

IfL Leipzig workshop // 05.05.2017 // 10.30-16.00 Uhr

Applying recognition theory to migration studies & Central Eastern Europe

Axel Honneth's critical theory and spatial implications for mobility and migration research

The aim of this workshop is to confront contemporary social philosophy with geography and connect critical social theory to spatial practice. Addressing the theory-practice relationship we are explicitly interested in *the difference space makes* for Honneth's philosophy of recognition and social freedom. Even though sufficient social space and the freedom of movement would impact the quality of social conflicts – and the explanatory power of critical theory – Honneth does not pay attention to spatial relations, that is, *where and how struggles for recognition take place*. The workshop will address this research gap and take it up as crucial reference point to develop a new research agenda that ideally leads to a research proposal for DFG. At the core of this workshop we will therefore *localize* struggles for recognition – not only in history but at particular places – and discuss spatial implications of Honneth's idea of social freedom. In this line the workshop raises the following questions:

- To what extent is the freedom of movement (i.e. possibilities of mobility and migration)
a) *spatial equivalent* or b) *precondition* of social freedom?
- How can we not only localize struggles for recognition but better understand the *spatial fix* of social conflicts: i.e. motivations and impositions of migration?
- What are reliable case studies of mobility and migration research that provide us with insights into the quality of local conflicts, indicators of resignation and motivations for mobility and migration?
- What can we learn from Central and Eastern Europe for critical social theory today?

Aiming at a future research agenda that is centered on 'Local recognition, social freedom and the freedom of movement' this workshop is designed to provide a platform for fruitful exchange and possible cooperation for such a project – bringing together different disciplines and ambitious scholars in this new field for critical social and urban theory. Working languages are German and English. A publication of a working paper is aimed at.

For better coordination we kindly ask you to register via email:

T_Buchholz@ifl-leipzig.de

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Welcome

10.30 Judith Miggelbrink, IfL Leipzig

short introduction to *Axel Honneth's theory of recognition & social freedom*
Tino Buchholz, IfL Leipzig // RUG Groningen

PART I: Research at the interface of Philosophy & Geography

Moderation: Karin Wiest, IfL Leipzig (*in German*)

10.45 Eberhard Rothfuß, Uni Bayreuth
Raumbezogene Sozialforschung aus einer anerkennungstheoretischen Perspektive
(Spatial implications for social sciences from a recognition-theoretical perspective, *in German*)

11.15 Dirk Quadflieg, Dept. of Cultural Theory, Uni Leipzig
Grenzen sozialer Freiheit & Implikationen für die Bewegungsfreiheit
(Limits of social freedom & Implications for the freedom of movement, *in German*)

12.00 lunch break

PART II: Confronting critical theory with spatial practice and migration studies from a CEE perspective

Moderation: Karin Wiest, IfL (*in English*)

12.45 Tino Buchholz, IfL Leipzig // Dept. of Planning, RUG Groningen
Localizing struggles for recognition in Cities: Resignation, Resistance, Relocation
First thoughts on Polish struggles

13.15 Tim Leibert, IfL Leipzig
Motivations, conditions and driving forces for mobility/ migration – with reference to the limits of CEE data

13.45 Lela Rekhviashvili, IfL Leipzig
On the pitfalls of applying Western concepts to Eastern Europe: Civil society & the case of Georgia

14.15 Jacek Pawłowski, Dept. of History, RUG Groningen
The Polish victim's perspective in European history – with emphasis on Poznan struggles

14.45 coffee break

15.00 **PANEL DISCUSSION** with all participants and the audience

What difference does space make for critical social theory today?

Moderation: Judith Miggelbrink, IfL

16.00 The End