



Call for participation

Workshop on

'International interventions, local agency and conflict contextuality'

14-15th February 2019
Danube University Krems
Seminar Room: SE 1.3

Dear colleagues and students!

Please find below the information for a two-day-workshop, to be held at the Danube University Krems on the 14th and 15th of February 2019 on the topic of 'International interventions, local agency and conflict contextuality'. The workshop is provided by Dr Nemanja Dzuverovic from the University of Belgrade, organised by Dr Christina Hainzl from the Research Lab Democracy and Society in Transition, Danube University Krems, and financially supported by the Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS).

We would like to invite interested colleagues, Ph.D. students and staff members to join the Workshop and to present and discuss their research in the field of conflict studies and/or on the region of the Western Balkans.

We kindly ask **staff members** to send us the topic of research projects you wish to present and discuss in the frame of the workshop by the 1st of February 2019 to Christina Griessler, research fellow for netPOL, Research Lab Democracy and Society in Transition at the Andrassy Univeristy Budapest at christina.griessler@andrassyuni.hu or to Bianca Kolm, project assistant, Research Lab Democracy and Society in Transition at the Danube University Krems at bianca.kolm@donau-uni.ac.at.

Ph.D. candidates participating in both days of the workshop are required to submit a finalised manuscript for a journal publication or conference paper (6000-8000 words) by the 1st of February 2019 to Christina Griessler at christina.griessler@andrassyuni.hu.

Course description

The first day of the workshop aims to investigate the main principles, foundation, and actors involved in the dominant form of peacebuilding today - liberal peacebuilding. In the last twenty-five years, and in its present form, liberal peace has attained truly global dominance, stretching from the Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina, FR Yugoslavia) to Africa (Libya, Mali), South-East Asia (Cambodia, Timor Leste) and other conflict-affected regions. Additionally, in this notion of post-conflict transition, peace is primarily understood as governance (Richmond 2009), entailing comprehensive implementation of generic institutional blueprints (most often Western) in post-conflict and conflict-affected societies, thus implying their universality and superiority. As a result, strong criticism (and resistance), both in academia and the local population, has been developed against this form of top-down peacebuilding. Consequently, the main points of critique, as well as alternative, grassroots, models of peace transitions will be included as topics of the seminar. By focusing on the case study (and empirical material) of reconciliation initiatives in the Balkans, the seminar tries to understand possibilities, but also limitations of bottom-up endeavors, often seen as the antipode of the liberal approach.

The second day of the workshop is dedicated to Ph.D. students who are conducting their research in the field of Political Science, International Relations and/or Area Studies. The session starts with the presentation on the importance of dissemination of results and empirical findings collected during the research in international peer-reviewed journals. The Ph.D. candidates will be offered with information and suggestion on how to choose the journal for their research, how to best prepare their manuscript for the review, what are essential aspect of the publication process that needs to be taken into consideration before submitting the paper, and other useful information regarding publication and dissemination. The second part of the day is dedicated to one-to-one mentoring on an important aspect of writing Ph.D. thesis (methodology, research design, theoretical framework, primary and secondary sources, etc.) for those candidates who are conducting their research in the above-mentioned or related social science field.

Course structure

14 February 2019

I. Workshop and Seminar (open to staff and students)

09:30 - 11:00 (Nemanja Dzuverovic, University of Belgrade)

- Foundation and principles of liberal peacebuilding and statebuilding in post-conflict and conflict-affected societies
- Main criticism of liberal peacebuilding and its alternatives

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.00 (Nemanja Dzuverovic, University of Belgrade)

- Presentation of the research: How many truths are over there? Reconciliation and agonistic dialogue in the post-conflict Balkans

13:00 - 14:00 lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 Danube University Krems Academic Staff

- Presentation of ongoing research on selected topic

16.00 - 17.00

- Q&A session

15 February 2019

II. Research Mentorship for PhD-Students

09:30 - 11:00 (Nemanja Dzuverovic, University of Belgrade)

- How to publish in international journals

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 16.00 (Nemanja Dzuverovic, University of Belgrade)

- PhD mentoring (One-to-One consultations with PhD candidates on their research and writing of the thesis)



Dr Nemanja Džuverović is an Associate Professor in Peace Studies at the University of Belgrade in Serbia. He studied Peace Studies and International Relations in both Belgrade and Oxford and received his PhD from the University of Belgrade. His work focuses on the inequality-conflict nexus, welfare in post-conflict environments, the political economy of liberal peacebuilding and international state-building in the Balkans. Recently, he has been a visiting researcher at the University of

Manchester (with the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute), at the University of Uppsala (with the Department of Peace and Conflict Research) and at the University of Granada (with the Institute for Peace and Conflicts). He is co-editor of the *Journal of Regional Security* and one of the co-founders of the Center for Peace Studies (at the University of Belgrade).