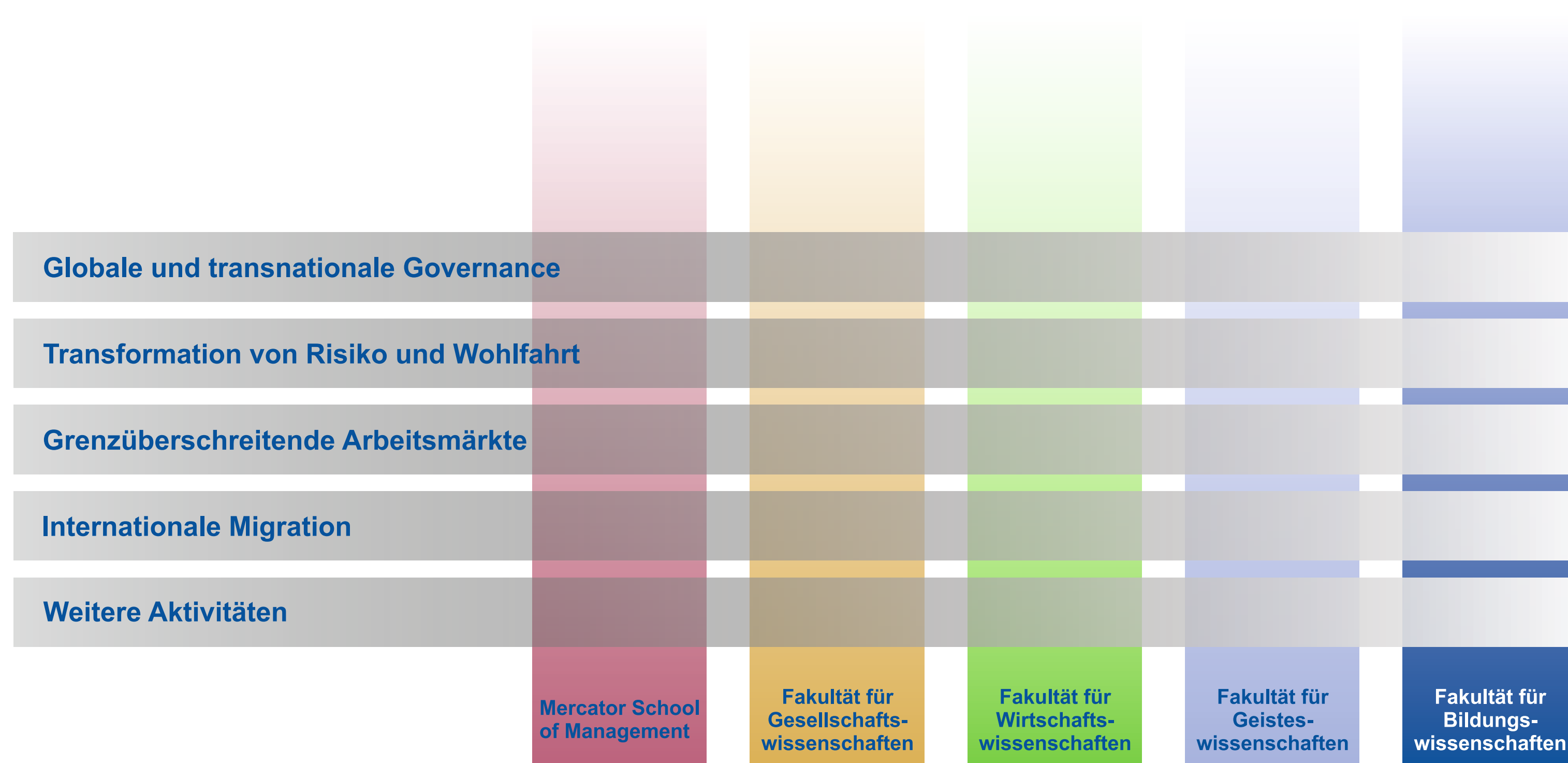




## PROFILSCHWERPUNKT Wandel von Gegenwartsgesellschaften



## FORSCHEN

In der Forschung setzt die Universität Duisburg-Essen auf 4 Schwerpunkte: Nanowissenschaften, Biomedizinische Wissenschaften, Urbane Systeme und Wandel von Gegenwartsgesellschaften. Der Profilschwerpunkt Wandel von Gegenwartsgesellschaften hat sich zum Ziel gesetzt, die Erforschung des Wandels von Gegenwartsgesellschaften zu einem weithin sichtbaren Schwerpunkt der UDE auszubauen. Dabei kann er sich auf die gewachsenen sozialwissenschaftlichen Forschungsstrukturen der UDE stützen, über die eine Vielzahl von Disziplinen wie Soziologie, Bildungswissenschaften, Geisteswissenschaften, Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Politikwissenschaft und andere eingebunden werden können, sowie auch auf breit angelegte regionale Expertise, unter anderem für Europa, Subsahara-Afrika oder Ostasien. Dieses Kompetenzprofil ermöglicht es den Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftlern des Schwerpunktes und ihren internationalen und nationalen Kooperationspartnern Forschungsprojekte zu entwickeln, die substantielle Einsichten in Phänomene des Wandels von Gegenwartsgesellschaften ermöglichen. Konkret lässt sich ein Großteil der Forschung unter dem Dach des Profilschwerpunkts in drei Themen zusammenfassen:

1. **transnationale Arbeitsmärkte** als Teile einer sozialen und politischen Ordnungsbildung in einer zunehmend entgrenzten Welt,
2. **politische und soziale Steuerung (Governance)** innerhalb und über nationale Grenzen hinweg,
3. sowie die **Transformation von Risiko und Wohlfahrt** in ständig sich verändernden Kontexten und
4. die Ursachen und Wirkungen **Internationaler Migration** in einer zunehmend entgrenzten Welt.

## VERNETZEN

Kolleginnen und Kollegen der UDE aus unterschiedlichen Fakultäten, Instituten und Disziplinen, welche zu einschlägigen Bereichen forschen, bilden die Basis des Profilschwerpunkts. Über Themenentwicklungsworkshops, Newsletter, die jährliche Mitgliederversammlung und weitere Veranstaltungen hilft der Profilschwerpunkt bei der Vernetzung der Mitglieder und der Identifikation und Entwicklung von gemeinsamen Forschungsinteressen. Seit der Einführung persönlicher Mitgliedschaften für ProfessorInnen und Postdocs Anfang 2014 sind über 110 Forschende aus fünf verschiedenen Fakultäten sowie den zentralen wissenschaftlichen Einrichtungen und den An-Instituten der UDE Mitglied geworden. Der Profilschwerpunkt steht institutionell in engem Austausch mit wichtigen Forschungseinrichtungen und -zusammenhängen in seinem Bereich, u.a. dem Käte Hamburger Kolleg/Centre for Global Cooperation Research.



## FÖRDERN

Ziel des Profilschwerpunktes ist es, seine Mitglieder dabei zu unterstützen, aus gemeinsamen Forschungsinteressen institutionenübergreifende Verbundvorhaben an der UDE zu entwickeln und damit in der Drittmittelförderung erfolgreich zu sein.

Im Rahmen der möglichen Forschungsförderung durch den Profilschwerpunkt fördert dieser seit seiner Einrichtung schwerpunktmäßig die Ausarbeitung von **Verbundvorhaben** und entsprechenden Anträgen auf Drittmittelförderung. Hierzu können nach begründeten und evaluierten Anträgen Personal- und Sachmittel zur Verfügung gestellt werden.

Zur Themenfindung unterstützt der Schwerpunkt seit 2014 **Themenentwicklungsworkshops** (inkl. Durchführung, Organisation und externer Moderation). Diese haben zum Ziel, das Potential emergierender Forschungsthemen an der UDE und im Profilschwerpunkt in einem frühen Stadium zu erkennen und gemeinsame Forschungsaktivitäten zu fördern.

Der Profilschwerpunkt fördert ebenfalls Projekte des **wissenschaftlichen Nachwuchses** (DoktorandInnen, PostdoktorandInnen, JuniorprofessorInnen). Im Rahmen der Forschungsförderung wird hier insbesondere die Zusammenarbeit von wissenschaftlichem Nachwuchs aus unterschiedlichen institutionellen Kontexten der UDE unterstützt. Die aktuellen Ausschreibungen finden Sie auf den Seiten des Profilschwerpunktes. [www.udue.de/wandel](http://www.udue.de/wandel)



## MITGLIEDER DES FORSCHUNGSRATS

Der Profilschwerpunkt wird durch den fünfköpfigen Forschungsrat geleitet. Die Mitglieder des amtierenden Forschungsrats sind am 10.02.2016 von der Mitgliederversammlung gewählt worden.

- Prof. Dr. Ansgar Belke** – Lehrstuhl für Volkswirtschaftslehre, Makroökonomik, Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaften  
**Prof. Dr. Achim Goerres – Sprecher** – Lehrstuhl für Empirische Politikwissenschaft, Fakultät für Gesellschaftswissenschaften  
**Prof. Dr. Jens Loenhoff – stellv. Sprecher** – Lehrstuhl für Kommunikationswissenschaft, Fakultät für Geisteswissenschaften  
**Prof. Karen Shire, PhD** – Lehrstuhl für Vergleichende Soziologie und Japanstudien, Fakultät für Gesellschaftswissenschaften  
**Dr. Kristina Weissenbach** – Forschungskoodinatorin, NRW School of Governance, Fakultät für Gesellschaftswissenschaften

## KONTAKT

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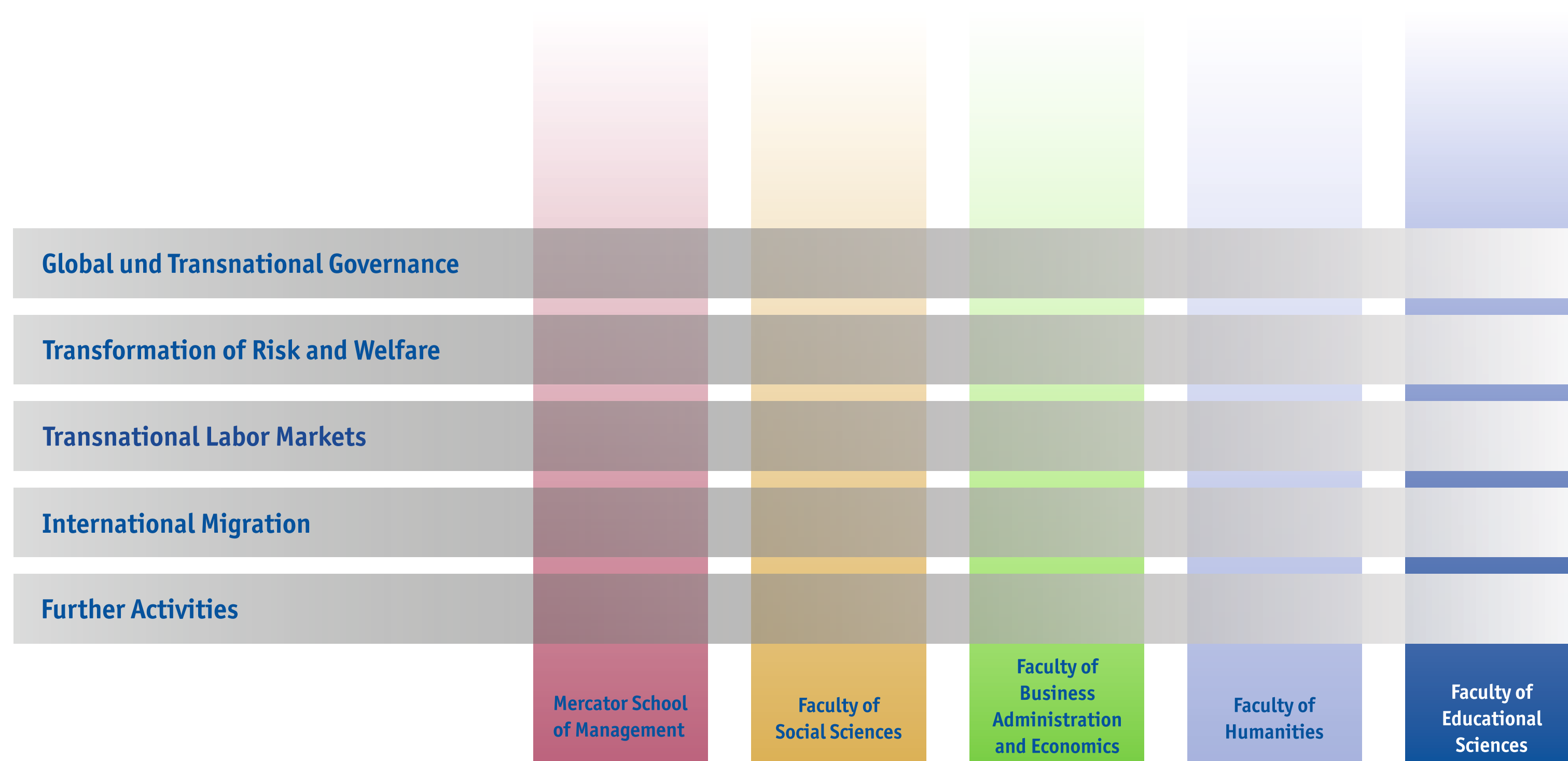






## MAIN RESEARCH AREA

### Transformation of Contemporary Societies



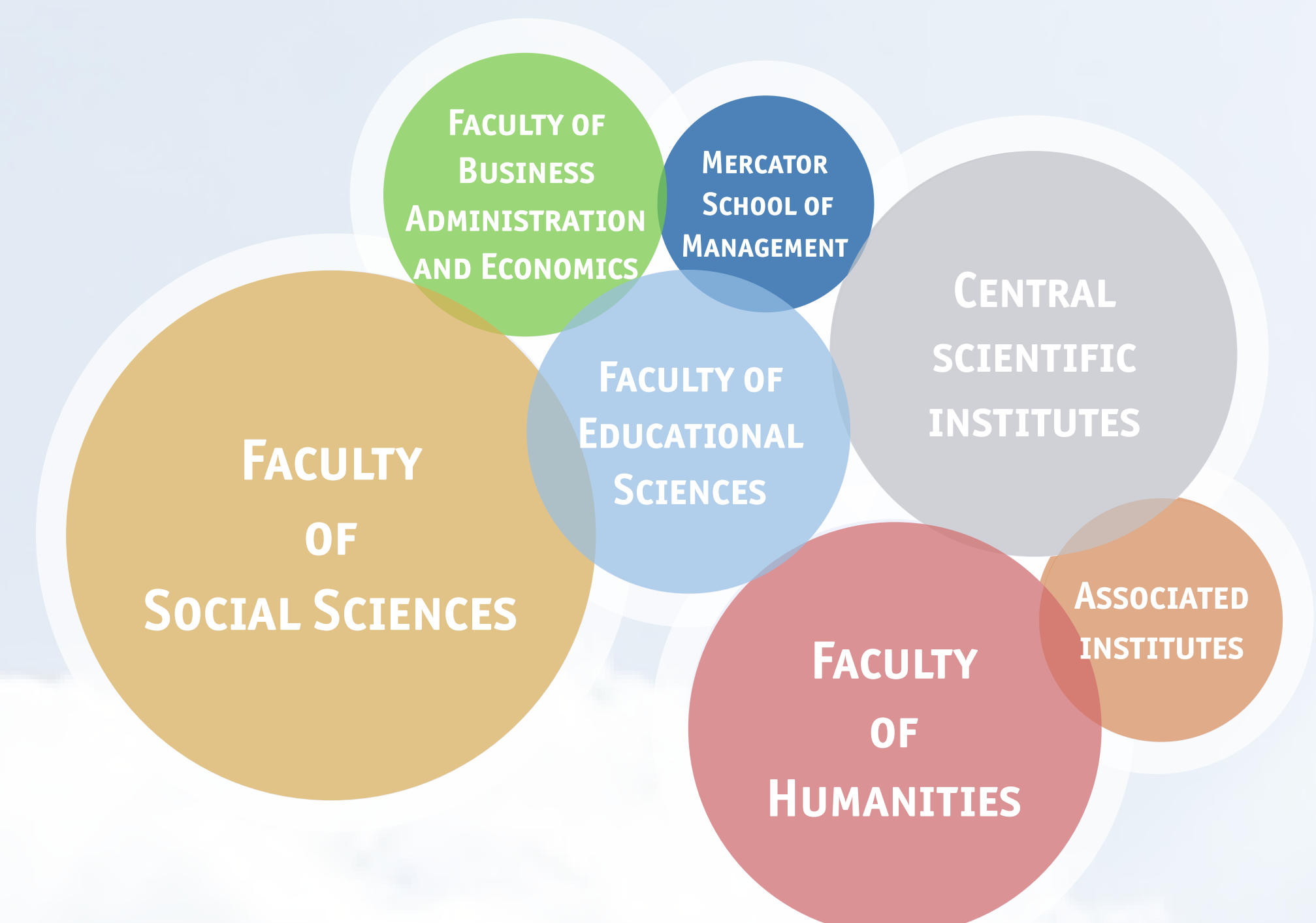
## RESEARCH

The Main Research Area *Transformation of Contemporary Societies* promotes collaborative and inter-disciplinary research about the transformation of contemporary societies at the University Duisburg-Essen (UDE). It builds on a strong Social Science infrastructure to integrate research in sociology, education, economics and business, political science, the humanities and other related disciplines, and aims to link these competencies with the well-established regional and area studies expertise in European, Sub-Saharan African and East Asian Studies at the UDE. The Main Research Area promotes the international and well as national cooperation of its members, and encourages the development of new research to address a range of phenomena in the emergence of a world society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Four sub-themes constitute the current research program:

1. **Transnational Labor Markets** as a process of social and political institution-building in an increasingly borderless world
2. **Political and Social Governance** within and across national borders
3. The **Transformation of Risk and Welfare** in continually shifting contexts and
4. The causes and effects of **International Migration** in an increasingly borderless world.

## NETWORKING

Academics from a range of faculties, institutes and disciplines at the UDE constitute the research basis of the Main Research Area. Networking between members, the development of research sub-themes, new research initiatives and intellectual exchange are advanced by a number of activities, including thematic-development workshops, research meetings, a newsletter and an annual assembly of all members. With the introduction of individual membership for Professors and Post-doctoral scholars since 2014, membership covers over 110 researchers in five faculties and a number of central-university and affiliated research institutes. The Main Research Area cooperates closely with leading third-party funded research collaborations at the university, including the Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research, the DFG Research Training Groups Risk and East Asia and Precaution, Prevision, Prediction: Managing Contingency and the IN-EAST School of Advanced Studies.



## FUNDING SUPPORT

The Main Research Area supports its members in the development of their collaborative and inter-disciplinary research with the aim of advancing their success in obtaining third-party research funding.

The **development of collaborative research projects** and the acquisition of third-party funding build the focus of funding support. Members are invited to submit applications for funding of personnel and materials required for the preparation of large-scale collaborative proposals for third-party research funding.

The Main Research Area also funds **thematic development initiatives** since 2014 for the development of new collaborations and research initiatives, to cover administrative and organizational costs, including professional moderation during workshops. These initiatives and workshops have the explicit purpose of identifying and realizing the potential of new and emerging research ideas at an early stage of development.

The Main Research Area also supports the research of **young scholars** (doctoral candidates, post-doctoral scholars and Junior Professors). Inter-disciplinary collaboration among young scholars receives special attention in the program of support.

Calls for applications for research funding are published regularly on the homepage of the Main Research Area.

[www.udue.de/wandel](http://www.udue.de/wandel)



## Members of the Research Council

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## MAIN RESEARCH AREA

Transformation of Contemporary Societies

## CROSS-BORDER LABOR MARKETS IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION

Nation states increasingly have labour markets with borders that no longer correspond to their own. Labour is consequently taking place in changing contexts, which is creating new challenges for participants in the labour market as well as for governments, trade unions and employers' associations. How can labour be organized under such circumstances? How is work perceived? And what is the basis of "good work"?

### „CROSS BORDER LABOR MARKETS“ WORKING GROUP

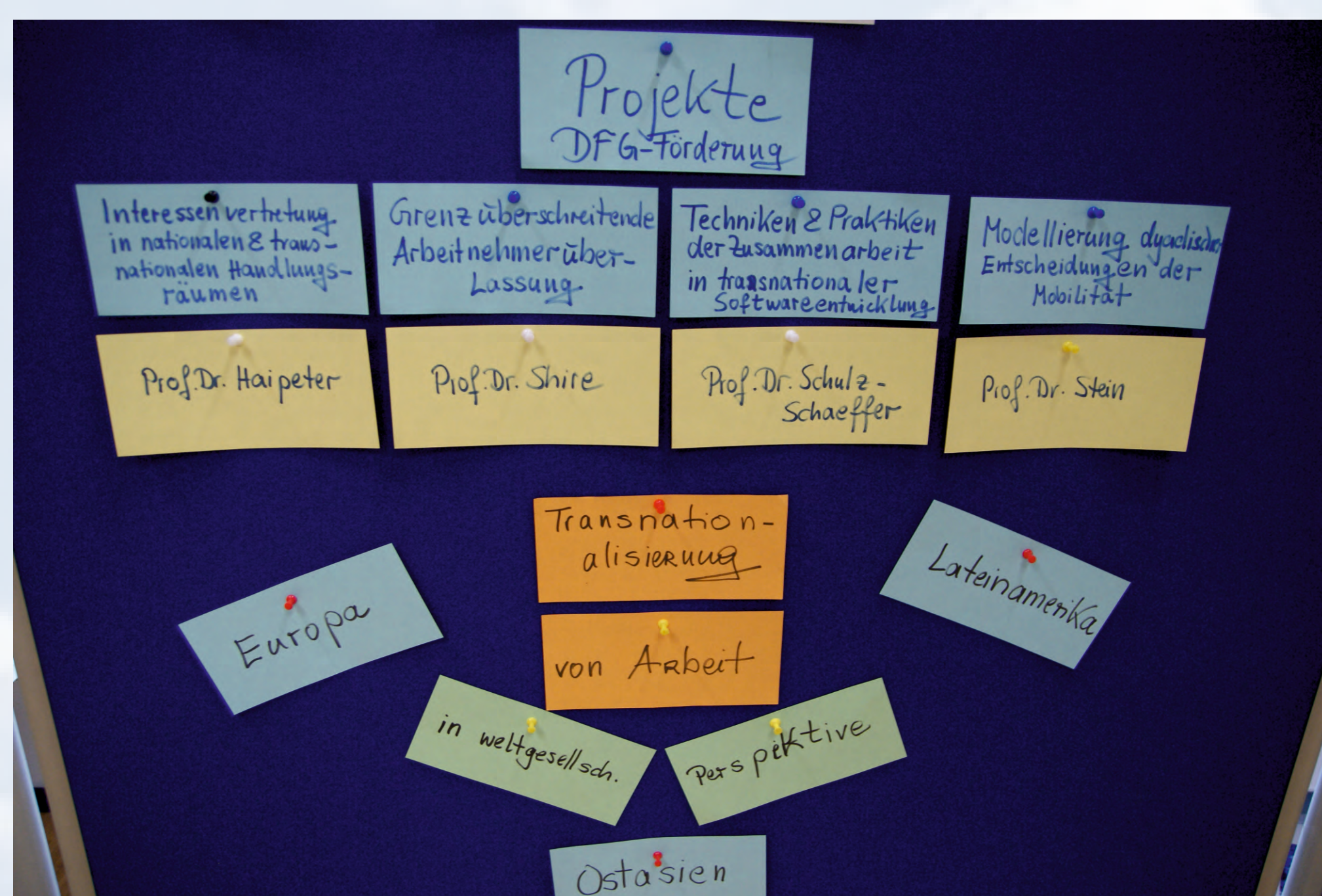


- Prof. Dr. Thomas Haipeter
- Prof. Karen Shire, PhD
- Prof. Dr. Petra Stein
- Prof. Dr. Sigrid Quack
- Prof. Dr. Anja Weiß
- ... and others

Since 2011, the main research area supports coordinated applications of UDE scientists to the German Research Foundation (DFG) focussed on "Transnational Labor Markets". Peers from different faculties of the university have conceived projects from the angle of their own field of research, focusing however on the above mentioned topic. Currently, three research projects benefit from DFG-funding, others are in the drafting phase or are headed for assessment.

- *Modeling dyadic decision-making processes of regional mobility and their labour market outcomes* – Prof. Dr. Petra Stein
- *Interest Representation on National and Transnational Levels of Action: Restructuring of Companies and the Problem of Articulation* – Prof. Dr. Thomas Haipeter
- *Cross-Border Temporary Staffing. Market-Making and Transnational Regulation in Inter-Regional Comparison* – Prof. Karen Shire, PhD

The approved and planned research projects focus on one of these key topics in respect to the overall questions on formation of transnational institutions or the continuity of regionally diverse forms of labor.



### FURTHER PROJECTS

- **Alternative forms of poverty reduction: the new economy of pity. Inventory and exploration**  
Prof. Dr. Fabian Kessler, Institute of Social Work and Social Policy



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- Dr. Kristina Weissenbach** – Research Coordinator, NRW School of Governance, Faculty of Social Sciences

### DIE ARBEIT UND IHRE SUBJEKTE. MEDIALE DISKURSIVIERUNGEN VON ARBEIT SEIT 1960

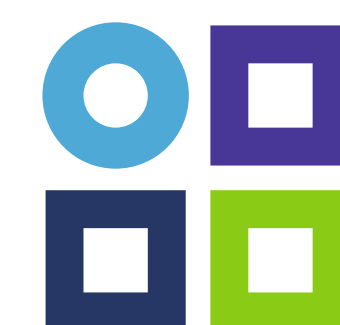


Mitbestimmung · Forschung · Stipendien

- Prof. Dr. Christoph Bieber
- Dr. Thomas Ernst
- Prof. Dr. Rolf Parr
- ... and others

The Graduate School *Die Arbeit und ihre Subjekte. Mediale Diskursivierungen von Arbeit seit 1960*, funded by the Hans Böckler Foundation, is located at the University of Duisburg-Essen. The project deals with the question of how knowledge about "work" is received and processed by discourses in various media such as film, television, press, radio, digital media, literature, theater and music. As part of the doctoral program, eight PhD scholarships are awarded for a maximum duration of three years.

### WORKING CONDITIONS OF HIGHLY-SKILLED SOLO-SELF-EMPLOYED WORKERS – THE ROLE OF STAFFING AGENCIES AND TRADITIONAL ACTORS OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN NEGOTIATION PROCESSES



- Dr. Birgit Apitzsch
- ... and others

Over the last two decades, an increase of the number of highly qualified "solo self-employed" workers can be observed on the German labor market. Typically, the working conditions of these "solo self-employed" workers are negotiated individually. This represents a trend, which can be referred to as "collective individualization". During these negotiations, new intermediate actors play an important role, which are linked to the effect of "individual collectivisation". However, these actors were hardly considered in the research on industrial relations so far. The research project aims at a cross-industry comparative analysis. Individual and collective negotiations of these "solo self-employed" workers will be investigated and the role of different actors at the intermediate level such as agencies, professional associations, and trade unions are analyzed. In addition, this project is the first example to investigate how the above mentioned intermediary actors structure flexible labor markets and therefore affect the working conditions of highly skilled "solo self-employed" workers. This project, conducted by Dr. Birgit Apitzsch, is funded by the Mercator Research Center Ruhr.

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## MAIN RESEARCH AREA

Transformation of Contemporary Societies

## GLOBAL AND TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

Governance in general describes how complex organizations and especially state structures are managed. Global governance is the management of structural allocation mechanisms between states or by individual states that account for the entire world or a large part of it. Transnational governance goes beyond global governance and refers to governance beyond the boundaries of the national state that can manifest itself also on a small scale. What forms of efficient governance are possible between the differing priorities of nation states and globalization? What are the structures in building order that allow governance to (still) take place? And what room for manoeuvre do social and economic actors have in the “new” governance structures.

KÄTE HAMBURGER KOLLEG  
CENTRE FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION RESEARCHCentre for  
**Global  
Cooperation  
Research**

- Dr. Rainer Baumann
- Prof. Dr. Tobias Debiel
- Dr. Frank Gadinger
- Prof. Dr. Sigrid Quack
- ... and others

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research seeks to contribute towards a better understanding of the possibilities and limits of transboundary cooperation. By building a learning community, researchers from different disciplines and world regions develop an innovative framework for contemporary cooperation research that enables the exploration of new options for global public policy. The KHK aims to become a crucial hub for this emerging branch of research. It aims to understand the role of transboundary cooperation as an essential part of public policy addressing global challenges. The core research question asks how cultural premises and dynamics of emerging global governance could affect the global cooperation. The Centre is the tenth and the last Käte Hamburger Kolleg supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany.

NONVIOLENT RESISTANCE AND DEMOCRATIC  
CONSOLIDATION

- Dr. habil. Daniel Lambach

Nonviolent resistance against authoritarian regimes has received renewed public and academic interest in recent years. Several studies have confirmed that nonviolent strategies are efficacious in bringing about political change. However, the long-term impact of nonviolent resistance on the consolidation of democracy has not been studied so far. This project aims to address this lacuna. Preliminary analysis showed that democracies, installed after nonviolent resistance, had a significantly higher rate of survival over time than other democracies. Therefore, the link between nonviolent resistance and democratic consolidation will be further investigated applying a mixed-method research design.

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- Dr. Kristina Weissenbach** – Research Coordinator, NRW School of Governance, Faculty of Social Sciences

(NEW) POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE CLAIMS: A GLOBAL  
VIEW [FRANCE, GERMANY, BRAZIL, CHINA, INDIA]

- Prof. em. Dr. Thomas Heberer
- ... and others

Europe currently experiences a crisis of established forms of political representation, visible in increasing political distrust. Various claims to renew political representation are emerging all over the world. Most contemporary research focuses on electoral/mandate representation within single countries. As a result, a lack of comparative, global analysis of (new) representative claims developed outside the representative political system is present; and dynamics developing in the Global South, including non-democratic entities, are neglected by Western scholars. This research project intends to address these gaps by putting into perspective representative claims in France and Germany, two leading democracies in Europe actively experimenting with new concepts of representation, and in three BRICS states: Brazil, India, and China. Building on German and French political theory, the conceptual framework departs from standard ways of considering political representation in the context of electoral and mandate claims. It is argued that while mandate representation remains important, it fails to account for crucial contemporary developments. The premise is that political representation is increasingly related to the (re-) emergence of new representative claims, i.e. situations in which an actor claims to speak/act in the name of others. Such claims are most often based on the denunciation of misrepresentation, which they pretend to correct. However, in spite of the increasing variety of representative claims around the world, a comprehensive conceptual framework and a typology allowing a deeper understanding of these claims are missing and the project will address this conceptual gap.

## FURTHER PROJECTS

- **Political authority and transnational governance arrangements: Regulation through public and private labor, social and environmental standards in the Asian textile and garment industry**  
Dr. Cornelia Ulbert – Institute for Development and Peace
- **Governance in China**  
Prof. em. Dr. Thomas Heberer – Institute for Political Science & IN-EAS
- **PolMine: Project for corpus-assisted policy research & Clarin-D**  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Blätte – Institute for Political Science
- **Financial integration, global liquidity and policy uncertainty**  
Prof. Dr. Ansgar Belke & Dr. Joscha Beckmann – Institute for Business and Economic Studies
- **One Belt-One Road**  
Jun Prof. Shuanping Dai & Dr. Rumin Luo – IN-EAST



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## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION



MAIN RESEARCH AREA  
Transformation of Contemporary Societies

International migration is one of the world's central characteristics at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Its causes, both in the country of origin and the country of arrival, as well as its consequences at cultural, social, economic and political levels are an integral part of the social and political order to be established. An international comparative analysis of these patterns from an interdisciplinary point of view is an important research focus of the Main Research Area *Transformation of Contemporary Societies*. Who migrates and why? What kinds of aspect on the meso and macro level determine individual acting and thinking? What consequences do migration flows have for companies, for the economy or for policy? Are there any "optimal" migration flows? Is international migration the standard and not the exception in a historical perspective? Are there any kinds of cultural changes that can be observed through emigration and immigration?

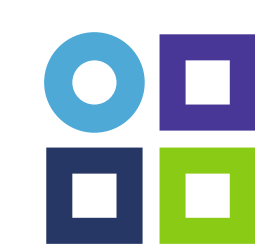
### FIRST GERMAN MIGRANT ELECTION STUDY



- Prof. Dr. Achim Goerres
- ... and others

The project is the first German election study among Germans with a migration background in the context of the German Federal Election of 2017. It therefore focuses exclusively on German voters who either migrated to Germany themselves or who have at least one migrant parent. While this definition covers 8.76 Mio people, there is a lack of research analysing this group's voting behaviour (turnout and vote choice) mainly due to the lack of high-quality data. On the theoretical side, there are some theoretical models to explain the turnout of immigrant voters but nearly none for explaining their vote choice. The scientific study of the political integration of migrant populations is of substantial social and political relevance. For electoral research, voters with migrant background provide a theoretically interesting group, since their political socialization differs from the experiences of the native population in many ways. Whether established theories of electoral research can also explain the voting behaviour of voters with migrant background, or whether this is determined predominantly by migrant-specific characteristics, is the central research objective of this project. It is intended to conduct a post-election-survey for two immigrant groups in the context of the German Federal Election of 2017.

### ETHICS OF IMMIGRATION



Mercator Research Center Ruhr  
Eine Initiative der Stiftung Mercator  
und der Universitätsallianz Ruhr

- Prof. Dr. Andreas Niederberger
- Prof. Dr. Volker Michael Heins
- ... and others

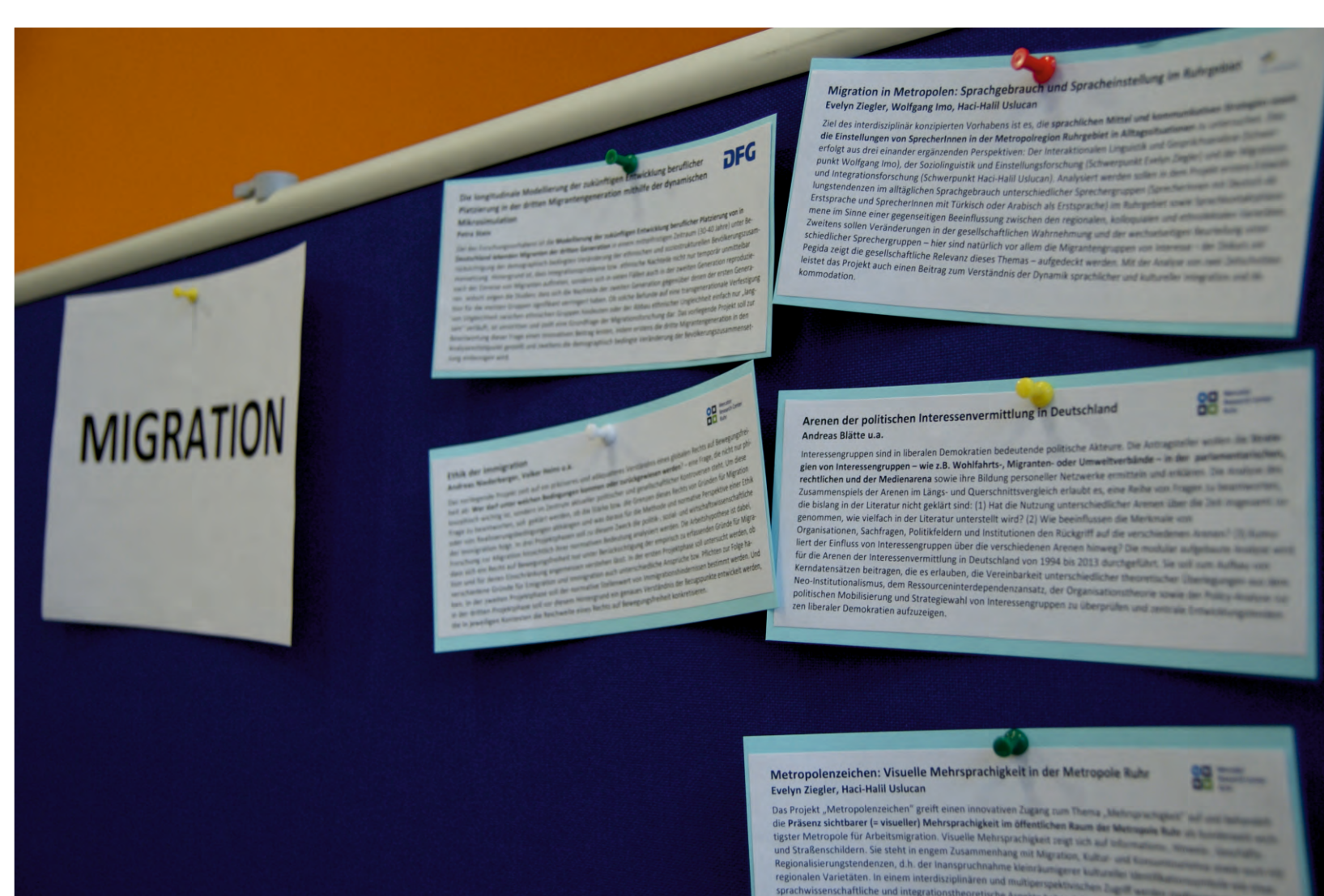
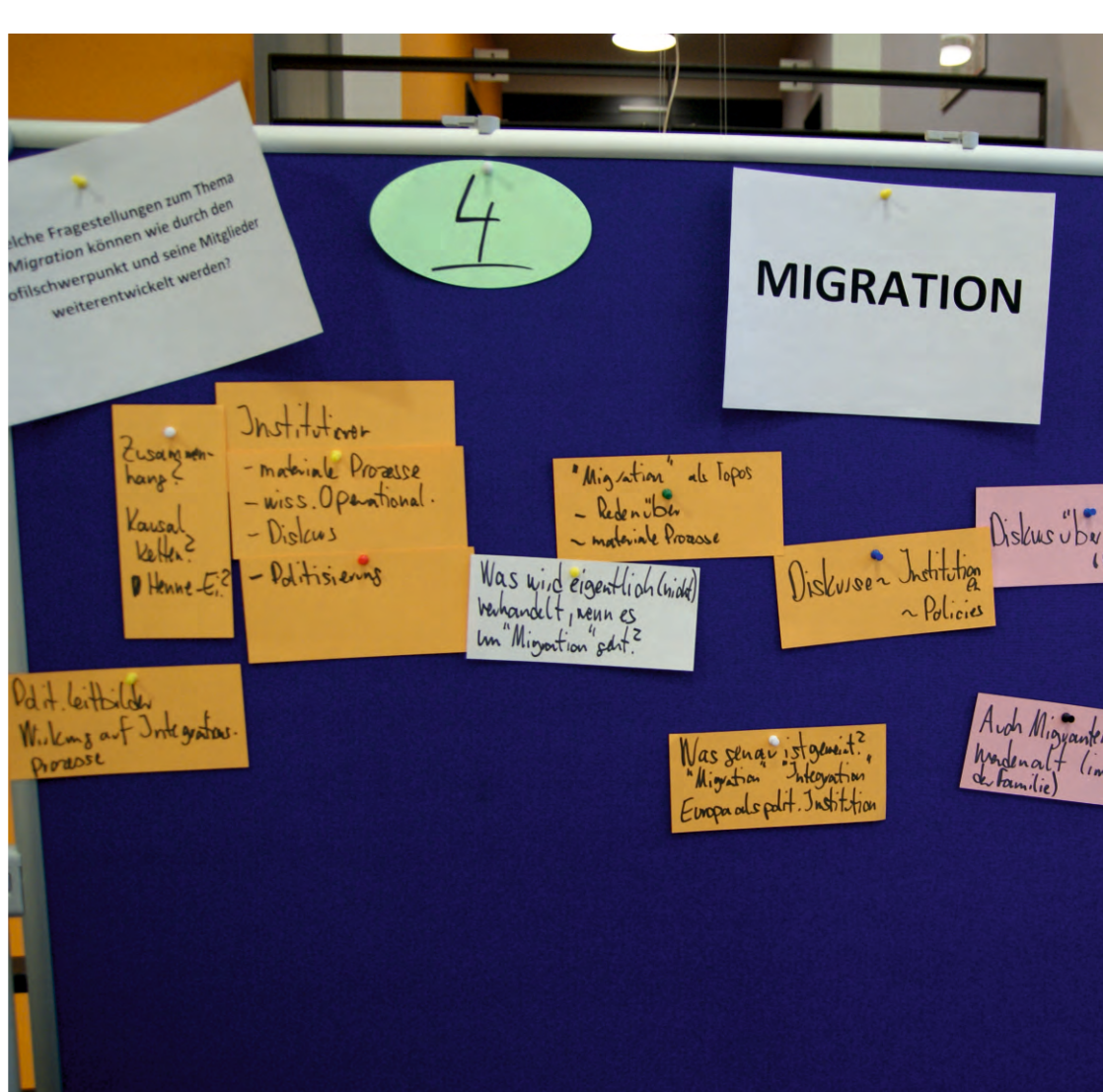
The project aims at a more precise and adequate understanding of the (universal) right to freedom of movement. Who may, and under what conditions, be allowed in or turned away? This question is not only philosophically important, it is also at the centre of current political and social controversies. To answer this question, it is necessary to find out, for example, whether the strength and the limits of the right to freedom of movement depend on the reasons for migration or on the conditions for its realization in particular societies. The purpose of the project is, thus, to analyse political, social, and economic contexts of migration and their normative meaning. The assumption is that the right to freedom of movement can be appropriately understood only if different reasons for migration and a range of empirical constraints are taken into account.

### MIGRATION IN METROPOLISES: LANGUAGE USE AND LANGUAGE ATTITUDES IN THE RUHR AREA



- Prof. Dr. Evelyn Ziegler
- Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Imo
- Prof. Dr. Haci-Halil Uslucan

The aim of this interdisciplinary research project is to analyse the linguistic means and communicative strategies as well as the language attitudes of speakers living in the metropolitan Ruhr area. Interactional linguistics and conversation analysis, sociolinguistics and research in language attitudes, and migration and integration research will be combined. The project intends to investigate current linguistic and attitudinal tendencies in everyday, informal spoken interactions of different speaker communities within the Ruhr area as well as phenomena regarding language contact between regional, colloquial and ethnic varieties. A second research question concerns the dynamics of the social perception and mutual assessments of different speaker communities. A comparative analysis of the language use of speakers with German, Turkish and Arab as their mother tongues is planned on the basis of a corpus of authentic everyday spoken interactions. The language attitudes are further investigated using the methodical approach of narrative interviews and the data will be collected diachronically with a second turn of data collection scheduled after six years. The data will be presented within a linguistic audio database in order to ensure a sustainable use of the project resources and enable other researchers to use the data for further research.



### FURTHER PROJECTS

- **Interest intermediation in policy fields**  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Blätte, Institute of Political Science



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## MAIN RESEARCH AREA

Transformation of Contemporary Societies

## TRANSFORMATION OF RISK AND WELFARE

Processes of global change, such as deindustrialization, tertiarization, demographic, climate and political change, create new challenges for the welfare of people and societies. With them, they bring changes in the risk structures for individual, economic, social and political actors. How do these actors deal with the new challenges? What influences the differing development of risk and welfare for different actors? And how do the degree of complexity of risks and the consequences thereof develop for individuals and collective actors?

BIG RISKS – Perceptions, Management and Neuralgic Societal Risks in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- Prof. Dr. Achim Goerres
- Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Kiesel
- Prof. Dr. Andreas Niederberger

This project is about the ways in which the public deals with neuralgic societal risks such as climate change, demographic change and state deficits in the 21<sup>st</sup> century ("big risks"). It aims to answer overarching questions from the three disciplinary perspectives of practical philosophy, political science and financial mathematics. Practical philosophy considers the epistemic difficulties of "knowing" risks and offers normative risk assessments and reactions to them. Political science studies the intersection between the political and the societal spheres and is equipped to deal with the effects of social and political positions on individual perceptions. Financial mathematics offers tools for the risk management of quantifiable risks and allows designing instruments for diversification and hedging of risks. The project is funded by the Funk Stiftung.

## DFG RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP „RISK AND EAST ASIA“



- Prof. Dr. Jeannette Brosig-Koch
- Prof. Flemming Christiansen, PhD
- Prof. Dr. Florian Coulmas
- Prof. em. Dr. Winfried Flüchter
- Prof. em. Dr. Thomas Heberer
- Prof. Dr. Werner Pascha
- Prof. Karen Shire, PhD
- Prof. Dr. Markus Taube

The Research Training Group *Risk and East Asia* offers doctoral training and post-doctoral research opportunities in contemporary East Asian Studies, with a focus on economics and social sciences. A key feature is the collaboration between doctoral and post-doctoral fellows and senior researchers in a joint research program about the governance of risks triggered by Asian responses to global economic, political and social change. The areas of expertise include Chinese Economy, Chinese and Japanese Politics, Japanese and Korean Economy and Japanese Society. Interdisciplinary collaboration is structured through research sub-themes focused on major processes affecting institutional change: Market Transformations, Social Organizations, Central-Local Interaction, and Transnationalization.

## MURISTEM – Multiple Risks. Coping with Contingency in Stem Cell Research and its Applications - a Political Science Analysis

SPONSORED BY THE

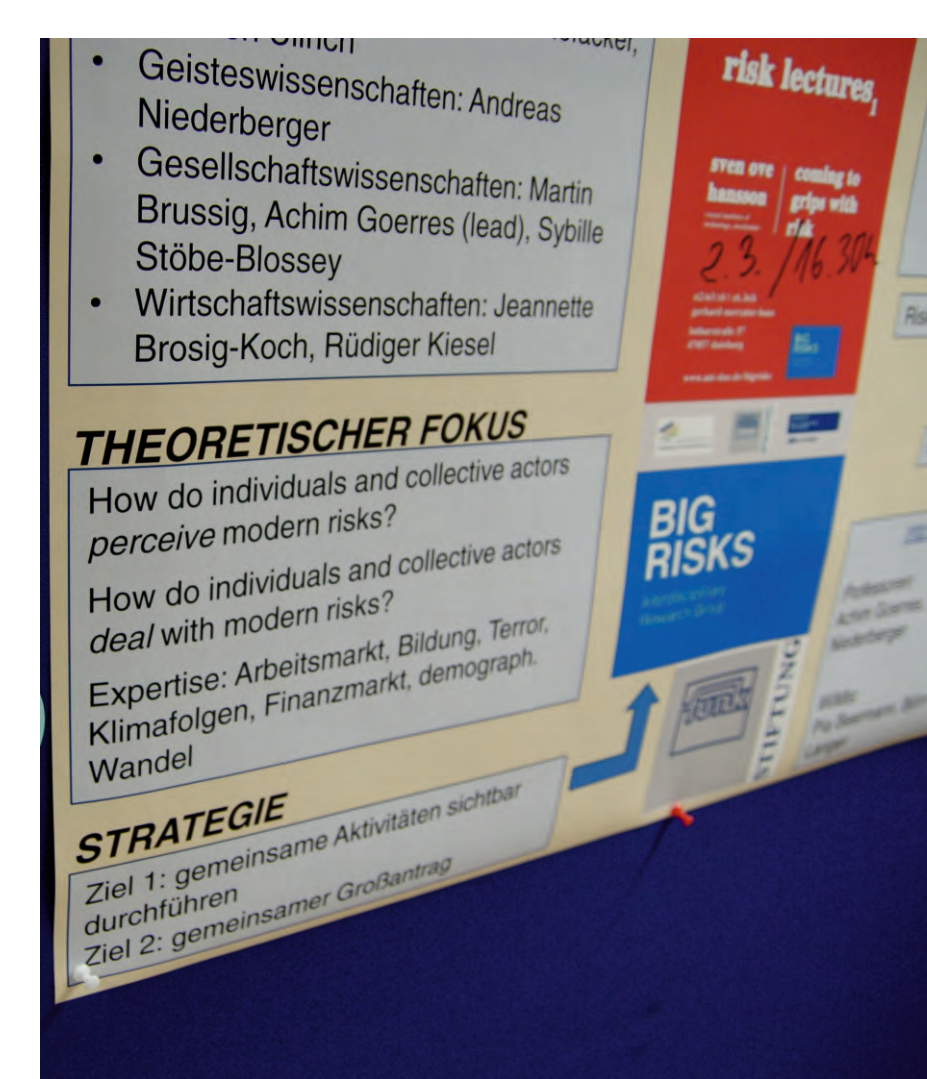


- Prof. Dr. Renate Martinsen
- ... and others

Against the backdrop of publicly held stem cell debates and recent dynamic developments in the respective biomedical research field, the contingency of decisions grows. These decisions are transformed into "political" risks and are attributed to policy makers as soon as they are linked to collectively binding decisions. Currently, increasing efforts are made to legitimize political decisions in sensitive policy areas on a socially broader basis by including social stakeholders in political decision-making processes (keyword "governance"). Within the UDE subproject, social discourses on the opportunities and risks of stem cell research and its applications are analysed by means of qualitative research. Results of the differentiated analysis should be made fruitful for policy makers. It is assumed that the positive and negative visions, which are transported during the forward-looking discourses, will have a controlling effect in present times. In addition, this allows projections regarding the connectivity of concrete decision policies in the different areas of stem cell research and stem cell practice to social communication processes.

The political science part project is integrated in an interdisciplinary and trans-university research network.

## "RISK" WORKING GROUP



- Prof. Dr. Jeannette Brosig-Koch
- PD Dr. Martin Brussig
- Prof. Dr. Achim Goerres
- Prof. Dr. Dirk Hofäcker
- Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Kiesel
- Prof. Dr. Andreas Niederberger
- PD Dr. Sybille Stöbe-Blossey
- Prof. Dr. Carsten Ullrich

Supported by the Main Research Area, various UDE scientist discussed possible research collaborations under the frame of "Insurance and secure personal risks: the interplay of individuals, family, markets, social groups and the state in different regions and eras" in November 2014. As a result of this workshop, eight UDE scientist from four different faculties (Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Education, and the Faculty of Humanities) formed an interdisciplinary team for further collaborations. The informal leadership of this AG currently stands at Prof. Dr. Achim Goerres, the initiator of workshop.

## Members of the Research Council

The Main Research Area *Transformation of Contemporary Societies* is guided by its research council. The following members of the Main Research Area have recently been elected to constitute the research council:

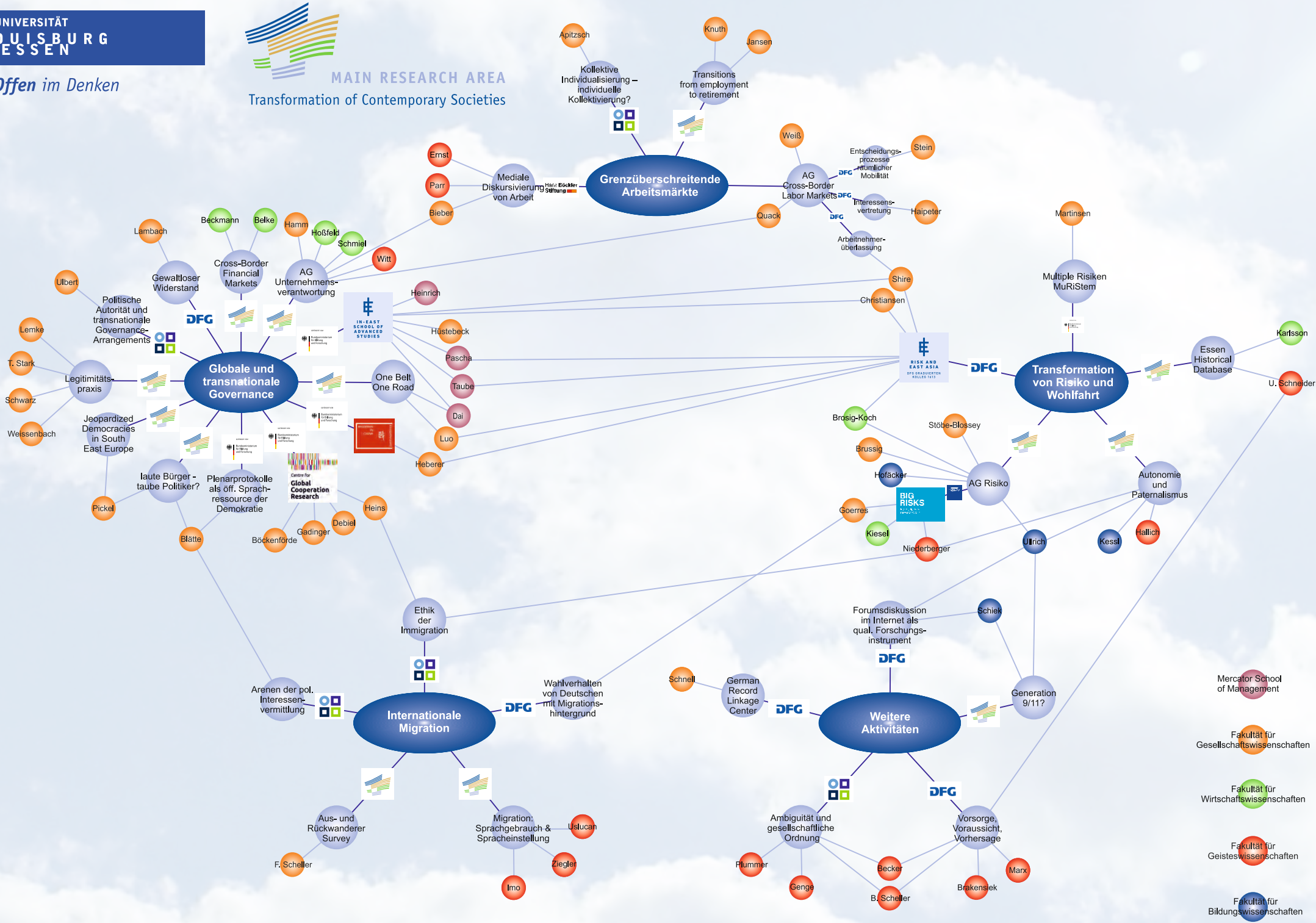
- Prof. Dr. Ansgar Belke** – Chair of Macroeconomics, Faculty of Business Administration and Economics
- Prof. Dr. Achim Goerres, Speaker** – Chair of Empirical Political Science, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Prof. Dr. Jens Loenhoff, Deputy Speaker** – Chair of Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities
- Prof. Karen Shire, PhD** – Chair of Comparative Sociologie and Japanese Society, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Dr. Kristina Weissenbach** – Research Coordinator, NRW School of Governance, Faculty of Social Sciences

## Contact

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- Fakultät für Gesellschaftswissenschaften
- Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaften
- Fakultät für Geisteswissenschaften
- Fakultät für Bildungswissenschaften