

GESI Newsletter

Global and European Studies Institute

01/2009



EDITORIAL

This first issue of the quarterly GESI Newsletter marks the end of a transitional period. Both the European Masters "Global Studies – A European Perspective" and the Masters Programme "European Studies" have been developed at the Centre for Advanced Study since 2004. Last year the Rectorate of the University of Leipzig decided to transfer these programmes to the Faculty of Social Sciences and Philosophy. In early 2009 the Faculty's council voted for the establishment of a new institute and by end of March 2009 the Rectorat confirmed the decision on the foundation of the Global and European Studies Institute (GESI). The institute will be officially opened on 14 May. The keynote lecture, given by Patrick Manning from the World History Programme at the University of Pittsburgh, will introduce into a field in which Area Studies, Social Sciences, Global History and Cultural Studies are working under the same roof. At the same time we are pleased to

announce a conference which deals with the tradition of interdisciplinary discussion of globalisation processes since the beginning of the 20th century – this workshop will help us to understand the historicity of some of the most recent topics, such as transnational research and students' mobility. This academic encounter is just one among many others during the 600th anniversary of the University of Leipzig. Throughout this newsletter you will find more details on conferences organised by scholars now collaborating within the framework of the GESI.

But the new GESI Newsletter is not only an instrument to inform those currently enrolled in the institute's programmes or teaching classes at GESI. It is also meant to establish communication with the growing cohort of Alumni who have spent some time at Emil-Fuchs-Strasse during their years of study, either as Masters or as PhD students or during the summer academy for North American

students since 2005. In the GESI Newsletter we also hope to present reports on successful immersion into the job market and professional experience with Europeanisation and globalisation in the public sector, in private companies or with the various branches of civil society all over the world – representing the global character of the student body. We expect to learn a lot from previous Global and European studies alumni who have entered the global in "practice". A first Alumni gathering will take place in early June 2009. We hope to meet either physically or, at the GESI-Alumni-blog, at least virtually as

many former students as possible. Thirdly this newsletter, of course, is not a local affair. Since 2005 EMGS is a common enterprise of four European universities (Leipzig, London, Vienna and Wroclaw) as well as four extra-European universities (Dalhousie, Macquarie, Santa Barbara and Stellenbosch). The consortium was enlarged for the purpose of a reapplication with the European Union for the period 2010-2013 by universities from Denmark (Roskilde), India (Nehru University Delhi) and China (Fudan University Shanghai). And we do not only aim at enlarging in geographical terms, but also with regard to a consecutive PhD-programme called "Global Studies – Understanding the New World Order". For this purpose, Aarhus University in Denmark, Monash University in Australia and Duke University in the USA are going to join the consortium.

We will do our best to make this Newsletter as informative and entertaining for all those who are, one way or the other, related to GESI – i.e. for those who are close to Leipzig affairs and to those who are following things from some distance. Hopefully portraits of guest scholars, interviews with students' representatives, alumni and professors, reports on events in the past and announcements of upcoming activities will be authored by as many people as possible. Thus, this first edition of the GESI Newsletter is an invitation to contribute to the next issues.

With best wishes from the villa at Emil-Fuchs-Str. 1,

Matthias Middell



Global and European Studies Institute, E.-Fuchs-Straße 1

Global and European Studies Institute

GESI is an interdisciplinary institute devoted to graduate teaching and research in the field of Globalisation and Europeanisation. In cooperation with other institutes at the University of Leipzig it offers the Master Programmes 'Global Studies' and 'European Studies'. It also coordinates the international Erasmus Mundus Consortium Global Studies which offers both MA and PhD training to which universities from all continents contribute.

GESI hosts the headquarters and executive secretariat of learned international organisations such as the European Network in Universal and Global History (ENIUGH), the Network of Organisations in Global and World History (NOGWHISTO) and the International Commission for Research on the History of the French Revolution (CIHRF).

With journals such as *Comparativ*, *Journal of Global History* and *geschichte.transnational* as well as with book series the institute contributes to scientific communication in its field.

Scholars working at the institute base their research on regional expertise on Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, South Asia and Western Europe. The Centre for Area Studies at the University of Leipzig – to which GESI is actively contributing – serves as a wider framework for inter-regional comparisons. The main focus here is on the explanation of current as well as historical processes of de- and re-territorialisation leading to new spatial configurations and world orders.

These topics inspire the work of more than 50 doctoral students and young researchers supervised by professors from GESI in the framework of the Research Academy Leipzig which hosts the university's structured PhD programmes. Here international research training programmes or centres such as 'Critical Junctures of Globalisation' (funded by the German Research Foundation) or 'Transnationalisation and Regionalisation from the 18th century to the present' (funded by the

German Academic Exchange Service and the University of Leipzig) offer excellent opportunities for an academic qualification.

Alumni's View

Alumni-Meeting

The first Global and European Studies Alumni meeting will be held from June 5th to 7th within the framework of an Alumni Meeting organised by the University of Leipzig. All Global and European Studies Alumni and students are kindly invited to join it.

The detailed programme of the Alumni Meeting organised by the University of Leipzig is available online under:

<http://www.zv.uni-leipzig.de/studium/alumni/alumni-treffen-2009/zentrales-programm.html>

Besides the centrally organised meeting there will also be the possibility to meet former and current EMGS fellows in a tent in the City Centre (Augustusplatz) where current projects of the Global and European Studies Institute will be presented. The tent will be open from 6th June 11 am to 9 pm and on 7th June from 11 am to 6 pm. A discussion on the experiences students made in Leipzig is foreseen

to take place on 6th of June at 1 pm in this tent as well as the award ceremony for the literature contest "The World beyond Stereotypes".

It is also envisaged to install a chat so that those students/alumni who are not able to attend can interact or "talk" to those that do participate.

In the evening of the 6th June Dieter Strauss, who worked for more than 30 years as Director for several Goethe-Institutes all over the world, will present his new book "Diesseits von Goethe - Deutsche Kulturbotschafter im Aus- und Inland" in the Global and European Studies Institute at 5 pm. Starting with 8 pm everybody is kindly invited to participate in the GESI-summer party.

Students' Corner

European Studies Discover Brussels

The third generation of European Studies students spiced up their first semester with a trip to the 'headquarters of the European Union'. Instead of falling immediately for Brussels' renowned chocolate, beer and the cheekiness of the Manneken Pis statue, they set forth to explore the administrative part of the city.

They attended a three day seminar,



Students of the programme European Studies discover „headquarters of the European Union“

'Crime scene Europe – the European Union fights terrorism', organized by the 'Association for the Advancement of Political Action'. The seminar opened the doors to the Commission, to the Council of Ministers and to the Parliament. In every institution it was possible to discuss with representatives their role in the issue. The Commission's representative explained how important it is to identify sources of funding for terrorism and to effectively use personal data for surveillance. The Council representatives focused on political coordination of countries whereas the members of the ALDE and EPP-ED party described threats for personal life. These discussions helped the students to better understand the EU's work.

The nights were also full of interesting information. During a midnight city tour offered by a well-known Flemish city guide the students learned a lot about the complicated relationship between the three Belgian regions of Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels. After this short but intensive course on Belgian history, the city guide brought the students to the oldest pub in town and introduced them to the secrets of Belgian beer - much stronger than the German variety!

After three days the students left Brussels with a much better understanding of the functioning of the EU, one of the core subjects of their studies. Back in Leipzig, all the students were more than satisfied with the trip.

Geschichtswerkstatt Europe: „1939-1949 - Decade of Violence“ Attendants' Resume

As European Studies freshman I was surprised to start the introduction week of the two years degree with an international forum on history. Since I was focused on business studies in my previous degree and worked in an international company that focused mainly on economic aspects of the EU-27, I had given the historical perspective, covering "wider Europe" scant attention so far.



Geschichtswerkstatt Europa 2008

If I were supposed to sum up the content of the complex forum, I would say: The Geschichtswerkstatt 2008 dealt with the most dramatic and tragic decade in Europe's "short" 20 century that constitutes the framework of reference for European identity-management till the present in Central and Eastern Europe as well as in Northern, Western and Southern Europe. Many prominent speakers, among them Gesine Schwan, Adam Krzemiński and Monika Flacke led lively discussions and made it easy for the listener to understand the complexity and the far-reaching importance of key questions such as: "Does remembrance change?", "Can there be an identity without historical picture?" and "If historical narratives are constructed, what would be the ideal construction?"

After the opening event, to which I just referred, I was curious to get to know more about this historical approach that appeared to make me see the EU from a totally different angle. So I decided to attend more seminars and discussions during the next five days. After participating in "the decade in the French-German or Polish-German school book", "the making of history and remembrance culture" or "interpretation of the past", I realized that everything leads back to the fundamental question (outlined also by Claus Leggewie and Bo Stråth): European Memory or divided remembrance? Turns out, this question will accompany me throughout the four semesters of my studies and maybe even further. Attending the Geschichtswerkstatt paved the way for me to develop an open-minded academic approach that provided me

with a lot of answers to questions that were raised in my previous business life.

Career Prospects for European Studies

Optimist: The first thing that people link with a degree in European Studies is the famous concours to get a job at one of the EU institutions. Next to challenging tasks and job security, university graduates with no job experience start with an average of 46.000 Euros per year. In addition to that they receive up to 16% expatriation allowance, plus allowance for childcare and education, health insurance and up to 70% pension.

Pessimist: Sounds like an attractive offer, but one should not forget that the salaries are that high for a reason. Once you manage to get through the tough tests for the concours, you will have to move to Brussels in 80% of the cases. That means, giving up your home, family and friends. These are things that money cannot buy and whose importance for life balance is often underestimated.

Optimist: I agree, but one could decide to work only some years for the EU institutions and see the years of surrender in personal life as an investment for the future. With experience at EU level, other jobs, especially in the public administration in the home country become easily accessible. The ministries of the Bundesländer for example are looking for qualified civil servants with in-depth EU knowledge. For other international organizations and NGOs an EU entry in your professional track record might be impressive, too.

Pessimist: Besides location, there are other factors that could hamper a fulfilling career at EU level. How about strict hierarchies, slow processes, bureaucratic battles, lack of creativity and civil servants that have grown weary of their duties?

Optimist: You can change functions within the EU institutions, but if these things bother you, you are not made for a civil service job anyway. There are other options. How about a ca-

reer in an international company? The Daimler AG for example has a department with 15 people dealing with EU developments only, and similarly in other big companies. And if you prefer an even more challenging job, you could go to a consultancy. Starting from the big four (PwC, KPMG, E&Y, Deloitte) that bid for EU funded projects such as "support to the effective implementation of grant scheme under the regional competitiveness operational programme for the Republic of Croatia", to the smaller consultancies that offer advice to get access to regional development funds such as INTERREG.

Cross Cultural Negotiation with Yahia H. Zoubir **- Interview -**

You are a professor of international relations & management at the Euro-med Marseille. You usually train experienced executives and students from renowned business schools. How was teaching European Studies students?



Yahia H. Zoubir from the Euromed Marseille with his students in Leipzig

I coached executives in companies such as Motorola, Alcatel or Boeing, MBA students and executive MBAs. For them the program is much more tailored than this one. They need concrete advice related to issues they face at work, less theory. Teaching you

included much more theory and shall prepare you for negotiation procedures in professional and personal life.

What was the biggest faux-pas in cultural negotiation you heard of?

There is that case of an American business man coming to Saudi Arabia, bringing a present for his business partner's wife. He did not know that this is a no-go and that the maximum is to ask how the family is. You never mention the wife. Another one is: Don't take yes for an answer. If I teach in Japan I always take someone "neutral" with me to class to whom the students can give honest feedback since they would never criticize the professor directly – the respect for the elder forbids it.

Your host offers drinks and food that you do not like. What do you do?

Of course, it will always be somehow rude if you reject the host's invitation and he will pro-

bably be disappointed. The two justifiable excuses that you could use are religion and health.

Do you always have a BATNA (best alternative to a negotiated agreement)?

BATNA is the course of action that will be taken by a party if the

current negotiations fail and an agreement cannot be reached. BATNA is the key focus and the driving force behind a successful negotiator – in business as well as in private life. Having a plan B or C will give you power to decisions.

Is there a certain behavior in negotiations that you would call European?

No, the culture of each country in Europe does have different impacts on the negotiation. The Dutch will start with a pretty fair offer, which is close to the final price whereas the Russians will usually start with a totally exaggerated price. The important thing is that you know these cultural particularities.

Global Studies – A European Perspective! A European Perspective?

In the beginning, I did not even know what "Global Studies" stood for. During the first semester I gained an idea of what this could mean. It is not an easy matter, though. Anyway, this master course is not only labelled Global Studies, but there is this confusing attachment: "A European Perspective". Oh, I see, it is another name for European Studies. No, I am wrong. It is still about Global Studies. But why "A European Perspective"? Because it is supported by the European Union? Because only European students are allowed to take part in the program? The former is true, the latter is not. But even if it is supported by the EU, this is probably not the reason for the naming. Perhaps it is only a nice name in terms of marketing. To attract students that do not know which master to choose in the jungle of offered master courses. I guess I am still on the wrong track. Because it sounds better and a little more sophisticated than just "Global Studies"? Maybe. But this answer does not sa-

tisfy me. I like the fact that students from almost all parts of the world come together to study together. This is even more surprising when taking into consideration that nobody of them had known what the master is about! Applying for the course is a courageous decision, isn't it? I am increasingly sure that I am the only one tackling this problem of understanding. After extremely reflective moments I had a look at the homepage and found the following opinion that we are not able to succeed in looking at Global Studies from a global viewpoint? I think we could try. The globally mixed group of students helps to go beyond narrow European perspectives. "Global Studies – A Global Perspective"!

Johannes Raffel

Literature competition „The World beyond Stereotypes“

We are sure that during the studies in the Global Studies and European Studies programme all students have dealt with in academic and/or in daily life with stereotypes. We are keen to get to know about these experiences and therefore have started a call for a literature competition on „The World beyond Stereotypes“ among the EMGS students and Alumni as well as the European Studies students and Alumni (of the University of Leipzig) that is partially financed by the German Academic Exchange Service.

Everybody is kindly invited to send her/his experiences in a written form but it is up to you if you put it e.g. in a poem or if you do send it in form of a tale, a report or anything else.

Please send your contribution by 20/05/09 via e-mail to me: gesi@uni-leipzig.de.

Among all contributions received three prizes will be assigned:

- 1st prize: 100 Euro
- 2nd prize: a Sweat Shirt of the University of Leipzig

http://shop.wiehler-textilfabrik.de/UNI-SHOP_Leipzig/Shop/Sweatshirts

- 3rd prize: a T-Shirt of the University of Leipzig

http://shop.wiehler-textilfabrik.de/UNI-SHOP_Leipzig/Shop/T-Shirts

The winners will be announced on June 6th during the Alumni-Meeting. We are looking forward to your contributions.

People

Prof. Dr. David Simo, Director of the Department of Cultural and German Studies at the University of Yaoundé (Cameroon) and guest professor at the GESI for the summer term 2009

You have been awarded the Reimar-Lüst-Award. Can you tell us more about this occasion to come over to Leipzig for half a year?

Well, I have been awarded the Reimar Lüst Prize by the well known German Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung. This foundation has institutionalized the prize a few years ago to reward non-German scholars who have distinguished themselves in the Humanities and have developed strong relationships with the German academic world. With this prize I am expected to stay one or two semesters in Germany at the institution which was at the origin of the proposal. That's why I'm here since Matthias Middell and the Global and European Studies Institute proposed me and offer the opportunity to do my research within the framework of GESI. I'm very grateful for that chance and for having been proposed and having been rewarded.

You'll spent the summer term at the GESI and teach in the Global Studies



Prof. Dr. David Simo, University of Yaoundé (Cameroon)

programme. What is your course about?

Indeed, I'm teaching a course in the Global Studies Masters programme. The course is entitled „Africa in Global History. African Narratives“. In this course I analyse altogether with the students different narratives elaborated by Africans to define their place and their role in the world. I'm interested in the different discourses which Africans have been reflecting on over the last 100 years, about their being in the world, about what the world has done to Africa and about what Africa has brought or can bring to the world. This course is about self-definition, self-localisation and self-inscription in the world history and in the globalisation process.

This is not your first visit to Leipzig University. What are the changes and transformations you have observed since your first visit in the late 1990s?

I came here the first time in 1998 and I discovered a town which had been transformed and a University which was planning its reconstruction. I was invited by the Frankreich Zentrum which was trying to include franco-phonía into its programme and horizon. So, not only the city but also the university was engaged in a process

of transformation and restructuring. Since then I have visited Leipzig many times and I'm impressed by the fact that the town is still under construction. But much has already been done. Leipzig is becoming a very beautiful town. I really like this city.

Staying in Leipzig is not only teaching and research. How do you spend your leisure time, and what can you recommend to those that are not familiar with the city?

Indeed, working in Leipzig also means living in the city. It is a town I discover every time from a different perspective. But my excursions have been limited, I have only been to discover the country-side and region as a whole twice, so there is still much to see and experience. For those who are not familiar with the city and its inhabitants I would recommend them to take time to walk through the centre of the city and to discover the history of this old but rejuvenating town. I would also recommend the cultural scene and especially music here in Leipzig.

What is it that you will take back to your home university in Yaoundé after your stay here in Leipzig and at the university? And what are your prospects for further cooperation?

I'm happy to have contributed to organise an exchange of students between Leipzig and my University in Cameroon. Some students have completed their studies at the University of Leipzig and almost each semester since a couple of years we receive a student from the University of Leipzig in Cameroon. It would be important to institutionalise this exchange in a more formal way in order to help students to get funded during their exchange semester.

Events

Workshop on "The Institute for Cultural and Universal History at the University of Leipzig and the development of universities at the beginning of the 21st century"

15-17 May 2009

Sächsische Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig, Karl-Tauchnitz-Straße 1, 04107 Leipzig

At the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the foundation of an institute devoted to the study of world history in 1909 by Karl Lamprecht an international workshop will be held at GESI dealing with traditions of inter-disciplinarity and internationalisation confronted to today's reforms at Germany's Higher Educational Institutions.

And will be opened by a key note lecture given by Patrick Manning (University of Pittsburgh) on "World History and the Disciplines in the Twentieth Century". Papers at the conference will deal with problems of the organization of universities in Germany; France; Belgium; Britain and Hungary, with a comparison of forms of inter-disciplinarity at the beginning of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st centuries and with traditions of world history writing throughout the 20th century.

Among the speakers are Stefan Troebst (Leipzig), Balazs Trencsenyi (Budapest), Rüdiger vom Bruch (Berlin), Eckhardt Fuchs (Braunschweig), Frank Hadler (GWZO Leipzig), Geneviève Warland (Brussels), Dominique Bourel (Paris), Peter Lambert (Aberystwyth)

If you are interested in the detailed programme, you are kindly asked to send an e-mail to: gesi@uni-leipzig.de



3rd European Congress on African Studies

4 to 7 June 2009

University of Leipzig; Seminar Hall, Lecture Hall

The members of AEGIS (Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies) and the Institute of African Studies at the University of Leipzig are hosting AEGIS' third biennial conference in Leipzig, Germany. The conference will take place from 4 to 7 June 2009 at the new campus of the University of Leipzig. Following the successful first conferences in London (2005) and Leiden (2007) the overall theme of ECAS 3 will be „Respacing Africa“.

Between 1,000 and 1,200 conference participants from diverse academic backgrounds such as political science, culture and economics will discuss African related themes in more than 150 panels and 820 paper presentations.

The ECAS 3 Keynote Lecture will be held in the Gewandhaus by Wilhelm Krull, Secretary-General of the Volkswagen Foundation, on „Knowledge for Tomorrow: Africa, Europe, and the Way Ahead“. Paul Tiyambe Zeleza, president of the United States African Studies Association, will present the International African Institute's Lugard Lecture on "Pan-Africanism in

the Age of Obama". Patrick Chabal will discuss his latest book: „Africa: The Politics of Suffering and Smiling" in a round table symposium.

Apart from the scientific programme there are a number of cultural events taking place:

- Stella Chiweshe, a Zimbabwean musician presents traditional Shona songs combined with the sound of the mbira at the opening reception in the Moritzbastei (Thu, 4 June)
- South African cartoonist Zapiro exhibits 50 of his finest cartoons and officially opens the exhibition on Sunday morning
- A number of international Publishers' hold a reception (Fri, 5 June, 20:00)
- Recent documentaries on Africa will be presented in a cinema session (Sat, 6 June, all day)
- A tasting of local wines from the region by the vineyard Herzer promises sweet treats (Sat, 6 June, 20:00)

The AEGIS Steering Committee encourages scholars and students interested in African Studies to participate in this conference.

Registration is possible until 24 May 2009 via www.uni-leipzig.de/~ecas2009/registration

Africa - Europe Group
for Interdisciplinary
Studies



3rd EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON WORLD AND GLOBAL HISTORY

11-14 April 2011, London School of Economics & Political Science, Britain

Following the successful congresses organised by the European Network in Universal and Global History (ENIUGH) in Leipzig (2005) and Dresden (2008), the 2011 congress will be in London, hosted by the LSE. The overall theme will be Connections and Comparisons. Within this we can expect to see dis-

ENIUGH



EUROPEAN NETWORK IN UNIVERSAL AND GLOBAL HISTORY

cussions of comparison, connection and entanglement between polities, societies, communities and individuals situated in, or spanning, different regions of the world. The perspectives will range from interactions between humanity and the environment, including over the very long term, through the cultural and economic histories of material and social life, to empires, large-scale crises, international organizations, and the intercontinental sources and consequences of revolutions, whether political, technological, social or ideological. The common emphasis is a commitment to transcending national historiographies and exploring different approaches to wide-ranging comparisons.

While most panels will be substantive, some are likely to consider the various approaches to this endeavour, examining the methods and the problems involved. The conference will include keynote sessions as well as a series of parallel panels. We look to welcoming to London scholars practicing or interested in global, world and trans-national history from whatever discipline, based both within Europe and from around the world.

Timetable:

» September 2009: announcement of the Call for Panels: proposals for panels will be invited, which may be complete or leaving space for further papers to be added.

» February 2010: the Call for Panels closes. Proposers will be notified of the outcome in April.

» April 2010: Call for Papers: proposals for individual papers will be invited, mainly to complete the panels

already accepted.

» October 2010: Conference registration and reservation of accommodation opens (through the congress website). It will be possible to reserve accommodation to suit different needs and pockets, in a range of hotels and university halls of residence.

For more information on ENIUGH, including on the earlier congresses, please visit <http://www.eniugh.org/>

International Conference: „Critical Junctures of Globalisation - Examples and Concepts"

On the **18th and 19th of June** the Research Training Group „Critical Junctures of Globalisation" is hosting an international conference. The aim of this conference is to discuss the current work and research results of the Research Training Group, established in 2006, with guests from national and international institutes.

Regarding the application for the continuation of funding of the Research Training Group, the concept of the group „Critical Junctures of Globalisation" is especially under scrutiny: How was the concept applied and developed by the applicants and members of the group, and how well it is received from scientists beyond Leipzig?

The aim of the conference will focus on potential ways to access the spatial debate in respect of globalisation.

Expected guests:

Charles Bright (University of Michigan), David Newman (Ben Gurion University), Ulrich Mücke (Universität Hamburg), Andreas Eckert (Humboldt Universität Berlin) und José Vicente Serrão (ISCTE Lisboa)

The conference will be held in the Hörsaalgebäude, Universitätsstraße 7.

Publications

Comparativ: a Journal of Global History and Comparative Studies is devoted to innovative approaches in world history analyzing past and present occurrences of globalization. Differences and similarities as well as processes of interaction, co-operation and transfer are addressed from the perspectives of both change over time and variation over space. Emphasis is put on their significance and function regarding processes of territorialization and spatiality by which social, cultural, political, economic and legal orders are shaped.

Issue 06/2008: Asianismen seit dem 19. Jahrhundert, edited by Marc Frey and Nicola Spakowski

The tables of contents are to be found at: www.comparativ.net



Helmut Asche, Ulf Engel (Eds)

Negotiating Regions: Economic Partnership Agreements between the European Union and the African Regional Economic Communities

The Cotonou Agreement of June 2000 substantially changed the regime for trade between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states by installing a system of trade and co-operation agreements, to be known as Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). The EPAs were conceived as a very broad undertaking, covering not only merchandise trade, but also trade in services, investment, and larger development issues. But the impact of the EPAs goes far beyond the economic realm, as the title of this volume suggests. While the formal meaning of "Negotiating Regions" is obvious – regional groupings are the EPA negotiators –, the substantial meaning reveals itself less straightforward: the proclaimed EU objective to reinforce regional integration, especially in Africa, is far from being assured. The

EPA negotiations have led to a deterritorialisation of parts of the continent, i.e. in some cases they disrupted ongoing integration exercises. At the same time they have also led to a reterritorialisation of Africa, i.e. they fostered the development of new regional groupings. In conclusion, EPAs contribute to a geographically even more diverse landscape of regional groupings in Africa on the one hand and to a technical streamlining of ongoing integration exercises on the other. In this volume international experts on African studies and global economics discuss aspects related to the EPAs and the challenges, questions and advantages they create for the trade between the EU and Africa and the development of the African continent.

Global History and International Studies · 2
2008 · 306 Seiten · Hardcover · 29,00 Euro · ISBN 978-3-86583-237-5

Bestellungen in jeder Buchhandlung oder beim Verlag
direkt über info@univerlag-leipzig.de

Leipziger Universitätsverlag



IMPRINT

„GESI-Newsletter“ is published four times a year by the Global and European Studies Institute at the University of Leipzig and the Consortium for the European Master Global Studies. | Editorial staff: Konstanze Loeke; Antje Zettler | Authors of this issue: Claudia Baumann; Ulf Engel; Matthias Middell, Johannes Raffel © 2009 GESI. Picture credits: Claudia Baumann, GESI | Layout: Antje Zettler

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