



UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG

Anthropology and African
Studies 2022

(de)colonial practices in/across academia

Dialectics of Colonisation and Decolonisation of Anthropology in/on Central and Eastern Europe

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Anthropology is seen, in self-critical vein, as a correlate of colonialism. After the political decolonisation of the so-called Third World/Global South between 1955 and ca. 1980, many native intellectuals in Africa, Asia and Latin America started to formulate programmes aimed at the decolonisation of knowledge. Undertakings such as the Lausanne Manifesto, World Anthropologies Movement and World Council of Anthropological Association openly aimed to decentre and pluralise anthropological knowledge. But in this “global” perspective the fate of anthropology in the former communist bloc before and after 1989 is rather ignored. I would like to outline in my talk the convoluted practices of orientalising social and cultural phenomena, which were arbitrarily classified by western scholars as inherently (post-)communist. Additionally, I will discuss the issues of (self-)colonisation of the discipline of ethnology by its anthropologisation. Finally, I will propose thoughts concerning the decolonisation of knowledge in (Central and Eastern) Europe and beyond.

16. Mai 2022

17-19 Uhr

Hörsaal 10