

# GESI Newsletter

Global and European Studies Institute

01/2010



## EDITORIAL

Roughly a year ago the rectorate of the University and the Council of the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences gave birth to the new Global European Studies Institute (GESI). Its anniversary is a point that invites a first résumé of what has been achieved. The yearly report will, of course, present this in greater length and detail but let us here summarise the essential elements: The GESI started with a workshop on the history of Lamprecht's Institute for Cultural and Universal History founded 100 years ago serving as only the starting point for a substantial contribution to the 600th anniversary of Leipzig's University which included an international conference on 1989 in a global perspective, a workshop on Fernand Braudel's world history approach and another workshop on comparative history (of colonial empires, of decolonisation processes and of revolutions in modern times) as written by Walter Markov, ano-



ther famous professor working at our University after World War II. The International Forum, devoted to the construction of a truly European understanding of history organised at our partner university in Wroclaw, Poland, was another event applauded by the attending audience.

However, the GESI is, as its name suggests, not a research institute merely organising academic events, but it also combines two study programmes at Master level. The integration of these two programmes, related to each other by a common interest in formative processes of the current world but also distinct in intellectual approaches and organisational patterns, has made substantial progress: staff and student committees with student representatives have been established and completed the adaptation of the programmes' rules (Studien- und Prüfungsordnungen) to the new legal context given by Saxon law (Hochschulgesetz). Decision on all the documents reformulated by the committees are still pending at the Faculty and Senate level, but we can already conclude that the common debate helped to better understand similarities and differences of the two programmes, the one funded by the EU's Erasmus Mundus initiative, the other based on cooperation with an expanding network of universities all around Europe.

Among the most outstanding successes of the last year we can count both the decision by the EU to support the Erasmus Mundus consortium (now enlarged by Roskilde University, Jawahrlal Nehru University Delhi and Fudan University in Shanghai) for another five years and the approval of a large proposal to the Federal Ministry of Research and Education in Germany to fund a Centre for Area Studies at our University. It is obvious that the latter will help us to mobilise all contributions coming from Area Studies to Global Stu-

dies in an even more coordinated way. At the same time the proposal which is entitled "cultural encounters and political orders in a global age" has profited greatly from discussion in Global as well as European Studies on how current and historical processes of globalisation influence the reshaping of space and world order based upon a certain regime of territorialisation.

The review of the first year of GESI's existence thus encourages expectations for 2010 and we look forward to a couple of new initiatives and we invite you all to support it through either your own intellectual input or by your interest in the outcome. GESI develops an understanding of transnational organisation of study and research transcending the classically localised boundaries of university. This is of course a challenge to what we have in mind when we think of traditional institution of higher education but at the same time globalisation, which is, to us, not only a subject, but a factor influencing heavily our own conditions of work and reflection and invites us permanently to rethink the old disciplinary and territorialised settings we are exposed to. In that sense, over the coming years we hope to form a community of scholars, students, alumni and friends of the institute helping us to weave a thicker network from today's loose ends.

As you can see this newsletter is tripartite, one supplement is dedicated to GESI's newsletter in the proper sense of the term, the second addresses the issues of the Erasmus Mundus Global Studies consortium and the final supplement is devoted especially to topics which may interest first of all alumni and current students in our programmes. I thank Ian Mills and Antje Zettler especially for the care they have taken to compose the newsletter in its current format and hope that all the readers may find more than they expected in the pages that follow.

Matthias Middell

## VISITING SCHOLARS

The Global and European Studies Institute in Leipzig is pleased to announce the confirmed arrival of four esteemed visiting scholars for the coming summer semester.

Commencing in mid-May and continuing until mid-June 2010 professors Pradipta Chaudhuri and Arun Kumar of the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning at the Nehru University, India will be present in the GESI faculty in Leipzig. Their areas of interest include; economic history, economics of health and the political economy of caste in India.

Moreover between mid-June and mid-July 2010 two professors from Dalhousie University, Canada will be in Leipzig. Assistant professor Nissim Mannathukaren's work focuses on the Communist movement in India with particular reference to Kerala as well as Development Theory, Political Theory and the Development and Politics of South Asia whilst Patricia Glazebrook's work has included environmental philosophy, philosophy of science and technology, feminism as well as Heidegger. Furthermore, Nissim Mannathukaren will also be present in Wrocław from mid-May to mid-June participating in the 'The Politics of Mass Media' workshop.

We wish them all a pleasant and profitable stay in Europe and hope that the students will be able to take advantage of these new expertises in such diverse areas of study.

## EXCHANGE REPORTS

### 1: Vilnius

a young and energetic city with one of the oldest universities in Eastern Europe (founded in 1578). Street names, shops and people change month-on-month and everything acts as if in a rush of independence with a hunger for a lucrative future. It is easy to find great street art



Exchange students in Vilnius

next to a Frank Zappa monument amongst the many post soviet statues. Anything and everything can be found in Vilnius, but it is a must to stay a bit longer than the normal city break allows.

When Madlenka and I decided to try to explore a, for us, new and young corner of the EU, we didn't know what to expect. Only a few facts were given, such as the good reputation of Vilnius University with its unique personal student service (through a mentoring system) as well as its great variety of elective courses and the international academic orientation. Furthermore we knew that everything around Vilnius is easily and inexpensive to get to: such as Belarus, Estonia, Scandinavia as well as the unique Courland Spit and the Baltic Sea.

After our adventurous 21 hour bus trip to Vilnius, the first orientation weeks at the University with the speaking of the first Lithuanian words, making new friends and discovering the sumptuous culture, we found out that there is indeed much, much more to Vilnius and even more to do and to work on in this country than those common given facts!!

Maria Schubert, Madlenka Kowar

### 2: Homo Erasmus in Wrocław

Yet another facebook invitation from the new friends in Wrocław. This one is for tonight and invites everybody to participate in something called Kredkathon. Our dormitory, a masterpiece of functional architecture with 22 floors is called Kredka (crayon). This time they want to take the stairs up to the 22nd floor and drink either a shot or a beer at each floor. What seems to be rather questionable at first sight is probably a suitable ending for one thrilling semester in the Erasmus world. Together we have been through "meet and greet" parties, flash mobs (dressed and undressed), photo contests, excursions, tram parties, demonstrations for equality, country-specific dinner nights and got the New Year's blessings from the Polish priest who visits his community personally at the beginning of the year. He seemed to be only slightly irritated by the fact that the room was filled not only with students of Catho-

lic faith, but of Orthodox, of Protestant, of Islamic and Pagan faith while he began to pray 'our father'.

In general our days in Wrocław were pretty busy. A great variety of English classes taught at all faculties made us go through medieval roots of Poland, economic transformation after 1989 and social movements in Poland like the Orange Alternative. Ordering food in our lunch breaks during the first weeks was somewhat advantageous, but soon we had to admit our personal preference for pierogi

ruskie, bigos and kompot. Two nights per week Polish class trained our language skills and risible muscles. On weekends we took advantage of low transportation costs and visited Krakow, Auschwitz, Poznan and Warsaw. It turns out Wrocław is quite a travel hub within Europe. Norman Davies called Wrocław: 'the Flower of Europe', stressing the multinational and multicultural richness of the history of the city. We would like to stress the multinational and multicultural richness of the city in the present.

At the right bank of the Vistula

On a trip to Warsaw, funded by the German Academic Exchange Services, the European Studies students had the chance to visit Warsaw and to participate in a non-mainstream guided tour through a part of the town called Praga. It is fairly easy to guess why only few tourists cross the Vistula to see this part of Warsaw. Shabby blocks of flats, abandoned industry parks and the warning not to walk around alone either by night or by day. The uniqueness of this part of the town is that it belongs to the 10% of Warsaw that were not destroyed. Buildings tell the brutal story of the 20th century: bullet holes from German occupation and bare steel beams from communist occupation. Communist officials decided that the working class living in this district did not need decoration and balconies on their houses, so they were removed. Another fascinating story teller of Praga is the hundred year old market, Różycki Bazaar, which was once the place for black market trade under Nazi and communist governments. It was once considered as the



Library in Vilnius





Market Square Wrocław

place for cardigans, firearms and spurious goods; today its existence is threatened by shopping malls. In the scruffy backyards of Praga you can find many small Lady Chapels that served as church replacements during WWII and are lovingly cared for and decorated with fresh flowers even to this day.

Claudia Baumann, Katharina Scholtz, Tobias Klein

### 3. Paris: École Normale Supérieure

Our exchange semester at the ENS in Paris is almost finished and we feel like we have to leave our new home and parts of our best memories here. Although when we think of our starting at the ENS, we have to admit that it was not always easy. Having overcome all the cultural differences, language problems and so on by our self makes us feel stronger and proud of ourselves.

Of course we fell in love with Paris, this wonderful place! From the beginning we were overwhelmed from the vitality of this city, the cultural activities and not to forget la "French cuisine". Délicieux!

Our university (although called normal) is not an ordinary one, but here in France mostly known as one of the prestigious "Grandes Écoles" which are outside the mainstream framework of the public universities system. Initially conceived during the French revolution and trained in the critical spirit, it became the platform for France's brightest young people. The French elite are formed here and it often happens that in our classes or corridors, at the cafeteria or our lovely court we encounter young people who speak, besides Latin and Ancient Greek, at least three other languages. How impressive!

And here it is, our École! Doesn't it look like a typical university from a picture-book journey? The ones which you never find in reality?

Well, even though is not a picture-book-

journey school we loved our stay at the ENS. This warm homely feeling and the desire to make the time here never end is influenced, aside from Paris of course, mostly from some special people we have met here. Paris wouldn't be Paris and the ENS not the ENS without our friends!

After only a few weeks our clique was formed with people from all over the world. Our numerous legendary parties have been very useful for getting in touch with French people and for improving our French. Small adventures included.

Today we stand here, very grateful for having experienced a great time, had many special encounters in a fantastic city, an exciting time with many special people and the wonderful feeling of being part of the ENS life. So we end with Hemingway:

"If you are lucky enough to have lived in Paris as a young man, then wherever you go for the rest of your life it stays with you, for Paris is a moveable feast."

We will come back!!!

Anna-Lena Kaupp & Serviola Beqiraj

## CONGRATULATIONS

### 2009 Ph.D Prizes awarded by the Research Academy Leipzig

Congratulations are extended to GESI-member Dr. Adamantios Skordos who was awarded the prize of the Research Academy Leipzig after completing his PhD entitled „Griechenlands Makedonische Frage" from the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences. Dr. Skordos is a graduate of the „Transnationalisation and Regionalisation since the 18th century" Phd-study programme. The prize awarded at the annual meeting of the Research Academy Leipzig for the third time this research prize is presented to a Ph.D student whose work addresses certain environmental issues and draws attention to advancement of gender equality and family-friendly policies in research.

### Georg Forster Forschungsstipendium

Best wishes are also given to Dr. Hyacinthe Ondoa who won the Georg Forster Forschungsstipendium for his research at the GESI institute.

### Global Studies Graduates

Congratulations are also extended to the 2009 graduating class of the Global Studies Master's program. The graduation event held in Leipzig on 14th November 2009 acknowledged the hard work and



Graduation Ceremony

completion of the course of all the students studying at the four partner Universities (London School of Economics, Universität Leipzig, Universität Wien and Uniwersytet Wrocławski). Amongst the celebrations and speeches from lecturers, professors and former students, special attention was paid to the three prize winners of the "best thesis award". First prize was awarded to Fahad Mustafa for his thesis entitled "Cricket and Globalisation Global Processes and the Imperial Game",

second prize went to Sophie Edington-Cheater for "Piracy in the Straits of Malacca" and third prize to Kamakshi Nanda for her thesis: "Call us friends...or partners?" A comparison of China and India's quests for energy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Finally, special recognition was made of Sophie Edington-Cheater's outstanding achievement of being "Best Graduate" after having completed the course with a grade point average of 1,0 (!) according to the German system. She studied in Vienna and Leipzig. Congratulations again too all graduates of 2009.

### A knight in our midst!

Many, many congratulations finally go to Prof. Matthias Middell who is due to be made a knight by the French embassy in autumn 2010. The honour will make Prof. Middell a knight of the Ordre des Palmes Académiques, an order of chivalry awarded to academics and educators.



## ERASMUS MUNDUS GLOBAL STUDIES

### ERASMUS MUNDUS - PROGRAMME EXTENSION

Due to the great success of the Erasmus Mundus programme (2004-2008) it was decided in 2008 to launch Erasmus Mundus II (EM II) that will run from 2009-2013.

All Master's courses of the first Erasmus Mundus generation had the possibility to apply for further funding under the Erasmus Mundus II Programme. In April 2009, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) that is responsible for the implementation of the Erasmus Mundus Programme received 36 applications from degree courses that started in 2004 or 2005. From this field of applications only 19 have been assessed of being worthy of further funding, one of these was the Master's course "Global Studies – A European Perspective".

Compared to the first Erasmus Mundus programme some major changes will be introduced in EM II. Two of the most advantageous are that under Erasmus Mundus II PhD-courses can also profit from a scholarship scheme. Thus in April 2010 the EMGS-Consortium will put forward an application for a Global Studies PhD-programme. Furthermore European students can also be awarded an Erasmus Mundus full-time grant that covers the complete tuition fee and also offers a monthly living allowance of 500 Euro. The application deadline for the acceptance to the programme as well as the Erasmus Mundus grant for European students is April 1st annually. Non-European students wishing to apply for the Erasmus Mundus grant will need to submit their application by the preceding December.

### GLOBAL STUDIES AS "BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE"

Our program was invited by Martina Friedrich, of the Austrian National Structure OEAD, to talk at the EMAP-Conference in Cyprus (18th-21st February 2010) on sustainability. The main goal of this conference was that national structures from well-represented countries in Erasmus Mundus Programs such as Germany and France are helping national structures and possible consortia from less-represented

countries like Greece and Slovakia. Therefore the national structures of well represented countries invited some programs as "Best Practice Examples" to talk on different important parts of Erasmus Mundus Programs. Leopold Kögler was invited to represent our program and talk about sustainability of EMGS and how we try to improve on this subject. Over the course of the three day conference, two days were dedicated to reports, tips and meetings, but there was also the opportunity to get to know the city of Larnaca. Around 100 people attended this conference from nearly all the European countries and it was very interesting to see in just how many different ways Erasmus Mundus Programs are planned and how the many different academic fields are covered.



Participants of the EMAP-Conference in Cyprus February 2010

### GLOBAL STUDIES INTERNET PORTAL

An Internet Portal for Alumni and Current Students

As the Erasmus Mundus Global Studies Consortium prepares for the sixth intake of students into its study program the architecture and possibilities offered to incoming students has evolved considerably. Today the consortium boasts the possibility to undertake the two-year MA course at five European universities as Roskilde University (Denmark) has been added to ranks of the London School of Economics, Universität Leipzig, Universität Wien and Uniwersytet Wrocławski. Moreover the ranks of the non-European partner institutions have been swelled with the addition of Fudan University (China) and Jawaharlal Nehru University (India) to that of Dalhousie University (Canada), Macquarie University (Australia), University of California at Santa Barbara (USA), University of Stellenbosch (South Africa). These developments together with the staggering distances that the most recent

applications have travelled representing every continent and corner of the globe truly makes the Erasmus Mundus Global Studies course of study a tangible example of globality and international exchange to be proud of.

Whilst current and prospective students may look forward to, and profit from, taking advantage of the numerous possibilities, opportunities and connections now being made available to them, the question has remained open as to how to effectively involve the 131 students that have successfully completed the course and to allow them to benefit from this newly evolved organisational structure.

This, as some of you may be aware, has started to be addressed over the past weeks as the Internet Portal (accessible

under: <https://unileipzig.intraworlds.com/portal/>), serving both Alumni and current students, has been undergoing something of an overhaul. The aim of the portal is to provide students across the five partner universities of the Consortium, those students undertaking placement semesters at the non-European partner institutions and crucially the numerous EMGS-Alumni spread across the face of the globe with a central meeting point.

The portal is envisaged as a platform in which news, views, interesting job and conference offers as well as organisational issues can be posted, debated and decided upon allowing all involved in the EMGS program to stay abreast of the happenings not only within the program itself but within the field of Global Studies.

Although the Portal now benefits from being available in German and English and from a dedicated administrator responsible for regularly updating and posting interesting offers for the students followed by a regular update notification making selection of the articles you are interested in easier to access, the Portal needs your support. What interesting seminars and conferences are happening in London? Have you attended a fascinating talk in Wrocław and think the rest of the EMGS-program could benefit from the findings? Do want to give some tips/ recommendations/ warnings about living in Vienna for the current and future students? Have you recently got a post working for an International Organisation and want to inform your peers what it is really like to



work in this environment? Are you passing through one of the cities where a consortium university is based and want to offer your services for a seminar or presentation? Want to get all Alumni all together in one place for an official reunion? Well this is the place to do it!

All you need to do, if you haven't done so yet, is to register with the Portal at <https://unileipzig.intraworlds.com/portal/> using the login data recently sent to you via email and start posting articles, forum posts, photos and documents on topics that are close to your heart that you think your fellow students will enjoy and benefit from. If you experience difficulties logging in or registering, or even have any comments or recommendations simply contact [emgs.alumni@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:emgs.alumni@uni-leipzig.de). Oh, and don't forget to upload a picture of yourself so those long lost EMGS-friends can still put a face to that familiar name!

## CALL FOR HELP

### Aid for Haiti

By Headly Noel

Last month I sent a series of emails to friends, former colleagues and peers, literally begging them to contribute to the search and relief efforts that have been going on in Haiti. I honestly didn't quite know what to expect. But I knew that I had to do something to help, in whatever small way I could. I must say that I was both surprised and happy about the outpouring of support and positive responses that I received in return. Even people I did not know, but to whom my e-mails were forwarded, wrote me to express their support and to inform me on how they were going to help. They sent medical supplies, tents and clothes, donated their money to international and non-profit organisations; some even sent their logistical teams to Port-au-Prince to help. The money has been important, of course, but it's also been incredibly more moving to know that people do care about Haiti, and that they are willing to spend their time and efforts to help - to help save lives.

Haiti has seen more than its share of misfortunes. A series of strong Hurricanes struck the island in 2007 and again in 2008, causing major damages and leaving thousands injured and dead and a nation struggling to recover. Last month's earthquake was the latest blow. It brought the country literally to its knees thus rendering the already daunting road to recovery much steeper, much more arid and inescapably painful.

Despite the initial donations and support help is still much needed. It is people like you with small their donations and small efforts that have saved lives, that are making a difference in the survivors lives, and help with the reconstruction efforts. We should not leave Haiti alone; we must not, not while it is going through its darkest hours. It's a matter of decency and of moral responsibility.

Find out how you can help. Get involved. Save lives.

### Earthquake in Chile

By Denise Misleh

People in Chile are born with the awareness that we live in a country that is prone to earthquakes. Somehow, we are used to feel the movement of the Earth. Along our history we have seen cities destroyed and, with a lot of effort, once again rebuilt. Nevertheless, we have never before experienced an earthquake of the devastating magnitude as the one that woke Chile in the night of the 27th of February. This time it was not a single city or town, but an extensive region that was not only affected by the earthquake but also by the tsunami that followed, taking everything that was in his path. Many people lost their families, friends, houses, complete towns disappeared. But now it is time to start again; to reconstruct what was lost. We could give these people a little help to start over once again. Volunteers in different areas are needed to rebuild around 45 locations that have been affected by the earthquake. For those who cannot help in situ find information for international money donations below.

Volunteers

<http://www.ayudando.com/chile/index.cfm>

Un techo para Chile - Transfers from Europe

Banco Santander Central Hispano S.A. (MADRID)

SWIFT: BSCHESMM

IBAN: ES 4200 495494852910148818

Cruz Roja/ Red Cross International

Citibank

Cuenta corriente Nº 9941973331

Código ABA:021000089

Unicef/ Direct Relief International

<http://www.google.com/intl/en/relief/chileearthquake>

### AN INTERNSHIP IN MFA

By Andrea Urbanikova

After the successful completion of the winter semester on the EMGS course and the submission of all the required essays I have decided to apply my theoretical knowledge

to practice and started to look for some motivating internships. The Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs offers an outstanding opportunity for students and graduates where scholars can work for the period of two months in one of the divisions of the ministry. As a student of Global Studies, the closest to my area of interest appeared to be a placement within Economic Diplomacy department.

The structure of an internship is very interesting. An intern works for a period of three weeks in the Central office of MFA in Bratislava, Slovakia and another month in any Slovak embassy or permanent mission of Slovakia in the world according to intern's choice. The Slovak Republic has 89 representative bodies in the world in every continent so the possibilities to work abroad are fantastic. I have decided to undertake the second part of my internship in Washington D.C. My application has been approved and I will be heading to USA in September 2010. It is very good for me as after my internship I will stay in US and follow my Masters course in Santa Barbara, California as an EMGS exchange student.

The internship in MFA is intended to provide an understanding of the political, social, and cultural forces that are shaping Slovakia within European Union, which has met my intellectual expectations. During my placement I have obtained valuable information about Slovak foreign relations, our position in European Union and Strategy 2020. The duties and responsibilities of an intern differ from the department and the personality of an intern's referee who is responsible for an intern and throughout the whole time of an internship he/she takes care of an intern's work. I have been active on various assignments. I have written the reviews and standpoints on the actual topics of international relations, prepared presentations and created numerous databases. I have also helped with the preparation of the International Conference in the cooperation with American Chamber of Commerce and cooperated in the assignments with the Press division and International Economic Organisations department where I prepared various materials and translated a number of articles.

During the time of my placement I have learnt a great deal and as I have also been told, I have also proved to be a good help to the ministry. As a student of University of Leipzig I have brought new visions, ideas, and insight of German academic environment, which they found very useful and rewarding.

I believe that no education is complete without such an experience. During my internship I have obtained valuable skills

which I would not be able to acquire within the academic environment. In my opinion the university degree is necessary but does not make us any more special in the work market competition, we therefore need to look for our comparative advantage somewhere else. I have therefore applied for another placement within European Parliament in Brussels, conducted interviews for the UN youth delegate for an assembly in New York, participated on various essay competitions announced by the World Bank or other international organisations. For this reason I would like to encourage all the students to use the time of the semester besides trips and parties for something useful which can appear on our CVs and give as the new spectrum of opportunities for our future.

## ALUMNIS

### ALUMNI MEETING

With the EMGS-program now preparing its sixth intake of new students the alumni have not been forgotten as preparations are now well underway for the next EMGS-Alumni meeting. Due to coincide with the upcoming graduation ceremony in Vienna at the end of November 2010 (exact date TBA) it is envisaged that many alumni from the previous three years of the EMGS program will come together along with the graduating students providing a platform to maximise the skills and knowledge gained by EMGS students after completion of the degree whilst facilitating, strengthening and expanding communication between the alumni of the program for collaborative projects.

Austria's spectacular capital affords the perfect setting for the some 100 participants who are expected to attend the long-weekend-meeting. The reunion will publicise initiatives of both the EMGS-consortium as well as individual students in the field of global studies whilst allowing a shared exchange of experience and skills. Furthermore, presentations of the Global Studies Think Tank, Global Studies Journal, Globalisation and a number of Ph.D projects have been foreseen as well as a number of collaborative workshops within which these projects and others can be discussed and furthered.

All alumni and current students should look out for more information as preparations take form. If you are interested in being part of this gathering or have any

comments or suggestions as to possible, further topic areas to be investigated please contact:  
emgs.alumni@uni-leipzig.de.

### THINK TANK

For many of us Global Studies students, graduation is but months or even a couple years behind us while for numerous others it is still before us. Whether we fall into the former or latter groups, we have all been confronted with the same question: "Global studies?! What are you going do with that?" For this reason, seeking for an environment to apply our knowledge as global scholars, a humble group of us have taken the first steps in developing a 'Global Studies Think Tank' to provide one another an outlet for our expertise in the 21st century world. Currently, we are formulating the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the think tank. We have brainstormed an organisation, the Center for Global Perspectives, that combines a open forum platform with online publications based upon themed and regional works that would culminate in printed digests and in time a journal. In this way, we envision the think tank as not only allowing us to exhibit our research but also to instill new investigations, which we hope will attract both other people and institutions to our international analysis. We wholeheartedly believe that we are on a cusp of greater global thought and that we, as a whole, represent a valuable scholarly contribution with our wide-ranging studies coupled with our intercontinental network of persons. For this matter, we



Vilnius: Venue of the International Forum 2010  
Foto: „Literatu street project“ - wall with artwork

What Makes the World Turn.

Please contact:

GlobalStudiesThinkTank@gmail.com

### WE NEED YOUR HELP! LOST CONTACT ...

Oooooops! Either our data has been entered wrong or some people have "moved" email addresses but we seem to have lost contact with the following student:

Sreang Chheat from Cambodia - Class of 2007

If you still have contact with this student please send him an email asking him to contact either Konstanze Loeke (gesi@uni-leipzig.de) or Ian Mills (emgs.alumni@uni-leipzig.de) so we can update his details and stay in touch with him if he so desire.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes are also extended to Amrita Mondal on her recent marriage. All at the GESI wish you and your partner a happy and fruitful life together.



CENTER FOR GLOBAL  
PERSPECTIVES

An Interdisciplinary Think Tank Analyzing What Makes the World Turn

are encouraging each of you that are interested to e-mail us with your ideas and opinions. We are looking for individuals that truly feel this a worthwhile endeavor. Inevitably, we foresee great things to come for us as based upon our motto: An Interdisciplinary Think Tank Analyzing

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### International Forum 2010 in Vilnius / Lithuania

In cooperation with the Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future", the Global and European Studies Institute of the University of Leipzig is currently organising the 3rd International Forum which will take place between 14th and 19th September 2010 in Vilnius/Lithuania. Working within the context of Geschichtswerkstatt Europa, the topic "Vilnius between the wars – Jewish culture, Lithuanian society, the Polish state and Belarusian minority" will be handled. The aim of the Forum is to highlight the conflicting recollections of the European 20th century and to familiarise participants with recent research results in the area of collective and cultural memory. The one-week event is to include seminars, lectures and exhibition visits. Scholars from a diverse background of disciplines from different parts of Europe will debate the current processes of remembrance in Europe. Furthermore, there will be a special programme with seminars for scholarship holders.

The International Forum is dedicated to the multilayered history of Vilnius/Wilno/Wil'na/Wilna. The many names attributed to the city indicates, from the outset, the culturally and religiously multifaceted character that Vilnius displays. Time and again, Lithuanians, Poles, and Belarusians have all made national demands during the past thereby shaping the city making it what it is today.

Two key aspects are starkly represented in the city's history and architecture whilst also commemorated by museums and memorials; first, that of the political constitution of the Jews between the two World Wars, and second, that of Soviet occupation in 1940. Both the memories of the Jewish tragedy as well as the memories of occupation are represented and remembered in Vilnius today alongside the cultural heritage of the "old" Vilnius.

We are currently accepting applications for participation in this conference. Applications should be sent to the address below and are to include a letter of motivation (maximum 600-1000 words) detailing personal interests in the this year's topic of the International Forum and giving details of any previous experience in this field as well as prior knowledge and skills. Applications should also include a Curriculum

Vitae. The closing date for applications is 31st May 2010. Applications will be reviewed by July 11th, and applicants will be notified immediately thereafter.

Coordinator Ulrike Breitsprecher  
International Forum | Geschichtswerkstatt Europa

Contact: Universität Leipzig, Global and European Studies Institute  
Emil-Fuchs-Str. 1 | D-04105 Leipzig  
E-Mail: ifgwe@uni-leipzig.de  
www.geschichtswerkstatt-europa.org

### The world transformed. Global challenges from the perspective of Poland

#### International Seminar in Warsaw May 20th - 21st 2010

Poland has joined the 'Western' world in undertaking the effort of an immense political and economic transformation. It has changed its status of a post-communist country which placed it in the grey security zone when being a member of two powerful bodies – the NATO and the EU. However, once it had achieved its cherished aims, it appeared that the world has transformed even more. The "Copenhagen failure" proved how difficult the management of global issues by Europe's reliance on its soft power may be. Europe's security challenges are, for the first time since 1945, distant on the US priority list. Becoming "fortress Europe" poses a demographic risk for the EU. A global shift of power and policymaking are the biggest challenges for us all today.

The goal of the seminar is a complex discussion about questions mentioned during a short but intensive meeting in Warsaw. The seminar is organised in cooperation with the Centre for International Relations (CSM) and is to focus on issues such as: 'The key problems of Polish foreign and security policy', 'Poland in the EU: six years on', 'The NATO and new security challenges in the CEE region', 'Poland and the politics of climate change', 'Migrations and demography: challenges for the CEE region' and 'The world transformed. A Global shift of Power from the perspective of Poland'.

The program is to include talks by: Janusz Reiter (president of the Center for International Relations), Paweł Świeboda (president of DemosEuropa), Prof. Adam D. Rotfeld (former Foreign Affairs Minister of Poland), Prof. Dariusz Rosati (Warsaw School of Economics), Dr. Janusz Onyszkiewicz (former Polish Minister of Defence and Vice-President of the European Parliament), Ewa Stepan (Head of Climate Change and Energy

Program), Prof. Krystyna Iglicka (Head of Migrations Program) and Bartek Nowak, (Executive Director, Center for International Relations). For more information regarding this conference and to register your interest to participate please visit <http://www.csm.org.pl>



### Media and Global Transformations since the 19th century

#### Conference, June 4-5, Leipzig

Organisation: Prof. Dr. Frank Bösch (Universität Gießen/DFG-Graduiertenkolleg „Transnationale Medienereignisse seit der Frühen Neuzeit“), Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell (Universität Leipzig/Global and European Studies Institute)

This conference is the first one in Germany to address both the topics of infrastructure for the various media revolutions in a globally comparative perspective and the emergence of global events as reported, and probably even produced, by media. This focus aims to highlight the quality how people across the globe share knowledge about issues and communicate increasingly faster with one another leading to a common understanding of what happened. Scholars from Germany, Belgium and Austria will contribute to it. The conference is a cooperation between GESI and the two Research Training Groups on Transnational Media Events at the University of Gießen, and on Critical Junctures of Globalisation in Leipzig together with the Centre for Area Studies.

Topics of the conference will include amongst others 'media and its global transformation in the 19th century', 'the telegraph and the new global order', 'communication and the public sphere', 'the telegraph and the British empire', 'the television and globalisation' and 'the Pope's death as a global media event'.

The full program as well as information for participants can be soon found at <http://www.uni-leipzig.de/cas>.



## Memory, Monuments, Museums. Remembering World War II in Central and Eastern Europe

1-3 July 2010

The cultures of remembrance in contemporary Europe and Eurasia are shaped primarily by the 'short 20th century'; be that in its commemoration of joyful moments, but much more frequently in the remembrance of tragic events. This, in particular, is true of the two world wars, the holocaust and other genocides, the mass crimes of dictatorships, occupation, collaboration, deportation and ethnic cleansing which all go some way in determining the image of this century in the various societies. This is reflected in civic memory as well as in governmental politics of history, most openly displayed first and foremost in monuments and museums. The conference relates to the monumental and museal memory cultures in Central and Eastern Europe in general as well as in the Russian Federation and Poland in particular.

The international conference is organised by the Global and European Studies Institute (GESI) of the University of Leipzig, the European Network Remembrance and Solidarity, the German Federal Foreign Office, and other partners. It includes an excursion to the Soviet War Memorial in Trep-tow, the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin-Mitte, the Memorial to Polish Soldiers and German Anti-Fascists in Friedrichshain, and to the German-Russian Museum in Karlshorst.

Please contact Johanna Wolf (europastudien@uni-leipzig.de) for further information regarding this conference.

## Official opening of the Centre of Area Studies at the Universität Leipzig

3 June 2010, 6pm (tbc) | Alte Hand-  
elsbörse, 04109 Leipzig

Shalini Randeria (Universität Zürich): „Dis-  
possession, displacement and environ-  
mental activism“

## Debut lecture of Leibniz Professor Igor Primoratz, Canberra: entitled „Patriotism and Ethics

Thurs. 22nd April 2010, 13.00 – 15.00

Location: Alter Senatssaal, Ritterstr. 26,  
04109 Leipzig

Organiser: Zentrum für Höhere Studien

## „Reinhard Blänkner, Historical cultural sciences against the background of globalisation - postcolonial challenges for global history“

27.5.2010, 9-11am

Emil-Fuchs-Str. 1, Room: 3.15

## Publications

### Matthias Middell / Ulf Engel Theoretiker der Globalisierung.

Leipziger Universitätsverlag 2010

Inhaltsübersicht

Ulf Engel / Matthias Middell  
*Theorien und Theoretiker der Globalisie-  
rung: Schneisen im Dickicht der Interpre-  
tationen*

Felipe Rubio: *Arjun Appadurai (\*1949)*

Peter Lambert: *Kwame Anthony Appiah  
(\*1954)*

Stefan Troebst: *Artur Attman (1910–1988)*

Melanie Eulitz: *Zygmunt Bauman (\*1925)*

Anahid Babayan: *Berch Berberoglu  
(\*1948)*

Claudia Rauhut: *Peter Beyer (\*1949)*

Anandita Bajpai: *Homi K. Bhabha (\*1949)*

Sabil Francis: *Fernand Braudel (1902–  
1985)*

Alexander Freier: *Teresa Caldeira*

Marina Renault: *Nestor García Canclini  
(\*1939)*

Sabil Francis: *Manuel Castells (\*1942)*

Sonja Ganseforth: *Arturo Escobar (\*1952)*

Debora Gerstenberger: *Gilberto de Mello  
Freyre (1900–1987)*

Valerio Verrea: *Nicholas Georgescu-Roe-  
gen (1906–1994)*

Marc Redepenning: *David Harvey (\*1935)*

Katrin Gengenbach: *Koichi Iwabuchi  
(\*1960)*

Steffi Richter: *Kôjin Karatani (\*1941)*

Veronika Deffner: *Henri Lefebvre (1901–  
1991)*

Oliver Kuhn: *Niklas Luhmann (1927–1998)*

Sarah Ruth Sippel: *Doreen Massey (\*1944)*

Christian Fröhlich: *John W. Meyer (\*1935)*

### Comparativ: A Journal of Global His- tory and Comparative Studies

is devoted to innovative approaches in  
world history analysing past and present  
occurrences of globalisation. 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 territoria-  
lisation and spatiality by which social, cul-  
tural, political, economic and legal orders  
are shaped.

### Issue 02-03/2009:

#### Remodelling Social Order through the Conquest of Public Space: Myths, Ce- remonies and Visual Representations in Revolutionary Societies.

Editor: Jürgen Schriewer

\*\*\*

### Issue 04/2009:

#### Asian Experiences of Development in the 20th Century.

Editor: Marc Frey

The tables of contents can be found at:  
[www.comparativ.net](http://www.comparativ.net)

### New Working Papers published by the Research Academy Leipzig in the Working Paper Series



Jana Hönke: Transnational pockets of ter-  
ritoriality. Governing the security of extrac-  
tion in Katanga (DRC).

No. 2, Leipzig 2009.

Michael Mann: Sklaverei und Sklavenhan-  
del im Indik, 16. bis 20. Jahrhundert.

No. 3, Leipzig 2009.

Patrick Pfeil: Macht ‚Hochkultur‘ attraktiv?  
Anne Kuhnert: Staat und Gewalt am Bei-  
spiel des antiken Rom | Christine Taube:  
Über den Wunsch Amphipolis zu besitzen.

No. 4, Leipzig 2010.

Jenny Kuhlmann: Political activism of the  
Zimbabwean diaspora: opportunities for and  
challenges to transnational mobilisation.

No. 5, Leipzig 2010.

Adèle Garnier: Are states in control of their  
borders? Testing the venue-shopping ap-  
proach in the Australian context.

No. 6, Leipzig 2010.

Ulf Engel & Gorm Rye Olsen: Authority, so-  
vereignty and Africa's changing regimes of  
territorialisation

No. 7, Leipzig 2010.

## IMPRINT

„GESI-Newsletter“ is published four times a year by the Global and European Studies Institute at the University of Leipzig and the Consortium of the European Master „Global Studies“. | Editorial staff: Konstanze Loeke; Matthias Middell; Ian Mills; Antje Zettler | © 2010 GESI. Picture credits: Maria Schubert, Madlenka Kowar, Claudia Baumann, Katharina Scholtz, Tobias Klein, Forrest Kilimnik | Layout: Antje Zettler