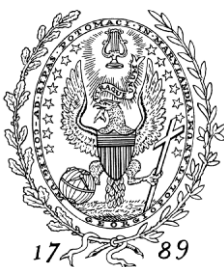


UNITY IN DIVERSITY?

Minority Rights in the United States and the European Union
5th Transatlantic Students Symposium

Symposium Program

March 9-10, 2007



BMW Center for
German and European Studies

OSU

Indian Education Office



American Studies

PROGRAM

SYMPOSIUM WEEK, MARCH 3-11

The joint German-American Student group will visit places and institutions relating to the topic of the symposium in Split, Mostar, Berlin and Cottbus. At the end of the week, a student-based conference open to a general audience will reflect on specific issues and allow for a debate.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

DOR 24, 1.501

14:00 - 15:30: Session One: Education

Welcome

Allison Davis-White Eyes (OSU)
Indigenizing Higher Education in the Digital Age

Florian Stenschke (HU)
New Challenges of Education and Minority Rights in a Unifying Europe

Coffee Break

16:00 - 18:00: Session Two: Legislation I

Jacob Comenetz (GU)
*The Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities:
The Implications of Diverse Approaches to 'National Minorities' in the Member States*

Erin Wroblewski (GU)
National Security vs. Human Security: Asylum Seekers at the Gates of Fortress Europe

Dominik Bertram (HU)
Perspectives on European Anti-Discrimination Legislation

Coffee Break

18:30 - 20:30: Session Three: Case Studies: Gender, Religion & Cultural Issues

Emily Peckenham (GU)
The EU and Gender Equality: Are Immigrant Women in the EU Doubly Marginalized?

Christine Le Jeune (GU)
Muslim Immigrants in the West: Which Way Forward?

Justine Jihyun Shin (GU)
The Muslim Communities in Britain and the US

Evening: Free

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

DOR 24, 1.501

10:00 - 12:00: Session Four: Case Studies: American Indians

Manuela Mangold, Philipp Kneis (HU)

The Televised Indian. American Indians in US and Canadian Visual Culture

Clarissa Bertha (OSU)

American Indian Identity

Renee Roman Nose (OSU)

Cultural Oppression of Native America since 1492, or: Our Immigration Laws Were a Bit Lax Back Then

Lunch

13:30 - 15:30: Session Five: Case Studies: German Minorities and Minorities in Germany

Sebastian Schöbel (HU)

"Give me bacon or give me death!" The Autonomous Region of Trentino-South Tyrol as a (Role)Model for the Treatment of Minorities in a National Framework?

Jule Bönkost, Matthias Karl (HU)

Being a Dane is Being a Winner.

Minorities in Germany – A Comparison of the Political Representation of the Sorbs and Danes in Germany

Katarzyna Sobieraj (HU)

The German Minority in Poland. The Portrayal in the Media

Coffee Break

16:00 - 18:00: Session Six: Case Studies

Zachary Wynne (GU)

Frameworks for Democracy: Assessing Democratization and Minority Rights in Bosnia's Dayton Accords and Macedonia's Ohrid Agreement

Martin Kantel (HU)

Basques in Spain and France – a Comparison

Daniela Simon (HU)

Uniquely Homogeneous or Singularly Diverse? - Japan's Indigenous Peoples

Coffee Break

18:30 - 20:30: Session Seven: Case Studies: Roma

Kim Giusti (GU)

Integrating Roma: Minority Rights, Human Development and the EU in Central and Eastern Europe

Dominik Jungermann, Elmar Narayan (HU)

Defining Identity - A look at the Identity of Sinti and Roma in Europe and Germany

Joint Dinner

all times s.t.

The Transatlantic Students Symposia Series

The Transatlantic Students Symposia series provides a student-based and largely student-run space for the discussion of topics of contemporary relevance, introducing students of the humanities (not necessarily of Political Science) to political and historical topics with a strong relation to present-day issues and practical applications. Thus we provide them with an outlook into a possible post-university profession.

To achieve this, the student-based symposia are accompanied by faculty-led workshops and courses. The symposia themselves form the concluding event of a week of related activities, visits, talks and workshops. In that regard, the Symposia stand between traditional seminars and conferences.

The participants of the Symposia are students from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., and other universities, thus creating a truly international atmosphere.

Introduction to the 2007 Symposium

The communal identity of not just the nation state but also of larger federal structures often assumes an overarching “major” whole under which other, “minor”, identities are subsumed. The United States created unity out of the plurality of thirteen original states, and extended its motto of “e pluribus unum” as a common theme towards its politics of integrating newcomers. This unity was questioned during the Civil War, and full participation was delayed even longer until the granting of citizenship and voting rights to indigenous cultures, African-American slaves, and women. The Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century worked to restore and redefine this unity and constituted a profound moment in American history where a long and convoluted history of apartheid was confronted and measures were undertaken to make society truly inclusive. Each new international conflict and each new wave of immigration has posed and continues to pose problems for immigrant and minority populations, as can be seen from , e.g., the internment of Japanese civilians during World War II in the US and Canada, the ongoing politics of marginalization towards American Indian tribes and African Americans, the suspicions regarding citizens of Middle Eastern origin and regarding Islam, as well as the current debate concerning Mexican legal and illegal immigration. Whatever the en vogue concept of the day regarding integration—Melting Pot, Cultural Pluralism, Salad Bowl, Orchestra, Stew, Mosaic, Multiculturalism, Post-Ethnicity—the status of diversity within unity is still an ongoing project.

Within Europe, the continuing creation of the new union is often preceded by the break-up of former unions (Czech Republic, Yugoslavia, Soviet Union) that create nation states which seek representation as a nation within the EU, rather than as a unit within a federation. Yet there are also nations in Europe that lack a state of their own, and territories that have switched between countries and now carry an ethnic minority (Basques, Sorbs, Jews, Celts on the British Isles, Sinti and Roma; Danes in Germany, German

minority in South Tyrol, Italian minority in Slovenia, Sami in Scandinavia, etc.); or traces of past cultures and empires (e.g. Roman, Byzantine, Habsburg, Napoleonic or Ottoman culture). Immigration, as well, adds to a growing diversity in Europe. Moreover, intersecting with these ethnic and cultural affiliations are equally challenging questions regarding the role of women in society, issues of sexual orientation, class differences and age discrimination.

Within the backdrop of recent developments on both sides of the Atlantic that are grounded in the conflictual tensions between the quest for a common identity and the longings to preserve one’s own cultural roots, the symposium will address several issues relevant to current political discourse.

This conference has been made possible by the generous support of

Humboldt-Universität:
International Office
American Studies Program
Philosophical Faculty II
Students Union, Institute for English & Am. Studies
Georgetown University:
BMW Center for German and European Studies
Department of Government
Max Kade Foundation
Oregon State University:
Minority Education Office
Ethnic Studies Department
Community and Diversity Office
Holiday Land Richter Reisen

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Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR:
Allison Davis-White Eyes

The organizers would like to express their gratitude to all sponsors, guest speakers and participants for their dedication and support.

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For possible changes to the program and further information, please consult our web site at

www2.hu-berlin.de/transatlantic/minorities