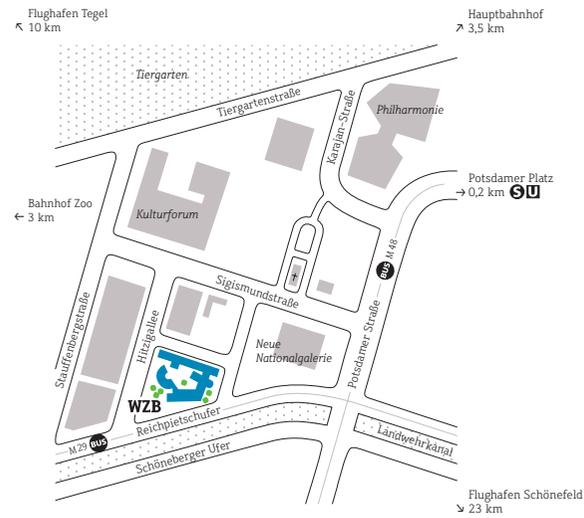


Organized by:
Irmgard Coninx Stiftung and
Humboldt University of Berlin

Venue:
WZB
Room A 300

Registration:
Please respond by March 26, 2010,
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WZB

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**Cultural Pluralism
Revisited:**
Religious and Linguistic Freedoms

April 7 - 9, 2010

Irmgard Coninx Stiftung



On the occasion of the Twelfth Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality, the WZB, Humboldt University Berlin and Irmgard Coninx Foundation cordially invite you to a series of lectures on:

Cultural Pluralism Revisited: Religious and Linguistic Freedoms

Massive migratory movements in the second half of the 20th century have resulted in new forms of cultural diversity. The ongoing influx of migrants has, in many societies and nation states, spurred a lively debate on cultural pluralism and cultural autonomy, which in turn has brought new public and scholarly attention to questions of religious and linguistic rights. In recent years, the accommodation of the needs of minority communities has been frequently contested politically and socially within the public sphere.

In the spirit of this debate and as part of a series of conferences and workshops organized under the title „I Have a Dream: Political Culture in Divided Societies,“ the Twelfth Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality will focus on religious and linguistic minority rights and the challenges of multiculturalism today. Questions of religious and linguistic freedoms – whether raised by religious or ethnic communities struggling to preserve their cultural and linguistic heritage under conditions of a globalized modernity or by new and not-so-new groups of immigrants who claim religious rights and freedoms within the secular state – seem to be deeply tied to the crisis of modernity and identity in our post-secular, post-modern age.

In three public lectures, internationally renowned scholars of cultural studies, sociology of religion, law, and a writer who has often contested the borders of language, will engage in the intriguing, complex and vexing reality of cultural pluralism today and its challenges.

Wednesday, April 7, 2010, 6 p.m.

Paul Gilroy

Postcolonial Pluralities:
Towards a Habitable Multiculture

Thursday, April 8, 2010, 6 p.m.

Feridun Zaimoglu

Kanak Attack Reloaded
(Reading of the English Part: **Harvey Friedman**)

Friday, April 9, 2010, 6 p.m.

Susanne Baer

Human Rights Revisited: Constitutionalism under
Contemporary Global Conditions

Followed by a panel discussion with
José Casanova and **Fernand de Varennes**

Reception after each lecture.

All lectures are held in English.

Susanne Baer is Professor of Public Law and Gender Studies at the Law Faculty at Humboldt University Berlin. Since 2003, she is also Director of the GenderCompetenceCentre, advising the German Federal Government. Her research areas are socio-cultural legal studies, gender studies, comparative constitutional law, constitutionalism and governance.

José Casanova is one of the world's top scholars in the sociology of religion. He is a Professor at the Department of Sociology at Georgetown University, and heads the Berkley Center's Program on Globalization, Religion and the Secular. His best-known work „Public Religions in the Modern World“ (University of Chicago Press, 1994) has become a modern classic in the field.

Harvey Friedman studied drama at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh and toured Germany with theatre groups before he settled in Berlin. Most recently (2008) he played Joseph Goebbels in Bryan Singer's Film „Valkyre“.

Paul Gilroy is Professor for Social Theory at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is best known for his work on racism, nationalism and ethnicity and his original approach to the history of the African diaspora into the western hemisphere. Among his recent work is „After Empire: Multiculture or Postcolonial Melancholia“ (Routledge, 2004).

Fernand de Varennes is Professor of Law at Murdoch University, Australia. He is specialized in language rights, rights of indigenous peoples and minority rights, international law and ethnic conflict. His most recent publications include a two-volume series on human rights documents on Asia and a UNESCO report on the rights of migrants.

Feridun Zaimoglu moved to Germany with his parents as a child. In the 1990s, he became famous for his books on the young migrant generation and introduced the hybrid language of a marginalized migrant community into German literature. He was among the founders of the controversial „Kanak Attack“ movement, a protest against the segregation of migrants. His most recent novel is „Hinterland“ (2009).
