The Maria Sibylla Merian International Centre for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Conviviality in Unequal Societies: Perspectives from Latin America

In April 2017, three German institutions (Freie Universität Berlin, FU Berlin; Ibero-Americanisches Institut/Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, IAI/SPK, Berlin; Universität zu Köln, Univ. zu Köln, Cologne) and four Latin American institutions (Universidade de São Paulo, USP, and Centro Brasileiro de Análise e Planejamento, CEBRAP, São Paulo, Brazil; Instituto de Investigaciones en Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales - CONICET/Universidad Nacional de La Plata, IdIHCS, La Plata, Argentina; El Colegio de México, COLMEX, Mexico City, Mexico) established the Maria Sibylla Merian International Centre in São Paulo. The Centre is being financed for an initial phase of three years by a grant of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The aim of the inaugural conference is to present and discuss the Centre’s research perspective on conviviality in unequal societies in Latin America and the Caribbean with consortium partners, scholars, representatives of research institutions and the academic public in Germany.

The first day introduces the network of institutions involved in the project and the concept of the Maria Sibylla Merian International Centres for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Additionally, it addresses the contemporary debates on conviviality with a keynote lecture.

The second day continues to explore the conceptual and empirical challenges for studying conviviality in unequal societies. Here, both analytical and methodological issues are raised. According to the Centre’s focus, special attention is given to convivial contexts in Latin America and the Caribbean from a global perspective.

Venue: Harnack-Haus
Ihnestraße 16-20, 14195 Berlin

Registration for 1st and/or 2nd day:
meriancentre@fu-berlin.de

Information for participants: Registration is free of charge but number of participants is limited.
### Thursday, July 13th

**18:00 |** (Re-)Presenting an Outstanding Network of Institutions

Klaus Mühlhahn (Vice-President, FU Berlin)

Günter Schauerte (Vice-President, SPK)

Manuela Günter (Vice-Rector, Univ. zu Köln)

Silvia Elena Giorguli Saucedo (President, COLMEX)

Ana María Barletta (Vice-President, UNLP)

Angela Alonso (President, CEBRAP and USP)

**18:30 |** Transnationalizing the Humanities and the Social Sciences: The Maria Sibylla Merian International Centres for Advanced Studies

Alexander Wipr (BMBF)

Martin Fuchs & Andreas Pettkenkofer (Univ. Erfurt):

ICAS Metamorphoses of the Political, New Delhi

Olav Kaltmeier (Univ. Bielefeld):

CALAS Crisis, Guadalajara

Sérgio Costa (FU Berlin) & Marcos Nobre (CEBRAP/UNICAMP):

Merian Centre Conviviality in Unequal Societies, São Paulo

Chair: Marianne Braig (FU Berlin)

**19:00 |** Keynote Lecture

Arjun Appadurai (New York Univ.):

The Risks of Dialogue

Chair: Barbara Potthast (Univ. zu Köln)

**19:30 |** Reception

**22:00 |**

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### Friday, July 14th

**9:00 |** Konvivenz, Convivialisme, Conviviality: Competing or Complimentary Approaches?

**11:15 |** Keynote Lecture

Ottmar Ette (Univ. Potsdam):

Stupid Thinking and Conviviality. Living Together in Transarchipelagic Worlds

Chair: Christoph Müller (IAI)

**11:30 |** Unequal Conviviality: Social Structure, Knowledge, Everyday Relations

Sérgio Costa (FU Berlin):

Beyond Binarisms: Linking Inequality and Diversity Research

Tilmann Heil (KU Leuven):

Conviviality at the Brink

Barbara Göbel (IAI):

Conviviality in Unequal Societies: Why Does the Knowledge Dimension Matter?

Chair: Stefanie Gänger (Univ. zu Köln)

**13:30 |** Lunch

**14:30 |** Negotiating Conviviality in Law, Politics, and Culture

Samuel Barbosa (CEBRAP/USP):

Symmetrical Law, Indigenous Territorial Rights and the Challenges to Conviviality

Marta Machado (CEBRAP/FGV):

The Role of Racial Insult in Brazilian Society: Dynamics of Recognition and Invisibilization through Law

Susanne Klengel (FU Berlin):

Negotiating Conviviality: Cultural Translation in the Sur/South Relations

Chair: Angela Alonso (CEBRAP/USP)

**16:00 |** Break

**16:30 |** Imagining Conviviality in Latin America

Gesine Müller (Univ. zu Köln):

Conviviality in (Post)Colonial Societies: Caribbean Literature in the Nineteenth Century

Ingrid Kummels (FU Berlin):

Comunalidad on the Move: Indigenous Oaxacan Practices of Conviviality and their Current Resignifications

Andrew Canessa (Univ. Essex):

Conviviality and Conflict in Plurinational Bolivia

Chair: Carlos Alba (COLMEX)

**18:50 |** Concluding Remarks