

## COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTER 923 THREATENED ORDERS – SOCIETIES UNDER STRESS



Financial crises, natural and technical disasters, terrorist attacks and migration have all left significant marks on international politics, economies, societies, and cultures. Extreme situations like upheavals, revolutions, and disasters affect everyday life. Such circumstances make us aware of how fragile and contingent the foundations of our life and actions are. Extreme situations can also lead to rapid change in social perception and behavioral patterns. The SFB's research focuses on Europe from Antiquity to contemporary history. The projects analyze European, African, North and Latin American, Asian and Australian examples of threatened social orders.

One important criterion for the definition of a "threatened order" is that routines of everyday life or politics don't work anymore. Routines can be described as aggregated structures of actions which one does not question anymore. When they are disrupted or fail to work, this can be both cognitively and emotionally upsetting: Presumed knowledge and practices become uncertain instead of trustworthy, or even useless; problems occur which may generate feelings of ignorance and powerlessness, and there is a general uncertainty about the future. This open future, however, may also inspire hope and creativity; it may empower and encourage people to change routines. With regard to knowledge, the re-ordering process is therefore a process of both losing and creating it; the process entails a loss of understanding and attempts to grasp a new situation – sometimes with the help of old concepts and ideas, sometimes with new untried ones.



Collaborative Research Center 923  
"Threatened Order – Societies under Stress"

### VENUE

Institut für klassische Archäologie.  
Schloss Hohentübingen  
Burgsteige 11  
72070 Tübingen  
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Organized by the members of the Subproject E06  
"Threat and Diversity in urban Contexts":

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Please, register for participation at:  
threat-morality-conference@sfb923.uni-tuebingen.de

## DIVERSITY, THREAT, AND MORALITY IN URBAN SPACES

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

[www.sfb923.uni-tuebingen.de](http://www.sfb923.uni-tuebingen.de)

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The recent turn to urban ethnography in migration and diversity studies has provided new insights into questions of conviviality and boundary-making processes in diversified urban settings. However, less emphasis has been put on the effects of morality and threat dynamics as facilitators of local divide or cohesion. With the aim of filling this gap, this conference examines the interconnections between discourses of threat, power and morality in contexts where diversity meets inequality.

Diversity is not conceived as ethnic heterogeneity but as configuration of multiple social differences. Threat is understood as a social and emotional dynamic affecting broader social spheres and changing how individuals or groups move in urban spaces, which aspects of urban conviviality they focus on, and how they create ethnic, social, or moral boundaries.

Threat often operates by means of moralization, understood as an emotionalizing idiom referring to the inherent vulnerability of human co-existence. Threat discourses build on social imaginaries such as ideas of 'the good life', community, public order, security, or prosperity. Seeing these normative and imaginary aspects of conviviality endangered may evoke emotions of fear, contempt, or anger. When (moral) threat dynamics intensify, it becomes more difficult for social actors to remain in a neutral position, to keep up crosscutting ties, to focus on positive or neutral aspects of urban conviviality and to pretend to be sympathetic for those they consider as 'others'. Moral problematization can reinforce, but also contest boundaries based on other categories like class, ethnicity, gender, life-style, sexual orientation, residency, or political opinion.

Although some moral views are shared across groups, places and times, moralities are at the same time fragmented and contested. It is of special empirical interest to understand how heterogeneous moralities play out within and/or across diverse settings. Often, established and powerful groups control the ideas of what being a 'good member' of a local community means. In contrast, newcomers tend to be constructed as (moral) outsiders. However, the hegemony of established groups can be challenged and alternative ideas of a 'good life' and 'good social relationships' can be introduced. But who is and who isn't in the position to challenge established moralities remains an empirical question.

### WEDNESDAY, 10/10/2018

- 18.15 **KEYNOTE I**  
**Diversity, Threat and Morality in Urban Spaces**  
**Boris Nieswand (Tübingen)**
- 20.00 *Conference Dinner*

### THURSDAY, 10/11/2018

- 9.00 **From Squatter to Informal Settler: Moral Problematization in the Crisis of a Shantytown Demolition in Manila**  
Tomonori Ishioka (Sapporo)
- 9.35 **Different Spaces, Unsafe Spaces: Diversity, Order and Threat in the "Musholman Paras" of Kolkata**  
Anasua Chatterjee (Delhi)
- 10.10 **Proximate Encounters: Fear and Public Policy in Rio de Janeiro's Favelas**  
Katharina Blank (New York)
- 10.45 *Coffee Break*
- 11.15 **Community and Conviviality: Moral Imaginaries of Local Cohabitation in a Diverse and Unequal Neighborhood**  
Moritz Fischer (Tübingen)
- 11.50 **Urban Divisions: Performing Activism, Contesting Belonging and Problematizing Moral Authority.**  
Damián Omar Martínez (Tübingen)
- 12.25 *Lunch*
- 14.00 **Weaving the Net of Morality: Towards a Post Durkheimian Account of Urban Threat Dynamics**  
Arne Dressler (Koblenz)
- 14.35 **Single Female Tenants in South Delhi: Gender, Class, and Morality in a Globalizing City**  
Lucie Bernroider (Heidelberg)
- 15.10 *Coffee Break*

- 15.30 **Disappointed Expectations and Broken Promises: Morality and Threat in Local Residents' and Urban Planners' Responses to the Installation of an Asylum Seekers Reception Center**  
Maria Schiller (Wien)
- 16.05 **"Good" Koreans and "Bad" Mexicans: Undocumented Immigrant Morality and Threat in Activist Los Angeles**  
Elisabeth Clark Rubio (Irvine)
- 16.40 *Coffee Break*
- 17.00 **KEYNOTE II**  
**Theorizing collective identity in an era of social division**  
**Shana Cohen (Cambridge)**
- 18.00 General Discussion
- 18.45 *Dinner*

### FRIDAY, 10/12/2018

- 9.00 **Moral Boundaries in an Opaque Class Structure: Self-Understandings of Young Technical Workers and Sociocultural Professionals**  
Linus Westheuser (Firenze)
- 9.35 **Moral Norms, Shared Spaces and Mediators: Solving Conflicts in a National Front Municipality**  
Noemi Casati (Paris)
- 10.10 **The Impact of Right-wing Populism on Community Life: Empirical Evidence at the Example of Bautzen**  
Sebastian Kurtenbach (Bielefeld)
- 10.45 *Coffee Break*
- 11.15 **Who We Are and What We Do: A Typology of Gentrifiers' Agency**  
Merav Kaddar (Jerusalem)
- 11.50 **How to Park a Car Properly? Normativity and Power of Social Practices in Polish Neighborhoods**  
Karol Kurnicki (Warwick)
- 12.25 **Moral Geographies and Conviviality in Catalonia**  
Martin Lundsteen (Barcelona)
- 13.00 Final Discussion
- 13.30 End of Conference