

Riccarda Flemmer
**The Transformative Potential
of Rights of Nature:**

Struggling for Alternatives to Destructive Anthropocentric Development

Wednesday, 6th July 2022, 16-18 h c.t.
Institut für Politikwissenschaften, Room 124

DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR

hybrid: <https://zoom.us/j/93789838580>, Meeting ID: 937 8983 8580, Passcode 971399

Rights of Nature (RoN) denotes nature's inherent right to exist and flourish. Inspired by indigenous ontologies, RoN have seen the recognition of rivers, mountains and forests as living beings in Latin America, former British colonies and inspired a fast-growing political movement worldwide. RoN's transformative promise is a new mind set respecting human as well as non-human living beings as agents and to tackle one of the most pressing issues we are facing today: the emancipatory transformation of destructive and deeply unjust anthropocentric development models. This talk gives an innovative perspective on socio-environmental conflicts by (re)conceptualising them within the framework of 'ontological politics'. Scaling-up insights on indigenous peoples' understandings of nature and how these are mobilised in resistance to projects of resource extraction, development or conservation imposed on their territories, the lecture concludes with a research agenda that explores the potential of RoN in the Global South as well as in global climate activism to yield legal and institutional models for more sustainable and just human–nature relations.

Jun-Prof Dr Riccarda Flemmer is Global Encounters Junior-Professor for “Political Struggles in the Global South” at the Institute of Political Science, University of Tübingen since April 2022 . Her research expertise includes grassroots activism, international indigenous peoples' rights, conflict transformation, and citizen participation in Latin America. She has previously worked at the Institute for Latin American Studies of the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA), the University of Hamburg, and the Freie Universität Berlin, She is board member (chair, 2020-2022) of the Amazonia section of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA).

The talk is followed by a reception “unter der Linde”.

