



Workshop:

Political Affiliations and Identities in Law and Society

initiated by Prof. Dr. Shaheen Ali (Fellow 2011/12) and Prof. Dr. Christine Langenfeld (Associate Fellow 2011/12) and Prof. Dr. Irene Schneider (Associate Fellow 2011/12)

Lichtenberg-Kolleg, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

1 to 2 November 2011

The focus:

Transnational migration is one of the critical factors in the modern world which challenges the nation state from different perspectives. Whereas the international human rights instruments guarantee the basic human rights for every human being, including the right to leave his/her country of origin (i.e. to migrate), the sovereignty of the nation state gives every state the right to define its own policy of immigration. Sheela Benhabib (*The Rights of Others. Aliens, Residents and Citizens*, New York 2004) pointed to the immanent contradiction between this understanding of universal human rights and the idea of territorial sovereignty of the nation state.

Taking this contradiction or tension as a starting point, the workshop will discuss the question of affiliation of migrants in different European and Islamic countries from legal, sociological and ethnological perspectives. The various ways different states and legal systems deal with "the others", with immigrants and the way these "others" adapt themselves to this situation socially as well as legally will be the focus of our discussion. Special attention will be paid to the question, how the identity of these immigrants is shaped by laws, legal and social discourses in the host countries. The following questions will be addressed: To what extent do international human rights conventions influence the legal status of the immigrants in certain states? Which different legal and customary norms do these immigrants bring to the host countries? Does this lead to a situation of legal pluralism? How are affiliations and identities shaped by social discourses and state policies?

Programm

Tuesday, 1 November 2011

20:00

Public Lecture: *Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Erik Jayme*, Zugehörigkeit und kulturelle Identität - Die Sicht des Internationalen Privatrechts

Discussion and Reception

Wednesday, 2 November 2011

08:30 Registration

09.00 Keynote Speech:
Prof. Dr. Upendra Baxi: Human Rights and the Practices of Identification

10:00 Coffee break

10.30-12.30 Panel I

Human Rights and the Practices of Identification, Chair: *Prof. Dr. Dagmar Coester-Waltjen*

1. Universal Human Rights and the concept of identity: *Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf*

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.00 Panel II

Legal Pluralism in Different Societies, Chair: *Prof. Dr. Irene Schneider*

1. Exploring the Many Faces of Legal Pluralism and Transnational Regulatory Norms in Pakistan Through a Gender Lens: *Prof. Dr. Shaheen Sardar Ali*
2. Islamic Law and Legal Pluralism in South Africa: *Prof. Dr. Abdulkader Tayob*

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16.30-18.30 Panel III

Minority rights and Affiliation, Chair: *Prof. Dr. Christine Langenfeld*

1. Legal Pluralism and Minority Groups: *Prof. Dr. Peter-Tobias Stoll*
2. The German Islam Conference: *Jörg Ballnus, M.A.*

18.30-19.00 Conclusion