

Area Studies Beyond Regions? New Comparative Approaches in the Field

Gemeinsame Diskussion des CITAS (Regensburg), des GWZO (Leipzig) und des LOEWE -Schwerpunktes „Konfliktregionen im östlichen Europa“ im Rahmen des **Kolloquiums der Herder Institute Research Academy** (Marburg)*

Donnerstag, 18. Juni 2020

15:00 – 17:00 Uhr

Moderation: Peter Haslinger

Kommentare: Ulf Brunnbauer (IOS, Regensburg), Jonas Hock, Laura Linzmeier (Universität Regensburg); Katja Naumann, Corinne Geering (GWZO, Leipzig); Anna Veronika Wendland, Christian Lotz (Herder-Institut für historische Ostmitteleuropaforschung, Marburg)

Ort: ZOOM, um Voranmeldung wird gebeten. Bitte melden Sie Ihre Teilnahme bis zum 17. Juni 2020 unter: hira-hi@herder-institut.de

Area studies are undergoing a rebirth at the moment. This is evident not only in renewed investment in research infrastructure (in Germany at least) but also in the emergence of a wealth of conceptual and methodological propositions for the field. Recent handbooks and articles have outlined visions of critical, transregional and comparative area studies, to name just a few. Inspired by the transnational and spatial turns, these approaches maintain area studies inherent multi-disciplinarity while increasingly moving away from the focus on single regions and towards the interconnections between and comparisons of areas of the world. This discussion brings together researchers associated with three Leibniz Institutes whose focus lies on Eastern, Central and Southeastern Europe to discuss how comparative approaches, in particular, might be made fruitful in area studies scholarship.

***Texte zur Lektüre und Besprechung:** Patrick Köllner, Rudra Sil and Ariel I. Ahram, "Comparative Area Studies: What It Is, What It Can Do," in Ariel I. Ahram, Patrick Köllner and Rudra Sil, eds. *Comparative Area Studies: Methodological Rationales and Cross-Regional Applications* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), 3–26. **Optional:** Laurence Whitehead, "Depth Perception: Improving Analytic Focus through Cross- and Interregional Comparisons," in Ahram et al., *Comparative Area Studies*, 45–65; Jan Kubik, "Between Contextualization and Comparison: A Thorny Relationship between East European Studies and Disciplinary 'Mainstreams,'" *East European Politics and Societies and Cultures*, Volume 29, No. 2 (2015), 352–365.