

TransCoop project „Biography and Ethnicity“,

Research Committee 38 „Biography and Society“ of the  
International Sociological Association,

Committee Biographical Research in the  
German Sociological Association

**December 7<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Goettingen, Germany**



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT  
GÖTTINGEN

<b>Friday, 07.12.2007</b>			
12.00	<b>Registration</b>		
13.30 14.00	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>		
14.00 15.15	<p><b>Opening Plenary Session</b> Chair: <b>Gabriele Rosenthal</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Ursula Apitzsch</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): Ethnicity as belonging &amp; participation</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Carola Lentz</b> (University of Mainz, Germany): Constructing ethnicity: elite biographies in Ghana</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Ursula Apitzsch</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): Ethnicity as belonging &amp; participation</p>	<p><b>Carola Lentz</b> (University of Mainz, Germany): Constructing ethnicity: elite biographies in Ghana</p>
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15.45 17.30	<p><b>Simultaneous Sessions</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>How to Conceptualize Collective Ethnic Belonging?</b> Chair: <b>Peter Alheit</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p><b>Alexey Pamporov</b> (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria): A kaleidoscopic ethnic identity: the case of Roma in Bulgaria</p> <p><b>Michael Corsten</b> (University of Jena, Germany): We-sense – the tacit source of social belonging</p> <p><b>Lin Mei-Ling</b> (National Open University, Taiwan): Globalization and belongings: multiple political memberships, overlapping national identities, and the dimensions of citizenship</p> <p><b>Elfriede Hermann</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Consciousness of political history and emotional ties: ethnic belonging in the autobiographies of relocated Banabans in Fiji</p> <p><b>Natalia Mamul</b> (University of Lodz, Poland): Towards the construction of national identity</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Methodology of Researching Ethnicity, Belonging and Ethnic Conflicts</b> Chair: <b>Kathy Davis</b> (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)</p> <p><b>Helma Lutz</b> (University of Muenster, Germany): Belonging and boundary making – dilemmas of exploring transnational biographies</p> <p><b>Gabriele Rosenthal</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Research dilemma: ethnization or de-ethnization of the interviewees by the researchers?</p> <p><b>Roswitha Breckner</b> (University of Vienna, Austria): 'Strangers' in public pictures. A methodical photo analysis</p> <p><b>Lena Inowlocki, Angelika Rieber, Heiner Schwarz</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): Side-taking, role playing, reflecting. Final year students in a German high school studying the Israeli-Palestinian conflict</p> <p><b>Sirkku Varjonen</b> (University of Helsinki, Finland): Socio-cultural belonging in the life stories of immigrants in Finland</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>How to Conceptualize Collective Ethnic Belonging?</b> Chair: <b>Peter Alheit</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p><b>Alexey Pamporov</b> (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria): A kaleidoscopic ethnic identity: the case of Roma in Bulgaria</p> <p><b>Michael Corsten</b> (University of Jena, Germany): We-sense – the tacit source of social belonging</p> <p><b>Lin Mei-Ling</b> (National Open University, Taiwan): Globalization and belongings: multiple political memberships, overlapping national identities, and the dimensions of citizenship</p> <p><b>Elfriede Hermann</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Consciousness of political history and emotional ties: ethnic belonging in the autobiographies of relocated Banabans in Fiji</p> <p><b>Natalia Mamul</b> (University of Lodz, Poland): Towards the construction of national identity</p>	<p><b>Methodology of Researching Ethnicity, Belonging and Ethnic Conflicts</b> Chair: <b>Kathy Davis</b> (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)</p> <p><b>Helma Lutz</b> (University of Muenster, Germany): Belonging and boundary making – dilemmas of exploring transnational biographies</p> <p><b>Gabriele Rosenthal</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Research dilemma: ethnization or de-ethnization of the interviewees by the researchers?</p> <p><b>Roswitha Breckner</b> (University of Vienna, Austria): 'Strangers' in public pictures. A methodical photo analysis</p> <p><b>Lena Inowlocki, Angelika Rieber, Heiner Schwarz</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): Side-taking, role playing, reflecting. Final year students in a German high school studying the Israeli-Palestinian conflict</p> <p><b>Sirkku Varjonen</b> (University of Helsinki, Finland): Socio-cultural belonging in the life stories of immigrants in Finland</p>
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17.30 17.45	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
17.45 19.30	<b>Simultaneous Sessions</b>		
	<p><b>Transnational Biographies</b> Chair: <b>Helma Lutz</b> (University of Muenster, Germany)</p> <p><b>Kathy Davis</b> (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), <b>Lorraine Nencel</b> (Free University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands): "Where are you from actually?" An autoethnographical account of everyday practices of exclusion in multi-cultural society</p> <p><b>Joana Sousa Ribeiro</b> (University of Coimbra, Portugal): A "transnational cognitive space": the impact of migration on the identity formation</p> <p><b>Caroline Pluess</b> (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore): Chinese Singaporean transnational migrants: constructing a transnational habitus</p> <p><b>Julia Bernstein</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): Transjewish affiliations: constructions of ethnicity by Russian-speaking Jewish migrants in Israel and Germany</p>	<p><b>Networks &amp; Belonging</b> Chair: <b>Brian Roberts</b> (University of Glamorgan, UK)</p> <p><b>Andrea Petö</b> (Central European University, Hungary): Biographies revisited. Life stories of female members of the Hungarian Fascist (Arrow Cross) Party</p> <p><b>Rixta Wundrak</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Chinese migrant-networks in Bucharest</p> <p><b>Nina Clara Tiesler</b> (University of Lisbon, Portugal): Muslim groups in Portugal: family histories, collective subjectivity and distinct perceptions of belonging</p> <p><b>Eva Soom Ammann</b> (University of Bern, Switzerland): How migrants experience ageing: retired Italian couples and their biographical narrations</p> <p><b>Ulrike Ofner</b> (Free University of Berlin, Germany): Labour chances and restrictions for highly qualified migrants with foreign degrees</p>	<p><b>Ethnicity &amp; Belonging of Migrants in Florida</b> Chair: <b>Gabriele Rosenthal</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p><b>Alex Stepick, Carol Dutton Stepick</b> (Florida International University, USA): This land is our land – natives and immigrants staking urban claims</p> <p><b>Julia Chaitin</b> (Sapir Academic College, Israel), <b>John Linstroth, Patrick Hiller, Denese Edsall, Paloma Ayala Vela, Mamyrah Prosper, Allison Hall</b> (Nova Southeastern University, USA): Hyphens of belonging: ethnicity and community among Haitians and Cubans in the United States</p> <p><b>Michaela Koettig</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Constructions of belonging by migrants from Cuba in South Florida and Germany</p> <p><b>John Linstroth</b> (Nova Southeastern University, USA): Al Norte: cognition, memory, and identity among Guatemala/Maya living in South Florida</p>
20.00	<b>Congress Dinner</b>		

**Saturday, 08.12.2007**

09.15 10.30	<p><b>Plenary Session</b> Chair: <b>Helma Lutz</b> (University of Muenster, Germany)</p> <p><b>Nina Glick-Schiller</b> (University of New Hampshire, USA): Beyond the nation-state and its units of analysis: towards a post-essentialist agenda for migration studies</p> <p><b>Floya Anthias</b> (Oxford Brookes University, UK): Belonging, identity, intersectionality, and translocational positionality</p>							
10.30 11.00	<p><b>Coffee Break</b></p>							
11.00 13.00	<p><b>Simultaneous Sessions</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="271 644 2087 1407"> <tr> <td data-bbox="271 644 725 1407"> <p><b>Violent Ethnic Conflicts</b> Chair: <b>Lena Inowlocki</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany), <b>Dan Bar-On</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)</p> <p><b>Artur Bogner</b> (University of Bayreuth, Germany): NGOs, transformations of conflicts and modes of governance in North Ghana</p> <p><b>Mohamed Ghani Razaak</b> (Latrobe University, Melbourne, Australia): Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka: Identity crisis or human security issue?</p> </td> <td data-bbox="725 644 1180 1407"> <p><b>Looking back to Collective Belongings in the Past?</b> Chair: <b>Victoria Semenova</b> (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia)</p> <p><b>Volha Vysotskaya</b> (University of Bremen, Germany): Should we stay or should we go: migration plans and return intentions of the highly skilled workers</p> <p><b>Irina L. Isaakyan</b> (University of Edingburgh, UK): Memories of the nation-in-exile and collective belonging to homeland: Sovietishness and nostalgia through narrative biographies of Russian academic emigrants</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1180 644 1635 1407"> <p><b>Migration &amp; Belonging I</b> Chair: <b>Nicole Witte</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p><b>Viola Stephan</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): The effect of the very distant past for migrants: An Armenian family in Germany</p> <p><b>Hee-Young Yi</b> (Sungkonghoe University, Seoul, Korea): Political identity and cultural belonging of North Korean refugees in South Korea</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1635 644 2087 1407"> <p><b>Current Studies of the Committee Biographical Research in the German Sociological Association*</b> Chairs: <b>Gerhard Riemann</b> (University of Bamberg, Germany), <b>Bettina Dausien</b> (University of Flensburg, Germany)</p> <p><b>Ulrike Tikvah Kissmann, Renate Lieb</b> (Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany): Zur Bedeutung von Vorgangs-, Eigenschafts- und Situationsbeschreibungen im Krankenhaus</p> <p><b>Kirsten Sander</b> (TU Dresden, Germany): Praxis der Herstellung von Professions- und Geschlechtergrenzen im Krankenhaus: Analysen von szenischen Beschreibungen in Interviews und Beobachtungsprotokollen</p> </td> </tr> </table>				<p><b>Violent Ethnic Conflicts</b> Chair: <b>Lena Inowlocki</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany), <b>Dan Bar-On</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)</p> <p><b>Artur Bogner</b> (University of Bayreuth, Germany): NGOs, transformations of conflicts and modes of governance in North Ghana</p> <p><b>Mohamed Ghani Razaak</b> (Latrobe University, Melbourne, Australia): Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka: Identity crisis or human security issue?</p>	<p><b>Looking back to Collective Belongings in the Past?</b> Chair: <b>Victoria Semenova</b> (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia)</p> <p><b>Volha Vysotskaya</b> (University of Bremen, Germany): Should we stay or should we go: migration plans and return intentions of the highly skilled workers</p> <p><b>Irina L. Isaakyan</b> (University of Edingburgh, UK): Memories of the nation-in-exile and collective belonging to homeland: Sovietishness and nostalgia through narrative biographies of Russian academic emigrants</p>	<p><b>Migration &amp; Belonging I</b> Chair: <b>Nicole Witte</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p><b>Viola Stephan</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): The effect of the very distant past for migrants: An Armenian family in Germany</p> <p><b>Hee-Young Yi</b> (Sungkonghoe University, Seoul, Korea): Political identity and cultural belonging of North Korean refugees in South Korea</p>	<p><b>Current Studies of the Committee Biographical Research in the German Sociological Association*</b> Chairs: <b>Gerhard Riemann</b> (University of Bamberg, Germany), <b>Bettina Dausien</b> (University of Flensburg, Germany)</p> <p><b>Ulrike Tikvah Kissmann, Renate Lieb</b> (Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany): Zur Bedeutung von Vorgangs-, Eigenschafts- und Situationsbeschreibungen im Krankenhaus</p> <p><b>Kirsten Sander</b> (TU Dresden, Germany): Praxis der Herstellung von Professions- und Geschlechtergrenzen im Krankenhaus: Analysen von szenischen Beschreibungen in Interviews und Beobachtungsprotokollen</p>
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	<p><b>Yanuaris Koli Bau</b> (Nusa Cendana University, Kupang-Indonesia): Cross-cultural conflict and integration: the cases of East Timor refugees in Indonesia</p> <p><b>Maja Ferber</b> (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): Some criteria of collective belongings and their impact for positions of the Israeli society in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict</p> <p><b>Nejra Nuna Cengic</b> (University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina): Life stories and dialogue (es). A postgraduate course at the University of Sarajevo</p>	<p><b>Kaja Kaźmierska</b> (University of Lodz, Poland): Identity, the sense of belonging and biographical closure</p> <p><b>Luis Garzón</b> (University of Tarragona, Spain): Belonging as "returning": the plight of Argentinean and Ecuadorian migrants in Southern European cities</p> <p><b>Aili Aarelaid-Tart</b> (Tallinn University, Estonia): Estonian Russians` life stories from the prism of frame analyses.</p>	<p><b>Tatyana Zaslavsky</b> (Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel), <b>Tamar Horowitz</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel): Young <u>non-Jewish</u> immigrants in Israel</p> <p><b>Claudia Diehl</b> (Uni. of Goettingen): Identity and generation. An empirical study of the social, identificational, and cognitive integration process of the immigrant-origin population in Germany</p> <p><b>Irina Fefler, Niklas Radenbach</b> (Uni. of Goettingen): Ambivalences in constructions of social belonging: ethnic Germans from the Former Soviet Union</p>	<p><b>Martina Schiebel</b> (University of Bremen, Germany): Biographie und Politik. Eine Generation zwischen politischer Partizipation und staatlicher Repression</p> <p><b>Christine Thon</b> (University of Bielefeld, Germany): Frauenbewegung und intergenerationaler Wandel</p> <p><i>*The papers in this session are not strictly related to the topic of the conference, but show a selection from the current work of the committee 'biographical research'. The papers will be presented in German. The discussion can be as well in English (translation will be provided if necessary).</i></p>			
<p>13.00 14.30</p>	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>						
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	<p><b>Reinhart Koessler</b> (Arnold Bergstraesser Institut, Freiburg i.B., Germany): The vicissitudes of boundaries, or: who belongs where and what belongs to whom?</p> <p><b>Hari Prasad Bhattarai</b> (Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal): Politics of belonging in a plural state: making of Janajati (ethnic) identity in Nepal</p> <p><b>Arzu Ozturkmen</b> (Boğaziçi University, Turkey): Remembering conflicts in a Black Sea town: a multi-sited ethnography of memory</p>	<p><b>Marina Hakkarainen</b> (The European University of St. Petersburg, Russia): Jewishness in the post-Soviet space (on the example of Ukrainian small town communities)</p> <p><b>Noga Gilad</b> (Tel-Aviv University, Israel): The paradox of belonging in space: Israeli settlers in the West Bank between settling and already settled</p> <p><b>Reza Sabery</b> (Islamic Azad University of Iran): Ethnicity and ethnic relations, a study of Turkmen in Iran</p>	<p><b>Thea Boldt</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): Ethnic belonging in biographical presentations of Polish emigrants in Germany</p> <p><b>Radka Klvaňová</b> (Masaryk University, Czech Republic): Inclusion and exclusion in the biographies of migrants from the post-Soviet union in the Czech Republic in a transnational perspective</p> <p><b>Agnieszka Zimowska</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany): At the intersections of assignments and self positioning – Polish migrants in German sex business</p> <p><b>Tamar Rapoport, Edna Lomsky-Feder</b> (Hebrew University, Israel): Memory work in migration Young Russian Jews in Israel narrate Shoa and anti-semitism</p>
<p>16.30 17.00</p>	<p><b>Coffee Break</b></p>		
<p>17.00 19.00</p>	<p><b>Simultaneous Data Sessions/Method Workshop</b></p> <p>Method Workshop</p> <p><b>Biographical Interviewing</b> <b>Christine Mueller-Botsch, Nicole Witte</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p>This workshop is focused on a practical training in the method of biographical narrative interviewing in different research contexts. After a short introduction, techniques of narrative interviewing - opening-up and eliciting (biographical) narratives - are practically exercised.</p>		

	<p>Data Session 1</p> <p><b>Interviews and Observations in Florida</b> <b>Michaela Koettig</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <p>This session focuses on the discussion of data collected in the context of our comparative research project 'Biography and Ethnicity: development and changes in the sense of socio-cultural belonging in migrant populations in the US and Germany'. Our goal is to exemplify how we conduct and analyze biographical interviews as well as field notes from participant observations of immigrants in Florida and Germany.</p>
	<p>Data Session 2</p> <p><b>Biographical Approaches</b> <b>Hee-Young Yi</b> (Sungkonghoe University, Seoul, Korea), <b>Anne Juhasz</b> (University of Zurich, Switzerland)</p> <p>In this session we will discuss different data collected from participants of this workshop in the contexts of their research projects. The aim of this session – besides working together practically – is to give examples of different biographical research approaches in the field of migration, ethnic belonging, or identity formation. Among others we will work with materials from the following projects:</p> <p><b>Olga Cara</b> (University College London, UK): Intergenerational ethnic narratives of Russians in Latvia <b>Anna Virkama</b> (University of Tampere, Finland): Socio-cultural belongings of Moroccan degree students in Finland and France</p>
	<p>Data Session 3</p> <p><b>What do pictures show? Interpreting the 'visual' in social phenomena</b> <b>Roswitha Breckner</b> (University of Vienna, Austria)</p> <p>The workshop will deal with the question how the visual dimension of social phenomena can be methodically reconstructed. In order to create a basis for discussing central aspects of analyzing visual material in comparison to verbal data, the analysis of a picture (e.g. a foto or other kind of fixed visual data) will be exemplary presented. Proposals of pictures to be analysed from participants of the workshop are welcome.</p>
	<p>Data Session 4</p> <p><b>What do we actually do when we are interpreting a text? Dealing with texts and contexts of interpretation</b> <b>Bettina Dausien</b> (University of Flensburg, Germany)</p>
19.30	<b>RC 38: Business Meeting</b>

**Sunday, 09.12.2007**

09.00  
09.30

**Business Meeting Committee Biographical Research in the German Sociological Association**

09.30  
11.30

**Simultaneous Sessions**

**Ethnicity & Intersectionality**

Chair: **Renate Bitzan** (University of Goettingen, Germany)

**Minna-Kristiina Ruokonen-Engler** (University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany): De/Constructing difference: a biographical perspective on constructions of ethnicity as transnational positionality

**Paul Scheibelhofer** (Central European University Budapest, Hungary):  
Towards a critical (but non-Orientalist) approach to research on migrant masculinity

**Anna Bally** (University of Bern, Switzerland):  
Sibling identifications and "the enigma of arrival"

**Michal Krumer-Nevo, Menny Malka** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel):  
Identity pains: ethnic and gendered identities of immigrant boys from the Caucasus to Israel

**Heidemarie Winkel** (University of Erfurt, Germany):  
Shifting boundaries of the self: Arab Christian women between collective belonging and individual notions of identity

**US-American Identity**

Chair: **Michaela Koettig** (University of Goettingen, Germany)

**Nicole K. Konopka** (University of Rostock, Germany): Epistolary tricksters – finding ways to write about America

**Gyoengyvér Hervai Szabó** (Kodolanyi János University College, Hungary):  
Cosmopolis revisited: myths of trans-national forms of being (comparative analyses of identity formation in US minority, and in French, British migrant's novel)

**Julia Chaitin** (Sapir Academic College, Israel):  
Identities in peace and conflict: belonging among Israeli and Palestinian émigrés to the United States

**Tazuko Kobayashi** (Japan Women's University, Japan):  
Public story and biography: reconstructing life story of a Japanese American

**Intergenerational Transmission**

Chair: **Gabriele Rosenthal** (University of Goettingen, Germany)

**Anne Juhasz** (University of Zurich, Switzerland): Ethnicity and citizenship: the second generation in Switzerland between social exclusion and the pressure to assimilate

**Victoria Semenova** (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia):  
Migrants' children: next generation of migrants in multicultural society

**Asiye Kaya** (Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany):  
Ethnicity and belonging among young migrant women with Turkish backgrounds in Germany

**Julia Vajda** (ELTE University of Budapest, Hungary):  
The Shoah's presence in the life-stories of the survivor's grandchildren

**Ebru Tepecik** (University of Goettingen, Germany):  
Educational success and intergenerational transmission in the second generation of migrants with Turkish background in Germany



11.30 12.00	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
12.00 13.15	<p><b>Plenary Session</b> Chair: <b>Gabriele Rosenthal</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Dan Bar-On</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel): Redefining dialogue in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Ann Phoenix</b> (University of London, UK): Transforming transnational biographies</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Dan Bar-On</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel): Redefining dialogue in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict</p>	<p><b>Ann Phoenix</b> (University of London, UK): Transforming transnational biographies</p>
<p><b>Dan Bar-On</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel): Redefining dialogue in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict</p>	<p><b>Ann Phoenix</b> (University of London, UK): Transforming transnational biographies</p>		
13.15 14.15	<p><b>Panel</b> <b>Ethnicity and Biography</b> Chair: <b>Kathy Davis</b> (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)</p> <p>Panel participants: <b>Floya Anthias</b> (Oxford Brookes University, UK), <b>Roswitha Breckner</b> (University of Vienna, Austria), <b>Nina Glick-Schiller</b> (University of New Hampshire, USA), <b>Helma Lutz</b> (University of Muenster, Germany), <b>Brian Roberts</b> (University of Glamorgan, UK), <b>Gabriele Rosenthal</b> (University of Goettingen, Germany), <b>Victoria Semenova</b> (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia)</p>		
14.15	<b>Close of Congress</b>		

## Venue: Georg-August-University, Waldweg 26, 37075 Goettingen, Germany

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**Potis**, Kreuzbergring 70, Fon: +49-551-460 48

**Rialto**, Weender Landstraße 3, Fon: +49-551-575 36

**Conference Organization:** Gabriele Rosenthal, Michaela Köttig, Nicole Witte, Diana Struve

**Conference Office:** Diana Struve

**Email:** rc38@gmx.de

Georg-August-University, Center of Methods, Faculty of Social Sciences,

Platz der Goettinger Sieben 3, 37073 Goettingen, Germany

More information and regular updates: [uni-goettingen.de/de/sh/61023.html](http://uni-goettingen.de/de/sh/61023.html)