

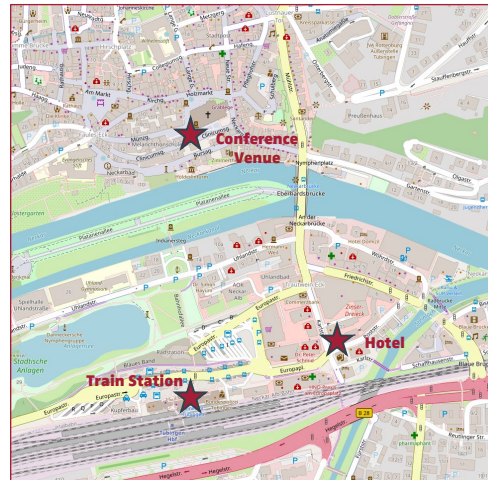
# Collaborative Research Center 923

## Threatened Order – 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.

# Venue



## Organization & Registration

Manuel Dieterich  
University of Tübingen – CRC 923

Damián O. Martínez  
University of Murcia – Department of Sociology

Boris Nieswand  
University of Tübingen – CRC 923

Registration:  
[morality.conference.tuebingen@gmail.com](mailto:morality.conference.tuebingen@gmail.com)

Funded by:



Universitätsbund  
Tübingen e. V.



## BETWEEN EMOTION & REASON: EXPLORING THE OPERATIONAL LOGIC OF MORALITY

### International Conference

11th & 12th May 2023

Alte Aula | Münzgasse 30 | Tübingen

Funded by



Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
German Research Foundation

# Conference Program

This conference brings together qualitative social scientists to discuss the operational logic of moralization, with particular attention to the interaction of emotionalizations and rationalizations. When using the term moralization, we draw on recent neopragmatist and praxeological approaches to the sociology of morality, which emphasize the quotidian practical relevance of references to morality. These perspectives allow to ask what happens when “something” is treated as a question of morality. We depart from the evidence that people’s relation to the world changes when they consider something under the auspices of morality. In order to explore this process, we understand moralization as practice, a modulative intervention that triggers those changes of relationship to the world.

Moralizations rely on implicit or explicit references to rational properties of everyday reasoning that make it appear plausible to wonder why a certain value or a common good (fairness, prosperity, integrity, solidarity, reciprocity etc.) becomes relevant in a specific situation. Focusing on the pragmatics of moralization, we can ask how and when actors refer to moral justifications, values and forms of moral reasoning and which effects they have on social situations. However, moralizations are shaped not only by their rational properties or the ways in which they are rationalized, but also by the emotions they evoke and the rules of feeling associated with them. Solidarity, care, honor, guilt, anger, disgust, fear, envy, or shame are emotions mobilized by moral frames and scripts that interact with the rational properties of moral reasoning.

Some of the questions we would like to address with the conference are:

- How is the relationship of rationalizations and emotionalizations played out in practice?
- How do moral interventions modify social dynamics?
- What kinds of dynamics do they trigger?
- What moral emotions are evoked and how do they affect social dynamics and group formation?
- What role do scripts of confrontation or scripts of inclusion play in the context of moralization processes?
- Can we identify groups or types of moral entrepreneurs working for the moralization of social situations or discourses?
- What are the broader structures of local, national and transnational moral economies that help us better understand recent processes of social change and polarization?

## Thursday, 11th May 2023

	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>
09:00	<b>Signatures of Threat and the Operational Logic of Morality</b> – Boris Nieswand (Tübingen)
	<b>MORALITY &amp; KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION</b>
09:30	<b>Risk Processing: Mothering in a Time of Fear</b> – Nicky Falkof (Johannesburg)
10:10	<b>Morality, Shmorality</b> – Gabriel Abend (Luzern)
10:50	<i>Coffee Break</i>
	<b>THE MEDIATIZATION OF MORALITY</b>
11:05	<b>Understanding Morality in Digital Public Spaces. The Case of the Amber Heard and Johnny Depp Defamation Trial</b> – Matthias Klemm (Fulda), Siglinde Peetz (Bern)
11:45	<b>Explicit Fear, Implicit Morality. How Discourses of Fear Contribute to the (Re-)Production of Gendered Sexual Morality</b> – Manuela Beyer (Chemnitz)
12:25	<i>Lunch Break</i>
	<b>HOUSING, URBANITY &amp; MORALITY</b>
13:30	<b>Ethical Practices and Reflections on Urbanity and Responsibility Among Urban Mapuches in Santiago, Chile</b> – Damián Omar Martínez (Murcia)
14:10	<b>Pobladores’ Right to Dignity: The Resurgence of Housing Struggles in Neoliberal Chile</b> – Miguel Pérez (Santiago de Chile)
14:50	<b>Moralized Uncertainties, Constraints and Choice Behind People’s Departure From State Housing in the Gauteng City Region</b> – Rafael Beier (Dortmund)
15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
	<b>OPERATIONAL LOGICS &amp; GRAMMARS OF MORALIZATION</b>
15:45	<b>The Moral Grammar of Controversy: Hot Button Issues as Violations of the ‘Implicit Social Contract’</b> – Linus Westheuser (Berlin) –

16:25	<b>The Operational Logic of Racism. Afrikaner in Post-Apartheid South Africa</b> – Manuel Dieterich (Tübingen)
17:05	<b>Vulnerability as Convincing Argument: A Contribution to the Functional Analysis of Ongoing Conflict and Negotiation Processes in Migration Society</b> – Jörg Hüttermann (Bielefeld)
18:00	<i>Conference Dinner</i> Wirtshaus zum tänzelnden Pony

## Friday, 12th May 2023

	<b>MORAL EMOTIONS &amp; EMOTIONAL MANAGEMENT</b>
9:00	<b>Making the Others Feel Right: Emotional Deviances and the Rationalization of Affective Inclusion</b> – Elgen Sauerborn (Hamburg)
9:40	<b>Negotiating Moral Orders in Transnational Socialization Processes – a Case Study in Intercultural Trainings</b> – Mei-Chen Spiegelberg (Dresden)
10:20	<b>The Role of Negative Emotions in Uyghurs’ Decision Making (ONLINE)</b> – James McMurray (Sussex)
11:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
	<b>MORAL JUSTIFICATIONS, SOCIETY, POLITICS &amp; AUTHORITY</b>
11:15	<b>The King’s Speech: Registers of Authority and Moral Pluralism in Nigerian Human Trafficking</b> – Francesco Vacchiano (Venezia)
11:55	<b>Emotions, the Energy Crisis, and Attributions of Responsibility</b> – Katrin Großmann (Erfurt), Maria Budnik (Erfurt)
12:35	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13:20	<b>From Pandemic to High Inflation: Moral Contestation to the State in Argentine Society during Extraordinary Crises</b> – Ariel Wilkis (Buenos Aires)
14:00	<b>Final Discussion. Publication</b>
15:00	<b>End of Conference</b>