The Controversy over documenta fifteen Background, Interpretation, and Analysis

In the summer of 2022, the global art exhibition documenta in Kassel ignited major controversies on several levels. With this symposium on documenta fifteen, the HFBK Hamburg aims to analyze the background and context, foster dialogue between different viewpoints, and enable a debate that explicitly addresses anti-Semitism in the field of art.

Which historical-political continuities can be discerned in the genesis of documenta? What was negotiated in the debate beyond artistic strategies and the curatorial concept? How can we argue with one another publicly in a narrow field of discourse? The symposium offers space for divergent positions and aims to open up perspectives for the present and future of exhibition making.

The symposium was conceived in consultation with Meron Mendel and Nora Sternfeld.

Symposium February 1 – 2, 2023 Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg

Program

Wednesday, 1.2.2023

6 p.m.

Impulse Katharina Fegebank

Senator for Science, Research and Equality and 2nd Mayor of Hamburg

Introduction Martin Köttering president, HFBK Hamburg

6:30 p.m. Keynote Tolerance of ambiguity on trial. documenta fifteen and the Jewish question

Natan Sznaider

professor of sociology, The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo)

7:30 p.m. Panel Antisemitism in the art field. Historicalpolitical perspectives on the documenta

Oliver Marchart professor of political theory at the University of Vienna; Meron Mendel director of the Bildungsstätte Anne Frank in Frankfurt am Main and professor of transnational social work at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences; Julia Voss art historian, historian of science, art critic, and member of the executive committee of the German Historical Museum (DHM); moderation: Carsten Probst art historian and cultural journalist, Berlin

→ Following each panel, an audience discussion will be offered.

→ location: Hochschule f
ür bildende K
ünste Hamburg

Hamburg Auditorium Lerchenfeld 2, 22081 Hamburg hfbk-hamburg.de Thursday, 2.2.2023 10 a.m. Talk documenta fifteen from Indonesian perspective

Reza Afisina artist, member of ruangrupa and DAAD guest professor, HFBK Hamburg; **Hestu A. Nugroho** artist, member of Taring Padi, Berlin; moderation: **Kate Brown** curator, art journalist and Europe editor, Artnet News

12 noon Panel

Antisemitism and postcolonial research: A (global) history debate

Michaela Melián artist and professor of time-based media, HFBK Hamburg; Miriam Rürup director of the Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum für europäisch-jüdische Studien and professor at the University of Potsdam; Michael Wildt retired professor of 20th-century German history with a focus on National Socialism, Humboldt University in Berlin; Jürgen Zimmerer professor of global history with a focus on Africa and colonial history at the University of Hamburg; moderation: René Aguigah head of literature department at Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Berlin

3 p.m. Talk

Cultural production between dialogue, criticism and boycott

Saba-Nur Cheema political scientist and researcher at the Goethe University in Frankfurt on anti-Semitism in educational contexts; Doron Rabinovici writer and historian, Vienna; moderation: Nora Sternfeld art educator and professor of art education, HFBK Hamburg

5 p.m. Panel Art as social practice – artistic paradigm shift through the documenta fifteen?

Iswanto Hartono artist, member of ruangrupa and DAAD guest professor, HFBK Hamburg; Gilly Karjevsky curator and guest professor of social design, HFBK Hamburg; Nora Sternfeld art educator and professor of art education, HFBK Hamburg; Margarita Tsomou curator at HAU Hebbel am Ufer and professor of contemporary theater practice at the Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences; Wolfgang Ullrich art historian and cultural scientist, Leipzig; moderation: Ralf Schlüter cultural journalist, Berlin

Speaker

Reza Afisina

Prof. Reza Afisina, born in Indonesia, has held a one-year DAAD Visiting Professorship at the HFBK Hamburg together with Iswanto Hartono since October 2022. Both as an individual artist and collectively together with ruangrupa, they has been involved in various national and international exhibitions and workshops; with ruangrupa as an artists' collective platform, they also have participated in Gwangju Biennale 2002 and 2018 South Korea, Istanbul Biennale 2005, Singapore Biennale 2011, Asia Pacific Triennial in Brisbane - Australia 2012, Sao Paulo Biennale 2014, Cosmopolis #1 Centre Pompidou in Paris - France 2017, and including co-curating TRANSaction: Sonsbeek International 2016 in Arnhem, the Netherlands as well as the artistic director from collective ruangrupa for documenta fifteen. ArtReview placed the ruangrupa collective #1 in its »Power 100« (Nov 2022), the annual ranking of the most influential people and movements in the contemporary art world.

René Aguigah

René Aguigah heads the literature department at Deutschlandfunk and Deutschlandfunk Kultur, where he has worked since 2010. He was previously an editor and moderator at WDR 3, and then non-fiction editor for the magazine *Literaturen*. He studied history, philosophy, and journalism in Dortmund and Bochum. In 2023 he will begin a fellowship at the Thomas Mann House in Los Angeles. He lives and works in Berlin.

Kate Brown

Kate Brown, born in Canada, is a curator, arts journalist and editor based in Berlin. She is the Europe Editor for *Artnet News*, where she writes and commissions stories about contemporary art and culture with a focus on society and politics in Germany and Europe. She is co-director of Ashley Berlin, a nonprofit gallery founded in 2013 in the German capital that focuses on young and emerging artistic positions. Her art writing has also recently appeared in *Elephant Magazine, Kaleidoscope Magazine, Spike Magazine*, and *Canadian Art Magazine*, among other publications and artist catalogs.

Saba-Nur Cheema

Saba-Nur Cheema is a political scientist and researcher at the Goethe University in Frankfurt on anti-Semitism in educational contexts. From 2015 to 2021 she was director of education at the Bildungsstätte Anne Frank. She works and writes on the topics of diversity, Muslim-Jewish dialogue, and the relationship between racism and anti-Semitism. In 2021 she conceived and co-edited the online dossier »Jüdisches Leben in Deutschland: Vergangenheit und Gegenwart« for the Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung. In October 2022 the anthology Frenemies: Antisemitismus, Rassismus und ihre Kritiker*innen (2022), edited by her along with Meron Mendel and Sina Arnold, was published. Together with Meron Mendel she writes the monthly column »Muslimisch-jüdisches Abendbrot« for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. Cheema is a member of the expert group on hostility toward Muslims which was convened by the German federal government after the attacks in Hanau in 2020.

Iswanto Hartono

Prof. Iswanto Hartono, born in Indonesia, has held a one-year DAAD Visiting Professorship at the HFBK Hamburg together with Reza Afisina since October 2022. Both as an individual artist and collectively together with ruangrupa, they has been involved in various national and international exhibitions and workshops; with ruangrupa as an artists' collective platform, they also have participated in Gwangju Biennale 2002 and 2018 South Korea, Istanbul Biennale 2005, Singapore Biennale 2011, Asia Pacific Triennial in Brisbane - Australia 2012, Sao Paulo Biennale 2014, Cosmopolis #1 Centre Pompidou in Paris - France 2017, and including co-curating TRANSaction: Sonsbeek International 2016 in Arnhem, the Netherlands as well as the artistic director from collective ruangrupa for documenta fifteen. ArtReview placed the ruangrupa collective #1 in its »Power 100« (Nov 2022), the annual ranking of the most influential people and movements in the contemporary art world.

Gilly Karjevsky

Prof. Gilly Karjevsky is a curator of critical spatial practice (Rendell) teaching and curating programs at the intersection of ecology, ethics of care and radical collectivity. For the guest professorship year at HFBK she focuses on social technologies designed to negotiate the spaces between subjectivity and the common good. This concept is linked to her ongoing research into radically local urban curating currently funded by the Fonds Darstelle Künste. She is founding association member at Floating University Berlin where she curates Climate Care - a festival for theory and practice on a natureculture learning site, the Urban Practice residency program and a participatory lexicon process. She is founding member of Soft Agency - a diasporic group of feminist spatial practitioners. Gilly is co-director of 72 Hour Urban Action, with a recent monograph published by Archplus documenting a decade of real-time place-making. She has published in several platforms, most recently »Collective Auotheory« in New Alphabet School #21 - Practices of Knowledge Production in Art, Activism and Collective Research, »Care for Cities« in Expanding Academy Reader #3, and »Climate Care - A Curriculum for Urban Practice« in Radicalising Care - Feminist and Queer Activism in Curating.

Martin Köttering

Prof. Martin Köttering has been president of the Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg since 2002 and teaches as a professor of art education with a focus on theory and history. He studied cultural studies and aesthetic practice at the University of Hildesheim and fine arts in Bath, England. After completing his studies, he worked as an assistant to Jan Hoet at documenta 9. In 1995 he took over the management of the Städtische Galerie in Nordhorn and was the initiator, artistic director, and managing director of the open museum kunstwegen. He has realized numerous exhibitions, publications, and projects in public spaces with internationally renowned artists such as Mark Dion, Olafur Eliasson, Fischli/Weiss, Dan Graham, Katharina Grosse, Jenny Holzer, and Tobias Rehberger. He is a member of various committees, supervisory boards, and foundations, including the Hamburg Media School, the board of the Freunde der

Kunsthalle Hamburg, the board of trustees of the Stiftung Hamburger Kunstsammlungen, and the board of trustees of the University of Hildesheim.

Oliver Marchart

Prof. Dr. Oliver Marchart, Mag. Dr. phil. (University of Vienna, philosophy), PhD (University of Essex, government), double habilitation in philosophy and sociology (University of Lucerne), and author of Das unmögliche Objekt: Eine postfundamentalistische Theorie der Gesellschaft, was a research assistant at the Institut für Medienwissenschaften at the University of Basel from 2001 to 2006 and an SNF professor at the department of sociology at the University of Lucerne from 2006 to 2012. From 2012 to 2016 he held a professorship in sociology at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. Since March 2016 he has been professor of political theory at the University of Vienna. He has also completed various fellowships. His main research areas are political theory, social theory, democratic theory, political history of ideas, social movement research, and political discourse analysis. His most recent publications include Conflictual Aesthetics: Artistic Activism and the Public Sphere (Berlin: Sternberg Press, 2019), Post-foundational Theories of Democracy: Re-claiming Freedom, Equality, Solidarity (Edinburgh University Press, 2021), Hegemony Machines: documenta X to fifteen and the Politics of Biennalization (2022), and Der demokratische Horizont: Politik und Ethik radikaler Demokratie (Berlin: Suhrkamp, forthcoming).

Michaela Melián

Prof. Michaela Melián is a visual artist and musician who is known for her multimedia installations, audio dramas, and sound works. She is a member of the band F.S.K. (Freiwillige Selbstkontrolle) and co-editor of the artists' magazine Mode & Verzweiflung. Since 2010 she has been teaching as a professor of time-base media at the HFBK Hamburg, where she organized the multi-day international conference »Gegenmonumente und Para-Monumente« along with Nora Sternfeld in 2021. In 2010 she was commissioned by the city of Munich to create Memory Loops, an acoustic memorial for the victims of the Nazi regime. Her project Maria Luiko, Trauernde, 1938 is on view in a public space in Munich until the end of 2023 as part of the series past

statements: Denkmäler in der Diskussion. She has received several awards for her work, including the 2006 Hörspielpreis der Kriegsblinden for Föhrenwald, in 2010 the Kunstpreis der Stadt München, in 2018 the Edwin Scharff Kunstpreis from the city of Hamburg, and the Preis für Kunst im öffentlichen Raum from the city of Bremen. Her works were most recently exhibited at the KINDL - Centre for Contemporary Art in Berlin, the Gwangju Museum of Art in South Korea, the Lenbachhaus in Munich, the Lentos Museum Linz, the Fundació Joan Miró in Barcelona, the Kunsthal Rotterdam, and the Deichtorhallen Hamburg. Melián lives in Munich and Hamburg.

Meron Mendel

Prof. Dr. Meron Mendel has been the director of the Bildungsstätte Anne Frank in Frankfurt am Main since 2010 and has been a professor of transnational social work at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences since 2021. He spent his youth at Kibbutz Mashabei Sadeh, participated in peace initiatives at an early age as part of the Freundeskreis von Givat Haviva, and after his military service he studied history and education (bachelor's degree in 2000) and Jewish history (master's degree in 2002) in Haifa and Munich. In 2010 he received his doctorate in education at the Goethe University in Frankfurt with a thesis entitled Lebenswelten jüdischer Jugendlicher in Deutschland. Mendel's research interests include the present state of anti-Semitism and the future of the culture of remembrance, among other topics. In recent years he has written numerous specialist articles and published articles in German-language newspapers as well as books, most recently including Frenemies: Antisemitismus, Rassismus und ihre Kritikter*innen (2022) and Trigger Warnung: Identitätspolitik zwischen Abwehr, Abschottung und Allianzen (2019). In March 2023 his book Über Israel reden: Eine deutsche Debatte will be published.

Hestu A. Nugroho

Born in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, Hestu A. Nugroho graduated from the Department of Visual Arts and Design at the Indonesian Institute of Arts (ISI) in Yogyakarta. During his studies, he was the chair of the Environmental Arts Students Organisation (Sasenitala). In 1998, he co-founded the artists

collective Taring Padi, which was formed by art students as response to the social upheavals during the fall of the Suharto regime. Taring Padi denounced the »Art for Art's Sake« doctrine enforced by the military regime and revived the Indonesian concept of »People's Art«. In workshops with local communities as well as in collaborative projects with other art groups and NGOs from various countries, they respond to current topics of social injustice, human rights and discrimination of gender, ethnic or religious minorities. In his individual career under the artist name »Setu Legi«, Hestu focuses on socio-political and environmental topics. Besides using graphic art techniques and design, he mostly presents his work as interactive mixed media installations combined with performance art. His work was exhibited in Indonesia, Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, United Arab Emirates and USA. Today, he is based in Berlin and Yogyakarta. With Taring Padi he was invited to documenta fifteen.

Carsten Probst

Carsten Probst was born in Hamburg, lives in Berlin, and works as a writer and art critic. His work focuses on artistic pictorial practice, cultures of knowledge, and concepts of criticism in European and non-European modern eras up to the present. He is an art critic for various magazines and Deutschlandfunk with a focus on modern and contemporary art. In addition, he teaches scientific writing in the graduate program »Identität und Erbe« at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. His most recent publications include »Falsche Fährten: Die documenta fifteen und ihre Rezeption in den Medien« (December 2022, Texte zur Kunst), »Kunst und Heilung: Beuys und der Nationalsozialismus« (2021, in Beuys' Nietzsche-Rezeption und sein Bildbegriff in der Auseinandersetzung mit der Shoah), »More deeply suggestive than others: Erinnerung und Gegenwart in der Malerei von Song Hyun-Sook« (2020), and »Mechanismen der Verdrängung: 30 Jahre Kulturtransfer von West nach Ost« (Deutschlandfunk, 2020). He is currently working on a collection of essays with the working title Posthumanistische Bildbegriffe. Probst was awarded the Anna Seghers-Prize (2001) as well as various grants for writers and critics.

Doron Rabinovici

Doron Rabinovici was born in Tel Aviv and has lived in Vienna since 1964. He is a writer and historian. His work includes prose, essays, and scholarly works. In Austria he is a prominent opponent of racism, right-wing extremism, and anti-Semitism. Since 1986 he has been spokesman for the Republikanischer Club Neues Österreich, which was founded in the wake of the debate surrounding Kurt Waldheim's presidential election campaign. His publications include Instanzen der Ohnmacht: Wien 1938–1945: Der Weg zum Judenrat (Jüdischer Verlag, Suhrkamp, 2000); Der neue Antisemitismus: Eine globale Debatte, edited along with Ulrich Speck and Natan Sznaider (suhrkamp edition, 2004); Der ewige Widerstand: Über einen strittigen Begriff (styria, 2008); Neuer Antisemitismus? Fortsetzung einer globalen Debatte, edited along with Christian Heilbronn and Natan Sznaider (suhrkamp edition, 2019); the novel Die Einstellung (Suhrkamp, 2022); and 2013 -2015: Die letzten Zeugen, theater project at the Burgtheater in Vienna with Matthias Hartmann. Rabinovici is a member of the Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz. For his work he was awarded the Anton-Wildgans-Preis and the Ehrenpreis des österreichischen Buchhandels für Toleranz in Denken und Handeln.

Miriam Rürup

Prof. Dr. Miriam Rürup was born in Karlsruhe and has been director of the Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum für europäisch-jüdische Studien and professor at the University of Potsdam since December 2020. From 2012 to 2020 she was director of the Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden in Hamburg. Before taking on this position in 2012, she worked as a post-doctoral research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC, and from 2006 to 2010 as a research assistant at the Department of Medieval and Modern History at the University of Göttingen. She researches how the United Nations dealt with statelessness and ideas of universal belonging after the two world wars and the repercussions on national politics in West Germany. In 2007 she published her dissertation on the topic of German-Jewish student fraternities (Ehrensache: Jüdische Studentenverbindungen an deutschen

Universitäten 1886–1937, Wallstein-Verlag, Göttingen). She studied history, sociology, and European ethnology at the University of Göttingen, Tel Aviv University, and in Berlin, and has worked at the Topography of Terror Foundation in Berlin, the Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center in Jerusalem, and the Dubnow Institute in Leipzig.

Ralf Schlüter

Ralf Schlüter studied modern German literature, philosophy, and history at the Freie Universität Berlin. He has written reviews, portraits, and reports for the Berliner Zeitung, the German edition of Rolling Stone, Wochenpost, and Die Woche. From 1999 to 2000 he was editor-in-chief at the design magazine form in Frankfurt am Main, before moving to the magazine Art in Hamburg. From 2006 to 2020 he was deputy editorin-chief there. During this time he published portraits, reviews, essays, and reports; he also held teaching positions at the University of Hamburg and the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design. Since 2013 he has worked with audio formats, and until 2020 he presented the program »Art Mixtape« on the internet radio broadcaster ByteFM. Since October 2020 he has been producing the podcast »Zeitgeister« together with the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, a cultural history based on individual songs and pieces of music. In 2021 he was involved in the podcast program »Die Erde spricht« for the 100th anniversary of Joseph Beuys's birth. In 2022 the audio guide »Ulysses lesen« on James Joyce's novel was released. In 2021 and 2022 he was executive editor of the handbook for documenta fifteen. In 2022 he founded the agency *kultur{}botschaft* along with his sister Karin Bjerregaard Schlüter. She develops formats, curates conferences, and assists cultural institutions with digital transformation (website: kulturbotschaft.berlin)

Nora Sternfeld

Prof. Dr. Nora Sternfeld is an art educator and curator. She is a professor of art education at the HFBK Hamburg. From 2018 to 2020 she was a documenta professor at the Kunsthochschule Kassel. From 2012 to 2018 she was professor of curating and mediating art at Aalto University in Helsinki. She is also co-director of the /ecm master's degree on exhibition theory and practice at the University of Applied Arts Vienna, part of the core team at schnittpunkt: ausstellungstheorie & praxis, co-founder of and partner at trafo.K, Büro für Bildung, Kunst und kritische Wissensproduktion in Vienna, and since 2011 part of freethought, a platform for research, education, and production in London. In this context, she was also one of the artistic directors of the Bergen Assembly in 2016 and has been a BAK fellow at basis voor actuele kunst in Utrecht since 2020. She publishes on contemporary art, educational theory, exhibitions, the politics of history, and anti-racism.

Natan Sznaider

Prof. Dr. Natan Sznaider is an Israeli sociologist and has been a professor at the Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo since 1994, with a chair position since 1996. In 1992 he received his doctorate from Columbia University in New York with a thesis entitled The Social History of Compassion. He has taught at Columbia University, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich. In 2022 he was a visiting fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies at LMU at the invitation of Michael Brenner. His research focuses on cultural sociology, political theory, globalization, cosmopolitanism, memory and the Shoah, as well as Hannah Arendt's Jewish political theory. Together with Daniel Levy, he coined the terms »cosmopolitan memory« and »cosmopolitan remembrance«. With Alejandro Baer he examined an ethics of »never again« in the Spanish and Argentinian context. In his most recent book, Fluchtpunkte der Erinnerung: Über die Gegenwart von Holocaust und Kolonialismus, Sznaider embarks on a search for a political and sociological narrative of remembrance starting from the question of: Is it and will it be possible to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and colonialism without relativizing history?

Margarita Tsomou

Prof. Dr. Margarita Tsomou is a Greek cultural studies scholar and works in Berlin as a writer, dramaturge, moderator, curator, and professor. She co-founded the pop-feminist publication *Missy Magazine* in 2008, and is curator for theory and discourse at HAU Hebbel am Ufer in Berlin and professor of contemporary theater practice at the Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences. Two of her most recent curatorial works include the series »Burning Futures: On Ecologies of Existence« at HAU Hebbel am Ufer and the series of events by the Apatride Society in Paul B. Preciado's discursive program at Documenta 14.

Wolfgang Ullrich

Wolfgang Ullrich studied philosophy, art history, logic/scientific theory, and German literature in Munich. From 2006 to 2015 he was a professor of art and media theory at the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design and has lived in Leipzig as an art historian and freelance writer ever since. He researches and publishes on the history and criticism of the concept of art, topics related to the sociology of images, and consumer theory. He has been a columnist at the magazine art since 2011, and since 2019 he edited the book series »Digitale Bildkulturen« along with Annekathrin Kohout, published by Verlag Klaus Wagenbach. His most recent book publications include Selfies: Die Rückkehr des öffentlichen Lebens, (Berlin, 2019), Feindbild werden: Ein Bericht (Berlin, 2020), and Die Kunst nach dem Ende ihrer Autonomie (Berlin, 2022). More information is available at ideenfreiheit.de

Julia Voss

Prof. Dr. Julia Voss is an art historian, historian of science, art critic, and member of the executive committee of the German Historical Museum (DHM). Her doctoral thesis was entitled Darwins Bilder: Ansichten der Evolutionstheorie, 1837–1874 (S. Fischer Verlag, 2007), and it received the Sigmund Freud Prize for Scientific Prose from the Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung in 2009. Since 2015 she has been an honorary professor at the Institute of Philosophy and Sciences of Art at Leuphana University in Lüneburg. Until 2017 she headed the art section of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and was also deputy head of the features section. In 2021 she was co-curator of the exhibition documenta: Politik und Kunst at the DHM. In 2020 her artist biography Die Menschheit in Erstaunen versetzen: Hilma af Klint (S. Fischer Verlag) was published, which was on the short list for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize, became a Der Spiegel bestseller, and has also been published in Swedish and English. Her most recent publication, along with Beate Söntgen, is the reader Why Art Criticism?, published by Hatje Cantz Verlag.

Michael Wildt

Prof. Dr. Michael Wildt studied history, cultural studies, and Protestant theology at the University of Hamburg after completing an apprenticeship as a bookseller and working for the publisher Rowohlt. From 1992 to 1997 he was a research associate at the Forschungsstelle für die Geschichte des Nationalsozialismus in Hamburg and then from 1997 to 2009 at the Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung with a focus on the theory and history of violence. In 2001 he completed his habilitation with a study on the leadership corps of the Reich Security Main Office. From 2009 to 2022 he was professor of 20th-century German history with a focus on National Socialism at the Humboldt University in Berlin. In 2022 he was awarded the Preis des Historischen Kollegs for his work. His most recent publications include Zerborstene Zeit: Deutsche Geschichte 1918-1945 (Munich, 2022), Die Ambivalenz des Volkes: Der Nationalsozialismus als Gesellschaftsgeschichte (Berlin, 2019), and Volk, Volksgemeinschaft, AfD (Hamburg, 2017). Along with Susan Neiman, in 2022 he edited Historiker streiten: Gewalt und Holocaust - Die Debatte.

Jürgen Zimmerer

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Zimmerer is a professor of global history with a focus on Africa and colonial history at the University of Hamburg, where he has been director of the research center Hamburgs (post-) koloniales Erbe since 2014. From 2005 to 2017 he was founding president of the International Network of Genocide Scholars (INoGS). In 2020 he was the first recipient of the organization's Liftetime Achievement Award. His main research interests include the history of colonial globalization, the history of memory, and comparative genocide research. His most noteworthy publications include Deutsche Herrschaft über Afrikaner: Staatlicher Machtanspruch und Wirklichkeit im kolonialen Namibia (also in English), Von Windhuk nach Ausschwitz? Beiträge zum Verhältnis von Kolonialismus

und Holocaust (also in English), Kein Platz an der Sonne: Erinnerungsorte der deutschen Kolonialgeschichte (editor), Hamburg, Tor zur kolonialen Welt: Erinnerungsorte der (post-) kolonialen Globalisierung (co-editor), and Climate Change and Genocide: Environmental Violence in the 21st Century (editor).

In the spirit of a constructive culture of discussion, the HFBK Hamburg asks all participants to maintain an attitude of mutual respect and appreciation.

In order to provide all participants with a safe space for a differentiated discussion, the HFBK Hamburg asks that criticism be Criticism factual, related to the expressed arguments and free from insinuations, insults and discrimination.

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