Humanitarian Reason in the Shadows. Transit Migration Politics and Human Rights Defenders in Mexico

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2016

Link to publication

Citation for published version (APA):

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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Norwegian Latin America Research Network

NorLARNet Conference 2016
Latin America Research for a Troubled World

Bergen 31 August – 2 September
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PANEL 1: BRAZIL: DIMENSIONS OF CRISIS AND PERSPECTIVES ON OPPORTUNITIES

SESSION: FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 08:30-10:00

Brazil is passing through its deepest political crisis since the return of democracy in 1985 expressed in the opening of the impeachment process against President Dilma Rouseff and an unfolding corruption scandal implicating large parts of the political and economic elite. What are the main reasons for the current crisis? What may be the outcome of these events and what will be the effects for Brazilian democracy? These are the issues that will be discussed in this roundtable-panel bringing together Brazil-experts from Norway and abroad.

Organizer/Chair: Torkjell Leira, University of Oslo
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Participants
Einar Braathen, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR):
Margit Ystanes, University of Bergen
Harald Martinsen, BNCC - Brazilian-Norwegian Chamber of Commerce
Pablo Gentili, Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO)
This panel brings together scholars from different disciplines within the Humanities (migration history, cinema studies, fusion music, and literature). Based on the idea of culture as a dynamic event rather than a stable nature, each paper presented foregrounds different cultural encounters (broadly defined) that position the local particularities of Latin American culture vis-à-vis the dynamics of global mobility.

**Organizer/Chair:** Kari Soriano Salkjelsvik, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Bergen  
**Discussant:** Jon Askeland, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Bergen  
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**Session I: Cinema and Music**

1. *Repensar el sujeto femenino: cotidianidad y transformación social en el cine de Esteban Ramírez*  

_Hólmemriður Garðarsdóttir_  
Faculty of Language and Cultures  
University of Iceland

The cultural artifacts that most interestingly represent Latin American social realities of women at the present are film productions by young filmmakers, such as Esteban Ramírez from Costa Rica. In his most recent films each story operates as a committed feminist intervention on reality, in which the filmmaker stands as an intellectual whose mission seems to be to
influence the Costa Rican contemporary reality. Therefore, his films become excellent raw material to analyze the role of female subjects in their particular cultural and social contexts.

The objective of this study is to analyze social representations of female subjectivity through Ramírez’s most recent films: El Caribe (2004) Gestación (2009) Presos (2015). In each of the films, despite differences in subject matters and background, the films have in common an emphasis on particular social conditions hindering the female protagonist’s advances in society, - understood to represent an everyday reality for contemporary Costa Rican youth.

The common denominator of the films is the representation of an active female subject within her everyday live, struggling for the transformation of her living conditions and social recognition. Thus, a new sense of the female “self” appears in the foreground displacing the marginal subject within the hegemonic social and cultural representations. With strong associations to class and gender Ramírez’s films propose social mobility as a possible response to contemporary circumstances. In that sense, the stories serve as instruments to demystify traditional power structures and deconstruct rooted social and cultural representations, while simultaneously proposing alternative reformulations of women and their social role.
2. Cosmopolitanizing tradition: Fusion music and Arguedian ideals in Central Lima

Alissa Vik
Department of Foreign Languages
University of Bergen

During the past 10 years, fusion music has become an important trend in the independent music scene in Lima. Fusión, or the combination of traditional Peruvian music with global beats, is a conscious effort on the part of these musicians to make something new with an emphasis on the mixture itself. Amongst the myriad of fusion bands in Lima, there are bands that identify their music as música mestiza as a way to distinguish themselves from the fusion trend. Earlier studies of fusion music in Peru indicate that hybridization is a way for Peruvian musicians to negotiate their ethnic and cultural identities. However, little or no attention has been paid to this new self-defined genre of música mestiza.

Although the term mestizo has traditionally underscored an Andean-Creole dichotomy in Peruvian society, the bands in question use this term in a more inclusive way: to describe their music which aims to combine Andean, Afro-Peruvian, and Amazonian music with global beats. Their goal is to create a new authentic-yet-cosmopolitan folklore more accessible to young Peruvians. These bands cite José María Arguedas as inspiration for their work, and, like Arguedas, aim to bring about social change through culture.

This paper will analyze the phenomenon of música mestiza, focusing specifically on three limeño bands, Ravelers, Los Nómadas, and Crónica de Mendigos, using interviews conducted in 2015, song lyrics, and music videos. My research is informed
Este trabajo investiga los modos en que se articulan las nociones de conocimiento y razón en el cuento "Lanchitas" (1878) del conservador mexicano José María Roa Bárcena. Frente al acercamiento tradicional que estudiaba dicho cuento casi exclusivamente desde la perspectiva del cuento fantástico, el presente análisis lo inserta en una tradición cultural mexicana y en un contexto ideológico conservador. Esto es importante, pues este cuento le sirve a Roa Bárcena para modelar estrategias discursivas que explican la relación entre conocimiento y saber desde conceptos centrales de la filosofía conservadora; es decir, no necesariamente con argumentos políticos. En este trabajo defiendo que la elección del tema del muerto viviente en "Lanchitas" no es fortuita, sino que es clave para entender el uso del paradigma de lo incierto como modelo interpretativo del conflicto entre la razón y la fe.
Session II: People and Literature

4. Coffee planters, engineers and travellers: Norwegians’ encounters with Guatemala, 1900-1935

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Department of Foreign Languages
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Between 1900 and 1935 a small group of Norwegians settled in Guatemala. The time period covers the so-called era of mass migration in Latin America, when millions of Europeans settled in that continent, mostly in Argentina and Brazil. Likewise, it covers a period when almost a million Norwegians emigrated, the vast majority to the United States of America. The twenty or so Norwegians who headed for Guatemala presented characteristics different from both groups. Their destination was one which received a relatively modest number of European immigrants compared to other countries in the region. Thus, they did not form part of a major stream of European immigrants. Also, as opposed to most Norwegian emigrants, these were mainly individuals who formed part of privileged layers of Norwegian society and who were in a position to choose their way in life. But why did they choose settling in Guatemala, a country relatively unknown in Norway? And how was their encounter with Guatemala? Were they desired immigrants or simply adventurers? Drawing on various primary sources as well as secondary ones, this paper will address these and related questions.
5. The hypertext of the Amazon: reading Euclides da Cunha’s unfinished book

Marcia Caetano Langfeldt
Sorbonne-Nouvelle-Paris 3

After publishing Os Sertões (1902), translated as Rebellion in the Backlands (1944), Euclides da Cunha headed in 1905 the Brazilian Boundary Commission of Upper Purus River for the Brazilian Government. Before even landing there, he had already published four articles about the region in the national press. He was planning to write another epic book, this time about the Amazon and its’ people. A project he never finished, as he was killed in 1909 by his wife’s lover.

We know today that the title of the book would be “Lost Paradise”, after a Milton’s poem. However, he left behind him eight essays, published in the book À margem da história (1909), translated as The Amazon: land without History (2006). Beside this book, we also have reports and maps he did for the Commission, his correspondence, a foreword in a friend’s book (Alberto Rangel’s Inferno Verde (Green Hell), a short stories book about the Amazon, published in 1908) and a set of articles.

In order to write about the Amazon, Euclides da Cunha surrounded himself with the opinion of foreign travelers such as Alexander von Humboldt, Louis Agassiz, Walter Bates, Carl von Martius, Johann von Spix and many others, mixing science, journalism and poetry, constituting an hypertext, as Barthes described (1970- 1974, pp.4-5.). This paper proposes to make an intertextual reading between Euclides’ writings and the books he read, investigating in what extent he borrowed the opinions and views of these authors to build his own narrative.
6. Between "Hispanidad" and Biculturalism: Puerto Rico at the Crossroads of Spanish and United States Cultural Hegemony

Wadda Ríos-Font
Department of Spanish & Latin American Cultures
Barnard College at Columbia University

In March 2016 the seventh edition of the International Congress of the Spanish Language, sponsored by the Cervantes Institute, the Royal Spanish Academy, and the Association of Spanish Language Academies, was hosted by the Government of Puerto Rico. In opening remarks, King Felipe VI and Spanish officials positioned Spain as leader of an Ibero-American linguistic (and, ultimately, political and economic) league of nations, and referred to Puerto Rico as part of the United States and therefore removed from that cultural sphere. Hence, they presented the Congress as an opportunity to establish Spanish as an international language on par with English, and Puerto Rico as a gateway into Anglo-American culture and an understanding of the ascendance of Spanish in the US. This paper examines the problematic nature of their rhetoric, as well as the very different Puerto Rican responses that came from the political and literary/intellectual fields, in light of the island’s current situation of political and economic crisis.
After the analysis of thousands of articles and millions of words, preliminary findings of the Polame-project indicate that there is a strong tendency in the largest newspapers of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico to write about poverty as a multifaceted phenomenon that tends to be broken down into multiple categories relating to specific problem areas (health, violence, unemployment), specific and vulnerable groups (e.g. the elderly, the unemployed, children, the sick etc.) that can be measured following international definitions of poverty. These specific problem areas and affected groups are often thought of as separate with their own characteristics, causes and solutions setting them apart from other and related manifestations of poverty. Data also show that poverty notions appear in different guises in different national, social and historical contexts, focusing on different issues, social groups and strategies for improving the situation for affected groups. One characteristic seem nevertheless perennial in the mass media studied: the tendency to disconnect poverty in general from its specific manifestations and its shared closely related causal complexes.

To what extent is this communication pattern related to political ideologies (e.g. along the traditional left-right divide? To what extent is it related to the tendency (also evident in the project data) for media to import framing and discourse on poverty from international organizations such as UNDP, ECLAC (CEPAL)? What are the implications of this framing and discourse for the way in which poverty issues and potential solutions are addressed?
Organizer: Ana B. Chiquito, University of Bergen, Norway
Chairs: Gabriel Quiroz Herrera, Neyla Pardo Abril, Elena Rojas Mayer, Antonio Jesús Tamayo Herrera
Discussants: Gabriela Llull, Víctor Aramburu Cano, Hugo Javier Fuentes Castro, Carolina Pinardi, Juan Ruiz Celis, Gabriel Quiroz Herrera, Margrete Dyvik Cardona, Neyla Pardo Abril
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Session I
Chairs: Gabriel Quiroz Herrera, Universidad de Antioquia and Neyla Pardo Abril, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá.

1. Las ideologías detrás de las nociones de la pobreza: un análisis de tres periódicos mexicanos

Hugo Javier Fuentes Castro and Víctor Aramburu Cano,
Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, México

Discussant: Gabriela Llull

De acuerdo con cifras del Consejo Nacional de Evaluación de la Política de Desarrollo Social (Coneval), en 2014, el 46.2% de la población mexicana-equivalente a 55.3 millones de personas-se encontraba en condiciones de pobreza. No obstante, es de esperar que en una sociedad plural existan diferentes visiones acerca de los factores productores de pobreza. Por esta razón, en esta presentación se mostrarán los hallazgos de un estudio hecho a partir de tres de los principales periódicos mexicanos-La Jornada, El Universal y el Reforma - para desentrañar las diferentes posiciones ideológicas, tomando la clasificación de las cuatro grandes posiciones ideológicas de la economía política: liberalismo clásico, liberalismo moderno, radicalismo y conservadurismo. Se buscará hacer una clasificación de las
posiciones ideológicas de los diferentes actores productores de discursos (partidos políticos, políticos, organizaciones no gubernamentales, académicos, empresarios, sindicatos, entre otros) y analizar si ha habido cambios en el tiempo en sus posiciones ideológicas.

2. The Specialization of Media Discourse: The Case of Abbreviations in Latin-American Press covering the topic of Poverty

Juan Felipe Zuluaga Molina, Antonio Jesús Tamayo Herrera and Gabriel Quiroz Herrera, Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia

Discussant: Víctor Aramburu Cano

The present article aims at exploring the representations of lexical reduction processes found after the observation and preliminary analysis of a corpus of Colombian, Mexican, Brazilian and Argentinean press. Looking at the implementation of the research methodology of Corpus Linguistics, we found that there are many relations and links through which poverty can be represented, but there is not a real representation of the phenomenon by itself. Furthermore, we found that there is an overuse of lexical reduction units in the press documents related to poverty. This can be interpreted as a specialization process in the general discourse, given that lexical reduction processes are normally mainly related to specialized discourses according to theory. The exploration of the documents allowed us to discover the specific realities that take place in the four countries studied.
3. The taxonomy of poverty

Ana B. Chiquito, University of Bergen; Gabriel Quiroz Herrera, Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia, Elena Rojas Mayer, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina; Gabriela Llull and Carolina Pinardi, Universidad Nacional de San Juan, Argentina

Discussant: Hugo Javier Fuentes Castro

The taxonomy of poverty organizes systematically the notions of poverty contained in the news published by the main newspapers of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico during the years 2000-2014. We present the theoretical approaches to the construction of the taxonomy, the linguistic and social principles on which it is based, and the methodological perspectives that have guided this work.

4. Semióticas de la espacialidad y la pobreza en la prensa digital colombiana

Neyla Pardo Abril and Juan Ruiz Celis, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá

Discussant: Carolina Pinardi

Este trabajo toma como punto de referencia el tema de la pobreza, de un corpus multimodal aleatorio que incluye dos noticias publicadas en las plataformas virtuales de los periódicos El Tiempo y El Espectador. Se revisa la teoría más reciente sobre los estudios críticos del discurso multimodal, la semiótica y el campo de los estudios sobre la espacialidad, para verificar los procesos de poder que se implican en la representación mediática de los espacios, cuando se habla de pobreza. Se entiende el discurso como un conjunto de acciones semióticas
que apropiar recursos y establece relaciones con otras prácticas, en el marco de condicionamientos socio-históricos determinados y en virtud de los cuales genera o altera relaciones de poder. Se reconoce el carácter multimodal del discurso mediático contemporáneo, a través del cual los espacios son discursivamente indicados, ocupados e imaginados, para lo cual se construyen marcas políticos que revelan usos específicos de la espacialidad.

Session II

1. Las visiones de la pobreza en la prensa hegemónica Argentina

Sonia Álvarez Leguízamon, Universidad Nacional de Salta, Argentina

Discussant: Juan Ruiz Celis

En esta presentación se analizan las visiones y discursos predominantes sobre la pobreza en tres diarios de la prensa hegemónica argentina: El Clarín, La Nación y La Voz del Interior. El análisis se basa en un abordaje crítico del discurso y la visión socio antropológica de las representaciones sociales. Las preguntas principales son: ¿El discurso que se construye, promueve una visión de la pobreza que naturaliza la desigualdad? ¿Hasta qué punto la prensa hegemónica se hace eco de las políticas promovidas por los Organismos internacionales de "desarrollo"? La visión estadístico técnica y la desarrollista - descriptas en el artículo- son las que más ocurrencias presentan. Encontrando en la visión desarrollista predominancia de perspectivas individualistas y culturalistas que colocan en sus víctimas las causas de la pobreza. Observamos que la visión
técnica se aproiona del lenguaje científico y lo difunde dando una imagen de “neutralidad” y reificando la desigualdad.

2. Da pobreza à classe média: construção imaginária da nova classe C brasileira pela Folha de S. Paulo

Ana Silvia Andreu da Fonseca and Félix Pablo Friggeri, Universidade Federal da Integração Latino-Americana (UNILA)

Discussant: Gabriel Quiroz Herrera

Neste artigo buscamos verificar como se dá a construção imaginária da chamada “nova classe C” pelo jornal diário de maior circulação do Brasil, a Folha de S. Paulo. Referida classe passou a ser a maior camada socioeconômica do país em 2009, segundo verificou o Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), por força dos programas sociais implantados pelo governo Lula (2003-2010) – a maioria deles mantida pelo governo Dilma, também do Partido dos Trabalhadores. Dentre as políticas públicas que promoveram tal ascensão socioeconômica, destaca-se o Bolsa-Família e sua gigantesca capilaridade em todo território nacional. Com membros advindos das classes D e E, as mais miseráveis, a nova classe média torna-se objeto de interesse de setores ligados à indústria e ao comércio, devido a seu emergente poder de consumo. Com instrumental teórico interdisciplinar, baseado no que consideramos como a linha franco-argentina da Análise do Discurso, com contribuições de, por exemplo, Eliseo Verón e Silvana Serrani, propomem-nos a responder as seguintes questões: Como é construída discursivamente a imagem dessa nova classe média pelo maior jornal impresso do Brasil? Nessa construção imaginária, a Folha faz mais uso de dados acadêmico-científicos ou opinativos? Quem são aqueles a que o diário dá voz na construção imaginária
3. Media and the Right to Water: Has the Rights Language in Favour of the Most Vulnerable Reached Latin American Newspapers?

Lara Côrtes, University of Bergen; Gabriela Llull and Carolina Pinardi, Universidad Nacional de San Juan, Argentina:

Discussant: Margrete Dyvik Cardona

Challenges concerning access to water and disputes over water uses in Latin America and elsewhere are high on the international agenda. In 2010, a UN Resolution explicitly recognized the right to water and sanitation as a full human right, and universal access to water and sanitation was included as one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Moreover, several countries have included the right to water in their national legislation. In a context of water scarcity exacerbated by factors such as climate change and increasing pressure for the production of energy, vulnerable groups are particularly affected by competition over water. Our goal is to make a study of articles in major newspaper in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico in order to ascertain whether newspapers in these countries have incorporated the language of human rights when referring to water-associated issues/problems. Is the right to water mentioned at all? If not, are problems related to access to water or water uses linked to other human rights, such as the right to health? The other main objective is to find out if/which vulnerable groups are given attention, and how they are presented. Our database covers a period of four years after the
UN resolution (2010-2014) and the proposed comparative perspective will allow us to maintain a broad picture of the region.

4. La construcción social de los pobres en Brasil: medios de comunicación y cultura de la pobreza

Victoria Darling and Félix Pablo Friggeri, Universidade Federal da Integração Latino-Americana (UNILA), Brasil

Discussant: Neyla Pardo Abril

Brasil ha alcanzado a lo largo de los últimos años notables avances en la disminución de la población que se encuentra viviendo en condiciones de pobreza extrema, no obstante, continúa siendo uno de los diez países más desiguales del mundo. Habitan hoy el país cerca de 16 millones de personas que viven en la extrema pobreza, lo cual equivale a la población de un país entero, como Ecuador o Guatemala. Es cierto que el aumento de los ingresos medios, combinado con un mejor acceso a los servicios sociales, ha reducido la pobreza extrema. Sin embargo, los cambios no han alterado el principal problema: la desigualdad estructural que divide a la sociedad. Lo cierto es que datos del Informe de la Cepal, Panorama social de América Latina (2015), indican que más de 2 millones 750 mil brasileños salieron de la extrema pobreza en 2014 –en el marco de una merma del crecimiento económico y un clima de franca recesión– a contracorriente de la región que, en el mismo año, vio aumentar el número de personas en situación de pobreza de 168 a 175 millones. ¿A qué se debe este fenómeno? La investigación que proponemos apunta a iluminar los aspectos que apuntalan la producción y reproducción de desigualdades en forma paralela a la lucha declarada de políticas públicas para reducir la pobreza. La pobreza y la desigualdad social son problemas íntimamente...
relacionados a los que sin embargo, las políticas sociales no atienden con la misma intensidad. Haciendo foco en el Programa Bolsa Familia, exploraremos cómo las políticas que se proponen combatir la pobreza, exponen fisuras veladas involucrando imágenes positivas que colabora poco en el real desafío de transformar la estructura social. A la luz de esta variable, recuperamos como gráfica del análisis, la apuesta publicitaria y discursiva que el Estado brasileño impulsa para legitimar su política de combate a la pobreza, explorando sus limitaciones, velando sus intereses de apenas influir en la siempre rígida distancia que consagra la desigualdad.
PANEL 4: STRATEGIC ISSUES IN POLITICAL ECology:
ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE, LABOR CONFLICTS
AND SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES IN LATIN AMERICA

SESSION I: FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 08:30-10:00
SESSION II: FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 10:15-11:45

The objective of this panel is to discuss some of the main issues connected with environmental governance in Latin America by examining the tensions between development needs and environmental strategies as reflected in conflicts about public policy formulation and implementation. Existing frameworks and ideologies about “green economy” and sustainable consumption and production have as their goal to lead to more equitable and sustainable lifestyles. Do they in fact do so? Do the policies deal sufficiently with the economic, social and cultural dimensions of sustainable development? To what extent do governments measure “development” in terms of well-being and sustainability as opposed to purely measuring economic growth? Local and regional research projects and reports will be discussed in an effort to identify what opposition the present approaches have encountered and to what extent the policies are, in fact, contributing to the desired “sustainability transition”.

By focusing on these issues, this panel hopes to support the development of research networks and projects dealing with political ecology frameworks in Latin America and Norway.

Organizer: Lars Leer, Hedemark University of Applied Sciences
Chairs: Victoria W. Thoresen, The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living (PERL) / UNESCO Chair for Education for Sustainable Lifestyles
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Session I

1. Political ecology and wind energy conflicts in Mexico`s Isthmus of Tehuantepec

Lars Leer  
Hedmark University of Applied Sciences (HIHM)

Authors: Lars Leer, Abraham Nahón and Salomón Nahmad Sittón

This paper will discuss the environmental conflicts about wind energy in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. Based on archival research and case-studies of social movement activism and state efforts to implement the wind energy farms in Oaxaca it intends to give a more nuanced interpretations about the motivations of actors in conflict and suggest some solutions. Attention is paid to the development of the wind energy project and the role of State and Federal Institutions in bargaining and development projects with local authorities.

It will be argued that lack of ecological priorities and uncoordinated planning has led to unfair and unequal treatment of local landholders, a failure to share benefits with the local communities and civil society conflicts. Using perspectives from legal anthropology and political ecology viable options for improving Mexico`s energy and indigenous legislation to protect the needs and participation of the indigenous people is explored.
2. Nature as a Subject of Rights: A Discourse Analysis on Ecuador’s Constitutional Rights of Nature

Synneva Laastad
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University of Oslo

This paper investigates whether and if so how the incorporation of a concept from an indigenous worldview is able to influence a country’s development model. The constitutional rights of nature in Ecuador are used as case. In 2008 Ecuador became the first country in the world to make nature a subject of rights, and they did this by invoking nature as la Pachamama, the Kichwa Mother Earth deity. This is a biocentric notion which challenges the modernist vision of nature as subject to human use. In this study the rights of nature are deemed as still open to interpretation however, and their meaning as attempted fixed in a discursive struggle. In interview data from relevant actors in Ecuador three different discourses on the rights of nature are identified. The Ecosocialist Discourse represents the rights of nature as a justification for continued struggle against the capitalist system. The Transformative Discourse represents the rights of nature as a potential instrument for a necessary global transformation of the human-nature relationship. The Anthropocentric Developmentalist Discourse represents the rights of nature as a possible form of stronger environmental regulation. The discourses’ influence on development policy is found to depend on scale. Elements from the Transformative Discourse are found in Ecuador’s overarching development ambitions, while the Anthropocentric Developmentalist Discourse is found to be the language of policy-making. This incorporation of a concept from a different non-modern ontology has opened up space for discursive agency, but its influence on Ecuador's development
model remains limited; policies are still developed within the parameters of an anthropocentric ontological framework.

3. Adapting to “indiogenic” climate change – identity, culpability, development, and resistance

Morgan Scoville-Simonds
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
Genève

Andean countries and Peru in particular are frequently identified as vulnerable to climate change impacts. Meanwhile, development activities in Peru increasingly adopt climate change adaptation as a primary goal. Yet, little is known about how highland Andean communities experience climate-related changes, nor how they may react to adaptation interventions.

Extensive fieldwork in agro-pastoral communities in highland Cusco where a pilot adaptation project is active was conducted, examining the “crossroads” of competing understandings of changing climatic conditions. Two local (‘indigenous’) discourses can be identified, expressed in terms of hybridized combinations of different religious traditions (Andean, Catholic, and Protestant), contrasting experiences of human-environment relations, and in particular, differing views on the Andean practice of pago a la tierra. On the other hand, the analysis of interviews with project staff and ‘beneficiaries’, observations of project-public interactions, and project awareness-raising materials suggest that project discourse promotes conceiving of climate change as an apolitical, local issue disarticulated from global process of every kind, and focuses instead on “environmentally-degrading social backwardness” at the local level. Finally, a unique relational concept-mapping technique is used to examine the local response to such messages. The paper
concludes that while project messages are indeed repeated by community members in interviews, rather than being internalized, they are “compartmentalized” off from indigenous understandings and everyday practices. Nevertheless, the findings raise serious questions about the inherent limits and social justice implications of implementing adaptation activities along the lines of traditional development projects.

Session II

4. "The Responsibility of Consumers", developing an institutional understanding of sustainable consumption within a consumer protection agency, the case of SERNAC-Chile.

Luis Flores Mimica
The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living (PERL)
UNESCO Chair for Education for Sustainable Lifestyles

This paper will review the process of development of an institutional concept on consumer responsibility by the Chilean consumer protection agency, SERNAC www.sernac.cl, in an effort to:

i. identify the main barriers and obstacles that consumer protection agencies face in dealing with the economic, social, and environmental effects of consumption;

ii. explore the potential that consumer protection agencies have to address the externalities derived from the production-consumption processes.

Most Consumer protection agencies in Latin America build their policies and structure their work on the bases of the protection
of consumer rights and the need to empower consumers to interact in the market. At the center of this institutional approach are the principle of consumer sovereignty, the rational choice understanding of consumer decision making and an individualistic view of the consumer, acting on the strict bases of a contractual relationship with the providers. Despite its relative usefulness to address some consumer protection issues, this institutional approach has shown serious limitations when dealing with the social and environmental effects derived from the current consumption patterns. As a result, in most cases these matters are derived to other specialized governmental agencies such as environment, health and social security.

Based on the case study of SERNAC, it will be argued that the current institutional approach of most consumer protection agencies in Latin America is undermining the potential that they have, as specialized agencies on consumption matters, to address sustainability issues and to promote more sustainable lifestyles in the region.

5. Culinary tastes, social inequalities, and sustainability in Cochabamba, Bolivia

Sarah Kollnig
Lund University

Fried chicken or a vegetarian lunch? Dried llama meat or filet mignon? The cuisine in the “culinary capital of Bolivia”, the city of Cochabamba, is very diverse. Ethnographic research carried out by the author shows that the diet of the “Cochabambinos” is intimately linked to social status and social power struggles. In this paper, the author uses Bourdieu’s notion of the “field” in order to analyze the dynamics of culinary tastes in Cochabamba city. The author adds a normative dimension to the analysis by
discussing traditions and new tendencies in the Cochabamba food system in the light of questions of “food justice” and the sustainability of food production and consumption.

6. Sostenibilidad del cultivo de tomate (Lycopersicon esculentum Mill.) en Bolivia

Julio Cesar Patzi Martinez  
Consultor Ambiental

La producción de tomate (Lycopersicon esculentum Mill.) en Bolivia se remonta a la época precolombina, en la actualidad se cultiva en ocho de los nueve departamentos con una superficie que alcanza a 5.142 hectáreas, repartidas entre valles templados a zonas cálidas.

Debido a la alta vulnerabilidad a enfermedades producidas por hongos, bacterias, virus y algunos nematodos, así como al ataque de insectos, los cultivos son frecuentemente fumigados con pesticidas que en su mayoría son de etiqueta amarilla y roja. La explotación intensiva de esta especie obliga a los agricultores a incorporar fertilizantes minerales al suelo con la consiguiente cadena de impactos ambientales producida tanto por pesticidas como por fertilizantes, además de la transformación de espacios naturales a terrenos de cultivo y la utilización de grandes cantidades de agua, encareciendo así el producto empobreciendo las tierras y haciendo un rubro inviable a la larga.

En el presente artículo se plantea algunas formas de producción ecológica más sostenibles, con mejores resultados y más amigables con el medioambiente que consiguen ahorrar hasta un 80% de agua.
In the 1980s and the 1990s, the dominant discourse in Latin America favored a minimalist state and several projects were introduced to reduce the role of the state in the economy and society. The so called progressive projects of the 2000s have reversed many of the reforms, and changed the discourse favoring a state with a broader role in development and societal welfare. However, this has to varying degrees been accompanied by policies to strengthen state institutions. In this panel we discuss how resources, interests and the states’ ability to control violence have shaped current and past projects of state construction and transformation but also processes of partial dismantling or destruction.

Organizer/Chair: Benedicte Bull, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), University of Oslo
Contact: Benedicte Bull, benedicte.bull@sum.uio.no

1. Neoliberal Transformations and the State and in Chile and Argentina

Tor Opsvik
Department of Literature
Area Studies and European Languages. University of Oslo

The military dictatorships in Chile (1973-1989) and Argentina (1976-1983) both tried to implement a neoliberal transformation of the economy as a means to achieve their explicitly stated goal of “a moral, institutional and material
reconstruction of the Nation”¹. The fact that Pinochet’s regime to a large extent achieved its objective and the Argentinean Junta did not, is the point of departure of the comparative historical analysis of this paper. Furthermore I argue that an explanation of this outcome is to be found in the process of centralization and authonomy of State power in Chile as opposed to the increasing fragmentation of the Argentinean regime. Thus, the central idea is that the contrast between these two diverging historical paths can shed new light on the economic history of the 1970s in Chile and Argentina. To what extent did the military coups and their historical contexts weaken the elites’ ability to influence and control the authoritarian regimes? What can these two cases tell us about neoliberal transformations and the problem Miles Kahler² formulated and called the orthodox paradox: you need a strong State to dismantle State power.

2. Angola & Venezuela – Oil states on the brink

Aslak Orre
Christian Michelsen Institute
Bergen

Leiv Marsteintredet
University of Oslo
University of Bergen

Angola and Venezuela are among the most oil dependent countries in the world. When oil prices fell in 2014, these states lost half of their income base. A combined economic, political and social crisis followed.

The acute problems in both countries originate in the political economy that developed through decades of the black gold bonanza. Angola and Venezuela are very different polities, yet aside from oil dependency the countries also share many traits:
Authoritarian and presidentialist rule, political polarisation, deindustrialisation and import dependency, weak civil societies and most notoriously the astronomical corruption levels.

This paper will discuss the gravity of the situation in the two countries and their deep roots in the political economy of oil. Why has it been so difficult for Angola and Venezuela to reform their political economies? Are there similarities in these polities that may help explain the inability of the respective political systems to respond adequately to low oil prices on the world market? What can a comparison of the two tell us about common perils for oil states? Are there insights from African studies and Latin America studies, respectively, that may provide new ways of understanding politics in Angola and Venezuela?

3. La teoría del Estado en América Latina en el temprano siglo XXI: avance, estancamiento o retroceso?

Pablo Andrade
Universidad Andina Simon Bolívar
Quito, Ecuador

El retorno del Estado en América Latina, curiosamente, ha estado acompañado por la casi completa ausencia de una reflexión teórica sobre el Estado, su naturaleza, sus continuidades y cambios. El ensayo muestra, mediante un análisis bibliométrico, las características del debate latinoamericano contemporáneo sobre el Estado, y se pregunta por ¿cómo podemos avanzar hacia un diálogo académico Norte-Sur que permita avanzar en la generación de teoría estatal en América Latina?
4. Elites and state building in Latin America

Benedicte Bull
Centre for Development and the Environment
University of Oslo

One of the most frequently heard arguments about the keys to inclusive growth and development is that it depends on the existence of a development-oriented elite. This is necessary for the establishment of inclusive political institutions – meaning that they are both centralized (i.e. that institutions have ensured sufficient control over a geographical area) and pluralized (i.e. that there exists an agreed division of power) – needed for economic growth and development. In contrast, when institutions place few constraints on the exercise of power by the elite, resources are extracted from society rather than employed productively. The role of the elite is also frequently in focus in the historical literature on state building. However, in this literature the term “elite” is almost never defined. Rather it is used as a convenient shorthand lumping together groups such as landowners, the industrial bourgeoisie, military leaders, politicians and intellectuals. A clearer view of elites could allow us to better handle some of the most pressing problems in institution building in current Latin America, such as the relationship between democracy and state capacity building. The purpose of this paper is to contribute to such a clarification and suggest ways of studying present day state building projects through the lens of elites. First, it discusses how elites appear in current literature on state building in Latin America. Second, it discusses the theoretical literature on elites and its relevance to current issues of development and state capacity building in Latin America. The third section discusses different recent processes of elite-shifts in Latin America and how it can contribute to explaining the emergence of state-development
projects in the post-neoliberal era. The final section switches focus to the reasons for the failure of many of these projects, questioning the ability of new and old elites to contribute usefully to state building in an era of power dilution and fragmentation.

5. Reverse Auto-ethnography and Governmentality in Ecuador since 2008: The Case of Sumak Kawsay”

Esteban Nicholls
Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar
Quito

The central question structuring this paper is: what has been the political trajectory of indigenous peoples and social movements' radical narratives’ in post-neoliberal Ecuador and what has been their relationship to processes of state formation in the country? To answer this question the paper investigates the ways in which “radical” narratives from indigenous peoples’ and social movements have been incorporated by the state into its own frames of self-representation. The paper argues that as politicized radical narratives from social movements, like Sumak Kawsay, for example, have become intertwined with discourses emanating from the state, there has been a corresponding process of de-radicalization of these narratives. Linking the concepts of auto-ethnography (Pratt, 1991, 1992) and rule by de-politicization (Ferguson, 1994) with a Foucaultian understanding of governmental regimes, the paper shows how the appropriation and de-radicalization of social movements' narratives by the state have played an important role in processes of state-formation since 2008. Finally, the paper shows that what I defines as processes of reverse auto-ethnography are an important constitutive element of, to borrow Ferguson’s phrase, a larger anti-politics machine that has been
co-constitutive to the strengthening of state authority in Ecuador since 2008.
Panel 6: Counterwork: Popular Efforts to Tame the Extractive State in Latin America

Session I: Friday 2 September 10:15-11:45
Session II: Friday 2 September 14:00-15:30

Previous research and publication captures the negative social and environmental impacts of natural resource extraction and related infrastructure development. Several international observatories highlight that Latin America is the region with the highest density of socio-environmental conflicts in the world. Despite significant study of the cartography of extraction and its violence, little study has, however, been made of the internal workings of local responses to these forces or the mechanisms used by local communities to try and tame or stance extractive states.

In this panel we aim to study popular responses to resource extraction and the multiplicity of governance instruments - formal and informal - used to support their efforts. As the panel highlights, this not only involves multiple forms of protest but institutional engagement e.g. efforts to counterwork prior consultation, law, territorial planning, environmental and social impact assessment and local referenda. The panel emphasizes that the contestation of natural resources involves complex dynamics not only formed in the moment of extraction, but which often represent the culmination of political experience, grievance and ontological relationships to territory, nature and state formed over longer periods of time. Whilst we recognize the clear imbalances of power between states, corporations and local communities, the panel also aims to reveal the subtle interplay of agencies that surround resource extraction, some of
which sustain discourses of resistance and others pragmatic negotiation.

Organizer/Chair: John-Andrew McNeish, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)
Discussant: Mariel Aguilar Støen, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), University of Oslo
Contact: John-Andrew McNeish, john.mcneish@nmbu.no

Session I

1. Indigenous Efforts to Tame the Extractive State in Bolivia and Colombia

John-Andrew McNeish
Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)

The paper explores the challenging experiences of indigenous peoples in Latin America as they attempt to engage in and make sense of major political and economic changes in the region of Latin America. The paper acknowledges that indigenous territories across the region are threatened as a result of increased levels of natural resource exploitation and extraction. However, the paper also highlights the changes being made to political maps of Latin America in which indigenous peoples have sought and gained titles and official recognition of rights to significant areas of land—often as collective organizations. In addition, new forms of indigenous autonomy have started to expand local indigenous communities’ possibilities of self-government. Rather than simply being reactive to changing political and economic circumstances through acts of protest and resistance, indigenous communities are also engaged—often in parallel—in efforts to respond and tame the new demands and challenges to the governance of territories. I emphasize then, in
contrast to dominant academic narratives, that tensions in the region are not only the product of impromptu clashes, but part of a larger political and social dialectic in which indigenous communities both struggle and negotiate with competing legal and state institutions, public and corporate entities to establish and re-establish ”indigenous environmental governance”. The paper suggests that an account of the critical institutional interactions and the counterwork they require a more detailed and accurate picture of current socio-environmental tensions in the region can be revealed.

2. Subverting Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (EIAs) to claim better participation

Mariel Aguilar Støen
Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM)
University of Oslo

Authors: Mariel Aguilar Støen and Cecilie Hirsch

In this article we take a closer look at resistance to the practice of EIA in mining and energy projects in Guatemala. Collectivities resisting mining and hydropower projects in Guatemala are increasingly using the alternative accounts and evaluations of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIAs) conducted by international independent professionals. Reaching out to international experts is facilitated by local communities’ engagements in transnational networks bringing together activists, NGOs, scientists, journalists and others. We argue that resistance movements resort to international professionals to challenge the limits imposed on them by the national legislation and institutional arrangements as well as by the way in which EIAs are performed in the country. Further, the engagements in networks that facilitate access to knowledge contribute to
strengthen the legitimacy of communities’ claims. Challenges to and complaints about EIAs are ways in which affected communities try to reclaim their right to participate in decision-making related to their local environment and the development of their communities. Both complaints about EIAs and the use of transnational networks to attain better participation in decision-making processes at local levels, illustrated in this study for Guatemala, are common responses to the advancement of extractive industries and hydropower development across Latin America. The widespread of initiatives to challenge EIAs involving international experts in the region show that EIAs have become a sort of a transnational battleground.


Iselin Åsedotter Strønen
Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI)
University of Bergen

The Venezuelan government has for the past years engineered a new extractive strategy both onshore and offshore. Expanded harvesting of marine resources, minerals, and coal are cast as an opportunity to diversify the country’s oil-dependent economy. As part of these plans, special economic zones (EEZ), partnership agreements with foreign companies, and a new national oil-, gas, and mining company has been established. Key to this strategy is the establishment of the Arco Minero del Orinoco (Orinoco Mining Arc), an area that stretches 111 km² in the Amazon state, representing 12 percent of the nation’s territory. The area is reportedly rich in precious minerals, including gold, cobber, iron, and bauxite. In February 2016, the government signed partnership deals with a Canadian and several Chinese gold mining companies. The establishment of the Arco Minero has
generated vocal protests both from indigenous-, environmental and political groups. On April 4, 2016 a protest letter, signed by 50 grassroots organizations, was handed for to the vice-minister for oil and mining. Amongst the demands is to hold a binding popular referendum on whether the Arco Minero should be put into operation. This paper will explore how this new extractive expansion fit with the government’s claim to “eco-socialism” and the stated aim of reduced dependency on non-renewable resources. Which form of national development is the government discursively conjuring through its presentation of this project to the nation? In contrast to this, how is opposition to the project organized and discursively articulated?

Session II

4. The Extractive State and Social Banditry in the Andes.

Cecilie Ødegaard
University of Bergen

Related to its importance as a site for sovereign contention (Mitchell 2011), the distribution of fuels is subject to degrees of regulation and control beyond any other commodity. In our understanding of the extractive state, we therefore need to understand the particularities of fuels as commodity construct; as capital-intensive and involving advanced infrastructure for its extraction and distribution. This paper explores a situation in which the distribution of fuels is informalized, by focusing on the smuggling of petrol and gas from Bolivia to Peru. This smuggling became widespread with the Bolivian government’s subsidization of energy prices since 2005. Although transgressing the law, contrabandistas in this context are generally not regarded as criminals. Rather, contrabandistas represent a kind of social banditry (Hobsbawm 1969), whose
claims for the right to earn a living holds certain legitimacy. This legitimacy is informed by the experience and recognition of structural inequalities. Central for my understanding of the “informalization” of fuels is how it contributes to subsume profit to particular modes of sociality. By investing in colleagues, kin, earth beings and saints, contrabandistas give time and money to reciprocal relations and forms of consumption that may limit the accumulation of wealth (Gandolfo, 2013, Ødegaard 2010). The paper discusses how the extractive state creates an image of social banditry as a threat, however, since the smuggling of fuels actualizes border-work, regulation and surveillance of particular kinds. Through these technologies of regulation, the "social bandit" is de-socialized and criminalized.

5. An Interface of Counterwork: The contestation of compensation at El Quimbo dam, Colombia

Cornelia Helmecke
Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)

It is mystery why some policies fail and others work. Governmentality is widely used in critical social theory to analyze the impact of structural power on subject formation. However, such studies tend to neglect civil agency and end up seeing society as one block apart and often in opposition to the state, presupposing further that governmental institutions all pull the same string. Counterwork, first conceptualized by Fardon (1995) and elaborated by Arce and Long (2000) and Escobar (2008), wants to dissolve dichotomies between state and society, the traditional and the modern. It highlights “the rebounding effects of knowledge in its diversity” (Parkin 1995: 144). Discourses are circling between public agencies, affecting and conflicting with each other. Civil society often shares spaces with those agencies. Discourses are integrated, transformed,
modified and bounce back into the level of governance. In my research, I want to take the case of compensation efforts at the El Quimbo dam, Colombia to analyze such interfaces with the objective to see how a local struggle has the potential to change a hegemonic discourse on the national scale and to shed light on the entanglement of policies and resistance, hegemony and counter-hegemony.
The first decades of the 21st century have, sadly, demonstrated a serious decline in the overall human rights situation in Latin America. In its 2015/16 report Amnesty International refers to «the magnitude of the human rights crisis facing the Americas». Amnesty points (p.26-33) to the challenges of impunity, the situation for migrants/refugees, indigenous people, increased criminalization, poverty, violence, the role of transnational corporations, sexual- and reproductive rights, torture and armed conflicts, as particular issues.

Across Latin America and the Caribbean, human rights defenders are under heavy fire for their work. It can be argued that the situation for human rights in the region is comparable to the era of military dictatorships.

This panel invites papers with an interdisciplinary approach to, and analysis of, the current situation for human rights in the region, with a particular focus on labor, economic, social and cultural rights. The American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man (the Bogota Declaration) from 1948 was crucial for international human rights work and a first of its kind. Thus, drawing upon the rich tradition of Latin American human rights thinking and practice, both from a historical and contemporary perspective, the contribution from a region – now often marginalized in international research – will be presented.

The aim of the panel is that the coherent analysis of «los sin derechos» will give rise to new answers and perspectives on
human rights in the 21st century, applicable both for Latin America and the world as a whole.

Organizer/Chair: Hans Geir Aasmundsen, UiB Global, University of Bergen
Moderator: Iver Ørstavik, Rafto Foundation
Contact: Hans Egil Offerdal, hans.offerdal@uib.no

Session I

1. Episcopal conferences and “los sin derechos”: 21st century Catholic struggles for human rights in Latin America

Hans Egil Offerdal
University of Bergen

During the era of military dictatorships in Latin America, progressive sectors of the Catholic Church was instrumental in the defense of human rights (Klaiber, 1998; Lernoux). Documenting, and denouncing, human rights situations sadly became a trademark for some episcopal conferences, and individual bishops, in the region in the post-conciliar years and towards the late 1990s. An illustrative example is the work of Dom Paolo Evaristo Cardinal Arns, leading to the publication of Brasil, Nunca Mais (Arns 1985; Weschler 1991). Other cases include the works of Tutela Legal in El Salvador and Proyecto Interdiocesano de Recuperación de la Memoria Histórica (REMHI) in Guatemala.

At the doorstep of the 21st century, the human rights situation in Latin America is sharply deteriorating. Mexico is now one of the most dangerous countries in the world for church workers. In 2015 Latin America was the region with the highest numbers of
religious brothers and sisters killed, and this for the seventh consecutive year (Fides, 2015).

This short paper will look at the current work done to defend human rights by some selected national episcopal in the region, with a particular emphasis on Mexico and Central America. Part of the work is to compare well-known bishops working with human rights in the 1970-1990s with less known episcopal voices of today in order to look for continuity, similarities and differences.

2. Up to a certain point: Satire in Cuban cinema from La muerte de un burócrata to Juan de los muertos

Håkon Tveit
University of Bergen

This paper explores how Cuban comedies have tested the limits of freedom of expression since the sixties. Communist Cuba is routinely criticized for censorship and lack of freedom of speech, but film has been considered an area where criticism has had better conditions than mass media and arts in general. Particularly comedies with critical content have been able to escape the scrutiny of the censors since La muerte de un burócrata (1966) by Tomás Gutiérrez Alea. After the humorless “grey seventies”, social satire resurfaced during the rejuvenation of the ICAIC in 1982, especially through Alea-protégé Juan Carlos Tabío. Since the fall of European communism, satirical comedies have been dominant among the many co-productions with Spain. The commercially successful Juan de los Muertos (2011) by Alejandro Brugués included Fidel-jokes and ridiculed the discourse of Cuban television, thus testing the limits of satire on the Revolution’s icons.
Satire is threatened in Europe as Germany and Turkey negotiate using refugees and comedians as pawns. In Cuba satirical choteo represents an old tradition of ridiculing authorities. Max Eastman spoke of the scales of biting in satire from the roots of Horats and Juvenalis. Dario Fo contrasts the reactionary nature of mild teasing in the tradition of Horats with a subversive satire inherited from Juvenalis. To what extent have Cuban filmmakers gotten away with biting the hand that feeds them? This paper argues that the films in question got through censorship and reached a wide audience, despite containing satire in the tradition of Juvenalis.

3. Human Rights and perceptions of poverty in Latin American media

Ana B. Chiquito
University of Bergen

The proclamation: "Poverty itself is a violation of numerous human rights" (Robinson, 1997) is a phrase that states the existence of a relationship between the concepts of poverty and human rights – according to which poverty (as human rights violations) is an evil that is caused and must be remedied by social organization and practices. Since then, poverty has become increasingly crucial on the international human rights agenda.

However, already in 1948, the "American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man" (the Bogotá Declaration) affirmed that the fulfillment of duties towards society by individuals and institutions are also prerequisites to the fulfillment of the rights of all to e.g. education, to health, to work and to fair remuneration, among others.
Based on these principles, we have explored a collection of several thousand newspaper articles related to poverty in order to identify the relationship that the major newspapers in Argentina, Colombia and Mexico establish between poverty and human rights.

We look at the following questions: What are the relationships (if any) established by the media between poverty and human rights, and in which contexts, e.g. regarding causes, responsibility and remedies? Do these relationships refer to any of the rights declared in the "American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man" and in "The World People’s Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth" (Cochabamba Declaration of 2010)? Further, are there specific human rights issues highlighted by the press? Can we identify a shift in the perception of poverty and human rights in the period studied? Are there any geographical differences in the press’ treatment of human rights?

4. Evangelical's Holistic Mission; promoting or contradicting Human Rights?

Hans Geir Aasmundsen
UiB Global

Evangelical Christianity has seen a steady numerical growth in Latin America over the latest decades, and today around 20 % of the adult population identify as Protestant. At the same time there has been a substantial growth in Charismatic Catholicism, arguably making “renewalism” the most important socio-cultural change taking place on the continent. This transformation is mainly driven by “internal” mission, directed at renewing the denominations and churches that exist, and “external” mission, directed at converting individuals, families and societies.
In this paper I will mainly focus on the latter, and particularly what has been coined Holistic Mission, and discuss whether or not - to what degree - this kind of mission is in conflict with, or promoting, both liberal and social Human Rights?
PANEL 8: NORWEGIAN RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA

SESSION: FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 10:15-11:45

This panel will be held in Norwegian.

This panel discusses and analyses Norwegian relations with Latin American across a broad specter of topics (politics, economy, migration, etc.) both today and historically. The aim of the panel is to elucidate and bring attention to what type of relations Norway has held with the region, map variation across time and space, and explain these relations.

Organizer/Chair: Leiv Marsteintredet, University of Oslo, University of Bergen
Contact: Leiv Marsteintredet, leiv.marsteintredet@ilos.uio.no

1. Norsk migrasjon til og i Latin-Amerika, 1820-1940

Steinar A. Sæther
Universitetet i Oslo

Kapitlet er en bearbeidet versjon av de to første kapittelene i antologien "Expectations Unfulfilled: Norwegian Migrants in Latin America, 1820-1940" (Leiden: Brill, 2015). Det tar for seg omfanget og sentrale mønstre i den norske migrasjonen til og i Latin-Amerika mellom Napoleonskrigene og Den andre verdenskrig. Teksten er basert både en kombinasjon av statistisk materiale og tekster skrevet av migrantene selv, og den søker å forklare hvorfor utvandringen til Latin-Amerika var forholdsvis beskjeden på tross av at Norge var ett av de europeiske landene som hadde den største emigrationsraten samtisig med at de latinamerikanske statene var de største mottakerne av europeiske migranter etter USA. I kapittelet legges det spesielt vekt på sammenhengen mellom migrasjonen og den norske
skipsfartsnæringen. Skipsfarten strukturerte migrasjonen på bestemte måter som gjorde at den norske migrasjonen oppviser noen særtrekk sammenlignet med den generelle transatlantiske massemigrasjonen i samme periode.

2. Norsk misjon i Latin-Amerika

Bjørn Ola Tafjord
Universitetet i Tromsø

Historisk oversikt (hvem, når, hvor, hva) \ aktører i dag (hvem, hvor, hva) \ målgrupper: fattige, indianere, barn, kvinner, syke \ brev hjem: misjonærers fremstillinger av Latin-Amerika \ målsettinger: frelse fra fattigdom og overtro \ samarbeidspartnere i Latin-Amerika \ relasjoner og makt \ kombinerte opplegg: misjonsprosjekter, utviklingsprosjekter og nødhjelpsprosjekter \ privat finansiering og statlig finansiering \ norsk utenrikspolitikk, DIGNI og misjonærer i felt \ mange midler, men få omvendte \ til tjeneste for norske forskere og utdanningsinstitusjoner (feltarbeid, utveksling, interkulturell forståelse) \ kontinuitet og endringer i forbindelser, ideologier og praksiser \ hvorfor er det nesten ikke forsket på dette?

Forbindelser og forestillinger vil bli tematisert gjennomgående i dette kapitlet.

Tor Opsvik  
Universitetet i Oslo


4. "La firma no es la paz": norske bidrag til fredsprosessene i Guatemala og Colombia

Ada Nissen  
Universitetet i Oslo

De langvarige konfliktene i Guatemala og Colombia har mange likhetstrekk. I tillegg deler de historien om fredsavtaler meglet fram med norsk assistanse. Guatemala fikk sin endelige avtale i desember 1996 mens Colombia er i ferd med å signere sin avtale, tjue år senere. Hvorfor har det vært i Norges interesse å megle
fred i Latin-Amerika? Hvordan kom Norge inn i prosessene og hvilke tilnærningsmåter har de norske meglingsteamene brukt i de to prosessene? Kan vi identifisere mønstre? Hva er likt og hva har forandret seg?


5. Norsk utenrikspolitikk og den latinamerikanske «venstrebølgen»: idealismen og nytenkningens muligheter og begrensninger

Benedicte Bull
Senter for Utvikling og Miljø (SUM)
Universitetet i Oslo

Perioden fra rundt 2003 til 2013 var tiåret i da ulike sosiale bevegelser på venstresiden fikk regjeringsmakt i Latin-Amerika for første gang. Kombinert med fordelaktige internasjonale økonomiske forhold, bidro det til fremveksten av politiske prosjekter med formål om reduksjon i ulikhet og konstruksjon

Panel 9: Urban Inequality in Latin America – Documentary Film Approaches

Session: Friday 2 September 10:15-11:45

Although inequality has decreased in Latin America, cities on the continent remain highly unequal places. Latin American cities are also growing and changing through the efforts of their inhabitants and authorities. How are these current changes in Latin American urban landscapes affecting inequality? And how can we use documentary films as part of the research on this issue? This panel focuses in particular on recent approaches to urban development in Rio de Janeiro. Here, urban development has since the early 2000s been centred on the hosting of several sporting mega-events; the Pan-American Games in 2007, the Confederations Cup in 2013, the FIFA World Cup in 2014, and the Olympics in 2016. As such, Rio represents an interesting place to explore the impacts of mega-events on urban inequality. This panel discusses this question, as well as the use of film in researching it. Excerpts from films will be presented, and they will be complemented by papers discussing the questions explored in the film and the use of films in the research process.

Organizer/Chair: Margit Ystanes, University of Bergen
Discussants: Håkon Tveit, University of Bergen and Cecilie Ødegaard, University of Bergen
Contact: Margit Ystanes, margit.ystanes@uib.no
1. Presentation of excerpts of “The Olympic Dream”

Anne Kjersti Bjørn
University of Oslo

This film depicts the discrepancy between the ideals of the Olympic movement and the realities on the ground in a city hosting the Olympic Games in August 2016. It argues that extremely unequal cities become even more unequal because of internationally supported mega projects/mega events. The Olympics is used as a cover-up for property speculation and corrupt public-private cooperation. The public works and interventions contribute to increased socio-spatial segregation. Yet, these interventions nurture resistance and new urban social movements for change.


Einar Braathen
Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR)

The paper analyses the issues of the film described above. It also discusses the challenges of using a young athlete from Norway as a protagonist in the film, e.g. as a medium between a culture he is not familiar with (Brazil) and the audience. The difference between doing fieldwork with a film team (and a camera) versus doing fieldwork as an individual researcher is also discussed.
3. Presentation of excerpts of a film with the working title “Dirty Games: Fighting Olympic Evictions in Rio de Janeiro"

Alejandro Huidobro Goya
Department of Foreign Languages
University of Bergen

Presentation of excerpts of a film with the working title “Dirty Games: Fighting Olympic Evictions in Rio de Janeiro” currently in production. This is an anthropological documentary about forced removals in Vila Autódromo, a neighbourhood adjacent to Rio’s Olympic Park. The film focuses on the struggle of the inhabitants to remain in the area, as well as neighbourhood’s past and the larger processes of urban development in Rio.

4. Making “Dirty Games”: Researching Urban Inequality through Film

Margit Ystanes
Department of Social Anthropology
University of Bergen

How can filmmaking be used as part of a research process? The paper explores this question with reference to the film “Dirty Games: Fighting Olympic Evictions in Rio de Janeiro”, the topic of which is outlined above. The most central question addressed in the paper is how the production of the film contributed to the overall research project on urban inequality and development in Rio.
Poverty and inequality are major impediments to social welfare and development. They tend to reproduce a vicious circle that can be observed in recurrent deprivations and exclusions affecting not only daily life, but also the potential for development and the exercise of economic, social, civil, cultural and political human rights.

Child poverty and inequality are extremely relevant when analysing the conditions for a welfare state because they negatively impact the societies and generations to come, contributing to an intergenerational transfer of poverty.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set ambitious targets to be reached during the next fifteen years. The general trend, however, is not looking good at the beginning of 2016. The number of poor in Latin America, for example, is increasing and the poverty rate is expected to be 29% for 2015, with an extreme poverty rate of 12%. Children are over-represented among the poor in the world, and even in well-off countries such as Norway, figures for the period 2002-2012 show an increase from five to eight percent in the number of children living in relative poverty. In Latin America most of the children live in cities and intra-urban inequality is a deep and growing issue of concern.

This panel will address the conditions required to construct just societies by focusing on the sociological, economic and cultural aspects that contribute to the reproduction of child poverty. Child equity and welfare will be seen in their dialectical
interaction and be addressed from a comparative perspective that includes Latin American and Nordic/Norwegian experiences.

**Organizer/Chair:** Alberto Cimadamore CROP, ISSC, University of Bergen  
**Contact:** Charlotte Lillefjære-Tertnæs, charlotte.lillefjaere@uib.no

1. Growing Up in Divided Cities: Children, Urban Poverty and Inequality

**Alberto Minujin**  
The New School, New York  
Equity for Children

One of the 21st century’s biggest challenges is, and will continue to be, urban expansion and growing intra-urban inequalities. Although 70 percent of global GDP is generated in cities, child poverty and inequality persist in urban environments. In Latin American, more than 60 percent of the population lives in urban areas and one in every three children live in deprived households. Over half of the world’s people – including more than a billion children – now live in cities and towns, many without access to basic services. They are unable to enjoy the "urban advantage", where everything is available - just not for them. Most of the poor are children who live in slums and precarious shelters. They face overlapping deprivations and discrimination that impede their basic rights. Children can and must be the cornerstone of social change, inclusion and peaceful and sustainable development. Instead, they are usually absent and dismissible in urban agenda setting.

The presentation will discuss issues related to intra-urban child inequities based upon two Equity for Children experiences: 1) Evidence drawn from research developed about intra-urban
inequities and children, with data from 18 Latin American cities; and 2) A project undertaken over the last two years to influence cities and reduce early childhood inequities, developed in partnership with a civil society organization based in Colombia called "Como Vamos".

2. Socio-economic conditions and childcare in Colombia: mitigating inadequate delivery in poor communities

Helga Bjørnøy Urke
Department of Health Promotion and Development (HEMIL)
University of Bergen

Every child has a unique potential for health and development. To what extent this potential is realized depends on factors at community, household and caregiver level. There is longstanding evidence that socioeconomic status (SES) is related to child health in LMIC settings. However, the mechanisms of this relationship are less studied. Childcare is one plausible mechanism in the relationship between SES and child health since childcare is a proximal determinant of child health. Hence, knowledge on what determines proper childcare is important to promote child health. This paper aimed to assess SES, measured as maternal education level and household wealth, as determinants of childcare.

The study used data from the 2010 Colombia Demographic and Health Surveys. The sample included 6694 children 0-23 months and their mothers. The outcome variable was a composite variable of recommended childcare practices concerning diet; illness prevention and treatment; and psychosocial stimulation. Main independent variables were formal maternal education level and household wealth.
Both maternal education and household wealth were significant contributors to childcare. The level of childcare was significantly higher in the highest compared to the lowest and the middle education group. Higher household wealth was associated with better childcare. The findings underscore the importance of providing formal maternal education in low- and middle income settings to ensure adequate childcare and subsequent good child and adult health. Structural support in form of high quality health care services and programs should be put in place to mitigate inadequate childcare delivery in poorer SES population segments.

3. Poverty, Inequality and Education. The Case of Children in Cisco, Peru

Gaby Ortiz-Barreda
Department of Health Promotion and Development
University of Bergen

Authors: Johana E. M. Castilla and Gaby Ortiz-Barreda

Introduction: Latin America is a continent in where extreme inequality emerged as a result of colonization. In Peru, this inequality persists due to the evolution of political and economic institutions that reproduced/reinforced unequal distribution of wealth/human capital. Education is a factor that contributes to better life opportunities for individual/families. Peruvian indigenous people are the most vulnerable in terms of the lack of access to quality education/education due to implicit social and economic constraints. The Peruvian Educational System (PES) remains to be unequal/discriminatory for Peruvian children, mainly indigenous. Aim: to explore how children experience the social and economic inequality and how this affects their academic performance.
Methods: A qualitative study -phenomenological approach-. The study was conducted in Cusco in 2013. Data were collected through semi-structured/In-depth audiotaped interviews, participant observation and formal/informal conversations. Participants were children -public schools- and key informants -parents/teachers/community members/local authorities-.

Results: Poor school infrastructure, inadequate curricular designs/teaching approaches and limited access to pedagogical were identified as resources that affect students’ performance. For children, economic constraints were found as the main obstacle to achieve a quality education because it leaded school children to take diverse jobs to get an extra source of income. Expose to violence were also identified as important factors than affects children wellbeing and school performance.

Conclusions: Deep-rooted social/economic inequalities affect school performance. It translates into exclusion, unequal access to education, lower incomes and fewer possibilities for upward social mobility. These factors altogether resulted in physical and mental exhaustion which hampered their school performance.
PANEL 11: LA PAZ DE COLOMBIA EN EL CONTEXTO LATINOAMERICANO DE HOY

SESSION: FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 14:00-15:30
This panel will be held in Spanish

Colombia is facing its most important experience of ending the armed conflict in 50 years. In addition to the significant results achieved in the peace process between the government and the FARC in Havana, Cuba, comes the opening of a dialogue process with the National Liberation Army (ELN). The possibility of a permanent end to the armed conflict sets a transition scenario with very important democratic consequences internally, and with the potential to help stabilize the democratic transition Latin America is experiencing. For that reason a panel is proposed that could contribute to create and develop major research questions, including the impact of the peace process on the process of consolidation of democratic transitions in Latin America, especially at a time when the neighboring country of Venezuela goes through a deep political crisis, which can lead to a new political pact or to an internal armed conflict; examine the situation of exile and refuge of Colombians in neighboring countries and ask for solutions including return or migratory regularization; and analyze in a Latin American perspective the transitional justice system being developed within the framework of the peace process in Colombia.

Organizer: Marco Romero, Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Chair: Benedicte Bull, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), University of Oslo
Contact: Diego Marin Rios: dfrios@student.iakh.uio.no and Marco Romero: maromeros@unal.edu.co
1. Colombia en América Latina: ¿La eterna excepción de la regla?

Diego Marin Rios
Universidad de Oslo

Dadas las particularidades de la situación política colombiana se tiende a ubicar el caso de éste país como un tema casi desconectado de las tendencias o procesos políticos regionales. Dichas particularidades saltan a la vista como la persistencia del conflicto armado, el mantenimiento en el gobierno de los grupos tradicionales de poder y una invariable relación con los Estados Unidos a lo largo de las últimas décadas.

Analizar Colombia como un caso totalmente separado de la dinámica regional impide ver las relaciones que los movimientos sociales y el desarrollo político de la sociedad colombiana tienen con las transformaciones que han ocurrido en la región en el pasado reciente. Esa visión, que podría denominarse aislacionista, ha impedido un entendimiento más amplio del lugar que Colombia ocupa en la región y los efectos de su dinámica política.

En momentos en que se habla del fin de una era en América Latina y Colombia parece llegar al final de su guerra interna es necesario enriquecer los balances históricos para acercarnos más certeramente a las claves del futuro. En este trabajo se estudia el desarrollo de la situación política colombiana y sus actores en relación con los cambios políticos regionales en las últimas décadas. El objetivo es contribuir a una nueva lectura, más amplia y completa, de la situación colombiana y su articulación con los procesos políticos en la región.
2. No más la excepción: Justicia transicional en Colombia

*pos-conflicto*

**Jemima García-Godos**  
Department of Sociology and Human Geography  
University of Oslo

Hasta este momento la experiencia colombiana con la justicia transicional ha sido siempre vista como un caso excepcional, ya que las medidas desarrolladas e implementadas ocurren en un contexto previo a la terminación del conflicto armado. Llegando este a su fin, Colombia llega al pos-conflicto con sólida y amplia experiencia en la aplicación de mecanismos de justicia transicional. Esta experiencia se ve reflejada claramente tanto en el proceso de paz mismo, como en las medidas referentes a la dejación de armas, establecimiento de responsabilidades y derechos de las víctimas que se proponen en los acuerdos de paz. Esta ponencia hace un balance de los mecanismos propuestos por los acuerdos de paz a la luz de (1) la experiencia Colombiana propia pre-2016 y (2) experiencias latinoamericanas de justicia transicional.

3. Los retos de la implementación de acuerdos de paz en una sociedad con problemas y conflictos en estructurales

**Carlos Medina Gallego**  
Universidad Nacional de Colombia

La presentación del Profesor Medina Girará en torno a Las dificultades y retos que han de tener la implementación de los acuerdos entre el gobierno Nacional de Colombia y las Fuerza Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia FARC-EP, resultantes de la conversaciones de paz de la Habana en la fase de implementación: toma en consideración una sociedad que tiene problemas estructurales en seis ámbitos específicos: 1. exclusión
social, desigualdad y pobreza generalizada; 2. fragilidad de las estructuras democráticas e institucionales; 3. resistencia social y política de la población; 4. Narcotráfico, delincuencia y crimen organizado transnacional; 5. explotación transnacional de los recursos estratégicos de la nación; 6. injerencia norteamericana en los asuntos de seguridad y defensa. La exposición busca poner de presente aspectos centrales que se han construido desde los imaginarios de la resistencia para hacer viable y exitosa la implementación de los acuerdos.

4. La paz de Colombia: Primavera democrática o transición de baja intensidad?

Marco Romero
Universidad Nacional de Colombia

1. Análisis de los acuerdos de paz
   - La cuestión de la paz territorial
   - Garantías para la democracia social y política Los derechos de las víctimas
   - La transición de las armas a la política
2. Consecuencias internas e internacionales de la terminación del conflicto.
3. Los desafíos para la construcción de una paz estable y duradera
In the absence of well-functioning states, local organizations take on a number of different roles in the provision of social services in various parts of Latin America. Sometimes this occurs outside the framework of the state; elsewhere in diverse forms of collaboration with the state. How are these relationships changing in different parts of the region? How do they depend on the states? What ideas of citizenship are evolving as a result of it and how efficient is it in providing basic services? Do we see the emergence of a new concept of “active citizenship”? These are among the issues that will be explored in this panel.

**Organizer/Chair:** María-Fernanda González Rojas, The Arctic University of Norway  
**Contact:** María-Fernanda González Rojas, mariafernanda@exatec.itesm.mx and mariafernanda.g.rojas@uit.no

1. **The significance of voluntarism in professional social work**

**Trond Heitmann**  
Østfold University College

Non-governmental entities (third sector) are profoundly integrated in the provision of social services in Brazil. In this study, the relationship between the public social services and the third sector represented by a public Reference Center for Social Assistance (CRAS) and an NGO working in the same geographical
area is explored. The aim is to disclose relations that guide and direct everyday practices of professional social work in implementing social policies (ruling relations).

Findings indicate that social workers use their professional discretion to work in cross-sectorial networks with each other. These relations can be studied as fields of professional practice. Even though governmental incentives strongly support cross-sectorial cooperation at the CRAS, these fields of practice are fundamentally dependent on voluntarism and are only valuable to the extent they are perceived as serving aims of common interest. Everyday work in such cooperative fields of social work practice, affect available resources and levels of bureaucracy in the implementation of social policies.

The study reveals an everyday relationship between public and third sector services as a pragmatic and qualitative aspect of social work with low level of formalization. Structural, ideological and political differences between various stakeholders in the public sector and the third sector are acknowledged, but in practice the professionals concentrate on finding pragmatic solutions to everyday problems. In the academic discipline of social work, the study represents an alternative approach to understanding ruling relations in professional social work practice than the, at times, self-confirming macro-oriented theories that dominate academic discourses in Brazil.
2. Defining active citizenship in Mexico: three study cases

María-Fernanda González Rojas
Politics of Culture in Latin America (POCLAT)
Interdisciplinary Network for Latin American Research
The Arctic University of Norway

Where institutions are weak and corruption is almost systematic, where and how active citizenship takes place? Today, the social-political conditions in Mexico have pushed civil society to have an educational role in active citizenship, especially in the last five years. But how effective has been in communities with extreme poverty? This paper will focus in the case of the city of Monterrey in Nuevo Leon, Mexico, with three specific cases. The Regia Cartonera it’s a cultural project founded by individuals interested in improving the reading skills of young kids, and it is part of a larger initiative about reading in Latin America; the Raza Nueva in Christ it’s a catholic organization focused in young people in marginalized and violent communities, this organization was founded by local priests and individuals. And a training program for tutoring young students from the Philanthropic Foundation - CAINTRA (Chamber of Industry in the State of Nuevo Leon) these students have limited resources and want to have a high school degree but also some of them wish to go to university. In these three organizations we find individuals engaging themselves to a specific purpose (s). What are the reasons for such engagement? What are the common factors? And from these cases can we built a definition for Active Citizenship in Mexico? We will try to answer these questions under the theoretical framework of Paulo Freire and Doris Sommer’s pedagogical work.
3. Trade Liberalisation Effect in Two Margins of Informality. The Peruvian Case

Camila Cisneros-Acevedo
School of Economics
University of Nottingham

This paper studies the impact of trade liberalisation on informality in Peru. In developing countries, a significant share of jobs does not comply with labour market legislation. The informal sector accounts for approximately 80% of the entire Peruvian labour force between 2007 and 2014. Informality in labour markets can occur along two margins: The *extensive margin*, where firms do not register their business; and the *intensive margin*, where registered firms do not declare their workers. I contribute to both the trade and labour literature by studying trade policy effects on each margin of informality. Using Peruvian data on the manufacturing sector, my key finding is that the relationship between trade policy and informality moves in opposite directions for each margin. I relate trade liberalisation to the probability of being an informal worker in either margin using a two-step empirical methodology based on Goldberg and Pavcnik (2003). The identification strategy exploits household survey data by isolating individual characteristics when estimating the probability of being informal in either margin when associated with a specific industry at 4 digit level of aggregation. My analysis demonstrates that the trade-induced reallocation channel is stronger than the import competition channel. Taken together, the results of this paper provide empirical evidence to show that trade liberalisation reduces informality.
Panel 13: Norwegian Perceptions of Latin America

Session: Friday 2 September 14:00-15:30

This panel will be held in Norwegian.

This panel discusses and analyses the perceptions Norwegians generate of the Latin American region through different types of texts. Presentations in the panel will look at Norwegian media coverage, travel literature, tourist brochures and other types of texts, in order to map, understand and explain how our perceptions of the region are created.

Organizer/Chair: Leiv Marsteintredet, University of Oslo, University of Bergen
Contact: Leiv Marsteintredet, leiv.marsteintredet@ilos.uio.no

1. Norske reiseberetninger fra Mexico

Mieke A. Neyens
Universitetet i Oslo

Dette kapittelet tar for seg måten Mexico og Mexicanere er blitt fremstilt på i reiseberetninger skrevet av nordmenn, fra Carl Lumholtz i 1890-årene til Morten Strøksnes i 2012. Hvilke forestillinger bruker og gjenbruker (og misbruker?) disse reisende, og hva sier dette om dem og om det samfunnet de kommer fra? Hvordan har reiselitteraturen i Norge utviklet seg over tid, og hvordan forholder den seg til sjangeren sett i et internasjonalt perspektiv? Analysen kombinerer begreper fra diskursanalyse, litterær teori og historisk-biografiske metoder og relaterer diskursene om Mexico til de som finnes om Latin-Amerika generelt, både i Norge og andre steder.
2. Samba, fotball, gerilja, jordskjelv eller ingenting? Norsk journalistikk om Latin-Amerika

Roy Krøvel
HiOA


I all hovudsak har norske media vore særskilt interessert i Latin-Amerika når det har gått føre seg krigar der. Særleg på 80-talet var det relativt brei dekning av latinamerikanske tilhøve, også utanfor sjølve krigane. Eit anna trekk er organisering av mediedekninga rundt norske stereotypiar om Latin-Amerika: Rytmar, dans, narko etc. Samstundes finst det ei rad alternative journalistar, mange frilansarar eller tilsette i friviljuge organisasjonar, eller med bakgrunn frå solidaritetsrørsla, som produserer journalistikk på eit svært høgt nivå retta mot ei spesielt interessert publikum.

Papiret vil skildre langsiktige trendar i mediedekninga og reflekttere over årsakene til skilnader mellom Latin-Amerika, Afrika og Asia.
3. Charterferie og «charterstudier» i Latin-Amerika – forestillinger og stereotyper/myter

Liv Eide
Institutt for Pedagogikk
Universitetet i Bergen

Åse Johnsen
Institutt for Fremmedspråk
Universitetet i Bergen


Leiv Marsteintredet
Universitetet i Oslo
Universitetet i Bergen

Norsk Latin-Amerika forskning og norske Latin-Amerika-forskere har ved flere anledninger blitt anklaget i norske medier for å være venstrevridde og skape et skjevt bilde av regionen i norske medier (og i sin forskning).


Basert på data fra en spørreundersøkelse av norske latinamerikaforskere søker dette kapittelet svar på disse spørsmålene. Sentralt i analysen blir spørsmålet om forskernes engasjement for solidaritet og rettferdighet går utover hensynet til å produsere verdifri og objektiv kunnskap om regionen.
Since the death of Hugo Chávez in March 2013 the Bolivarian governments in South America have been facing serious political difficulties. His successor Maduro failed to fill the deep vacuum left by the charismatic leader and his possible deposition as president by the parliament has become more likely by the passing of time. The triumph of Macri in Argentina not only put an end to the Kirchner era but also raised the question if this event constituted a mayor turning point in the political orientation followed by South America as a region. The defeat in Bolivia of Morales at the Referendum of February 2016 and the increasing economic and political problems faced by Correa in Ecuador, have brought some scholars to announce the foreseeable end of the Bolivarian era in South America. But also social democratic oriented models are facing severe problems. Rousseff is confronting in Brazil an impeachment process amidst serious political turbulences, while Bachelet in Chile has lost most of her former charismatic leadership following some corruption scandals.

This panel aims to assess the role of political leadership in the current political scenario, characterized by growing political instability and increasing economic problems as the result of the end of the commodity boom. To what extent does the existence of a strong political leadership in these countries represent part of the solution or is it rather part of the problem? Is the emergence of a political leadership vacuum in several South American countries going to affect the levels of governability in
those nations? We want to explore the phenomenon of political leadership at both the macro and the micro level, including the national governments as well as the local government level.

**Organizer/Chair:** Patricio Silva, Leiden University  
**Discussant:** Soledad Valdivia, Leiden University  
**Contact:** Patricio Silva, p.silva@hum.leidenuniv.nl

### 1. Assessing the Political Leadership of Michelle Bachelet

**Patricio Silva**  
Leiden University

Michelle Bachelet is considered to be a political phenomenon in Chilean politics. Despite the fact she was not part of the establishment of the Concertación coalition, she managed to become its presidential candidate at the 2004 elections. President Lagos appointed her as a minister of health and later as minister of defense. She got a broad media exposure showing a very attractive personality: she was a warm person, close to the common people, and possessing natural spontaneity and a fine sense of humor. She finished her first administration (2006-2010) with a very high popularity rate. Following the Piñera government (2010-2014) it became clear that Bachelet was the only political figure able to bring the Concertación forces back to power. So the return of the Concertación forces (under the name of the Nueva Mayoría) to the government has been by many analysts explained as the sole result of Bachelet’s charismatic leadership. Nevertheless, since the corruption scandal in early 2015 involving her son and the poor economic performance of the Nueva Mayoría government Bachelet’s popular support has dramatically collapsed. This paper will analyze the main features of the political leadership exerted by Bachelet and provide an explanation about its sudden collapse. Special attention will be
paid to the tensioned nature characterizing Bachelet’s relations with the traditional leaders of the main coalition parties.

2. Evo Morales’ defeat in the February 2016 referendum: decaying political leadership and its effects on governability in Bolivia

Soledad Valdivia
Leiden University

Governability in Bolivia has traditionally been weak, with an algid point in 2003 with the ousting of elected president Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada amidst intense popular protest. The key role of social movements in the ascent of Evo Morales and their central role in politics under his administration have allowed for a political arena in which issues are rapidly taken to streets and polarized. In this scenario the leadership of president Morales has often been referred to as the stability factor holding together a turbulent political scenario. Since his first landslide victory in the 2005 election, Morales experienced continuous electoral victories as well as unprecedented levels of popularity, underpinned by wealth distribution policies in a favorable economic situation. All these factors have contributed to his strong and charismatic leadership. Yet in February 2016 the Bolivian people decided against a new presidential candidacy by referendum. The very slim margin by which Morales lost the referendum marked an schism in Bolivian society as it enters a period of diminishing economic development. At the same time the future of the political project of the last decade seems uncertain as it hangs by the thread of Morales’ leadership and cannot longer count on regional support from political aligned regimes. This paper will assess whether this first political defeat constitutes a turning point in Bolivian politics as it marks the
emergence of a leadership vacuum, and how this may affect the levels of governability in the Andean country.

3. Political leadership and local public security management: The inter-institutional relation between the police and municipality in Bogotá, 1995-2015

Håvar Solheim
Leiden University

Political leadership in Latin America has been characterized by strong personalism, where charisma, ideology and professional capacities are highly influential in a government's performance. Recent and current national administrations, such as those of Hugo Chávez, Evo Morales, Álvaro Uribe, Cristina Kirchner, among others, evidence how the direction of the entire state apparatus change course due to one leader. Similar tendencies also take place on regional and municipal levels and may have deep-rooted consequences of local administration. One sector where leadership noticeably has caused confusion in recent years is in the public security. Between 1995 and 2015, the Colombian capital Bogotá is an interesting case where political leadership has demonstrated its influence in the local security management. In particular the cooperation between the police and the municipal administration has been of the utmost importance for any advancement in the subject. However, the experiences of the political leaders, the last five mayors of the city, have shown how complex and vulnerable the public security management scheme may be, in particular in cases where these leaders’ personal qualities have been decisive. This paper analyses the relation between the police and municipality and explores in which manner human, institutional and political factors have determined the quality of the security management in Bogotá during the last 20 years.
4. El Salvador la violencia hoy y ayer: la reproducción institucional y social

Cecilia Gosso
Dipartimento Culture, Politica e Società
Università degli Studi di Torino

Los factores que llevaron al conflicto armado (1980-1992) se han metamorfoseado manteniendo raíces histórica de exclusión social que afectan profundamente la libertades políticas y la construcción de uno estado de derecho. No obstante la alternancia al gobierno de un partido de derecha hacia un partido de izquierda (2009), el Estado y sus instituciones aparecen productores de violencia, manteniendo rasgos autoritarios y populistas. Los gobiernos del FMLN han aumentado las medidas represivas y la militarización de la seguridad pública, ofreciendo más orden y leyes, buscando legitimidad, con escasas efectividad en la disminución de la violencia. El trabajo, con el aporte 15 entrevistas en profundidad a ex combatientes y militantes del partido de gobierno (FMLN), ofrece elementos de las estrategias y resiliencias a la reproducción institucional y social de la violencia. Los resultados contribuyen en analizar las políticas públicas salvadoreñas en el contraste a la violencia con sus aciertos y desaciertos en el contexto nacional, regional y global.
SHORT PRESENTATIONS – RECENTLY GRADUATED PHD

SESSION I: THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 11:00-12:30

1. The Mexican Experience Brought Home: Norwegian Travel Writing of Mexico, 1905-1945

*Based on her PhD thesis submitted to the Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages, University of Oslo*

**Mieke A. Neyens**
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This article-based dissertation analyzes how Mexico is represented in the travel narratives of three Norwegians who lived and traveled in Mexico between 1905 and 1945. In four articles, I show that the three authors largely recycled prevailing Western discourses of Mexicanness—picturesque Mexico, bandit Mexico, tropical Mexico, savage Mexico, Indian Mexico—though their Mexican experience also impelled them to revise some of their preconceived ideas. Experience destabilized Mexicanness as they knew it as Mexican voices seeped into their narratives. The travelers appropriated discourses available to them in the country of visit, and they did so selectively, on their own terms and to their own advantage. The analyses in this dissertation critically combine concepts from discourse analysis, literary studies and historical-biographical methods, and seek to establish a dialogue with existing scholarship in the fields of travel writing studies, Latin American studies and the historiography of Norwegian-Mexican relationships.

*Based on her PhD thesis submitted to the Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History, University of Oslo*

**Ada Nissen**  
Contact: adanissen@gmail.com

Since 1989 Norway has increased its diplomatic assistance to countries in conflict and enhanced its position as mediator or facilitator in international conflicts. The latest example of this activity, frequently identified as peace diplomacy, is the Norwegian facilitator role in the negotiations between the Colombian government and the FARC guerrilla. But Norway has mediated in a number of other conflicts as well, including in Guatemala. The Guatemala initiative, starting in 1989, was the first Norwegian attempt at extensive and direct mediation in another state’s internal conflict. From this point onwards, Norwegian peace diplomacy expanded rapidly. Norwegian mediators succeeded in some cases, and failed gravely in others. By July 2016 it seems that Guatemala and Colombia are Norway’s most successful attempts at mediation.

Through the examination of Norway’s role as third party in four well-known peace processes: Guatemala, the Middle East, Sri Lanka and Sudan, my PhD thesis analyzes the rationale behind the peace diplomacy and concludes that Norway did not pursue peace diplomacy primarily because of a peace tradition and a unique mediation model, although this has been the government’s preferred explanation. The thesis also suggests that more open discussions about ethical dilemmas and potential pitfalls related to mediation would have definitely have been advantageous. In more general terms, the thesis explores the
possibilities and limitations of so-called weak mediators in international conflicts.

A brief presentation of Norway’s role in the Colombia peace process will be included in the presentation, although this case is not analyzed in the thesis.

3. Religious change, political continuity. The evangelical church in Guatemalan politics

Based on her PhD thesis submitted to the Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen

Maren Christensen Bjune
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This doctoral thesis explores the political implications of the rapid growth of Protestantism and evangelical churches in Guatemala. The thesis finds ‘The evangelical church’ has been established as a political factor, one which has provided the Guatemalan state with practical and material assistance, as well as serving as a religious ally to which political authorities and state officials have turned for uncritical endorsement.

The thesis investigates how and why the Guatemalan state has opened for and actively courts societal actors such as evangelical churches. It is found that central for the political position and impact of the evangelical church is their widespread role as service providers, operating both in the absence of the state, and in direct cooperation with it. This position on the ground has made the evangelical church as one of the country’s most trusted institutions and brought representatives of the evangelical church into political positions at the central level in Guatemalan politics. By increasingly taking part in both defining and implementing political solutions in sectors such as education,
health and citizen security, the evangelical church influences the state’s own operation and services, and alongside the Catholic hierarchy, the political participation of evangelical representatives has served to maintain and further strengthen a conservative political agenda. For the Guatemalan state cooperating with evangelical churches as partners for providing services to the populace is both cost-effective and ideologically coherent with the political state of affairs.

4. Elusive Appearances: How Policies fail in the Argentinian Paraná Atlantic Forest

*Based on her PhD thesis submitted to the Department of Anthropology, University of Oslo*

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My dissertation examines the recurrent failed policy implementations in the Argentinian north-eastern province of Misiones. It is based on one year of fieldwork from 2012-2013 among indigenous people of the ethnic group Mbya- Guaraní, tobacco growers, and state representatives in Misiones and Buenos Aires. The site of exploration is a portion of the Parana Atlantic Forest, which came to constitute the UNESCO Yabotí biosphere reserve (YBR) in 1995. In 2009, it was intended for the United Nations programme “Reduction of Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries” (UN-REDD).

My research indicates that the policymaking apparatus in Misiones is subject to constant power negotiations that take place in concealment and behind closed doors in multiple parallel sessions. Through deceptive forms of influence and through the practice of persuasion, coercion and manipulation,
distinctions between the real and fake, the virtual and the actual, are obfuscated. This blurriness enables exclusionary power negotiations that, rather than undermine statecraft, causes state power to manifest itself as a force of exclusion for the forest-dependent people I worked with. Therefore, my main argument is that statecraft is also produced through deceitful practices difficult to discern and hence oppose. These practices simultaneously undermine and maintain political authority, turning this oxymoronic characteristic into a source of state power. In this presentation I will offer an example of how performances of «truth” are staged and the intricate political relationships in which policy are embedded.

5. Contesting conservation and development: quilombolas’ struggling for rights and resources in the Ribeira Valley, Brazil

*Based on her PhD thesis submitted to the Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Norwegian University of Life Sciences*

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This thesis sets out to explore how quilombolas – descending from African slaves – have responded to top-down conservation and development projects in the Ribeira Valley, Brazil. Through a combined lens of political ecology, environmental justice and resilience, the thesis analyses different strategies adopted by quilombolas against encroaching farmers, overlapping protected areas and planned dam projects that threaten their livelihoods and lands. Strategies for ethnic recognition have resulted in many communities being officially recognised as quilombos, giving constitutional rights to land. Strategies for distributive justice have resulted in quilombola communities getting access
to social services and infrastructural development, while strategies for participation have ensured access to government authorities and information, and involvement in negotiation processes and public hearings. The combination of different claims and actions addressing different actors at a range of scales has contributed to legalisation of quilombos inside protected areas and to the Tijuco Alto dam project to be put on hold for almost three decades.

While the thesis emphasises the potential of quilombolas to influence political outcomes, it also points to the limits of local agency and collective action, showing that exclusionary practices and discourses continue to be used against them. Based on the research findings, the thesis challenges the usual polarisation between nature conservation and development, showing that both can be equally exclusionary, and advocates for the fulfilment of quilombos’ rights to land, access to resources and promotion of their traditional agricultural practices. I argue that this is not only important for safeguarding quilombolas’ livelihoods and cultural practices, but also possibly for biodiversity conservation inside their territories.
1. Does transitional justice matter? Highlights from Latin America

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I will present the main findings of a four years’ long research project resulting in the book Transitional Justice in Latin America: The Uneven Road from Impunity towards Accountability (forthcoming May 2016, Routledge). Co-edited by Elin Skaar, Jemima García-Godos and Cath Collins, the book is the fruit of the collaborative efforts of six partner institutions and thirteen researchers investigating how Latin American countries have dealt with violence committed during periods of military dictatorships or civil war. Through systematic comparative analysis, the project analysed the trajectories for each of four central transitional justice mechanisms (truth commissions, trials, amnesties, and reparations) for nine countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay). More specifically, the book investigates to what extent there has been a shift from impunity towards accountability for past human rights violations in Latin America. The presentation highlights the main findings from this research, trying to explain why Argentina comes out top as a regional protagonist of transitional justice, while Brazil features at the bottom of the list together with El Salvador. I highlight potential explanatory factors such as the importance of civil society, domestic institutions, national and international legal
frameworks, human rights norms, and the role of the Inter-American Court and Commission.

2. Humanitarian Reason in the Shadows. Transit Migration Politics and Human Rights Defenders in Mexico

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Mexico has the most transited migratory corridor in the world. Despite the high degree of complexity that marks the migratory flows transiting the country they have historically been perceived as labour and voluntary migrations and used in the production of “illegality”. “Illegality” demarcates and ‘invisibilises’ individuals eligible for protection. Incidents such as death, rape, kidnappings and other types of abuse faced by transit migratory flows across borders and Mexican territory have brought about a debate on protection through a resurgence in appeals based on human rights for migrants. Protection has still not been clearly delineated for the undocumented and seems to be eclipsed through the criminalisation of migration. These humanitarian appeals and other forms of emerging humanitarian aid dynamics are occurring outside the refugee protection regime. The purpose of this paper—based on extensive qualitative research in shelters in Mexico, inclusive of in-depth interviews with human rights defenders and migrants—is to delve into better understanding humanitarian reason within the context of transit migration politics. More generally I also seek to better understand the relationship between humanitarian reason and the undocumented migrant situation and its potential impact on the category ‘humanity’.
3. Agrarian change in Argentina: Impacts of the “GMO revolution”

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Based on long-standing anthropological fieldwork among Argentine farmers, this presentation focuses on impacts of the “GMO revolution” on farmer communities in Argentina. Through this “revolution” small and medium farmers tend to disappear, a few are able to expand to agribusiness, while their farm labourers often become unemployed poor, surviving on a variety of public social programmes.

GM soy now makes up more than half the nation’s crop production and a fourth of its exports. Today, soy production is expanding more and more, even in the northern parts of Argentina, areas once considered too dry and uneconomical to produce grains. But with genetically modified seeds, which were introduced to Argentina in 1996, it is now deemed possible. With an export tax 30 % on soy, this product represents money or the green gold for the State, at the same time as it creates a series of social and environmental problems.

The presentation focuses on the expansion of GM soy cultivation among family farmers in Santa Fe province. It discusses three aspects: socio-economic impact, impact on gender relations and impact on inter-ethnic relations.
4. Indigenous Land Rights Issues and Indigenous Traditions in Argentina today

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In the wake of the global indigenous movement there are several questions as to how these global networks influences indigenous people on the local level. How is indigeneity recognizable, how does something become indigenous, and how does these elements influence indigenous religion(s) both in the plural and singular sense? These are some of the questions the research project “Indigenous Religion(s). Local Grounds. Global Networks” seek to address. My research project within this framework is to investigate how indigenous people within Argentina are attempting to recover traditional territories, and whether the attempts of recovering traditional territories also is a way of performing a form of indigeneity and/or strengthen their indigenous religion(s). In other words, I wish to investigate how indigenous religion(s) and identity is articulated and performed through local attempts to reclaim and recover traditional territories among indigenous people in Argentina. And secondly, how local articulations of self-determination, sovereignty, identity, spirituality, and culture are recast and refocused in different compositions of indigenous peoples at different stages (local, regional, national and international)?
5. Conversión de Píritu de indios cumanagotos, palenques y otros (1690): transcultural practices and subversive discourses in missionary colonial literature in Venezuela

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From the moment Christopher Columbus set foot on land on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, religious worldviews have confronted and translated each other in the meeting between the “old world” and the “new”. Henceforth, several practices of replacement or exchange of religious myths and believes have taken place during the conflictive process of conversion to Christianity. Given this context, my PhD project aspires to study one of the less known texts of colonial “missionary genre”, Conversión de Píritu de indios cumanagotos, palenques y otros (Madrid, Juan de Viar, 1690) written by Matías Ruiz Blanco.

With the aim to convey the Christian faith, this Franciscan missionary gives information about the first contacts with the Cumanagot and Chayma people in Northeastern Venezuela, and initiates a chain of assessments over the indigenous universe, which could be interpreted from a contemporary point of view as a set of crossbreeding and hybridization strategies used by the Spanish missionaries during their mediation activities. Thus, Ruiz Blanco begins the epistemological reconstruction of the “New World” by describing the encounters with the “other”, the discovery of anthropological aspects and the description of the religious conversion planning in the context of the ecclesiastical policies in the Americas during colonial period.
I will look closer at what Chileans working on memorialization initiatives consider important when discussing the role of collective memory in the aftermath of human rights violations. In particular, the complexities involved in the process of constructing memorial sites in places where the past contains a multitude of paradoxical experiences. Research from the social field have stated the importance of memory when it comes to both healing and reconciliation, and where memorialization is an important form of state reparation among victims of violence (De Yeaza and Fox 2013). The case of study is based on my doctoral thesis Hopes and Horror - An ethnographic study of a German community in Chile (Douglas 2013). When the military regime came to power in Chile in 1973, Colonia Dignidad / Villa Baviera became one of the most significant secret centers for kidnapping, torture, disappearance and extermination of political prisoners. Parallel to this the community developed to become a close community where all types of crimes and wrongdoings, including torture, were systematically committed against its inhabitants, including children. Despite legal evidence, none of the leaders have been sentenced to prison for their role in the torture and murder of hundreds of opponents of the dictatorship. With time, the community has developed a tourism resort, while several human right organizations have worked to make Colonial Dignidad a memorial site, something that was achieved in March 2016.
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