

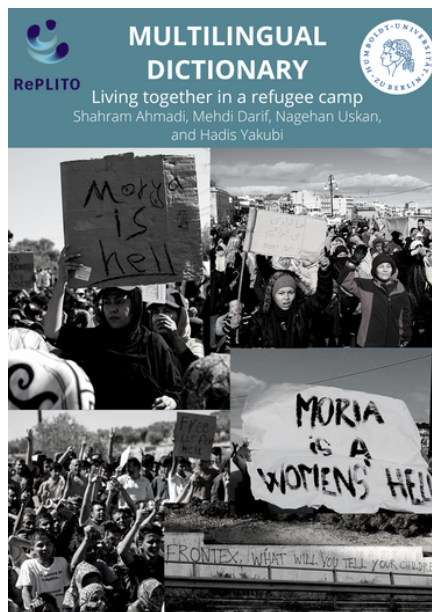


# RePLITO

Quarterly Newsletter #3, October 2022

Our newsletter provides you with an overview of our latest activities and publications.

*We proudly present....*



A multilingual dictionary which brings together words and expressions commonly used by people who have been forced to live in refugee camps in Lesbos Island between 2018 and 2022. The writers of this dictionary are people who experienced these conditions in first person and activists living in Lesbos Island.

**RePLITO's digital knowledge archive has three different sections:**



### **Concepts and Repertoires**

explores conceptualizations, definitions, interpretations and global repertoires of living together



### **Conversations**

are dialogues about global repertoires of living together



### **Publications**

presents articles, reports, journals and books emerging from our research on global repertoires of living together

**We hope you enjoy reading & browsing through this issue.**

*Nadja-Christina Schneider*

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## International Symposium

# Living together in zones of (post-)conflict

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On 22nd September 2022 a symposium on the topic 'Living together in zones of (post-)conflict' was held at the Institute for Asian and African Studies of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. The event was organised as a collaboration between RePLITO - Beyond Social Cohesion-Global Repertoires of Living Together, International Research Group on Authoritarianism and Counter-Strategies (IRGAC) of the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung and the Department of Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region (HU Berlin). Scholars from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, India, Myanmar and the United States participated in the discussions that were held within the framework of the symposium which consisted of two panels. The first panel discussed the negotiations around everyday life in (post-)conflict zones by examining the situations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Myanmar and India.



Prof. Dr. Damir Arsenijević from the University of Tuzla, Dr. Nwet Kay Khine and Dr. Fathima Nizaruddin from IRGAC presented short inputs in this panel. The session was moderated by Prof. Dr. Nadja-Christina Schneider from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. The discussion about Bosnia and Herzegovina was centred around what Damir Arsenijević terms the “terror of peace” in a post war scenario where the terms of peace keeping agreements reinforce ethnic boundaries. He argued that these terms reinscribe the war as essentially an ethnic one and how this leads to a governance through trauma.

Nwet Kay Khine outlined the changes within the media landscape in Myanmar before and after the 2021 coup d'état. She talked about digital authoritarianism and the resistance from young people against established hierarchies. She also elaborated about the presence of “black shirt media” in Myanmar that work outside established norms of journalism. Fathima Nizaruddin discussed the role of social media platforms in expanding the circulatory networks around majoritarianism in India. She also talked about the role of artistic research in forming thinking spaces that can question essentialist notions of identity that sustain majoritarianism. Nadja-Christina Schneider responded to the presentations and she opened up a discussion about the key common themes that emerged from the presentations. Members of the audience who primarily consisted of doctoral and post-doctoral researchers actively participated in this discussion.

## Symposium

# Living together in zones of (post-)conflict

22 September 2022 (2pm-6pm)



What does it mean to live together within zones of (post-)conflict where "brotherhood and unity" have become redundant (Arsenjević, 2012)? Do these zones constitute an exception or are they present within what is perceived as more 'normal' times? How does the maintenance of political violence work as a mode of governance to discipline populations and what impact does it have on quotidian life-worlds?

The symposium will explore these questions using contexts from Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, and Myanmar. The role played by forms of media, including social media, in redefining the possibilities of living together in these contexts will be examined and their links with broader authoritarian and neoliberal projects will be mapped. Similarly the manner in which memory and nostalgia work within zones of (post-)conflict to deepen existing sectarian tensions or to imagine new forms of co-existence will be an important focus for the discussions. The way in which visible violence as well as slow or creeping forms of violence, which is made invisible, function in these zones and the techniques around the sustenance of such violence will inform these discussions. The symposium will open up questions about the role of academics, activists and artists in responding to such situations and forming counter strategies while living or working within zones of (post-)conflict.

The symposium is organised as a collaboration between RePLITO - Beyond Social Cohesion-Global Repertoires of Living Together ([www.replito.de](http://www.replito.de)), International Research Group on Authoritarianism and Counter-Strategies (IRGAC) of the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung ([www.irgac.org](http://www.irgac.org)) and Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region (HJ Berlin)

**PANEL 1:**  
Negotiating every day in (post-)conflict zones

2 PM TO 3.30 PM

**Damir Arsenjević** (University of Tuzla)  
**Nwet Kay Khine** (IRGAC, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung)  
**Fathima Nizaruddin** (IRGAC, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung)  
Moderation: **Nadja-Christina Schneider** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

**PANEL 2:**  
Digital Platforms, Majoritarianism and Transformation of Quotidian life-worlds in India

4 PM TO 5.30 PM

**Rahul Mukherjee** (University of Pennsylvania)  
**Fathima Nizaruddin** (IRGAC, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung)  
Moderation: **Nadja-Christina Schneider** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

The event will take place in person in room 217 at the Institute for Asian and African Studies (Invalidenstr. 118, 10115 Berlin) of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Prior registration or invitation is required to attend the event. Registration will close on **19th September 2022**. For inquiries and registration please contact [fatima.n82@gmail.com](mailto:fatima.n82@gmail.com)



The second panel in the symposium was titled 'Digital Platforms, Majoritarianism and Transformation of Quotidian Life Worlds in India'. This panel was partly based on a special issue on digital platforms in contemporary India for the journal *Asiascape: Digital Asia* that was edited by Prof. Dr. Rahul Mukherjee and Dr. Fathima Nizaruddin (Vol 9, Issues 1-2, July 2022). The panel was moderated by Nadja-Christina Schneider. Rahul Mukherjee and Fathima Nizaruddin made a joint presentation on the topic. Rahul Mukherjee is an Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. This panel focused on some of the marked shifts that have taken place in the communication landscape in India after the arrival of digital platforms and how these transformations have affected the contemporary majoritarian turn in the country. Rahul Mukherjee mentioned the changing patterns regarding digital platforms and their relationship with data privacy. During the discussions that followed this panel, audience members linked the situation in India with the broader pattern of functioning of big technology companies across the globe. The panelists emphasised that the shifts around digital platforms in India will have a global impact because India is the biggest market for many major platforms.

*Fathima Nizaruddin*



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# Transdisciplinary Workshop

## What Is It To Be Human?

### Engaging the Possibilities of Living Together

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July 07-08, 2022

Organized by Dr. Mahmoud Al-Zayed (FU)



This workshop engaged with various conceptions of the human and their implications to the possibilities of 'living together'. It set out from the premise that the way we conceptualise the human as a model of being human has a defining role in the possibilities and the dynamics of living together, or any other social relation. The primary aim was also to rethink the human and unsettle the Euro-modern, centripetal concepts of the human that occlude other conceptions of being human in the world. Parallely this workshop investigated other concepts of being human from different traditions of the Global South, while dwelling on the porous relations between humans and non-humans considering the impending ecological crises.

While engaging the human as a conceptual category, among the major questions that were addressed are the following: how does one methodologically negotiate with the question of 'What is it to be human?' while navigating through the varied domains of experience of being human, analytically mapping out a variety of linguistic, social, anthropological, philosophical, theological routes that invest the concept of the human in terms of a consciousness that is both contingent to history and at the same time ahistorical in nature? What are the relations between the conceptions of the human and the intersubjective sociality and the possibilities of living together? Is it possible to arrive at a truly "universal" understanding of the human and planetarily-sensitive human ethics that help us tackle the pressing problems that all humans and nonhumans face on a planetary scale? During the two-day workshop, scholars and thinkers/philosophers from various disciplines dealt within these and other pertinent questions from the standpoint of different epistemologies of the Global South.

*Mahmoud Al-Zayed*



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Transdisciplinary Workshop  
What Is It To Be Human?  
Engaging the Possibilities of Living Together

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July 08, 2022

## Public Lecture on The Human Question

Organized by Dr. Mahmoud Al-Zayed



The workshop was concluded by a thought-provoking public lecture by the Afro-Jewish philosopher Lewis Gordon who made the case for thinking the human question through the idea of justification and freedom. Gordon warns against the dangerous turns that take the forms and concepts such as posthuman and antihuman which take their substance from the often fascist and idolatrous concept of being human. Without falling into various forms of reductions and species-centrism, Gordon offered an alternative way of thinking human through appealing to “the political implications of power and love”.

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September 22, 2022

## How to think concepts from the Global South?

A workshop with Prof. Dr. Dilip M. Menon, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Organised by Dr. Johannes Stephan (Seminar for Semitic and Arabic Studies) & Dr. Mahmoud Al-Zayed (Institute of Islamic Studies & Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies), Freie Universität Berlin

The focus of the workshop was to address the question of how to think concepts from the Global South as an attempt to challenge the hegemony of the Euroamerican conceptual landscape and to diversify our conceptual repertoire to build new theories of history, society, and culture. What precisely does it mean to think with concepts from the Global South (instead of relying on modern Euroamerican concepts)? How does this decolonial attitude translate into a consistent research practice? And how is it possible to rethink academic work in this fashion and theorise from the Global South without reaffirming existing epistemic hierarchies? These were among the main questions addressed in the workshop. Prof. Dilip Menon first took us on a journey to delineate the context and necessities of the project of thinking concepts from the Global South as well as the imperative to think with oceanic and watery histories. Prof. Menon shared notes on his current projects of thinking through (indigenous) and demotic words/concepts that map the landscapes of experience, ethics, religion, politics, and traditions of thinking about the world, the social and the human. In a dialogical form, the participants shared their research problems, posed questions based on their ongoing research and shared some concepts that they are currently working with.

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## Cooperation with Junge Islam Konferenz (JIK) Opening of JIK Media Academy 2022

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During the summer term Dr. Hannah Tzuberi and Prof. Dr. Schirin Amir-Moazami (Freie Universität Berlin) accompanied this year's Media Academy (M.AKA) of the Junge Islam Konferenz. Eight very engaged participants worked creatively on projects along the guiding topic „Valuing cultural practices in a post-migrant society and rethinking living together“ with photography, film and journalistic writing. The projects were presented at an opening at Salon Babette on September 08, 2022. Some of them will be featured in the knowledge archive of RePLITO.



## Meeting of Alexander von Humboldt Residency Fellows Social Cohesion & RePLITO members at IAAW

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Social cohesion is the focus of this year's Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) Residency Program. On August 17, contributors to the program joined RePLITO members for a hybrid exchange at the Institute for Asian and African Studies at HU Berlin. Among other questions, the lively discussion focused on conceptual problems and current debates on social cohesion in South Africa, Europe and different regions of South and Southeast Asia.



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## RePLITO Visiting Research Fellows at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (IAAW)

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As part of our RePLITO Visiting Research Fellowship Program at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, we welcome Dr. Nagehan Uskan as the fifth visiting scholar at the Institute for Asian and African Studies during the winter term 2022/23. Nagehan Uskan studied Cinema at the University of Bologna and Sociology at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University. She works on video and documentary cinema, image and self-representation as a form of activism. She is based in Lesbos Island in Greece and produces collective videos with migrant self-organised collectives. She teaches Filmmaking in Exile at the Department of Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region (GAMS) at HU, affiliated with Off-University. She also works as a film programmer for different institutions and festivals.



Announcement

### Hava, Maryam, Ayesha

A film by: Sahraa Karimi

Producers: Katayoon Shahabi , Sahraa Karimi

at fsk Kino am Orianienplatz

Sunday, 13 November 2022 at 3:00pm

Film screening followed by Q & A with director Sahraa Karimi,  
moderated by Nagehan Uskan

The first independent Afghan film entirely shot in Kabul with director, actors, and actresses living in Afghanistan.



#### SYNOPSIS

Three Afghan women from different social backgrounds, living in Kabul, are facing a big challenge in their lives. Hava, a traditional pregnant woman whom no one cares about, is living with her father and mother in law. Her only joy is talking to the baby in her belly. Maryam, an educated TV news reporter, is about to get a divorce from her unfaithful husband, but finds out she is pregnant. Ayesha, an 18-year old girl accepts to marry her cousin because she is pregnant from her boyfriend who disappears after hearing the news. Each of them has to solve her problem by herself for the first time.

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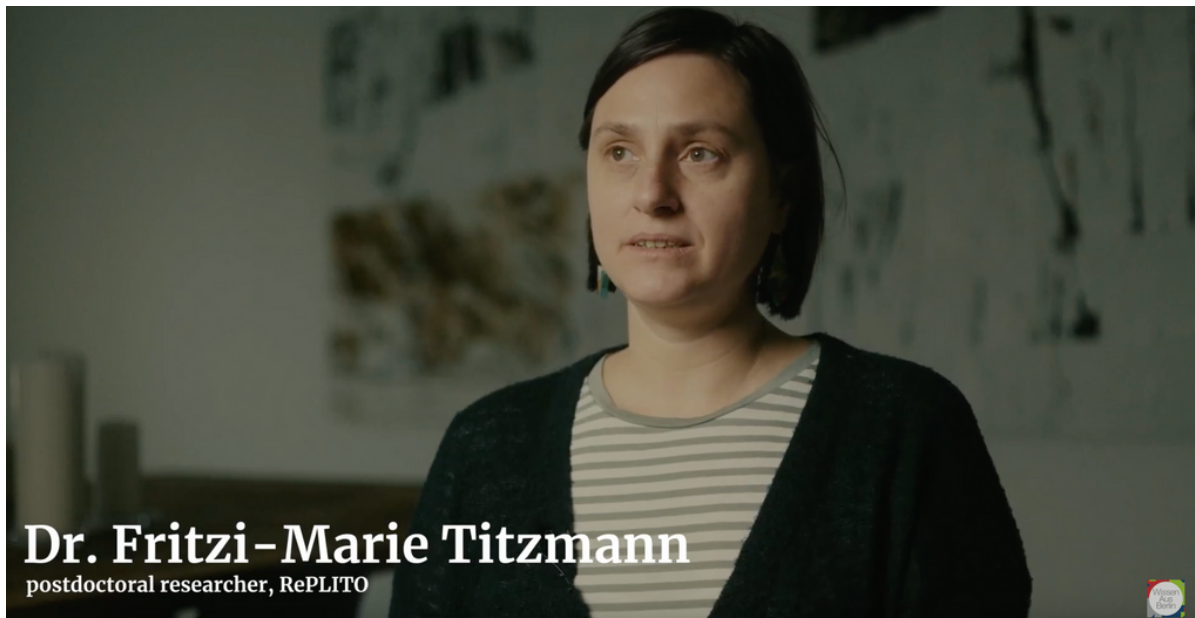
# RePLITO in the Media

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## *Jüdische Gemeinden in Deutschland nach 1989*

Dr. Hannah Tzuberi (FU) in conversation with Dr. Saskia Schäfer (HU)



## *Proteste in Indien: Solidarität und sozialer Zusammenhalt*

Dr. Fritzi-Marie Titzmann (HU) in conversation with Prof. Dr. Claudia Derichs (HU)



# RePLITO in the Media

**FU-Tagesspiegel-Beilage (October 1, 2022)**

Interview with Prof. Dr. Schirin Amir-Moazami (FU)



Glaube an das universale Band des Teilens

Welche Vorstellungen von Zusammenleben haben Menschen im globalen Süden? Das wird im Forschungsprojekt „Beyond Social Cohesion – Global Repertoires of Living Together“ untersucht

27.09.2022



Vor den Eid-Adha-Feiertagen, einem der wichtigsten muslimischen Feste, drängen sich Menschen am Bahnhof von Dhaka, Bangladesch, um sich auf den Weg in ihre Heimatdörfer zu machen.

Bildquelle: picture alliance



Woran forscht das Social-Cohesion-Projekt „Global repertoires of living together – #RePLITO“?

Das erklärt Projekt-Sprecherin Nadja-Christina Schneider, @HumboldtUni, im Video.

Mehr über die Forschung erfahrt ihr auch hier: [berlin-university-alliance.de/impressions/22...](https://berlin-university-alliance.de/impressions/22...) #SoCoBUA

Prof. Dr. Nadja-Christina Schneider on the concept of social cohesion, interview in the framework of the *Dialogue on Migration and Diversity* (August 31, 2022)



## Imprint

### RePLITO Quarterly Newsletter No. 3, October 2022

Newsletter of the joint research project “Beyond Social Cohesion - Global Repertoires of Living Together (RePLITO)”, funded by the Berlin University Alliance in the framework of the Main Call Exploration Projects Social Cohesion.

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