

Rethinking peace

Series of international online workshops

University of Tübingen – College of Fellows



Description :

We have witnessed in the last years and months a global upsurge of violent conflicts that jettison every form of respect of international law, human rights and principles of justice, despite the decades-long existence of international juridic and peace-keeping instances, such as the United Nations, or of political projects that are built on the idea of universal human rights and rule of law, such as Europe.

The aim of these workshops is to reflect on the causes which made possible this global critical situation but also and above all on future perspectives which could replace this situation. If it is commonly admitted that violence and war are opposed to or amount to absence of peace, how should we conceive this notion and which possibilities can philosophy offer in this respect? Should we think peace as a mere absence of violence and war, or should we concede to peace an ontological primacy and positive consistency, as does Levinas? Is peace opposed to every form of conflict or can it be on the contrary built only on the basis of conflicts which lead to mutual recognition (Ricoeur) or radical

democracy (Mouffe)? Does peace necessarily entail a specific global political and juridical form of organization, such as the Kantian idea of a world republic, with all the ambiguities that it entails? What kind of living together (Dewey) and thinking together (Arendt) does it presuppose?

These questions will not be analysed only from a general perspective, but also grounding in a reflection on concrete forms of violence and peace. Ultimately this initiative aims at developing a philosophical vocabulary of peace, which would be embedded in different philosophical traditions but at the same time also attuned to the challenges of the contemporary world.

2. November 25: Peace and Religion

Speakers:

-**Natalie Depraz** (Paris Nanterre University): TBD

-**Cyril Hovorun** (Loyola Marymount University): Ideologies that underpin the war in Ukraine

-**Marietta van der Tol** (University of Cambridge): Geopolitics of religion: the Russian World and Ukraine's spiritual independence

-**Ali Mostfa** (Lyon Catholic University): From Peace to Security and Securitization: An Inquiry into Modern Conceptions of Order

Chair:

A. Sophie Lauwers (KU Leuven)

Hour: 6 – 8 pm CET

Zoom-link: <https://zoom.us/j/95679210353>

Meeting-ID: 956 7921 0353

Password: 889987