

2003

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Temporary Irritation or Enduring Crisis? Exploring the Deep Structure of the Current Transatlantic Conflicts

**Prof. Jeffrey Anderson, Ph.D. and Prof. John Ikenberry, Ph.D. (Georgetown University, USA),
Prof. Dr. Thomas Risse and Dr. Ingo Peters (Free University of Berlin, Germany)**

The purpose of the study group is to undertake a comprehensive stock-taking effort of structural features of the U.S.-European relationship from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The group will address the following questions:

1. What features distinguish the current situation from the various transatlantic disputes in the history of the alliance?
2. Are we witnessing a world order conflict pitching European preferences for multilateralism and international institutions against American unilateralism and/or imperial ambitions in a unipolar world? Is there a fundamental dispute about international law and the legalization of global governance including notions of national sovereignty? To what extent are different understandings about the use of military force at the core of current transatlantic conflicts?
3. We need to explore whether the current situation still results from the repercussions of the end of the Cold War, i.e. the end of bipolarity and the emergence of a unipolar system. Are the transatlantic conflicts fundamentally the result of U.S. power and European weakness? Alternatively, the conflicts could also be explained by the gradual emergence of the EU as an emerging political system on the world scene. And what is the structural impact of September 11, 2001, and the rise of transatlantic networks of terrorism for the transatlantic relationship?
4. Do the current disputes result from different domestic coalitions with different world views in charge of foreign policy in Europe as compared to the U.S.? Is the transatlantic community still bound together by shared values and a collective identity in a democratic security community?
5. Depending on the answers to the various sets of questions, what are the likely scenarios for the future of the transatlantic relations? The purpose here is not to come up with concrete policy recommendations to deal with the immediate future, but to map out the various pathways for the future and to attach probabilities to them.

Trans-Atlantic Perspectives on Adolescence and Immigration Building an Inter-University Study-Group on Research Strategies and Policy Recommendations

PD Dr. Lena Inowlocki and Prof. Dr. Ursula Apitzsch (Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, Germany), Charles D. Kaplan (Maastricht University, Netherlands/University of Houston, USA), and Prof. Avelardo Valdez, Ph.D. (University of Houston, USA)

This project aims to build a transatlantic and inter-university study group on adolescence and immigration that will develop new research perspectives on clusters of social problems and theoretical issues. These concern adolescence, generation relations in families, gender and peer-group socialization, education and work in immigrant families, migration patterns, political status, social mobility, and quality of life issues. The study-group will be composed of members from the Center of Drug and Social Policy Research, Graduate School of Social Work, University of Houston, and from the Department of Social Science, Institute for Socialization Research and Social Psychology, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, Frankfurt/Main and the International Graduate Center (IPC) of the department.

The research of the Houston group is strongly policy-oriented and involves interventions with high-risk immigrant families. The Frankfurt group also plays a leading role in Germany and Europe. The Frankfurt research, in cooperation with partners from other EU countries, addresses the opportunities for upward mobility and social integration through work and education. In both the Houston and Frankfurt research, three significant dimensions of living in situations of disadvantaged socio-economic status and lacking social recognition are analyzed: a) crisis coping in adolescence, b) gender specificity, c) relations between the generations in families.

In two transatlantic meetings, new research dimensions and strategies will be explored and elaborated. The objective of these meetings is to develop broader theoretical perspectives as well as more accurate methods of research, through comparative biographical case analyses and discussions of observations and findings. At the occasion of these meetings, substantive as well as methodological issues relevant to larger audiences at the respective universities will be discussed in order to broaden the scope of dissemination of research findings. Proceedings of the meetings will be elaborated and published in a joint volume on "Adolescence and Immigration in Transatlantic Perspectives".

German–Jewish Social Scientists in American Exile Studies on the Construction of Identities

Amalia Barboza and Christoph Henning (TU Dresden, Germany)

This group of younger researchers proposes to study the biographies of émigré German-Jewish social thinkers in order to specify what role elements of specific Jewish identity may have played for them in Germany and then in the United States. Fully recognizing the diversity of experience -- some emigrants dropped any identification as Jews; others rediscovered a sense of affiliation they had not earlier had -- as well as the differing senses of Jewish assimilation in the host cultures at different times, the researchers seek to isolate the function that the émigrés' self-awareness as Jews may have had in mediating between more general constellations of German and American identity and in influencing their intellectual output.

For German-Jewish sociologists in Germany, the issue of semi-assimilation, semi-distanced social integration (e.g. the role of "the stranger" in Simmel and König) seems to have been a

major impulse to sociological work. In the U.S. the immigrants were outsiders both as Germans and as Jews; on the other hand, there was less pressure to dissolve one's own identity in a higher national unity. The researchers ask how these conflicting pressures had an impact on their social science.

The researchers will use personal and institutional archives in the United States and Germany focusing on the group of social scientists assembled at the University in Exile and the subsequent New School for Social Research. They will also study a control group of non-Jewish emigrant social scientists. The project builds on graduate research work in Dresden. Project members plan to develop contacts with other scholarly centers in the U.S. devoted to study similar issues. Preliminary research findings will be presented at conferences in Germany and in the U.S.

Recognizing the current interest in issues of identity of national styles in the social sciences, and the explorative nature of this project, the Stiftung Deutsch-Amerikanische Wissenschaftsbeziehungen has granted the researchers a sum of 5.000 Euro for initial work on this project idea.

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Transatlantic Relations from a Social Psychological Perspective: Explicit and Implicit Forms of Intergroup Perceptions of Americans and Germans

Gerald Echterhoff, Ph.D. and Stephan Groll (University of Cologne, Germany), Prof. D.r Gerd Bohner (University of Bielefeld, Germany), Ina Kerner (Free University of Berlin, Germany), Prof. John M. Levine, Ph.D. and Leslie R. M. Hausmann (University of Pittsburgh, USA), Prof. E. Tory Higgins, Ph.D. (Columbia University, USA), Johanna Vollhardt (University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA)

The goal of the project is to investigate the relationship between Germany and the U.S. from the micro-perspective of intergroup social psychology.

Political analysts as well as the media have focused on the extent to which the transatlantic relationship has been strained by recent political developments on a macro scale. However, relatively less attention has been devoted to whether individuals on both sides of the Atlantic actually exhibit biased social perceptions and evaluations of each other. In addition to surveys and opinion polls (such as the Pew Global Attitudes Survey), which often elicit socially desired or intentionally controlled responses, the present approach addresses implicit and uncontrollable perceptions of the “transatlantic other.” Explicit measures, such as traditional self-report or rating items, probe directly for people’s attitude towards members of the out-group, while implicit measures tap covert forms of bias and cognitive associations, of which even well-intentioned people are largely unaware. We plan to employ two classes of implicit measures: the Implicit Association Test (IAT) and a new measure which is currently developed by the members of the research group (i.e., an index of shared reality denial). Experimental studies and an online testing center on the Internet will be employed to assess not only explicitly stated opinions but also attitudes which people may be unwilling or unable to communicate overtly.

Leading research on intergroup biases and underlying cognitive processes has been conducted by study group members at the Social Cognition Lab at Columbia University (E. Tory Higgins), the Group Interaction Lab at the University of Pittsburgh (John M. Levine, Leslie R. M. Hausmann), the Experimental Psychology lab at the University of Cologne (Stephan Groll), and the Social Psychology Lab at the University of Bielefeld (Gerd Bohner, Gerald Echterhoff). In order to expand the scope of the present project beyond the core social psychological dimension, the study group is joined by scholars from the Otto-Suhr-Institute of Political Science at the Free University Berlin and the recently founded interdisciplinary program “Psychology of Peace and the Prevention of Violence” at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Transatlantic Network of Philanthropy Researchers

Prof. Dr. Thomas Adam (University of Texas at Arlington, USA), Dr. Gabriele Lingelbach (University of Trier, Germany/Harvard University, USA)

This project is intended to help intensify the academic contacts between German and American scholars who are working in the field of historical study of philanthropy and the third sector.

Investigations into the historical, economic, cultural and sociological nature of philanthropy have a long tradition in the United States. American scholars have extensively analyzed the social background of philanthropists as well as their motives and economic potential. In the American setting, philanthropy is seen as an essential element of civil society and a democratic order. In Germany, philanthropy attracted the interest of historians only recently. Most German historians have focused so far on private support for artistic enterprises such as museums and art galleries and neglected the financing of social institutions.

This project is intended to build academic bridges across the Atlantic to provide a basis for the cross-fertilization of American and German inquiries into philanthropy and civil society. To this end, Thomas Adam and Gabriele Lingelbach in collaboration with the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., are preparing an international conference to take place in Washington, D.C. in March 2006. The organizers will invite scholars from both sides of the Atlantic to discuss their concepts and findings. This meeting will path the way for future transatlantic collaboration and the integration of German and American philanthropy research. Such an approach will benefit both sides and contribute greatly to the ongoing search for a definition of the third sector.

2006

In 2006 the *Stiftung Deutsch-Amerikanische Wissenschaftsbeziehungen* (SDAW/Foundation German-American Academic Relations), which annually offers funding for transatlantic study groups exploring topics of particular interest for the transatlantic relationship, from a large number of submissions decided to fund the following new projects:

Second Transatlantic Dialogue

“Questioning the Nation – La Nation en question – Die Nation auf dem Prüfstand“

Dr. Sabine v. Oppeln (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany), Prof. Dr. Peter Hayes and Prof. Dr. Michael Loriaux (Northwestern University, Chicago/Evanston, IL, USA), Prof. Dr. H el ene Miard-Delacroix (Ecole Normale Sup erieure - Lettres et Sciences humaines, Lyon, France), Prof. Dr. Fran ois Cochet and Prof. Dr. Olivier Dard (Universit  Paul Verlaine, Metz, France), Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Rainer Hudemann, Prof. Dr. Hans-J rgen L usebrink and Prof. Dr. Manfred Schmeling (Universit t des Saarlandes, Saarbr cken, Germany and Sciences Po Paris, France)

Scholars, Ph.D. students and exam candidates from the departments of history, political science, comparative literature, French cultural studies and intercultural communication at six different universities worked on the German-French border near Metz and Saarbr cken by questioning the term “nation”: “Questioning the Nation“. The participants were able to establish an innovative interdisciplinary dialogue that was pursued from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

Starting point was both the making of nations since the eighteenth and nineteenth century and its contemporary reflection in the historical sciences, literature and in political discussions. This was then confronted with modern scholarly approaches in various disciplines. European and American case studies stood alongside examples from Algeria, Palestine or the Philippines. Metz, Verdun and Saarbr cken as venues vividly demonstrated the diverse forms of nation making and nationality-based conflicts and their overlapping in areas close to national borders. Trinational work groups stressed on the following topics:

- Concepts of the nation, images of the nation, symbolism of the nation
- Nation, conflicts, patterns of remembrance
- Verdun as a place of national remembrance
- Modes of making a nation and Europe
- Limits of the term “nation”

The five day seminar was prepared by co-ordinated courses at the universities involved and integrated via internet. It will hopefully lead to a transatlantic network and to long-term cooperation in the areas of teaching and research.

The main results of the Second Transatlantic Dialogue will be published in 2008 as second volume of the culture studies publication series of the Frankreichzentrum “ViceVersa – Deutsch-Französische Kulturstudien” (“ViceVersa – German-French culture studies”, published at Akademie Verlag Berlin).

Skilled Migrants in Germany and the U.S.

Jeanne Batalova, PhD. (Migration Policy Institute, Washington, DC, USA), Prof. Dr. Claudia Diehl (Universität Göttingen, Germany)

The goal of the research group on “Skilled migrants in Germany and the US” is to shed light on the following two questions: How successful is Germany compared to the US in attracting highly skilled migrants, i.e., immigrants who have completed tertiary education? And how do skilled migrants differ in terms of their economic integration in both countries?

Whereas implications of low-skilled immigrant workers have generated ample research and heated public and political debates in the US and Germany, the impacts and integration of the highly skilled foreign born have gathered relatively little attention on either side of the Atlantic. This, however, has considerably changed in the recent years. The shift in attention was prompted by a number of factors. First of all, as multinational firms and research institutions have changed their recruitment strategies in order to attract foreigners, labor markets for professionals and researchers have become increasingly international. Secondly, the share of skilled migrants who possess the necessary skills and experience required to be internationally mobile has increased. Thirdly, many countries have invested significant amount of capital and resources and introduced changes in their immigration legislation to attract foreign talent. Accordingly, the international competition for foreign skilled labor has increased substantially. Thus, the analysis of immigration and integration processes of the highly skilled in Germany and the US is particularly interesting given that the two countries differ substantially in terms of their recruitment strategies and opportunities for integration.

Our basic hypothesis is that the US is more successful in both attracting and integrating skilled foreign labor. We intend to test this hypothesis by using German Microcensus data and US Census data from 2000. More specifically, we plan *first*, to systematically compare the legal framework for the immigration of highly skilled migrants in Germany and the US; *second*, to compare the share of skilled migrants among recent arrivals in Germany and the US and to describe their individual-level characteristics (e.g., countries of origin, education, family status) as well as their duration of stay in the countries; and *third*, to perform an analysis of their labor market integration in the US and in Germany.

The research group is funded by SDAW with a travel grant for a kick-off meeting in Washington, DC.

2007

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A Divided West? Human Rights Activism, United Nations Reforms, and Transatlantic Relations

Dr. habil. Volker Heins (McGill University, Montreal, Canada/Institute for Social Research, Frankfurt/M., Germany), Prof. Dr. Klaus Günther (Frankfurt University, Germany), Prof. Andrei Markovits, Ph.D. (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA)

The aim of this project is to investigate the scope and depth of shared understandings between key actors in the U.S., Germany and Canada with regard to the reform of human rights-related mechanisms within the broader context of current UN reforms. How can we describe and explain differences in approaching UN reforms? Do they amount to the consolidation of a “Divided West” (Habermas)—or perhaps a divide between Germany and Canada on the one hand, and the U.S. on the other? If yes, is the divide about moral values or interests, or both?

To gain a better sense of areas of divergence and convergence between the United States, Germany and Canada, we will conduct interviews and study official documents, background reports and newspaper articles from those three countries. In contrast to many conventional studies, the method used to identify country-specific differences will include NGOs.

The project is expected to yield data to test three hypotheses.

(1) *Encompassing Agreement*. With regard to key UN reforms in the human rights field, convergence outweighs differences both at the governmental and the nongovernmental level.

(2) *Transatlantic Civil Society*. The transatlantic consensus on human rights and necessary reforms of UN human rights mechanisms is significantly stronger among human rights NGOs than among governments, mostly because NGOs are not bothered about strategic interests. The convergence among nongovernmental activists leads to a closing of the transatlantic divide at a time when governments are in disagreement.

(3) *Deep Divide*. A pervasive disaffection with “America” in Germany which may or may not be mirrored in corresponding attitudes among Americans vis-à-vis Europeans leads to a divide over possible futures of the U.N. that affects even NGOs. Underneath the bland surface of a common rhetoric, both governments and NGOs are at loggerheads. Differences among NGOs translate into or reflect differences between governments.

The Role of Research Managers A Comparative Study on Science Organization in Germany and the U.S.

Prof. Beverly Crawford, Ph.D. (UC Berkeley, USA), Prof. Dr. Jost Halfmann (Dresden University of Technology, Germany), Falk Schützenmeister, MA (Dresden University of Technology/UC Berkeley)

The comparative study focuses on the role of formal organizations in climate research and microbiology by studying the role of research managers in Germany and the U.S. The necessity to *organize* research evolved from the need to coordinate the increasing societal demands that confront science. With the appearance of large-scale research, a new managerial role evolved, which differs significantly from the classical role of scientists working at the laboratory bench. The research project is meant to identify the challenges to the system of higher education in preparing scientists for their role as research managers.

Different from the common assessment that formal organization and freedom of research contradict each other, the main hypothesis guiding the project is that research managers do boundary work by supplying science with the necessary resources from other realms of society.

The leading assumption of the project is that different types of research management – compared in terms of goals, hierarchy, degree of formalization, and cooperation – are formed mainly by *five* factors: (1) the societal environment shaped by different research policies and R&D systems; (2) the different cultures of scientific disciplines, which include certain cognitive, methodological, and ethical rules of doing good science; (3) the demand for cooperation between disciplines and research organizations; (4) the size of the projects being managed; and (5) the specific professional roles of scientists within different institutional settings such as university, industry, or publicly funded large-scale research.

This hypothesis will be tested with 20 to 30 in-depths interviews with leading research managers in Germany, California, and Washington, DC.

The project has two main goals: First, the results will be presented in a comprehensive research article; and second, the identification of the main issues for a comparative in-depth research proposal on science organization.

Democracy and Democratization in Europe Revisited

Prof. Giovanni Capocchia, Ph.D. (Oxford University, UK), Prof. Daniel Ziblatt, Ph.D. (Harvard University, USA)

Social science's understanding of how democracy is secured owes a great debt to Europe's historical experience. The question of how civil liberties came to be entrenched, why the suffrage was extended, why democracy collapsed in interwar Europe, and how democracy was reconstructed and stabilized after World War II have been the basis of many of our most-prized theories of democratization. Yet, the standard accounts of the European experience—and the lessons drawn from that experience-- have been premised on a theoretical foundation which draws loose inspiration from modernization theory, and is thus nearly entirely “structural” in nature with a focus on class actors acting out of economic self-interest (as the carriers and opponents of democratization).

While taking the core insights of earlier work seriously as our starting point, we emphasize the role of three underappreciated factors—ideas, contingency/uncertainty, and social learn-

ing-- that represent the foundational elements of an alternative account of European democratization. A main conjecture of our approach is that democratization is usefully studied not only in its grand sweep, but in its more incremental steps or “episodes” of reform in which uncertainty and contingency take center stage. Moreover, by adopting a different “unit of analysis” (the reform episode) that focuses on key historical passages of reform, we turn our attention to a wider range of possible motivations, ideas, perceptions, and analogies (drawn from the past or other national experiences) that political actors utilize when making momentous decisions. Our aim is to offer a new vantage point on the achievement of democracy in Europe and that brings scholars of the European experience into conversation with scholars of democratization in other places and time.

The study group will explore the following themes:

- Economic Liberalization and Democratization
- Balancing Reform and Concessions
- Restricting and Protecting Rights: Dealing with Extremism
- Religious Conflict and Church-State Relations
- The Challenge of Ethnic Heterogeneity.

Several experts from both the USA and Europe have been asked to participate; the final composition of the group will be finalized soon.